

# Model

## MSM's intervention on HIV/AIDS in Ho Chi Minh city

*Lê Cao Dũng*

AIDS Committee HCMC



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# Project description

- **Partnership:** HCMC AIDS Committee, Binh Thanh DHC and FHI
- **Funding agency:** USAID/USG
- **Project time:**
  - *Stage 1:* 9/2203 – 9/2005
  - *Stage 2:* 10/2005 – 6/2006
- **Goal:** To reduce HIV transmission among MSM and their sexual partners in HCMC



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# Project description (Cont.)

- **Objectives:**
  - Raise AIDS awareness among MSM
  - Increase safer sexual behaviors among MSM and their sexual partners
  - Increase access to “MSM-friendly” services for STI, VCT and HIV care and treatment



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# Strategic approaches

- Implementation of community peer outreach activities
- Establishment and operation of drop-in center services and activities
- Increase of access to “MSM-friendly” services for STI, VCT and HIV care and treatment through integrated and linked services
- Improvement of availability and use of condoms and water-based lubricants
- Capacity building for MSM to manage the program



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# Community outreach activities

- **Outreach activities**: done by 25 peer outreach workers (POWs) and supervised by 4 health educators (HEs)
- **Sites**: cafes, road-side bars, sauna parlors, parks, streets, discotheques, cinemas, swimming pools, etc.
- **Contents**: friendship building, education and awareness, IEC materials distribution, condom and lube distribution and referrals to the drop-in center and supportive services
- **Coverage to date**: 17 out of 24 districts with 35 sites



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# Drop-in center services and activities

- Counseling services: HIV/AIDS/STIs and psychosexual health
- Information: mini-library, topic talks, IEC materials, etc.
- Referrals to integrated and linked services for VCT, STI, OI/ART, home-based care and peer support groups
- Edutainment activities
- Weekly/monthly meetings with POWs



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# Counseling in drop-in center



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# Edutainment activities in drop-in center



Thi hát karaoke va trả lời câu hỏi về kiến thức HIV/AIDS/STIs



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# Community advocacy activities

- Organization workshop to implement the project
- Opening of the Blue Sky club



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# Community advocacy activities (Cont.)

- Organizing edutainment activities in the community



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# Community advocacy activities (Cont.)

- Participate in the “**Performance and HIV/AIDS knowledge**” competition with other peer educator groups



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# Community advocacy activities (Cont.)

- Participate in World AIDS Day. (WAD)



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# Support access services

- Survey and identify “user-friendly” clinics.
- Select “friendly” services on STI, VCT, care and treatment on HIV/AIDS for referral.
- Support training for sensitive service sites for MSM.
- Supply information on “friendly” services to peer educators.
- Organize regular meetings with referral services.



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# Integrated and linked services

## Peer outreach activities

- Friendship building
- Education and awareness
- IEC materials distribution
- Condom and lube distribution
- Referrals

## Drop-in center services

- Socializing
- Psychosexual counseling
- Information
- Edutainment activities
- Referrals

## Integrated and linked services

- STI clinics
- VCT sites
- Outpatient clinics for OI/ART
- Home-based care services
- PLWHA peer support groups



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# Referral card form



CLB Sức khỏe Nam giới **BẦU TRỜI XANH**  
Địa chỉ: 53 Vũ Tùng, Phường 2, Quận Bình Thạnh  
Điện thoại: 5 513 940

## PHIẾU CHUYỂN GỬI

Mã số:

Nơi cung cấp dịch vụ: .....

Địa chỉ: .....

Ngày ..... tháng ..... năm 200 .....  
Người chuyển gửi

## Các dịch vụ hỗ trợ

- Tham vấn, xét nghiệm HIV miễn phí & giấu tên (VCT).
- Khám và chữa các bệnh lây truyền qua đường tình dục (STIs).
- Chăm sóc và điều trị HIV/AIDS.
- Chăm sóc tại nhà.
- Câu lạc bộ Bạn giúp bạn.
- Khác.



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# Capacity building

- Training on management and monitor project activities for club staff.
- Training on program management for project officers.
- Basic and refresher training for peer educators.



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# Capacity building

- Training on VCT and counselling skill for health educators and counsellors.
- Training on psychological counselling skill and sexual health for health educators and counsellors.
- Training on capacity reinforcement for PLWHAs.
- Training on sensitive matters of MSM for referral services
- Training on Clinical management guide for sexual health care of MSM and transgender people for STI doctors.
- Other training.



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# PROMOTION ACTIVITIES FOR USING CONDOM AND LUBRICANT (International DKT)

- Quarterly meeting with DKT in HCMC.
- Monitoring activities at site sales.
- Training for traditional and non-traditional site sales.
- Training on male and female condoms, lubricant for project peer educators.
- Distributing condoms and lubricants to outreach sites in HCMC.



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# Achievements (May 04 - Oct 05)

Indicators	Cumulative
Total number of MSM reached	<u>5,717</u>
* <i>Number of MSM reached by outreach</i>	4,173
* <i>Number of MSM reached by drop-in center</i>	1,544
Number of MSM referred to supportive services	900
Total number of IEC materials distributed	25,200
Total number of condoms distributed	39,646
Total number of lubricant sachets distributed	11,473



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# ADVANTAGES AND DISADVANTAGES

## 1. Advantages:

- Getting technical support from HCMC PAC and FHI.
- Getting legal support from the People's Committee and HCMC PAC
- Getting agreement from local government authorities, project site unions. (Bình Thạnh Health Center)
- Active and creative staff.
- Getting active support and participation of peer educators and volunteers.



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# ADVANTAGES AND DISADVANTAGES (cont.)

## 2. Disadvantages:

- Very difficult to access the “hidden” MSM.
- Lack of sympathy for MSM in the community.



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# Future directions

- Expand the coverage of outreach activities
- Improve the quality of the drop-in center services & activities
- Strengthen linkages with supportive services supported by FHI and others in HCMC
- Provide training on:
  - sensitization for service providers (Aug 05)
  - clinical management guidelines for sexual health care of TG/MSM for STI physicians (Nov 05)
  - psychosexual counseling for HEs/counselors (Nov 05)



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# Future directions (cont.)

- Provide training and mentoring for the staff of MSM interventions supported by FHI and others in the country
- Evaluate the effectiveness of the MSM intervention in HCMC to highlight lessons learned for scaling-up



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*Thank you !*



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