

More than 25 million children have been orphaned and made vulnerable in sub-Saharan Africa by HIV/AIDS and poverty.



Bantwana's mission is to improve the wellbeing of vulnerable children and their families affected by HIV/AIDS and poverty.

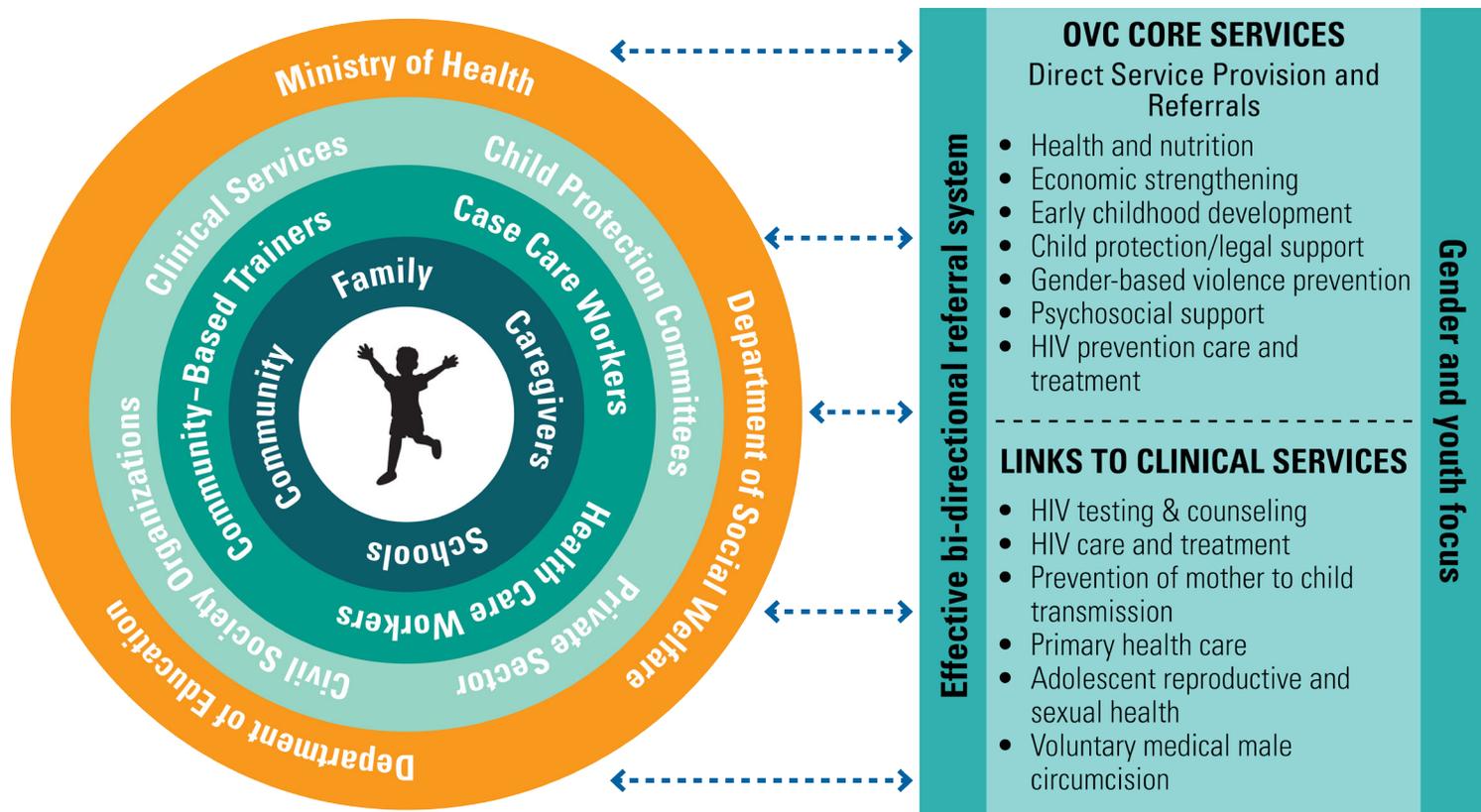
Orphans and vulnerable children (OVC) need support for HIV prevention, treatment, nutrition, child protection, and education and do best when they are supported and cared for in their own communities and among extended families, friends, and neighbors. However, available resources for the specific needs of OVC often do not get to where they are most needed, namely the communities in which these children live. By building the skills, resources, and networks of local organizations already caring for OVC, Bantwana harnesses the talents, creativity, and commitment of communities to develop local, innovative models of care that can be scaled up regionally and nationally to support OVC affected by HIV/AIDS.



Focusing on innovative approaches that support whole families and communities, Bantwana:

- Expands and strengthens the efforts of **community-based organizations**
- Develops and tests effective models for **systems strengthening** that can be scaled up nationally and across the region
- Builds strong **networks, resources, and partnerships** that help communities help themselves

Bantwana's Socio-Ecological Model



Bantwana's Programs

Swaziland

The **Voluntary Medical Male Circumcision, Early Infant Circumcision Service Delivery & Support** program aims to increase VMMC among adolescent boys as a mechanism for HIV prevention. Bantwana is working to sensitize teachers, parents/caregivers, and students on the role that circumcision can play in HIV prevention, and to encourage boys aged 10 and up to be circumcised, with parental consent.

The **Community Rapid & Effective Action Combatting HIV/AIDS III (REACH)** program works to reduce new HIV infections in adolescents, and provide supporting wrap-around services for OVC. Main focuses of this program include HIV prevention for adolescents (especially girls), OVC care planning at community level, and household economic strengthening through community savings and loans groups.

The **National Life Skills Education Curriculum in Secondary Schools** is the culmination of years of work to create an HIV-focused curriculum in collaboration with the National Curriculum Center and the Ministry of Education and Training (MoET) for national adoption and implementation. The curriculum focuses on HIV/AIDS education and prevention, as well as other health and important life skills. It is now being rolled out in forms 1 – 5 in all secondary schools nationwide.

Tanzania

Through the **Pamoja Tuwalee** program, Bantwana works towards an integrated child protection and service delivery network that addresses the comprehensive needs of vulnerable children and families in northern Tanzania. Bantwana also strengthens the capacity of local governments to implement policies and laws that guide provision of services and legal rights for vulnerable children who are living with or affected by HIV/AIDS.

The **Community Health and Social Welfare System Strengthening Program** is a partnership between Bantwana and JSI Research & Training Institute, Inc. that strives to create an enabling environment where government and civil society are equipped with appropriate skillsets to implement and manage quality social service programming in 42 high HIV-prevalence districts across Tanzania.

Uganda

Better Outcomes for Children and Youth in Eastern and Northern Uganda is scaling up Bantwana's evidence-based approaches and promising practices tested in Uganda and in the region. Families in 13 districts in eastern and northern Uganda are enrolled through Bantwana's case management mechanism and offered a menu of socio-economic services to help improve families' capacity to access needed services including HTC.

Through the **Strengthening TB and HIV/AIDS Responses in East Central Uganda** program, Bantwana increases access to and utilization of HIV/AIDS, TB, and wraparound services for vulnerable households. Since 2008, Bantwana has strengthened the referral networks between communities and health facilities, CSOs and other health service providers; operationalized national health strategies; and built district capacity to sustain these networks.

Zimbabwe

Vana Bantwana is Bantwana's flagship program in Zimbabwe, and works to improve the wellbeing of OVC and their caregivers affected by HIV/AIDS while strengthening the capacity of local, district, and national structures. Through the project, Bantwana reaches over 100,000 OVC and their families through strengthening the social service system, helping vulnerable children access primary health care, scaling-up early childhood interventions and reaching more children with disabilities. Under Vana Bantwana, the **Expanded Integrated Management of Pediatric AIDS Care and Treatment** program addresses both the demand and supply side for children's ART by ensuring that children have access to and are retained on ART, wrap around services are provided to caregivers and linkages are made to national care and treatment programs. E-IMPACT is conducting an RCT to test the effectiveness of the model on early childhood development and HIV status.

Through Bantwana's innovative national **Case Management** program model, developed in partnership with the Department of Child Welfare and Probation Services, Bantwana is creating an effective and robust social protection system which has been rolled out nationally strengthening local Child Protection Committees and identifying and equipping community-based Case Care Workers with skills and knowledge to help OVC and their families access critical services.

Mozambique

Bantwana is implementing **Força à Comunidade e Crianças (Child and Community Strengthening)**, aimed at improving and expanding evidenced-based models of integrated support for OVC and their households. In collaboration with the Government of Mozambique, the project will work through schools and communities to reach over 72,000 vulnerable children and adolescents with integrated services to help them thrive and grow into productive and healthy adults.

Learn more. Visit www.bantwana.org