

# Más Saúdi pa Kabu Verdi (Cape Verde)

## Serving Immigrant Communities at Home and Abroad

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HIV Program Director

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Brockton, MA

# Brockton Neighborhood Health Center

- 33% of patients and staff are Cape Verdean
- Ryan White funded HIV Multidisciplinary Team
- 142 HIV-positive clients receiving care
- State funded walk-in HIV, Hepatitis C, STD testing clinic
- 19,000 total patients



Base: 80299 (A) (3306,7 1) 2-04

20 Years of Leadership  
**A LEGACY OF CARE**



20th RYAN WHITE ALLIANCE MEETING AND 17th ANNUAL CLINICAL CONFERENCE

# Beginnings: 2008

2 kisses in Praia, 1 in Fogo

Anibal Dasilva, Minority Access Coordinator



# George and Henrique Pires



# Meeting with President Pedro Pires



# Current Statistics

- Prevalence of HIV in Cape Verde: 0.8%
- US Prevalence: 0.3%
- Prevalence in Males in Cape Verde: 1.1%
- Prevalence in Females in Cape Verde: 0.4%

(World Health Organization, 2008)

# Presentations & Meetings: 2008





# Presentations: 2009



# Health Fairs: 2010



# Health Fairs (cont.)



# Health Fairs (cont.)



# Ways Staff Can Get Involved

- Employee Payroll Deduction Donation Program
- 100% of donated funds go toward providing medical supplies and assisting health organizations in Fogo, Brava, and Praia
- Más Saúdi pa Kabu Verdi volunteer committee: meets off the clock, plans fundraising activities, project development, and organizes annual trip plans

# Protocols



# April 26: Más Saúdi pa Fogo

- 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Health Fair in São Filipe, Fogo on April 26
- Part of Weekly Festivities moving forward
- 400-500 attendees
- Next year 2 day health fair in São Filipe



# Health Fair Data

- São Filipe, Mosteiros, Cova Figueira, Brava
- 1,000 – 1,100 attendees
- >300 Patients tested for HIV, 3 positives
- >500 Patients tested for Diabetes
- New diagnoses, existing diagnoses in poor control



# Survey Development Process

- Literature Review of Existing Surveys on HIV/AIDS knowledge, attitudes, stigma
- Tim Comeaux and Dr. Coppock put together questions, brought to volunteer committee for review
- Recommendations to add or delete questions
- 4 page survey interpreted into Portuguese by volunteer committee, time consuming process

# Survey Results

- 459 surveys completed at health fairs and schools

Health fairs: 156, 109, 44. Convenient to collect survey data while patients wait for tests and consults with doctors, however some questions unanswered.

Schools: 50 at each of 3 schools. Very efficient to have teacher ask students to complete survey. Students complete them quickly and thoroughly.

# Sample Survey Data Analysis

- 75 of 156 surveys collected at health fair in São Filipe, Fogo entered into Excel spreadsheet for interpreting
- Data entered twice (two separate spreadsheets) and then validated
- Specific questions looked at for descriptive analysis
- Further data entry and analysis pending, need intern to help complete process as project is unfunded

# Sample Survey Data (demographics)

- Age

<20	10%	20-29	30%	30-39	24%
40-49	14%	50-59	16%	60-69	5%
70+	1%				

- 75% have relatives in the United States
- 62% have contact with relatives in the US

# Sample Survey Results

- 84% would feel comfortable getting tested for HIV
- 41% of those that would feel comfortable say there are no places to get tested in their community
- 90% would feel comfortable working with someone with HIV
- 66% would feel comfortable with someone who has HIV caring for their child

# More Sample Survey Results

- Behavior: If you test negative for HIV, how would that affect your behavior? 93% said they would use condoms
- 33% feel they would be discriminated against if people knew they got an HIV test
- 46% said their feelings about how they would be treated if they are HIV-positive would affect their decision to be tested for HIV
- 50% said people with HIV/AIDS face a great deal of persecution in their community

# Threats to Survey Validity

- Some surveys distributed by health workers at health fair, others by teachers in schools
- Varying levels of literacy, sometimes one person assisted another in filling out the survey
- Survey respondents could potentially guess what answers would “look good”

# Next Steps for Research

- Partner with Bridgewater State University in MA and Uni CV in Cape Verde. Let the health care workers do health care and the researchers do research
- Finish this portion of the research- complete data entry and administration of survey in Cape Verdean community in MA
- Incorporate research into annual health fairs and project activities, with shorter survey next time



# Next Steps for the Project

- November 2010: Cape Verdean Health Summit in Brockton, MA to bring together anyone interested in the project as we grow
- Coordinate a donation of a viral load lab machine, as Cape Verde has none and has requested one (annual viral loads currently sent to Portugal)
- Partner with Clinton Foundation for viral load machine, hold fundraisers once we know the amount needed

# Next Steps for Project (cont.)

- December 1: Partner on World AIDS Day Events in Cape Verde and Brockton, MA
- 3 Video Conferences this year: HIV, Diabetes, and Cervical Screenings
- Annual Health Fairs in Fogo and Brava, in São Filipe every April 26: “Más Saúdi pa Fogo”
- Sustainable project with annual trips to Praia, Fogo, and Brava for now: health fairs, meetings, conferences, shadowing, radio/TV, etc.

# Next Steps for the Project (cont.)

- Work with our contacts to solidify protocol with CCS SIDA, the National HIV governmental organization
- Develop plan for foundation headquarters in Fogo. Donated land, also some construction labor and materials. \$60,000 for building with 2 exam rooms, 2 classrooms, and sleeping quarters for 7 HCWs
- Most likely establish 501(c)(3), as the project is not a part of BNHC operations

# Project Buzzwords: 4 C's

- Cultural Competency
- Community Health Workers
- Counseling and Testing
- Chronic Disease Management

# More Project Photos



# Contact Information

- Please don't hesitate to contact me. Let's collaborate and share ideas!

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# BOA VIAGEM



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LUTA CONTRA A SIDA



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2018 RYAN WHITE ALL GRANTEE MEETING AND 10TH ANNUAL CLINICAL CONFERENCE