

The Work of the HOPE Community Health Worker

HOPE Cape Town currently employs 25 HOPE Community Health Workers (HCHW) working in 20 low-income communities where they live. The objective is to directly address the HIV and AIDS pandemic by providing access to education, treatment and on-going support within the existing provincial and municipal structures in areas with high HIV burdens.

The HOPE Community Health Workers increase the staff capacity at these facilities in respect of ancillary medical treatment and care. They act as champions for HIV counselling, testing, treatment and adherence with the focus on paediatric/adolescent patients and their families in the various departments where they perform their duties.

The role of the HCHW with regard to HIV includes:

Prevention

- Educational talks at clinics, visits to schools. Distribution of condoms and pamphlets

Testing

- Pre-test and post-test counselling, as well as the rapid HIV testing

Treatment

- Counselling about disclosure issues, education about how to take antiretroviral treatment (ARVs) correctly and advice about adherence to ARVs

Other major work areas of HCHWs include:

- Tuberculosis (TB) testing and treatment
- Child care services including immunization and nutrition
- Male circumcision
- Sexually Transmitted Infections
- Support groups and child development groups

STATISTICS FOR HOPE COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKERS INTERACTION FOR 2018 (direct contacts):

Children 0 to 12 years	64,904
Teenagers 13 to 19 years	31,399
Adults	<u>63,955</u>
Total clients	<u>160, 258</u>

HOPE COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKERS DID THE FOLLOWING COUNSELLING SESSIONS IN 2018:

HIV	16,265
Adherence	6,110
Male medical circumcision	1,739
PMTCT	3,445
Other	<u>6,728</u>
Total counselling sessions	<u>34,287</u>

HOPE COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKERS CONDUCTED THESE TESTS IN 2018:

HIV tests	16,448
TB tests	<u>12,805</u>
Total testing	<u>29,253</u>



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