

Dear friends,

This week's Newsflash focuses on prevention of vertical transmission of HIV.

We hope you find the information and the tools useful and informative.

Sincerely,

Firelight Team

-- (Call for Applications) Positive Action for Children Fund calls for proposals to fill the gaps in Mother-to-Child transmission of HIV.

-- (Call for submissions) Abbott Fund

-- (Call for submissions) The Children's Investment Fund Foundation

-- (Article) African First Ladies Gather To Discuss HIV/AIDS

-- (Article) Major Commitment Made to Dramatically Accelerate the Elimination of Pediatric HIV/AIDS in Zimbabwe

-- (Resource) Women, Children, and HIV: Resource for prevention and Treatment

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-- (Resource) CEPA PMTCT Tool Kit

(Call for Applications) Positive Action for Children Fund calls for proposals to fill the gaps in Mother-to-Child transmission of HIV.

London, UK (15th December 2010) ViiV Healthcare today announced a new request for grant proposals for the Positive Action for Children Fund. The Positive Action for Children Fund was established in 2010 with an initial commitment of £50 million over 10 years to support programmes focused on preventing HIV transmission from mother-to-child, and to better the health and well being of women and vulnerable children around the globe. Such work is closely aligned with the World Health Organization's vision for addressing the mother-to-child transmission of HIV and works toward achieving the Millennium Development Goals set to reduce child mortality and improve maternal health. This new call aims to stimulate grassroots community action in support of global PMTCT community efforts to eliminate mother-to-child transmission of HIV.

For more, go here: <http://viiivhealthcare.com/media-room/press-releases/2010-12-15.aspx>

(Call for submissions) Abbott Fund

Abbott Fund invests in creative ideas that promote science, expand access to health care, and strengthen communities worldwide. In partnership with others, we strive to make a lasting impact on people's lives and encourage others to action.

Our Areas of Funding

Established in 1951 Abbott Fund is a private 501(c)3 not-for-profit organization in the state of Illinois and is funded solely by Abbott, a global broad-based health care company. Our approach is to support programs that are results-driven and make a lasting impact on people's lives. We support and partner with a broad range of organizations, including community-based charities, academic institutions, medical and health professional associations, international relief agencies and not-for-profit organizations. Many of these programs are helping create solutions to address the global health needs shaping our world today. Where appropriate, these programs are also able to benefit from Abbott's health and technical expertise, leadership, and products. Our major areas of program funding include: Global AIDS Care, Access to Health Care, Science, Community

In 2005, Abbott Fund provided \$29 million in grant support to programs that have reached thousands of people around the world.

For more information go here: <http://abbottfund.org/default-2.html>

(Call For Submissions) The Children's Investment Fund Foundation

CIFF's mission is transformation for children. CIFF achieves its mission and drives outcomes for children through:

Core investments focusing on a small number of large and multi-year investments. Engaged investing which seeks to understand what is working and what is not working and collaborates with our partners to adjust and re-engineer our programmes to maximise their positive impact for children.

Priority impact areas. CIFF has prioritised seven impact areas for children to focus our investment strategies, with an initial emphasis on Child Survival, Educational Achievement, and Nutrition and Hunger. These areas recognise that children's

well-being is multi-faceted, holistic and integrated.

Indirect impact through influence on the policy, priorities, practices and investment of others for the benefit of children.

For more information go here: <http://www.ciff.org/>

(Article) African First Ladies Gather To Discuss HIV/AIDS

On the sidelines of the African Union Summit in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, on Monday, the General Assembly of the Organization of African First Ladies Against HIV/AIDS (OAFLA) gathered to discuss the continent's progress against HIV/AIDS, Walta Info reports. Woizero Azeb Mesfin, First Lady of Ethiopia and Chair of OAFLA, "called on African first ladies to make every effort to reduce HIV/AIDS deaths in women and prevent mother-to-child transmission (MTCT) of the virus" and "said more action is required to prevent the virus, which according to her is the leading cause of death for women" (1/31).

For more information go here: <http://globalhealth.kff.org/Daily-Reports/2011/February/02/GH-020211-African-First-Ladies.aspx>

(Article) Major Commitment Made to Dramatically Accelerate the Elimination of Pediatric HIV/AIDS in Zimbabwe

The Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation has been awarded the first year of a five-year \$45-million USD grant to accelerate the scale-up of more effective antiretroviral regimens to reduce HIV transmission from mother- to-child in Zimbabwe and to ensure that HIV positive mothers can access treatment for their own health. The new partnership between the Children's Investment Fund Foundation and the Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation also aims to ensure that the lessons learned from Zimbabwe will be used to implement similar programs in other high burden countries, and to strengthen efforts to eliminate pediatric HIV/AIDS globally. A separate, additional award has been made by CIFF to independently monitor and evaluate the impact of the Zimbabwe program.

For more information go here: <http://www.pedaids.org/Press-Room/Press-Releases/2011/Major-Commitment-Made-to-Dramatically-Accelerate-t>

(Resource) Women, Children, and HIV: Resource for prevention and Treatment

Resources on the prevention and treatment of HIV infection in women and children targeted at health workers, program managers, and policy makers in resource-limited settings.

For more information go here: <http://www.womenchildrenhiv.org/>

(Resource) UNAIDS on PMTCT

UNAIDS strategy goal by 2015: Vertical transmission of HIV eliminated and AIDS-related maternal mortality reduced by half. The virtual elimination of mother-to-child transmission is possible by 2015. Significant progress has been made in the past decade. Infection rates among children born to mothers living with HIV have declined by 26% from 2001 to 2009. However, much more needs to be done to prevent mothers from dying and babies from becoming infected with HIV. HIV is the leading cause of mortality in women of reproductive age. Without intervention about one in three children born to HIV-infected mothers will be infected. UNAIDS calls for scaling up access to and the use of quality regimens and services for the prevention of mother-to-child HIV transmission, ensuring mothers have continued access to HIV treatment, and scaling up access to sexual and reproductive health services and reproductive rights for women and their partners.

Fore more information go here: <http://www.unaids.org/en/strategygoalsby2015/verticaltransmissionandmaternalmortality/>

(Resource) CEPA PMTCT Tool Kit

Accelerating National-Level Action to End Pediatric HIV/AIDS: An Advocacy Toolkit
July 2010

As part of the Firelight Foundation's Capacity Building Program, Firelight provides "Newsflashes" to share relevant resources and information with our active grantee-partners via weekly emails and via post on a monthly basis. We hope that by facilitating access to information for grassroots, community-focused organizations, programming for children and families, as well as organizational development, is enhanced. Past editions of the Firelight Newsflash can be found on our website: <http://www.firelightfoundation.org/newsflash.php>.

We welcome your comments, feedback and ideas for upcoming Newsflashes at newsletter@firelightfoundation.org.