



Sentebale has been in discussions with the Ministry of Health, exploring what contribution it could make to National Paediatric HIV programming. In February 2014, Sentebale hosted a national forum on improving paediatric Antiretroviral Therapy (ART) penetration in partnership with the Ministry of Health. The forum was attended by 13 organisations, including The Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation (EGPAF), CHAI, Baylor College of Medicine and UNICEF.

The key objectives were to:

- start a dialogue with stakeholders on paediatric HIV;
- map out who is doing what and where;
- identify challenges and gaps towards increasing penetration of ART for children.

Improve the effectiveness of delivery of care and support for vulnerable children and young people through facilitation, coordination and collaboration with organisations in the childcare sector

LETSEMA NETWORK

Letsema is a network of 45 members working in the child-care sector, set up by Sentebale with support from UNICEF. It seeks to foster collaborative working and to enhance the capacity of all care-givers and service providers so that Lesotho's orphans and vulnerable children receive better care and support.

Programme activities

- Three national forums were held in collaboration with key stakeholders, addressing a variety of topics including: improving access to health services; human/child trafficking, food security, HIV/AIDS, income-generating activities, child protection, sexual abuse and disability. Each national forum was attended by between 20-42 organisations.
- Four forums on psychosocial support for children living with HIV were held in March 2014, in collaboration with Baylor College of Medicine.
- 31 regional forums were held in Leribe (6), Mokhotlong (6), Semonkong (6), Mophale's Hoek (6) and Mafeteng (7). On average, 25 organisations attended each forum.
- Sentebale hosted a four day training workshop on organisational development, training people from 45 community based organisations (CBOs).
- Three training workshops were hosted on supporting children; 47 CBOs attended the child protection workshop; 34 attended the psychosocial support workshop and 38 attended the child status index (CSI) workshop.
- Partnered with the Ministry of Health and Baylor College of Medicine to facilitate four forums for improving access to health care services at community level; 28 CBOs attended.

Key achievements

- Relationships with other community-run organisations and government ministries were strengthened through collaborative training and forum facilitation.
- Sentebale facilitated the writing of a report on child protection to be submitted to African Union involving 70 organisations, funded by Save the Children International.
- A tracking tool was developed for conducting post-training assessment of governance and leadership training.
- Conducted mentoring visits to 20 organisations trained on various aspects of organisational development to review adoption levels.

Challenges to be addressed

- There are difficulties sharing documents and practices due to poor infrastructure and technology.