

MESSAGE FROM MARY TISEO, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends,

June, 2015

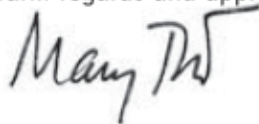
South Africa Partners is thrilled to have been awarded a \$17.5 million grant from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. This grant will fund the development of key aspects of HIV/AIDS care and support services in South Africa. The program will be known as LinkCARE.

I recently returned from South Africa where I finalized the restructuring of our in-country senior management team. Tony Diesel, who has been the Project Director for our flagship health programs since 2009, is now South Africa Partners' Country Director. He is joined by Thembi Zungu (our first employee in South Africa in 2004!) who will serve as Deputy Country Director. Together they will manage our South Africa-based operations, including 40 staff based in three offices – Johannesburg, East London and Port Elizabeth.

This Spring Update 2015 focuses on our newest program – **Wraparound ECD**. Working with community-based partners, government agencies and other NGOs, our model will support South Africa's scale-up of effective strategies for the delivery of Early Childhood Development services. High-quality ECD is an urgent national priority for securing South Africa's future and all of the gains that have been made since democracy.

As always, thank you for your generous support which makes this work possible.

With warm regards and appreciation,



BUILDING SCALABLE MODELS

As demonstrated by our success with I ACT, South Africa Partners has the relationships, experience and track record to effect scalable programs. We know that systemic change requires taking the long view and working inclusively with a broad range of stakeholders every step of the way. We will apply the lessons we have learned as we begin building a scalable model for ECD that can be applied throughout South Africa.

Thank you for your generous support that helps to make this work possible!

LinkCARE

South Africa Partners has received a \$17.5 million grant over five years from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The grant, of \$3.5 million each year from 2015 through 2019, will fund technical assistance and support for the development and implementation of key aspects of HIV/AIDS care and support services in South Africa.

Through this program, known as LinkCARE, South Africa Partners will improve the comprehensive package of routine HIV care and support services, including early linkage to services and retention in care. It builds on South Africa Partners' work with the Integrated Access to Care and Treatment (I ACT) program.

There continues to be need for technical assistance to support South Africa's National Department of Health as it builds a comprehensive response to HIV. The total number of people living with HIV in South Africa is more than 6.4 million, and has increased by 1.2 million since 2008 — the highest burden of HIV in the world for one country.



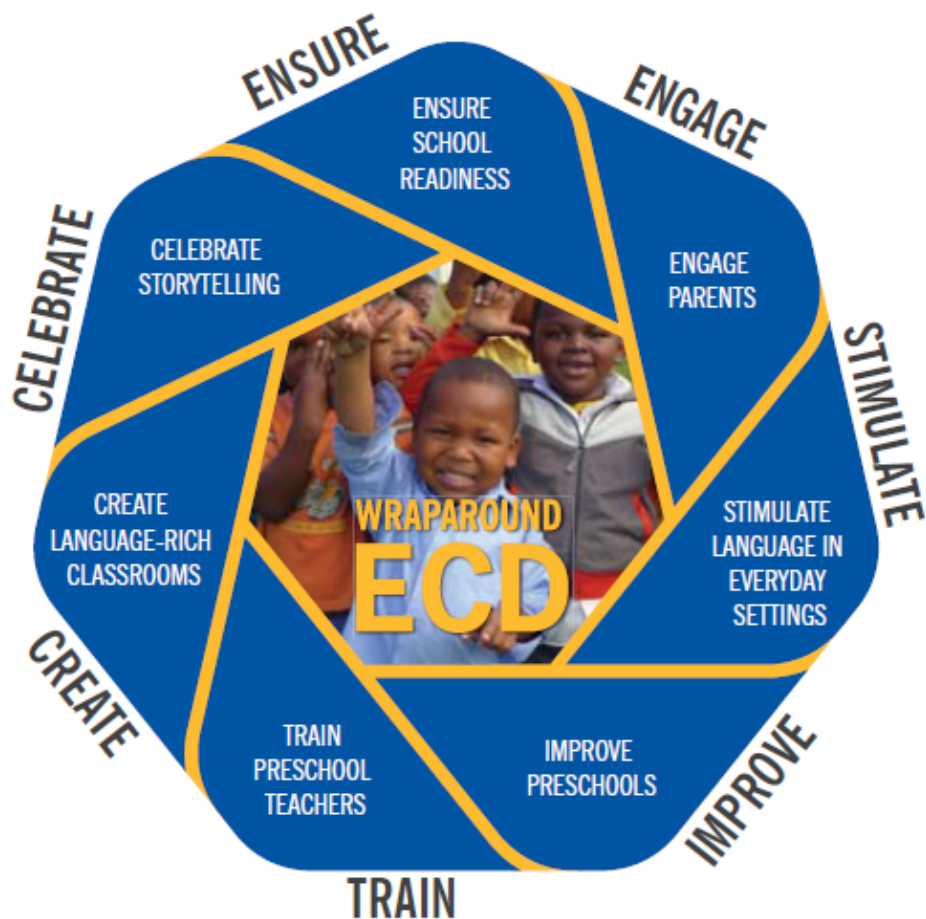
Photo credit: Ken Scott & Carla Bernardes

“We are enormously proud of the partnerships our staff have built to effect systemic change for people living with HIV. We’re humbled to be given this opportunity to improve the lives of millions of South Africans who will be reached in the years ahead because of this work.”

Mary Tiseo, Executive Director, South Africa Partners

WRAPAROUND ECD

Wraparound ECD is South Africa Partners' newest program — a simple but innovative approach to Early Childhood Development, an urgent national priority for South Africa. Within a target community we are catalyzing multiple ways to enrich children's daily experiences from birth to age 5 and support their emotional and intellectual development. Reaching from home to day care centers to everyday environments, we are developing a suite of interventions – multiple “touches” – to help ensure that children from low-income communities are not falling behind before they even start. *Wraparound ECD* is a joint venture of South Africa Partners and our in-country implementing partner, Masibumbane Development Organisation.



LANGUAGE IN THE SUPERMARKET AND CLINIC

A trip to the supermarket and medical clinic are perfect opportunities for parents to engage in conversation with their child — expanding their vocabulary and offering context for the use of new words. A simple question posed in the fruit and vegetable section or waiting room can lead to open-ended discussions and discoveries for both child and parent, and help to develop the architecture of young minds.

Innovation Edge, a consortium of ECD funders in South Africa, has made a grant of \$23,000 to South Africa Partners for this pilot program to promote the development of positive parent-child interactions in informal, everyday environments.

*“I am happy to know that by speaking with my baby,
I am helping him to do well in school later.”*

Parent in Duncan Village, South Africa



Photo credits & cover: Paul Hart

NEWS BRIEFS



South Africa Partners awarded \$17.5M from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) for **LinkCARE**.

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South Africa Partners' **Language in the Supermarket & Clinic** pilot program funded by Innovation Edge, a consortium of ECD funders in South Africa.

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The Albertina Sisulu Executive Leadership Programme in Health (ASELPH)

at the University of Pretoria conferred Postgraduate Diplomas to 48 ASELPH Fellows on April 24, 2015.



Photo credit: Vilnard Studios



HAPPENINGS

Mark your calendar for 2016 Itheke! South Africa Partners' next gala will take place in April 2016 in Boston. Watch for our Save-the-Date, to be mailed in the fall.



Community learning event on October 22, 2015. Join us for a special one-day symposium, *Innovation and the Public Good: Massachusetts and South Africa*. Funded by The Curtis Fund at The Boston Foundation. Details will be emailed and posted at www.sapartners.org.



OUR MISSION

South Africa Partners builds mutually beneficial partnerships between the United States and South Africa in the areas of health and education. Serving as a catalyst of innovative approaches, South Africa Partners links people, strengthens communities, promotes social justice and fosters leadership in both countries.

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