

Health

FHI 360 is a global leader in responding to the world's critical public health challenges.



FHI 360 takes a comprehensive, evidence-based approach to improving health in the U.S. and around the world. We see health as a foundation for personal, community and economic development. Our rigorous research and diverse programs help individuals, communities and countries address critical health problems. FHI 360 research, strategic partnerships and communications expertise boost health systems' ability to tackle challenges such as communicable disease, child survival, maternal mortality and the growing global burden of chronic conditions, including cardiovascular disease and diabetes.

HIV and AIDS

We are a world leader in the international response to HIV and AIDS. FHI 360 leads some of the world's largest and most comprehensive HIV/AIDS research and service programs. We manage global clinical trials to develop innovative methods of prevention, most recently involving oral and topical antiretroviral drugs. Our research has contributed to the improvement of global and national standards for HIV prevention and care; our landmark study showing that nevirapine greatly reduces HIV transmission from mother to child opened a new avenue to contain HIV. We continue to break ground in our work with the HIV Prevention Trials Network, whose recent research demonstrated the promise of antiretroviral treatment as prevention. Our participation in the Male Circumcision Consortium, which promotes male circumcision as a proven tool for HIV prevention, demonstrates our commitment to combating the epidemic on multiple fronts.

Reproductive and sexual health

FHI 360 has a history of helping men, women and youth make informed decisions about their reproductive and sexual health. Our work to develop and test contraceptive devices and therapies has empowered women to better control their fertility, family size and futures. Through our trainings, we have improved health care workers' attitudes and service provision of family planning, increased client knowledge and use of reproductive health services, widened the array of affordable contraceptives worldwide, and increased public and private sector support of reproductive health and family planning. Our curricula and research on the special needs of youth and peer education have encouraged implementation of adolescent-friendly policies and sexual and reproductive health services worldwide.

About FHI 360: FHI 360 is a nonprofit human development organization dedicated to improving lives in lasting ways by advancing integrated, locally driven solutions. Our staff includes experts in health, education, nutrition, environment, economic development, civil society, gender equality, youth, research, technology, communication and social marketing — creating a unique mix of capabilities to address today's interrelated development challenges. FHI 360 serves more than 60 countries and all U.S. states and territories.



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Communicable and tropical diseases

FHI 360 strives to prevent the communicable diseases that drain people's health. Leveraging public–private partnerships, our programs have tested and distributed millions of insecticide-treated mosquito nets and designed communications to encourage their use to prevent malaria. In addition to delivering quality nets to people in malaria zones, we have increased the capacity of local producers and distributors to ensure adequate supply. FHI 360 projects have increased laboratory capacity to detect tuberculosis (TB), have made on-site screening possible outside clinical settings, and are working to find better, shorter TB treatments. We also work to reduce the prevalence of neglected tropical diseases such as lymphatic filariasis (elephantiasis) and other parasitic infections that cause preventable death and injuries in resource-constrained countries. These long-term efforts are complemented by specialized projects that strengthen global disease surveillance, training and outbreak response.

Noncommunicable diseases

We are expanding our reach to address the growing problem of chronic noncommunicable diseases, such as cardiovascular disease, diabetes, cancer and chronic respiratory diseases. We are working to help health systems address the challenges of managing chronic disease, including developing strategies, operating procedures and patient care plans for long-term treatment. FHI 360 research is also developing approaches for long-term management of HIV and gaining understanding into how chronic conditions affect pregnancy, treatment of or vulnerability to communicable diseases and contraceptive use.

Creating healthier environments

Our approach embraces health broadly to include nutrition, clean water and sanitation. Recognizing how poor sanitation and hygiene can lead to poor health, we have invested in communications campaigns that emphasize the importance of hand washing and infrastructure projects that increase the availability of potable water and latrines. We support feeding programs that reduce chronic illness and malnutrition by making sure that infants and young children who are prone to diarrheal disorders or people with HIV, AIDS or other diseases receive necessary or supplementary nutrition at crucial life stages. Our holistic approach sees proper nutrition as both a means of preventing disease and as a way to improve the health of people already living with disease.

Communication for behavior change

FHI 360 believes that communication is a cornerstone of effective behavior change and an integral part of all health and development efforts. Our communications experts assess attitudes toward health devices and practices and create social marketing campaigns to encourage positive behaviors and eliminate stigma. As technology evolves, FHI 360 is researching ways to use mobile devices to send health messages, collect survey data in the field, and help health workers record patient data.

Strengthening health systems

FHI 360 programs improve health system performance and ensure delivery of high-quality services in resource-constrained settings. We reinforce primary health care in places where we provide clinical HIV and family planning services. We focus on building the capacity of community health workers, nurses and laboratory staff through task shifting and clinical training. Our technical efforts make sure that health systems can manage information, monitor supplies of essential medical supplies and measure impact. Finally, FHI 360 uses the on-the-ground knowledge gained through our programs to help develop or revise national policies, legislation and guidelines.