



Partnership Projects in Health Care, Training and Education in the Dominican Republic

The Dominican Republic Family AIDS Program is a partnership project working within the framework of the UN Public-Private Alliance for Rural Development (UNPPA). The partners are Columbia University International Family AIDS Program, MIR Charities, the Hermanas Adoratrices of the Roman Catholic Church, the Clinton HIV/AIDS Initiative, and the Ministry of Health of the Dominican Republic. Here below is a report of the activities undertaken in the Dominican Republic.

In the area of Health Care, through Columbia University, individual donations were raised to open a new clinic in February 2006. This clinic will serve the province of La Romana and accepts patients from the Eastern region of the country. Currently, the clinic in La Romana has 1,046 HIV-infected children and adults registered for care, of whom 548 have been identified on long-term anti-retroviral therapy. The Mother-Baby HIV Project in La Romana Province identifies and treats approximately 140 HIV-infected pregnant women each year. Through the support of the Rotary International, the project on clean water for HIV-infected patients and HIV-exposed infants provides BioSand home water filters were provided to HIV-infected pregnant women to ensure clean water for mixing baby formula.

In the area of Training and Health, the Columbia University International Family AIDS Programme, the Clinton HIV/AIDS Initiative, and the Ministry of Health of Dominican Republic established the Training and Education and Technical Assistance for Dominican Health Care Providers for HIV-infected children. A number of doctors, nurses, social workers, counselors, lab technicians and other health care providers from Dominican governmental and non-governmental organizations have received HIV training and education. Also technical assistance was provided to DIGECITTS and COPRESIDA of the Ministry of Health. A project of the College of Physicians and Surgeons, Columbia University with funding from the Lewis and Rachel Rudin Foundation and the MIR Charities has sent 42 students and residents from the United States on rotations at the La Romana Family AIDS Clinic during 2005-6 academic year. Of these 81 per cent of participants were from the Columbia University system and the 17 per cent from Harvard University, Brown, Duke, Penn, Baylor and about 2 per cent came from Europe.

For further information on the projects, please contact:

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