

THE BANTWANA INITIATIVE OF WORLD EDUCATION, INC.

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The Bantwana Initiative of World Education, Inc.

In 2006, WEI/Bantwana was created as an initiative of **World Education, Inc.**

Since 1951, WEI has been working to improve the lives of the poor through education and social and economic development programs.

Organization Description



Improving the wellbeing of vulnerable children and their caregivers and families affected by HIV and AIDS and poverty

The Bantwana Initiative of World Education, Inc. is a recognized leader in delivering integrated comprehensive interventions to improve HIV outcomes and the quality of life for orphans and vulnerable children (OVC) and their families affected by HIV and poverty. Rooted at the grassroots level, WEI/Bantwana builds the capacity of communities, civil society and governments to coordinate and deliver integrated comprehensive services vulnerable children and families while strengthening structures and service delivery across the HIV continuum of care.

Under Bantwana's \$135M portfolio, 375,000 OVC families and over 80,000 at-risk adolescent girls and young women (AGYW) receive

Putting children and caregivers first

critical services annually across Zimbabwe, Mozambique, Uganda, Tanzania, Swaziland, and Malawi.

In partnership with host governments and local implementing partners, WEI/Bantwana has successfully designed, piloted, and refined innovations that have attracted funding for scale and adoption by host governments at the national level.

**WE ENVISION A WORLD
WHERE ALL CHILDREN
ARE HEALTHY, SECURE,
AND CAN REACH THEIR
FULL POTENTIAL.**



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Core Areas of Technical Expertise



Our solutions reflect the community's needs

Because challenges facing vulnerable children and their families are complex and multi-layered, our programming offers a range of comprehensive and integrated services to help OVC and AGYW thrive and grow into healthy adults. Our programs are tailored to the specific needs of a community and designed to marshal and leverage existing resources for an effective and sustainable response.

Our core areas of expertise include:

OVC CORE SERVICE DELIVERY

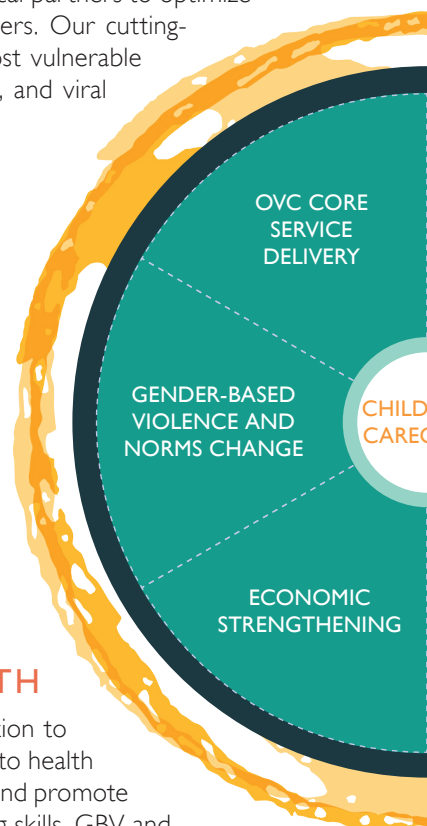
We have an exemplary track record of delivering integrated, comprehensive services that incorporate graduation models to move OVC households along a continuum towards reduced vulnerability to HIV, enhanced stability, and improved HIV outcomes. Using strengths-based and family-centered approaches tailored to the local context, we build the capacity of local NGOs, faith-based organizations, host governments, and community volunteer networks. We work closely with clinical partners to optimize program entry points and improve coordination between community-based and facility-based partners. Our cutting-edge evidence-based tools enable purposeful targeting and segmentation to ensure we reach the most vulnerable with tailored interventions that increase HIV diagnosis; improve HIV treatment adherence, retention, and viral suppression; and reduce the risk of new infection.

GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE AND NORMS CHANGE

We engage men as partners in violence prevention and norms-change while simultaneously equipping women and adolescent girls with information and life skills related to GBV, HIV, and SRH to reduce their risk to violence and promote health-seeking behaviors. Prevention interventions foster dialogue around GBV and norms change, expand women's support networks, and strengthen reporting mechanisms. We help teachers, school officials, parents, and community members to unpack and address harmful social norms and school practices perpetuate GBV. Our GBV response interventions connect survivors to post-exposure services and medical, legal, and counseling support through a range of platforms, including drop-in centers, emergency shelters, a transport voucher system, and innovative one-stop service delivery centers that bring services to the doorstep of communities while serving as an entry point for referrals.

ECONOMIC STRENGTHENING FOR HOUSEHOLDS AND YOUTH

Our economic strengthening interventions include village savings and loan models as a core intervention to strengthen the ability of caregivers to meet their children's needs, including school costs, transport fees to health clinics, or nutrition. We leverage savings and loans clubs not only as a means to provide financial literacy and promote a culture of saving and entrepreneurship, but also as a platform for additional services, such as parenting skills, GBV and HIV prevention, and support for girls' education. All savings and loan interventions are highly contextualized to the needs of the target population and empower participants to increase their economic independence and strengthen their social support networks. We also support village savings and loan groups for vulnerable adolescents.



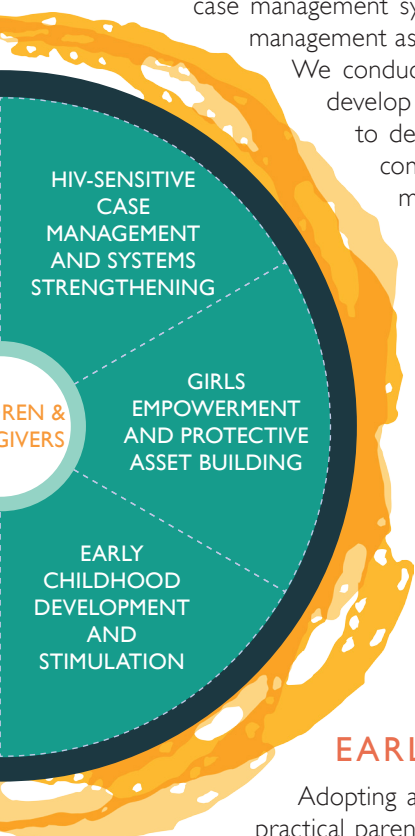
OUR PROGRAMMATIC APPROACH IS DESIGNED TO HELP COMMUNITIES DRIVE LASTING CHANGE.



HIV-SENSITIVE CASE MANAGEMENT AND SOCIAL SERVICES SYSTEMS' STRENGTHENING

A recognized global leader in case management with expertise supporting emerging, established, and mature case management systems in low resource and high HIV-prevalence settings, we partner with host governments to design, pilot, and roll out national case management systems. We build the capacity of social welfare cadres and community volunteer networks in case management as a pillar of integrated OVC service delivery using methods that build on existing structures and systems.

We conduct capacity assessments for social welfare departments; strengthen the social welfare workforce; and develop national case management guidelines, frameworks and standard protocols. We partner with governments to develop and roll out national case management information system to track case closure rates, referral completion rates, and other targeted OVC case management metrics. We develop effective case conferencing mechanisms to improve multi-sectoral coordination between community-based social welfare cadres and health-facility-based cadres, as well as link protection services to schools through early warning systems.



ADOLESCENT GIRLS EMPOWERMENT AND PROTECTIVE ASSET BUILDING

Drawing on our vast experience in life skills education, curriculum design, teacher training, capacity building of school management, participant-centered learning, and community mobilization, we deliver contextualized models that create safe and supportive environments for adolescent girls at school and at home. Our evidence-based programs promote access to services to prevent HIV infection among adolescents, including sexual and reproductive health and GBV services, HIV prevention education, and age-appropriate parenting skills to enhance parent-child relationships and communication.

EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT AND STIMULATION

Adopting a strengths-based family centered approach, we support HIV positive mothers and teen mothers with practical parenting skills to promote health and education and to connect them to comprehensive package of wrap-around services including improved access to nutritional foods to avert stunting and referrals to health and HIV services. ECS and ECD initiatives strengthen families by enhancing positive parent-child relations and mitigate child maltreatment and other forms of neglect and violence.

MALAWI

ESSENTIAL GBV SERVICES AND PREVENTION PROJECT IN MALAWI

Reduces school-related GBV by equipping secondary school students, teachers' and school personnel with the knowledge, skills and capacity to prevent and respond to SRGBV; strengthens caregivers commitment to girls' education and their ability to afford school fees by promoting saving and lending clubs (USDOS; \$1.5M; 2018-19)

MOZAMBIQUE

FORÇA À COMUNIDADE E CRIANÇAS

Provides services to over 129,000 children, adolescents, and families to reduce the impact of HIV/AIDS by promoting household economic resiliency, providing early childhood development services, identifying and strengthening community-based referral pathways and case management systems, and supporting retention of vulnerable youth in primary and secondary school (USAID/PEPFAR; \$15.8M; 2015-20)

DREAMS CORE

Reaches 27,000 AGYW (both in-school and out-of-school) with a package of comprehensive services that includes social asset building, psychosocial support, education subsidies, ASRH education, and links to HIV services; works with teachers on GBV prevention and with caregivers to overcome barriers of talking to their children about sexual risks (USAID/PEPFAR; \$4.7M; 2016-18)

BUILDING THE NATIONAL INTEGRATED CASE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

Expands ongoing efforts to build and implement a national case management system to ensure a continuum of care and a holistic approach to provide critical health and protection services (UNICEF; \$500K; 2017-18)

SWAZILAND

STRENGTHENING THE NATIONAL CASE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

Works in close partnership with the Department of Social Welfare to build the capacity of the social welfare workforce and community cadres to develop a harmonized, HIV-sensitive national case management system (USAID/PEPFAR, primed by 4Children; \$421K; 2016-18)

DREAMS INNOVATION

Reduces HIV infection and increases resilience of 1,800 AGYW by retaining girls in secondary school and providing teen moms who were forced to drop out of school with alternative education; improves education outcomes and social assets (USDOS, managed by JSI; \$985K; 2016-18)

REACH III/UMLIBA & DREAMS CORE

Reduces new HIV infections in 6,650 youth and provides wrap-around services for 15,000 OVC yearly; promotes economic strengthening through savings and lending clubs (USAID/PEPFAR, primed by PACT; \$3.7M; 2016-18)

VOLUNTARY MEDICAL MALE CIRCUMCISION

Aims to increase VMMC among adolescent boys and young men ages 15-29 as a mechanism for HIV prevention; sensitizes teachers, parents, and caregivers on the role of circumcision in HIV prevention (OSISA; \$1M; 2011-18)

SAVING BRAINS

Offers an ECS and nutrition curriculum to HIV-impacted mothers and babies to address the crucial needs of 260 vulnerable children across the first 1,000 days of life; integrates savings and lending clubs and drought-resistant permaculture gardens for economic strengthening and nutrition (Grand Challenges Canada; \$250K; 2017-18)

LIFE SKILLS EDUCATION CURRICULUM IN SECONDARY SCHOOLS

Brings HIV prevention education and life skills into the formal school system to over 80,000 secondary school students annually through a national curriculum (Global Fund/CANGO, UNICEF, OSISA; \$1M; 2011-18)

Our Country Programs



TANZANIA

WAACHE WASOME

Improves girls' participation and retention in formal secondary school and alternative education pathways; combats harmful negative perceptions about the value of girls' education and provides youth with peer-led life skills education; trains teachers to identify at-risk girls and link them to support services; helps caregivers' capacity to invest in girls' education through savings and lending clubs and supportive parenting skills (USAID; \$10.5M; 2016-21)

DREAMS INNOVATION

Supports the creation of safe school environments and reduces vulnerability to SRGBV and HIV infection through peer-led school clubs which help girls and boys build social assets and facilitate retention in school. Trains teachers and administrators to prevent and respond to SRGBV. Facilitates life skills training, savings and lending clubs, referrals for HIV testing, nutrition, adherence to treatment, and entrepreneurship training opportunities for girls who cannot return to school (USDOS, primed by JSI; \$1.6M; 2016-18)

COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SOCIAL WELFARE SYSTEM STRENGTHENING PROGRAM

In collaboration with the government of Tanzania, harmonizes the provision of health and social services by coordinating service providers working with children across the HIV/health, protection, and social welfare sectors; trained over 20,000 CCWs to facilitate referrals across providers in high HIV-prevalence districts (USAID/PEPFAR, primed by JSI; \$3.8M; 2016-18)

UGANDA

BETTER OUTCOMES FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH IN EASTERN AND NORTHERN UGANDA

Reaches over 100,000 vulnerable children and caregivers through health, education, child protection, and livelihoods services while strengthening referrals, networking, and case management between community and district service providers (USAID/PEPFAR; \$35.7M; 2015-20)

DREAMS CORE

Supports over 15,000 DREAMS AGYW with GBV and HIV prevention education, sexual and reproductive health services, HIV testing services, economic strengthening, life-skills education, and girls empowerment clubs; mobilizes children and youth to access services across the HIV continuum of care (PEPFAR through Better Outcomes, above)

AFRICAN YOUTH EMPOWERMENT AND DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE

Supports over 4,000 vulnerable and out-of-school youth with education, vocational training, and decent work opportunities; clubs provide life skills, occupational safety training, and career guidance and facilitate access to certificate programs, including functional literacy and trade certifications; savings and lending clubs help youth build capital and increase their financial literacy (USDOL; \$3.3M; 2013-18)

WESTERN UGANDA BANTWANA PROGRAM

Tackles social norms at home, in schools, and in communities that lead to violence against children; equips children with knowledge and tools to protect themselves from abuse through clubs; expands savings and lending clubs for economic strengthening (Oak Foundation and Anonymous; \$1.4M (Phase IV); 2016-18)

ZIMBABWE

NATIONAL CASE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

Adopted by the Government of Zimbabwe as policy in 2014 and scaled nationally, the program improves the functioning, coordination, management and effectiveness of case management to provide children with coordinated social protection and health services; identified and equipped 9,365 CCWs with skills and knowledge to help OVC and their families access critical services; strengthened the MIS system within DWS (UNICEF; \$9.5M from 2012-18)

VANA BANTWANA

Strengthens the capacity of communities, local service providers, and the Government of Zimbabwe's social protection and health service systems to offer services to OVC; addresses disparities in the HIV continuum of care for child headed households, out-of-school children, children living on the streets, children of sex workers, children on the move, and children of artisanal miners (USAID/PEPFAR; \$25.8M; 2013-18)

DREAMS CORE

Empowers 3,000 young women through a care package including mentoring, life skills, vocational skills, sexual and reproductive education, and GBV protection services. Savings and Lending clubs equip AGYW with financial literacy skills and provide entry for promoting entrepreneurship. A Work Readiness model links AGYW to internships in private and public sector companies (USAID/PEPFAR; \$4.9M, 2015-18)

EXPANDED INTEGRATED MANAGEMENT OF PEDIATRIC HIV AND AIDS CARE AND TREATMENT

Tested over 470,000 children, initiated over 10,000 children on ART, and increased pediatric ART coverage to 99% in 17 districts by increasing demand for testing and treatment through community health workers and enhancing the capacity of health facilities (USAID and Elma Philanthropies; \$7.59M; 2014-18)

DREAMS INNOVATION

Targets in-school girls through clubs to build social assets and facilitate retention in school; promotes norm change around girls' education through community dialogues; provides alternative education pathways and wraparound services such as HIV testing, counseling, and saving and lending clubs for out-of-school girls, particularly young mothers who also receive practical parenting skills and ECS to promote healthy child development (USDOS, managed by JSI; \$1.1M; 2016-18)

INCREASING CIVIC PARTICIPATION IN CHILDREN'S RIGHT TO EDUCATION

Advocates for increased public sector resource allocation to education to facilitate the re-entry of out-of-school youth into the education system; improves accountability and student engagement in school governance structures through the creation of open learning spaces that promote youth civic engagement (OSISA; \$100K; 2018-19)

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