

## Care and Support Centres(CSC)

The programme is designed as the care & support component of the country's HIV response under National AIDS Control Programme IV (NACP IV). Working in collaboration with the Department of AIDS Control and with support from the Global Fund, the programme operates in 31 states and territories and will reach more than one million PLHIV by 2016. The Vihaan consortium is led by Alliance India and 16 state-level PLHIV networks and NGOs that in turn partner with district-level PLHIV networks and other organizations to deliver care & support services in communities.

Over the life of the programme (April 2013-March 2016), a total of 350 CSCs will be developed that are linked to high-burden ART centres in 31 states, in accordance with the NACP IV CSC guidelines developed under **NACO's** leadership.

CSCs will leverage community and local NGO capacity when possible and appropriate, following strict assessment criteria and based on a track record of working successfully with local **PLHIV** community.

### CSCs in Karnataka

In collaboration with KSAPS, the Vihaan project is implemented in the state by KHPT, in coordination with KNP+, District level networks and NGOs. The project is implemented in all 30 districts. There are in total 39 Care and Support Centers, in the state.

The project is implemented with the following **specific objectives**:

- **Early linkages of PLHIV to Care ,Support and Treatment services:** The CSC will support PLHIV newly enrolled into the program and have come for periodic check-up, i.e., the pre-ART registration group
- **Improved treatment adherence and education for PLHIV:** Adherence education and support can help PLHIV sustain and manage their treatment regimes. It is essential that all three elements of successful treatment are supported: the client; the provider; and the process.
- **Expanded positive prevention activities:** To encourage early testing. Improved positive prevention will contribute to the national efforts to prevent HIV transmission and reduce overall burden of disease. Illustrative activities include
- **Improved social protection and wellbeing of PLHIV:** Social and economic well-being is an important component of care and support.
- **Strengthened community systems and reduced stigma and discrimination:** To ensure a robust system that supports the program goal.

## Updates

- In coordination with ART centers and DAPCUs, a total of 98,000 (As on Feb. 2015) PLHIVs have been registered in CSC program.
- Of which 51% are women living with HIV and 10% are children living with HIV.
- On an average 40,000 PLHIVs have accessed counseling services from September 2013 at least once.
- Nearly 8000 PLHIVs attend the support group meetings being conducted on a monthly basis across the taluks.
- A total of 18,000-20,000 PLHIVs have been linked to one key social schemes.
- LFU tracking, family testing, linkages to ART centre has been a priority activity.