

PARTNERS IN HEALTH

Transforming Global Health for 40+ Years

Saving Lives. Revitalizing Communities. Changing the Face of Global Health.

WHO WE ARE

Partners In Health (PIH) is a global health and social justice organization relentlessly committed to improving the health of the poor and marginalized. Founded in 1987 to support a small rural clinic in Cange, Haiti, PIH began with a simple but radical belief: the poor deserve high-quality health care as a matter of human rights, not charity.

Nearly four decades later, PIH has served millions of patients across four continents, created tens of thousands of jobs, trained thousands of health professionals, and sparked policy changes that have redefined what is possible in global health.

With a global staff of 18,000—including over 12,000 community health workers—PIH countries of operation include Haiti, Kazakhstan, Lesotho, Liberia, Malawi, Mexico, Peru, Rwanda, Sierra Leone. More than 99% of our staff are from the countries where we work.

PIH Canada, founded in 2011, has raised over \$49M for women’s, children’s, and adolescent health, chronic and infectious disease, cancer care, surgery, mental health, community services, health professional training, and more.

HOW PIH IS DIFFERENT

- Long-term commitment: decades-long partnerships with governments and communities.
- Proven systems change: influencing global policies on HIV, TB, Ebola, cholera, and more.
- Human rights approach: care is dictated by patients’ needs, not what others deem appropriate in resource-poor settings.
- Capacity building: thousands of local clinicians and health leaders trained.

“The idea that some lives matter less is the root of all that is wrong with the world.”

Dr. Paul Farmer, PIH Co-Founder

OUR MODEL FOR CHANGE

PIH works at the invitation of governments, making long-term commitments to strengthen public health systems on the path to universal health care.

We look at health system strengthening as a mix of five fundamental ingredients: staff, stuff, space, systems, and social support. Removing any one item would result in a weaker health system overall.

The Five S’s:

- Staff – train and employ local health workers
- Stuff – provide essential medicines, supplies, and equipment
- Space – build and improve health facilities
- Systems – strengthen health information, supply chains, and referral networks
- Social Supports – address food, housing, transportation, and other root causes of illness

GLOBAL IMPACT

Over its history, PIH has disrupted global health by proving that care once considered too complex or expensive for the poor is possible—and by driving systemic change:

A Proven Record of Transformation

Year	Milestone	Global Impact
1987	PIH founded to support Zanmi Lasante in Haiti	Demonstrated rural, rights-based care model
1998	MDR-TB treatment in Lima, Peru	Led WHO to change global TB protocols
2001–2003	HIV Equity Initiative in Haiti	Proved ART works in rural poor settings; influenced creation of PEPFAR
2012–2014	Cholera response in Haiti	WHO stockpiled cholera vaccines; model for outbreak response
2014–2016	Ebola response in West Africa	Informed \$500M World Bank support; built lasting maternal health systems
2016–2019	endTB project	WHO adopted shorter, more effective TB regimens
2020	U.S. COVID-19 contact tracing	First comprehensive national model
Ongoing	University of Global Health Equity, Rwanda	Training next-generation leaders; ranked 4th best university in Sub-Saharan Africa (2024)

WHERE WE WORK



Partners In Health collaborates with national governments in 11 countries, across four continents and more than 350 public facilities. Our work strengthens public health systems by ensuring patients receive the care they need and deserve in their homes, neighborhood clinics, and hospitals, and by investing in the education of future generation of medical professionals. PIH training facilities include the University Hospital in Mirebalais, Haiti, a teaching hospital that is home to multiple residency programs, and the University of Global Health Equity (UGHE) in Rwanda, where rigorous community-based medical education is combined with human rights and social justice teachings. The story of Partners In Health is told in the award-winning documentary film [Bending the Arc](#), available at pihcanada.org.

OUR VISION FORWARD

From a single rural clinic to influencing global health policy, Partners In Health has shown that no place is too remote, and no patient too poor, to deserve the best care possible. Building on more than four decades of transformative impact, we will continue to push the boundaries of what is possible in global health—at home and around the world.

Our work globally and across Canada reflects our commitment to health care as a human right. The Maternal Center of Excellence in Kono, Sierra Leone, for example, will set a new standard for maternal and child health in the country, expanding lifesaving services, training health workers, and offering a blueprint for a standard of care previously unavailable to Sierra Leonean women and families. In Canada, we are strengthening connections with communities and mobilizing advocates to take action on health equity, including through our Students for PIH network, which is equipping the next generation of leaders to challenge inequities and demand change.

Looking ahead, we will:

- Uphold the highest standards of care in the poorest and most marginalized communities, grounded in equity, quality, respect, and local partnerships.
- Catalyze policy change and advocate for health reform alongside local governments and global partners.
- Strengthen and scale health systems through research, innovation, and epidemic preparedness.
- Train and inspire future global health leaders with the skills and moral conviction to transform care delivery.

With your solidarity and long-term commitment, we can deliver on this vision—supporting communities to build a healthier, more just world for this generation and ones to follow. Please join our movement. Thank you.