

Malawi



Abwenzi Pa Za Umoyo

Country Information

Total population: 16,323,044
 Life expectancy at birth: 47 years
 Child mortality: 110 per 1,000
 Maternal mortality: 510 per 100,000 live births
 Adult prevalence of HIV: 11%
 TB prevalence: 243 per 100,000
 Population living on less than \$1 per day: 73.9%

PIH Project Information

Outpatient visits since 2007: 1,055,568
 Patients tested for HIV since 2007: 62,328
 HIV patients currently enrolled on treatment: More than 5,000
 HIV patients enrolled in the Neno Community Support Initiative: 14,505
 Bednets distributed to protect against malaria-carrying mosquitoes: 50,000
 Village health workers hired and trained: 674
 Children receiving nutritional and educational support: 2,147
 Neno District Hospital is the first rural district hospital to feature a microbiology laboratory, a GeneXpert machine for diagnosing tuberculosis, a chronic care clinic for non-communicable diseases, and a Kaposi's Sarcoma palliative care clinic.

(Unless noted, all numbers are for fiscal year 2011)

About Partners In Health

PIH is a 501(c)(3) global healthcare organization based in Boston that works in 10 countries to deliver high-quality health care to people and communities devastated by the joint burdens of poverty and disease.

With a devastating HIV/AIDS epidemic and high rates of infant and maternal mortality, Malawi is one of Africa's poorest and most densely populated countries. In 2007, PIH and its local partner organization, Abwenzi Pa Za Umoyo (APZU), began working in partnership with the Malawian Ministry of Health to provide access to comprehensive, community-based care to a catchment area of 125,000 people in the rural Neno District. At the time, Neno did not have a district hospital, and many of its health centers had fallen into disrepair.

ACCESS TO COMPREHENSIVE HEALTH CARE

During the project's first three years, PIH/APZU completed construction of Neno District Hospital and a community hospital in Lisungwi, which is located in an area severely burdened by the AIDS epidemic. The project also supports 11 community health centers throughout the district. These facilities currently employ a staff of over 1,200, including 640 community health workers who serve as a vital link between their villages and the health centers. Key programs at these centers include treatment and prevention for complex diseases such as HIV, tuberculosis, and drug-resistant tuberculosis, as well as initiatives to treat and prevent malaria, reduce maternal mortality rates, and treat childhood malnutrition. PIH/APZU opened a Nutritional Rehabilitation Unit in 2011.



SURPASSING THE STANDARDS OF HIV CARE

The effectiveness of APZU's HIV care program surpasses Malawi's national standards, as well as the standards of many other African countries. APZU currently provides care to over 5,000 HIV-positive patients, and the two-year outcomes for patients enrolled on antiretroviral treatment are the best in the country: less than 1% of all patients ever enrolled have defaulted, and less than 10% have died while in our care. APZU has also successfully implemented Malawi's first Early Infant HIV Diagnosis program in a rural district.

Below: A community health worker interviews a patient at her home in rural Malawi.

