

Stories to Share on World AIDS Day

Below are two quotes from women benefitting from the UMGAF Advance in partnership with the Abundant Health Initiative at Global Ministries:

Connecting the Church in mission...

“Both I and my husband are positive for last 4 years, but we have managed to have a HIV negative hand-some baby boy. You see he is very healthy. I will stop breastfeeding her at 18 months as I told from my counselor in the hospital. I take my drugs regularly and I permanently take my baby to our nurse for check-up and treatment. He was tested for HIV at 6 weeks and he tested negative. There will be a testing at 9 months and 18 months. I am happy and able to do my daily chores effectively. In our support groups, we are all happy with the PMTCT program and we mothers are not afraid of getting pregnant. Further-more, I am now a counselor to my friends.”

-Zinash, 38 year-old mother, Ethiopia

Working towards an AIDS-free world!

“I have HIV.” In 2009, when she first learned of her positive status, she feared the stigma that the virus carried with it and, more importantly, the impact that it would have on her children’s lives and futures. “I was afraid and I didn’t even know where to access the services. I was afraid, so I stayed home.” In October, 2015, Shamim got involved with the team of Multan Diocese who is working on the UMGAF Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission (PMTCT) project to tackle HIV and AIDS. Here she was able to develop relationships with other people living with HIV and learn more about the virus, as well as where access to treatment and resources.

-Shamim, 42 year-old mother, Pakistan

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