

ABOUT THE PARTNERS

The Division of Violence Prevention (DVP) at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is dedicated to identifying critical gaps in knowledge of injury and violence risks and protection, conduct important research to address these gaps, and offer their findings to community public health workers to shape into effective programs to help each of us. DVP extends its impact by working closely with state and local health departments, research institutions, other federal agencies and national, state and local organizations to prevent injuries and deaths caused by violence.

“While it is generally known that sexual violence against girls is a global problem, very limited data exist on the extent of this problem in the developing world. Obtaining valid data is a key step toward mobilizing policy and other positive interventions.” – Dr. Rodney Hammond, Director of the Division of Violence Prevention in CDC’s Injury Center –

*“As the first step in this initiative, CDC will work with initiative partners to expand the surveillance implemented in Swaziland to additional countries to document the problem of violence against girls.”
–CDC–*

UNICEF is an organization created to work with others to overcome the obstacles that poverty, violence, disease and discrimination place in a child’s path. UNICEF believes that we can, together, advance the cause of humanity. UNICEF works to prevent the spread of HIV/AIDS among young people because it is right to keep them from harm and enable them to protect others. We help children and families affected by HIV/AIDS to live their lives with dignity.

“Sexual violence against children is a gross violation of their rights, a moral and ethical outrage and an assault on the world’s conscience,” said Ann M. Veneman, Executive Director of UNICEF. “Sexual abuse can lead to lost childhoods, abandoned education, physical and emotional problems, the spread of HIV, and an often irrevocable loss of dignity and self-esteem.” - Ann M. Veneman, Executive Director of UNICEF -

The **CDC Foundation** is an independent, nonprofit enterprise that forges effective partnerships between CDC and others to fight threats to health and safety. The CDC Foundation currently manages more than 200 programs in the United States and in 40 countries around the world. The CDC Foundation programs are as diverse as the expansive role of CDC in the global public health arena.

“Sexual violence against girls is a complex and pressing global health issue. Building a robust partnership of government agencies and independent organizations will provide unprecedented expertise, resources and momentum in the fight to end these atrocities against girls around the world.” - Charlie Stokes, president and CEO for the CDC Foundation -

The Nduna Foundation, led by Amy Robbins, Founder, is committing substantial financial resources to the CDC Foundation to launch this effort, and strategic support to planning, communications and branding efforts. The Nduna Foundation focuses its efforts and investments in conflict and post-conflict countries largely in Africa, working to improve nutrition and food security; supporting those who work diligently to treat and eliminate pediatric HIV/AIDS and advancing all efforts to secure universal human rights. Amy is a board director of the US Fund for UNICEF and Millennium Promise amongst others and is also a member of The Advisory Board for The Elders.

Grupo ABC, a major Marketing Communications and Services conglomerate headquartered in Brazil, is committing global pro bono media and communications services to mobilize social and behavioral changes in support of reducing sexual violence against girls. This commitment includes

developing media content through platforms such as public service announcements (PSAs) and soap operas, and working with local media leaders in Africa to achieve message placement in newspapers, radio, television and the internet. Grupo ABC is also leading efforts to integrate messages related to this initiative into the social messaging of the FIFA World Cup in South Africa (2010) and in Brazil (2014).

“What the world needs now is action. The social and environmental problems, by their own nature, scale and impact, require the commitment of all of us: government, institutions, enterprises and citizens. This is why the Grupo ABC is a strategic partner of the Clinton Global Initiative and committed to fight sexual violence against girls all over the world. We are a Brazilian Group of 17 communication and marketing companies with international participation, and for 20 years we have been strategic partners of major institutions in Brazil such as UNICEF, UNESCO and ENDEAVOR Institute. Our pro bono work ranges from education and violence prevention such as child work and child abuse, to social entrepreneurship. We believe that communication is the fundamental tool to build and change behaviors and to ultimately establish a culture of respect for human rights, which is the basis for the sustainable development in any given society.” – Nizan Guanaes, CEO, Grupo ABC -

The World Health Organization (WHO) is the directing and coordinating authority for health within the United Nations system. It is responsible for providing leadership on global health matters, shaping the health research agenda, setting norms and standards, articulating evidence-based policy options, providing technical support to countries and monitoring and assessing health trends.

The Joint United Nations Programme on AIDS (UNAIDS), is an innovative joint venture of the United Nations family, bringing together the efforts and resources of ten UN system organizations in the AIDS response to help the world prevent new HIV infections, care for people living with HIV, and mitigate the impact of the epidemic.

“Sexual violence against girls increases their vulnerability to HIV infection and must be stopped,” said Michel Sidibé, UNAIDS, Executive Director. “AIDS responses must include programmes to stop sexual violence as an integral part of HIV prevention and treatment programmes.” – Michel Sidibé, Executive Director of UNAIDS –

UNFPA, the United Nations Population Fund, is an international development agency that promotes the right of every woman, man and child to enjoy a life of health and equal opportunity. UNFPA supports countries in using population data for policies and programmes to reduce poverty and to ensure that every pregnancy is wanted, every birth is safe, every young person is free of HIV/AIDS, and every girl and woman is treated with dignity and respect.

“Violence against girls and women is a human rights violation and a major health priority that must be tackled by all, at all levels and through many interventions,” said Thoraya Ahmed Obaid, Executive Director of UNFPA, the United Nations Population Fund. “We hope our partnership in this initiative will help reduce gender-based violence through the concrete actions that it proposes.” - Thoraya Ahmed Obaid, Executive Director of UNFPA -

UNIFEM, United Nations Development Fund for Women, provides financial and technical assistance to innovative programmes and strategies to foster women’s empowerment and gender equality. UNIFEM focuses its activities on the over-arching goal of supporting the implementation of existing commitments at the national level to advance gender equality. In support of this goal, UNIFEM works on strengthening women’s economic security and rights; ending violence against women; reversing the spread of HIV and AIDS among women and girls; and achieving gender equality in democratic governance in times of peace as well as war.

Gary Cohen is a board director of the CDC Foundation and the US Fund for UNICEF. Gary has deep experience in public private partnerships (PPP's), and he is the driving force behind bringing the lead organizations and key partners together to address this issue. He is committed to continued leadership of the advocacy, resource development and coalition building efforts for this initiative. Gary is also Executive Vice President of BD (Becton, Dickinson and Company), and a board director of the Perrigo Company and the Accordia Global Health Foundation.

“Sexual violence, including coercion, abuse, exploitation, rape and trafficking, has a devastating impact on children, particularly adolescent and pre-adolescent girls, who are among the most vulnerable members of any society.” –Gary Cohen, Board Director of the CDC Foundation and the US Fund for UNICEF, and Executive Vice President, BD–

“This grave injustice ruins lives, undermines human potential, and drives the cycle of infectious disease spread, increasing the population of people who require treatment. It also has a broader societal impact, as research demonstrates that girls who are protected and educated contribute disproportionately back to their families and communities.” –Gary Cohen, Board Director of the CDC Foundation and the US Fund for UNICEF, and Executive Vice President, BD–

The Clinton Global Initiative (CGI) is an organization founded by President Clinton in 2005, to turn ideas into action and to help our world move beyond the current state of globalization to a more integrated global community of shared benefits, responsibilities, and values. By gathering world leaders from a variety of backgrounds, CGI creates a unique opportunity to channel the capacities of individuals and organizations to realize change. To fulfill the action-oriented mission of CGI, all members devise practical solutions to global issues through the development of specific and measurable Commitments to Action.
