



Great strides have been made in the fight against HIV and AIDS globally. This is especially true in South Africa, which has the world's largest HIV treatment program. However, stigma and disclosure of HIV status remain and can be barriers preventing children and adolescents from accessing life-saving treatment and support.

Since 2017, the goal of the KidzAlive Mobilized project has been to create digital resources for children living with HIV. In order to achieve this, patients need child-friendly healthcare workers who can confidently support them and primary caregivers who can continue the care at home with age-appropriate digital tools.

KidzAlive Mobilized uses a holistic, wrap-around approach throughout a patient's journey where children, adolescents and caregivers can access HIV information and services helping to improve the likelihood of adherence to treatment leading to better health outcomes.

Objective

The KidzAlive Talk Tool App is a comprehensive digital solution that addresses the unique needs of children living with HIV. It empowers healthcare workers with the skills and confidence to deliver effective counseling, HIV literacy, and disclosure support, thereby improving the overall quality of care for children affected by HIV.

Beneficiaries

More than 600 healthcare workers have been trained and mentored. Nearly 4,000 individual children, together with their caregivers, have received 1:1 age-appropriate HIV pre- and post-test counseling, adherence services and disclosure support in health facilities and in communities in South Africa and Nigeria.

Solution

The KidzAlive Talk Tool App leverages Android smart devices and innovative, gamified educational techniques and creative storytelling to deliver information about HIV to children. By creating an engaging, multilingual learning environment, the app empowers children and caregivers with the knowledge and support to navigate the challenges associated with HIV.

Impact

To date, over 31,000 children have interacted with the KidzAlive Talk Tool app in a 1:1 counseling session, KidzAdherence Support Group or Group Health Education.

Improved Child Health Outcome

Results demonstrate the effectiveness of this pediatric HIV care model, specifically in the nearly 4,000 children who received individual counseling. Among 1,902 tested for HIV, 120 were diagnosed (6% pediatric case finding rate, higher than the 2% South African average). Of those diagnosed, 95 children were linked to care and 774 of those tested benefitted from enhanced adherence services. Additionally, 1,722 children received age-appropriate disclosure, reducing stigma and empowering their engagement in healthcare decisions.

Purposeful Innovation

Two additional groundbreaking digital solutions: KidzAlive Caregiver Connect, a WhatsApp chatbot delivering practical advice to caregivers of children with HIV, and KidzAlive@Home app, a pioneering medication adherence app tailored for children

Key Stakeholders

- » [Zoë-Life Innovative Solutions NPC](#)
- » [Gauteng Department of Health](#)
- » [KwaZulu-Natal Department of Health](#)
- » [Mothers2Mothers South Africa](#)
- » [Aids Foundation South Africa](#)
- » [Siza Community Care Center](#)
- » [Philisiwe Community Health Care Organisation](#)
- » [PlusNarrative](#)

Qualcomm® Wireless Reach™ Initiative

Wireless Reach is Qualcomm's technology for good initiative that brings advanced wireless technologies to people and communities who need it most. The initiative focuses on pioneering uses of mobile innovations to demonstrate how leading-edge technologies, coupled with flexible connectivity solutions, including 4G LTE and 5G, can accelerate sustainable and inclusive development. Since 2006, Wireless Reach has benefited more than 25 million people.