

Government committed to strengthen BHP



His Excellency Dr. Eric Keabetswe Masi welcoming BHP Board Chairman Prof. Roger Shapiro at Office of the President

The President, His Excellency Dr. Mokgweetsi Eric Keabetswe Masi says that the Botswana Government is committed to strengthening the partnership between the Government and Harvard University in the US.

The President was addressing a Botswana Harvard AIDS Institute Partnership (BHP) delegation who had paid him a courtesy visit at

Office of the President on the 27th January 2023

BHP was established by a partnership between the Government of Botswana through the Ministry of Health (MOH) and the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health (HSPH). The BHP delegation was headed by HSPH Professor of Public Health, Prof. Roger Shapiro who is also the Board Chairman of

Botswana Harvard AIDS Institute Partnership.

President Masi noted that Botswana owes Harvard University a lot of gratitude for helping Botswana address HIV/AIDS during Former President Festus Mogae's Presidency when the country was being ravaged by the HIV/AIDS epidemic at the time.

He thanked Harvard University for its ingenuity in sciences which he said made Botswana pull through when faced with its first foremost greatest risk that threatened her people.

“We are committed to supporting BHP and strengthening this partnership,” he said, adding that they should rekindle the relationship that Former President Mogae cultivated with Harvard University.

“I don’t want a time limited relationship, I want an enduring relationship. We should have fellows in Harvard and Harvard should have fellows here. When you teach students, they should come and do their residency here,” emphasized the president.

BHP Chief Executive Officer, Dr Joseph Makhema informed the President that through the BHP Capacity Building and Training Initiatives, there is already an existing training and fellows exchange programme where scientists, residents and fellows from HSPH and Harvard affiliated hospitals participate in capacity building initiatives at the BHP lab, University of Botswana and Scottish Livingstone Hospital.

Dr Makhema revealed that through a recent collaboration commitment with University of Botswana, BHP and HSPH will help identify a Motswana graduate student who if able to qualify for PhD entry at Harvard University would have their full PhD study programme paid for by Harvard.

President Masisi noted that Botswana shall continue to learn from Harvard and draw from its competencies as his Government is fully committed to drive a knowledge and research-intensive based economy to provide solutions not only for Botswana but for the region and the world.

“We could not have found a better partner than BHP. We are proud that one of our own through the ground that you laid, discovered the omicron. I was so proud I rushed to the laboratory and that was my first time in the lab,” said Dr Masisi.



Dr Joseph Makhema, Prof Roger Shapiro and Dr Gaerolwe Masheto during media interview

He said that the BHP laboratory is very small and there is need for it to be expanded to build capacity to be able to deal with future public health emergencies.

Speaking to the media after the meeting with the president, BHP Board chairman, Prof Roger Shapiro noted the need to continue the partnership with Government. He said BHP is still committed to find solutions to the ongoing struggle against HIV/AIDS and other public health challenges. He also pointed out that BHP is leading in pathogen genomics and would want to explore sequencing different pathogens as well as growing other research programmes.

He stated that because of the broadened scope of the BHP research, the institute has now changed its name to “Botswana Harvard Health Partnership” to reflect the completeness of its mission and expansion beyond just HIV research.

The BHP delegation was made up of Board Chairman, Prof. Roger Shapiro, BHP CEO, Dr Joseph Makhema, BHP Deputy CEO Designee, Dr Gaerolwe Masheto. Also in attendance was the Minister of Health, Dr Edwin Dikoloti and Deputy Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Health, Dr Moses Keetile.

From L-R: Prof. Roger Shapiro, Dr Edwin Dikoloti, Dr Joseph Makhema, Dr Moses Keetile & Dr Gaerolwe Masheto



Swiss President visits BHP



Dr Joseph Makhema welcoming His Excellency Alain Berset at the Botswana Harvard HIV Reference Laboratory

The President of the Swiss Confederation, His Excellency Alain Berset visited the Botswana Harvard HIV Reference Laboratory (BHHRL) on Tuesday 7th February 2023 to tour the laboratory where the Omicron variant of SARS-CoV-2 was first discovered. President Berset was in Botswana for a three-day State Visit at the invitation of His Excellency the President of the Republic of Botswana, Dr Mokgweetsi Eric Keabetswe Masisi.

BHP Laboratory Director, Dr Sikhulile Moyo credited with the discovery of the Omicron took his Excellency Berset and his entourage on a tour of the (BHHRL) for the president to appreciate the laboratory infrastructure and processes which led to the discovery of the Omicron. Dr Moyo briefed the president on Omicron pathogenomics and highlights of BHP research.

The Director of the National Health Laboratory (NHL), Mpaphi Mbulawa who is also a BHP Board Member briefed the president on the role played by NHL and Botswana Harvard Partnership (BHP) on COVID-19 National Testing and diagnostics. Mbulawa stated that through collaboration with BHP, they have collectively managed to perform 2.3 million COVID-19 tests and have also developed capabilities for Monkey Pox testing. Dr Simani Gaseitsiwe shared with President Berset

highlights of BHP’s Capacity Building and Training Programme, which he said has produced more than 20 Masters and PhDs in a space of 12 years and currently had 6 PhD and 6 MSc fellows in training. Dr Gaseitsiwe noted that BHP would be highly grateful to have collaborations that would strengthen the training programme.

Leading open forum discussion, BHP Chief Executive, Dr Joseph Makhema pointed out that BHP is looking at how it can strengthen the capacities it has generated in order to be able to deal with other public health challenges including climate change. He said BHP has with insufficient resources, been able to achieve a lot from HIV to COVID-19. “One wonders what more can we achieve with better resources and strengthened capacities,” he said.



BHP Lab Director, Dr Sikhulile Moyo with President Alain Berset during the laboratory tour

The Acting Minister of Health, Sethomo Lelatisiwe also motivated for developing and strengthening of BHP capacities and the health sector in general in Botswana. He stated that the Botswana Government is committed to support the institution, noting that they supported BHP in developing capacity in COVID-19 testing.



Discussions after the Laboratory tour

For his remarks, President Berset thanked BHP for the discovery of the Omicron and sounding the alarm and sharing the experiences with the world.

“You have been able to adapt quickly from HIV to COVID-19, I was very impressed and you have done a very good job with that. You did a really amazing job,” said President Berset, observing on how BHP leveraged its experience in sequencing HIV to tracking SARS-CoV-2 pathogens which led to the discovery of Omicron.

“Omicron was not bad news, it was good news,” explaining that the swift alert on the Omicron variant of SAR-CoV-2 was the way to achieving global immunity as countries stepped up their response and preparedness to control the virus.

The discovery and knowledge of Omicron also led pharmaceuticals to adapt and strengthen their COVID-19 vaccines to be able to cater for the new variant.

“I have this morning signed a Declaration of Intent of cooperation with Botswana in the area of health and I am sure that BHP will have a role to play in this. We want to learn from each other in different health sectors like in the area of topical medicine,” said President Berset.

He said it will be important to have direct contact with laboratories in Switzerland so as to accelerate interactions on collaboration opportunities.



President Berset addressing the meeting



Acting Minister of Health, Sethomo Lelatisitswe addressing the meeting

BHP hosts management planning retreat



BHP Management, Departmental Heads and Study Coordinators posing for a photo with BHP Board Chairman, Prof. Roger Shapiro (with red tie) after the retreat.

On the 26th January 2023, Botswana Harvard AIDS Institute Partnership (BHP) held an all-day annual management retreat at the BHHRL Conference Room. The planning retreat was attended by the BHP Board Chairman, and BHP Principal Investigator Prof. Roger Shapiro to appreciate first-hand the different studies and department’s objectives and planned targets for the year while appreciating envisaged challenges ahead.

Human Resources and Operations Manager, Beauty Malumbela directing proceedings of the event, told the retreat participants that the event was meant for departments and studies to present their yearly plans that incorporate clearly defined goals and targets for the year as well as anticipated hurdles that may affect effective implementation of their plans. She stated that yearly initiatives and activities are important tools drawn to aid the day-to-day accountability and tracking of achievements with the final goals of achieving and aligning performance with strategic objectives.

Fifteen studies and five departments individually presented their plans for appreciation and input by other departments and management. This ensures

BHP collectively appreciates and understand each other’s projects fostering coordination and enhanced efficiencies. The exercise also guides and ensures alignment to strategic objectives and outcomes.

Some of the identified notable challenges affecting the progress and successful execution of projects were the following;

- Limited programme space,
- Financial constraints,
- Retention of key personnel,
- Challenges with timely regulatory approvals,
- Obsolete and aging laboratory, electronic and clinical infrastructure
- Continuing need for maintenance and renovation of the BHHRL equipment and laboratory building.

Giving closing remarks, BHP Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Dr Joseph Makhema commended coordinators and managers for presenting their plans, explaining that the exercise will help with the setting out of priorities and aligning of available resources to ensure that the company achieves its strategic objectives.

BHP ends year in festive spirit



A group photo of jubilant BHP staff at the End of Year Event

BHP marked its year end with a colorful team building and awards recognition celebration at Travel Lodge in Gaborone Block 3 on the 9th December 2022. The event was also an opportunity to reflect on the successes and challenges of the past year while setting the stage for the coming year.

The day was planned to be more than just fun for employees but also a strategic event that was meant to foster workplace enjoyment that ultimately leads to better business outcomes. The event gave employees an opportunity to interact and engage in non-work-related discussions, appreciate one another in a social context away from their usual work stations.

Addressing the staff at the event, BHP Director of Grants and Finance, Cornelius Gaetsaloe pointed out that the momentous event was a worthwhile investment with long-term value that should last beyond the event and impact positively on productivity.

He noted that employees had shown unsurpassed dedication to their work especially under stressful times of the COVID-19 pandemic when morale was particularly low. He said there is need for employees to have a day of rest, to pause and unwind as they look back and reflect on how much they have achieved as a team. Gaetsaloe implored BHP staff to take the event as another way BHP is trying to promote stronger bonds between individual staff members and their workplace



Cornelius Gaetsaloe addressing BHP Staff

and to help develop and strengthen the bonds between staff and their institution.

“Celebrating a year’s hard work goes a long way in making our staff feel genuinely valued and appreciated. This is an important gesture of recognising everyone’s contribution,” said Gaetsaloe.

The event was a combined Christmas party and excellence awards celebration to inspire high performance amongst employees. Twenty BHP staff members from across different levels and departments were individually recognized for their selfless dedication to BHP and received certificates of appreciation and a gift voucher worth P 1000.00. It was a hive of activities from good live music and dance, to positive humour from an amazing line up of stand-up comedians who left people in stitches.

Furthermore it was also an educational event with a life coach giving an inspiring session on personalities, educating BHP staff on the different personalities and how they affect productivity and work outcomes. A panel discussion on women in science moderated by HR’s Omphile Masuku made up of Dr Shahin Lockman, Gloria Mayondi, Dr Unoda Chakalisa and Bonolo Phinius showcased BHP women scientists and celebrated the achievements of women in science while highlighting the challenges they face as well as to motivate and inspire new generation of female scientists.

The day ended with a celebratory recognition video and presentation of gifts to the outgoing BHP Deputy Chief Executive Officer, Dr Mompoti Mmalane who retired from BHP on the 31st December 2022 after serving the institute for 13 years.



Mompoti Ramosalagadi receiving certificate of appreciation for outstanding performance from BHP COO Ria Madison



Motlha serenading the crowd



Panel Discussion On Women In Science: From L-R: Dr Shahin Lockman, Dr Rosemary Musonda, Omphile Masuku (Moderator), Bonolo Phinius, Dr Unoda Chakalisa & Gloria Mayondi

BHP Deputy Chief Executive Dr Mompoti Mmalane Retires



Dr Mompoti Mmalane

With a clean-shaven head and nicely trimmed grey goatee beard style, he completed the look with a one-button white tuxedo with black trimmings and a striped vee neck t-shirt and grey pants. An unusual dazzling fashion expression for Dr Mompoti Oganne Mmalane. This as he was attending his farewell party which doubled as a black-tie BHP end of year event, justifying the alluring look.

Dr Mmalane retired as Deputy Chief Executive of BHP on 31st December 2022 saying his farewell to the BHP family on the ninth of December 2022 at Travel Lodge, a family that he has been part of for 13 years. He joined BHP in 2009 after having spent 22 years in the public service. Ultimately his retirement from BHP transitions him from the world of clinical scientific and community health research to his great love of farming, beckoning him to taking the wheel of the tractor in the ploughing fields.

Before he addressed BHP staff for the last time, a farewell compilation video by colleagues from BHP and Principal Investigators from Boston who gave their farewell messages and well wishes was played and projected on a big screen, a total surprise to Dr Mmalane that evoked emotions and brought tears of joy.

“It is tough, I don’t know where to start. Just imagine how it would feel after spending almost 13 years as part of a family you love and now you have to bid them farewell. It is not a pleasant feeling,” he said.

An Orthopedic Surgeon schooled in fixing broken bones and tendons, Dr Mmalane started his medical career in January 1987 at Princess Marina Hospital (PMH) where he exited as Hospital Superintendent in 2005. He packed his scalpels and knives and left the operating theatre to join the Ministry of Health (MOH) as Director of Clinical Services until 2008 subsequently joining BHP in 2009, venturing into an unfamiliar field of HIV/AIDS research.

“I came here venturing into an area I was not familiar with. I needed to learn a lot in a short period of time and adapt to the research environment” he said of his transition from orthopaedics and Health management to HIV research.

Dr Mmalane has now left medical research to begin his “agricultural” residency at the farm, his new “hospital.” From fixing broken bones to pruning fruit trees, an uncommon career change but one he has always treasured. For him, “there is no more clinical trials to boggle my mind, in its stead is the counting of herds of cattle and fixing broken tractors and ploughing implements”, he quipped.

And he cracks a joke: “I was black haired when I was at PMH, maybe a few strands of grey hair when at MOH, and now I am whitewashed,” referring to his almost all-grey hair.



GIFT: A painted portrait of Dr Mompoti Mmalane



On the Dance Floor: Dr Mompoti Mmalane and Gorata Kenyaditswe

Mmalane sends his gratitude to the founding father of BHP, Prof. Max Essex who interviewed him and inspired him. He thanks him for believing in him and giving him an opportunity to test his potential in a territory that he was unaccustomed to.

Apart from having to learn the many research jargons and abbreviations, he had to learn more about research ethics. “That really set my brain on fire,” he admits. He says that he had to learn statistics and epidemiology crammed into six weeks but despite a mountain of work one had to master in a short space of time, the retired surgeon says “life was as thrilling and gratifying as ever.”

This, he says was made possible by all BHP staff’s unwavering support that made his life easy and fulfilling, thus making him grow professionally without having to struggle.

“It is a privilege to be associated with this organization. The number one health research organization in the country and one of the top few in Africa. The number one funder for post graduate training in our sector

outside government. Number one in producing peer reviewed scientific papers in the country. BHP is a force to be reckoned with,” said Dr Mmalane.

He advised all BHP staff to take ownership of the organization and be its proud ambassadors. He implored them to actively participate in coming with innovative ideas that would help grow the institute. He further advised that all BHP departments and studies should work closely together to implement the organizational strategy and take BHP to greater heights, observing that working in silos can only reverse the gains that the organization has achieved over the years.

His colleague, BHP Chief Executive Officer, Dr Joseph Makhema was quick to dispel Dr Mmalane’s believe that he has reached his sunset days. “It is not sunset my friend, it is just dusk,” said Dr Makhema, explaining that Dr Mmalane’s evening twilight is a promise of dawn, a new day, another day to live and be merry.

Because of the career shift to Agriculture, BHP gifted Dr Mmalane

with four Solar Floodlights to use at the farm, a set of garden scissors for cutting trees, an emergency light and a portable tyre inflator to use in case he gets a puncture at the farm. He was also presented with a framed painted portrait of his image.

And as he left the stage in style to go back to his seat at the table, he calls for “a lady in a black dress” from a certain table. All heads turn to see who the lady is and to hear what she is being called upfront for. A lady in black stands up and approaches him, he hugs her and indicates she is not the one. As this lady in black walks back to her table, another lady in black comes forward and the good doctor beams in smiles. It was Gorata Kenyaditswe, a BHP Scientist and a celebrated Ballroom Dancer.

As Gorata reaches him, music started playing and the two gave a spectacle of astounding dance moves much to the admiration of the spectators. What a memorable experience!

This was an amazing day and a great farewell to Dr Mompoti Oganne Mmalane.

Dr Ponatshego completes MSc in Global Health



Dr. Ponego Ponatshego

Dr Ponatshego’s thesis, in line with his work as the lead doctor for the InterCARE project was titled “Perceptions and experiences of people living with HIV and treatment partners, on using treatment partners to support hypertension care in people living with HIV: A qualitative study.”

The thesis was done as part of a short research project termed “Acceptability and Feasibility of Using Treatment Partners to Support Hypertension Management in People living with HIV” for which he received a \$5000 grant from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) which is currently ongoing.

Dr Ponatshego hopes to continue furthering his studies and focus more on his research interest of ‘aging and HIV’. In line with this interest, he is currently conducting a new concept work sheet study (NCWS) funded at \$50 000 through the ACTG, titled “Comparative Analysis of Frailty Prevalence, Association with Levels of Systemic Biomarkers of Inflammation and Immune Function among Adults Living with HIV in Botswana (sub-Saharan Africa) Versus in the United States of America.”

Other BHP trainees who graduated last year (2022) include Dr Dorcas Maruapula, Dr Keasobaka Molebatsi and Monkgomotsi Maseng and Wonderful Choga. Dr Maruapula and Dr Molebatsi graduated with PhDs while Maseng graduated with an MPhil, all three from the University of Botswana while Wonderful Tatenda Choga graduated with an MSc from University of Cape Town, South Africa.



Dr. Dorcas Maruapula, Dr. Keasobaka Molebatsi and Monkgomotsi Maseng

Dr Maruapula graduated with a PhD in Biological Sciences with a thesis titled: “Prevalence and Impact of Low-frequency HIV Drug Resistance Mutations in

Study Physician and Coordinator for the International Maternal, Pediatric, Adolescent AIDS Clinical Trials (IMPAACT) Network and the AIDS Clinical Trials Group (ACTG) studies at the BHP Clinical Trials Unit (CTU), Dr Ponego Lloyd Ponatshego has obtained the degree of Master of Science in Global Health (MSc Global Health) from the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine (LSTM) in December 2022.

He started the MSc in September 2021 whilst working as the lead doctor for the InterCARE project (Integrating Hypertension and Cardiovascular Diseases Care into the Existing HIV Services Package in Botswana), through which he got financial support under the mentorship of the study’s Principal Investigator, Prof. Mosepele Mosepele.



Wonderful Choga

ART naive individuals in Botswana.” She had two first authored manuscripts as part of the thesis and has 15 more publications outside the thesis project. She was supported by a number of grants at BHP through the PhD journey including SANTHE1.0, Fogarty D43 and Aldatu Biosciences.

Dr Kesaobaka Molebatsi graduated with a PhD in Statistics and his Thesis was titled “Efficient Estimation of HIV Incidence Rate Using a Cross-Sectional Cohort Design” while Monkgomotsi Maseng, with a thesis titled “Association of CYP2B6 Genetic Variation with Efavirenz/Nevirapine Drug Resistance and Toxicity in HIV-1 Patients in Botswana,” graduated with an MPhil in Medical Sciences. Both Dr Molebatsi and Maseng’s studies were supported by the BHP Sub-Saharan African Network For TB/HIV Research Excellence (SANTHE) grant.

Also sponsored by SANTHE, Wonderful Choga graduated Cum Laude with an MSc in Medicine specializing in Human Genetics. His Thesis is titled



Dr. Nametso Kelentse

“Functional Genome-wide Association studies (fGWAS) and genomics landscape of signatures of polygenic adaptation in Botswana populations with HIV-1 C infection.” He has published and co-published 31 manuscripts in different scientific journals and has received another SANTHE scholarship to pursue his PhD.

In November 2022, Dr Nametso Kelentse successfully defended her PhD in Medical Sciences at University of Botswana Faculty of Health Sciences. Kelentse’s PhD project was titled “Investigating HIV-1 Compartmentalization in the Cerebrospinal Fluid and Plasma of Individuals with HIV-associated Cryptococcal Meningitis in Botswana Using a Cross-sectional Approach.”

Nametso published four first author papers in peer reviewed journals as part of the PhD work and was supported by Trials of Excellence in Southern Africa (TESA II & III) and Fogarty grants. Her PhD project utilized AMBITION project samples.

Thesis Titles

Dr Dorcas Maruapula: Prevalence and Impact of Low-frequency HIV Drug Resistance Mutations in ART naive individuals in Botswana

Dr Kesaobaka Molebatsi : Efficient Estimation of HIV Incidence Rate Using a Cross-Sectional Cohort Design

Monkgomotsi Maseng : Association of CYP2B6 Genetic Variation with Efavirenz/Nevirapine Drug Resistance and Toxicity in HIV-1 Patients in Botswana

Wonderful Choga: Functional Genome-wide Association studies (fGWAS) and genomics landscape of signatures of polygenic adaptation in Botswana populations with HIV-1 C infection.

Dr Nametso Kelentse: Investigating HIV-1 Compartmentalization in the Cerebrospinal Fluid and Plasma of Individuals with HIV-associated Cryptococcal Meningitis in Botswana Using a Cross-sectional Approach.

Selected BHP Associated Research and Associated Investigators Publications

1. Accuracy of point-of-care HIV and CD4 field testing by lay healthcare workers in the Botswana Combination Prevention Project. Bile EC, Bachanas PJ, Jarvis JN, Maurice F, Makovore V, Chebani L, Jackson KG, Birhanu S, Maphorisa C, Mbulawa MB, Alwano MG, Sexton C, Modise SK, Bapati W, Segolodi T, Moore J, Fonjungo PN. *J Virol Methods*. 2023 Jan;311:114647. doi: 10.1016/j.jviromet.2022.114647. Epub 2022 Nov 4. PMID: 36343742
2. High Prevalence of Hepatitis B Virus Infection Among People With HIV in Rural and Periurban Communities in Botswana. Phinius BB, Anderson M, Gobe I, Mokomane M, Choga WT, Mutenga SR, Mpebe G, Pretorius-Holme M, Musonda R, Gaolathe T, Mmalane M, Shapiro R, Makhema J, Lockman S, Novitsky V, Essex M, Moyo S, Gaseitsiwe S. *Open Forum Infect Dis*. 2023 Jan 6;10(1):ofac707. doi: 10.1093/ofid/ofac707. eCollection 2023 Jan. PMID: 36686633
3. HIV-Exposed Uninfected Children: A Systematic Review on Psychological Well-Being and Association with School Performances in Africa. Mensi M, Ahishakiye A, Journeay K, Baiocco R, Betancourt TS, Paganotti GM. *Int J Environ Res Public Health*. 2023 Jan 31;20(3):2499. doi: 10.3390/ijerph20032499. PMID: 36767866
4. Antiretroviral Therapy and Adverse Pregnancy Outcomes in People Living with HIV. Eke AC, Mirochnick M, Lockman S. *N Engl J Med*. 2023 Jan 26;388(4):344-356. doi: 10.1056/NEJMr2212877. PMID: 36720135
5. Intimate Partner Violence During COVID-19 Restrictions: A Study of 30 Countries From the I-SHARE Consortium. Campbell L, Tan RKJ, Uhlich M, Francis JM, Mark K, Miall N, Eleuteri S, Gabster A, Shamu S, Plášilová L, Kemigisha E, Olumide A, Kosana P, Hurtado-Murillo F, Larsson EC, Cleeve A, Calvo González S, Perrotta G, Fernández Albamonte V, Blanco L, Schröder J, Adebayo A, Hendriks J, Saltis H, Marks M, Wu D, Morroni C, Esho T, Briken P, Hlatshwako TG, Ryan R, Farid NDN, Gomez Bravo R, Van de Velde S, Tucker JD; and the I-SHARE research consortium. *J Interpers Violence*. 2023 Jan 26;8862605221141865. doi: 10.1177/08862605221141865. Online ahead of print. PMID: 36703528

6. Association of Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) Infection With Maternal Mortality and Neonatal Birth Outcomes in Botswana by Human Immunodeficiency Virus Status. Jackson-Gibson M, Diseko M, Caniglia EC, Mayondi GK, Mabuta J, Luckett R, Moyo S, Lawrence P, Matshaba M, Mosepele M, Mmalane M, Banga J, Lockman S, Makhema J, Zash R, Shapiro RL. *Obstet Gynecol*. 2023 Jan 1;141(1):135-143. doi: 10.1097/AOG.0000000000005020. Epub 2022 Nov 30. PMID: 36701614
7. Incident HIV acquisition among pregnant women in Botswana: findings from the Tsepamo birth outcomes surveillance study. Mussa A, Mayondi GK, Diseko M, Mabuta J, Mmalane M, Makhema J, Lockman S, Morroni C, Shapiro R, Zash R. *J Int AIDS Soc*. 2023 Jan;26(1):e26008. doi: 10.1002/jia2.26008. PMID: 36691796
8. High Cure Rate Among Pregnant Women in a Chlamydia trachomatis and Neisseria gonorrhoeae Testing and Treatment Intervention Study in Gaborone, Botswana. Mussa A, Wynn A, Ryan R, Babalola C, Simon S, Ramontshonyana K, Tamuthiba L, Ndlovu N, Moshashane N, Klausner JD, Morroni C. *Sex Transm Dis*. 2023 Feb 1;50(2):124-127. doi: 10.1097/OLQ.0000000000001725. Epub 2022 Oct 29. PMID: 36630419

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VISION

To Be a World-Renowned Public Health Institute.

MISSION

To Fight HIV/AIDS and Emerging Public Health Challenges Through Innovative Research, Education, and Capacity Building That Impacts Policy and Practice.

CORE VALUES

BENEFICENCE

INNOVATION

COLLABORATION

EXCELLENCE

BOTHO

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