

EXAMPLES OF INNOVATIVE FUNDING: BUILDING THE CAPACITY OF LOCAL LEADERSHIP

Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation

The Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation (the Foundation) is a global leader in the fight against pediatric HIV and AIDS, and has reached more than 11.6 million women with services to prevent transmission of HIV to their babies. It works at more than 5,400 sites in 17 countries to implement prevention, care, and treatment services; to further advance innovative research; and to execute strategic and targeted global advocacy activities in order to bring dramatic change to the lives of millions of women, children, and families worldwide.



In many countries with high HIV prevalence, greater numbers of local doctors and public health specialists are urgently needed. However, local opportunities are often limited, as many skilled personnel leave their countries for training and to pursue public health work. To encourage and support leaders at the forefront of generating local solutions to address the pandemic, the Foundation established the International Leadership Award (ILA) program in 2002. Recipients are researchers, clinicians, and program experts in resource-poor settings who have the potential to develop and manage programs that would assist in the elimination of pediatric AIDS in the countries where they live. They are involved in mentoring, initiating, and improving services, providing support to host governments, research, evaluation, and training. Perhaps most importantly, they help empower the next generation of local leaders to take significant strides toward the elimination of pediatric HIV and AIDS.

ILA awardees are selected from a highly qualified pool of applicants in the process of establishing successful careers and programs. Most will have completed training abroad within the past five years. All must demonstrate a commitment to continuing HIV/AIDS related work in a low-resource setting following completion of the



Recent ILA recipient (2007) Dr. Purnima Madhivanan is a public health physician, Associate Professor at Florida International University and Executive Director of the Public Health Research Institute, based in Mysore, India. Through support from the ILA, she has equipped traditional birth attendants – key actors in providing pregnancy care to rural women – to provide high quality, integrated PMTCT and antenatal care services. Her ILA-supported pilot effort served women in 146 rural villages and included community outreach, training and a mobile health clinic. The project also provided training to Government of India nurse midwives and community health workers to foster a sustained effort to deliver integrated pregnancy care to women in Indian communities.

three-year award. Since the program's inception, the Foundation has provided more than \$5.8 million in grants to 14 award recipients from nine countries—including India, Kenya, Malawi, South Africa and Uganda.

Through these three-year grants, the Foundation is nurturing a vital cadre of local leaders who are at the forefront of generating local solutions to prevent and treat HIV/AIDS in children, women and families. Over the years, ILA recipients have gone on to become strong, visible leaders in the pediatric HIV/AIDS field within their respective country settings. Cumulatively, the 14 ILA recipients have trained and mentored 1,300 physicians, nurses, counselors, mid-wives/birth attendants, and laboratory technicians and leveraged more than \$7.2 million in additional funding.

Privately funded, the ILA program is a critical component of the Foundation's efforts to eliminate pediatric AIDS. Donors include the Stavros Niarchos Foundation and Jewelers for Children. The ILA program complements the Foundation's prevention, care and treatment programs that provide a range of essential services to women, children and families affected by the HIV/AIDS in 16 countries.