

# A New Era of Activism to Save Lives and End the AIDS Epidemic

## Who we are

The Health Global Access Project (Health GAP) is an international advocacy organization dedicated to ensuring all people living with HIV have access to affordable life-sustaining medicines, no matter where they live or who they are. Our team combines pragmatic policy work with audacious grassroots action to win equitable global access to treatment, care and prevention for people living with and affected by HIV. Health GAP was founded in 1998 when virtually no one in sub-Saharan Africa had access to life-saving HIV treatment. Politicians parroted conventional wisdom — that HIV treatment was too costly and too difficult to administer in the Global South, and simply didn't rank among their priorities. Health GAP was established to confront that deadly indifference and neglect and replace it with urgent, life-saving action.

## What we do

Over the past 19 years, we have successfully driven down the costs of antiretroviral medicines, played critical roles in winning new donor initiatives to support HIV treatment scale-up - such as the United States' President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) and the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria - and worked shoulder to shoulder with dozens of organizations in the Global South to increase access to treatment and prevention services that meet the needs of people living with and affected by HIV.

## Today, we're...

- **Fighting for Full Funding to Defeat AIDS by 2030:** At this pivotal moment where ending the AIDS epidemic is finally within reach, politicians lack the political will to increase funding for HIV treatment and prevention. In this era of austerity budgeting, Health GAP is one of the few organizations fighting boldly for the expanded investment needed to seize this opportunity to end the epidemic.
- **Supporting Activists Speaking Truth to Power:** Health GAP supports activists in the U.S. and around the world because there is no substitute for people with HIV and their communities demanding action from powerful decision makers and being at the table to plan national HIV responses.
- **Working to End Treatment Inequity:** We work tirelessly with activist partners to ensure rapid implementation of life-saving scientific evidence, such as the recent WHO recommendation that all people with HIV should have access to treatment, regardless of their disease stage.
- **Challenging Pharma Greed, High Drug Prices, and Harmful Trade Rules:** We campaign for access to innovative and affordable medicines by fighting back against attempts by governments and pharmaceutical corporations to obstruct cost-cutting generic competition.
- **Securing Health Justice:** Health GAP is applying lessons learned from AIDS activism to interconnected health justice campaigns. In particular, we work with key allies to campaign for laws and policies to end unsafe abortion, and we work to win health rights for criminalized and excluded populations such as men who have sex with men, people who use drugs, and sex workers.

## A New Era of HIV Activism to Respond to Political Upheaval

The stakes have always been high for people living with HIV, but under the Trump administration, they've reached red alert status. Trump's first budget proposes more than \$1 billion in cuts to global AIDS treatment and prevention programs -- cuts that some experts say could kill more than 1 million people. To meet this challenge, we're dramatically expanding grassroots power to fight for the funding and policies needed to save lives and end the AIDS epidemic.