



HPTN

HIV Prevention
Trials Network

Best Practices for maintaining relationships with CBOs & stakeholders providing services to MSM and/or transgender people

Perspectives from Cape Town Area

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Overview

- **Key Population's Division Philosophy**
- **Recruitment and Advertisement**
- **Way forward**

SETTING



Key Population's Division Philosophy



***“You don’t do research and leave;
but live and engage the community in the process of
clinical trials.”***

Background on DTHF KP's Division

- Began work in 2005 as the only African site for the global iPrEX study among MSM.
- In order to reach MSM we had to use a number of strategies...CTU CAB not sufficient.
- Since the iPrEX study our team has continued to conduct 5 research projects with MSM/TGW in Cape Town.

Partnerships

- SWEAT
- Triangle Project
- NACOSA
- Rainbow UCT
- Inner Circle
- University Based MSM groups
- ANOVA

Best Practices from Partnerships with Stakeholders

- Build of trust and relationship with stakeholders.
- Approach every stakeholder holistically as an entity.
- Reach out to the stakeholder (*Not “THEM” but “US”*).
- Demonstrate to stakeholders and identify as partners before they know us as researchers.
- More engaging and we had to reach different stakeholders in sustainable way such that they were leading the research process.

Engaging MSM/transgender Stakeholders on HIV prevention research

Use of guiding principles of Good Participatory Practice (GPP) in bio-medical HIV prevention trials with this model.

- Respect
 - Developing partnership and fostering trust to achieve a collective goal.
 - Proper communication that value and honor each other's perspective and realities.

Engaging MSM/transgender Stakeholders on HIV prevention research

Mutual Understanding

- Socio-cultural competency
 - The community understanding the importance of research.
- Research competency
 - The research understanding the community as a stakeholder.

Engaging MSM/transgender Stakeholders on HIV prevention research

Transparency

- Ensuring that the stakeholder community receive open and honest information and objectives to maintain a clear collaborative relationship.
- Ensuring role and responsibilities and how that may influence related decisions.

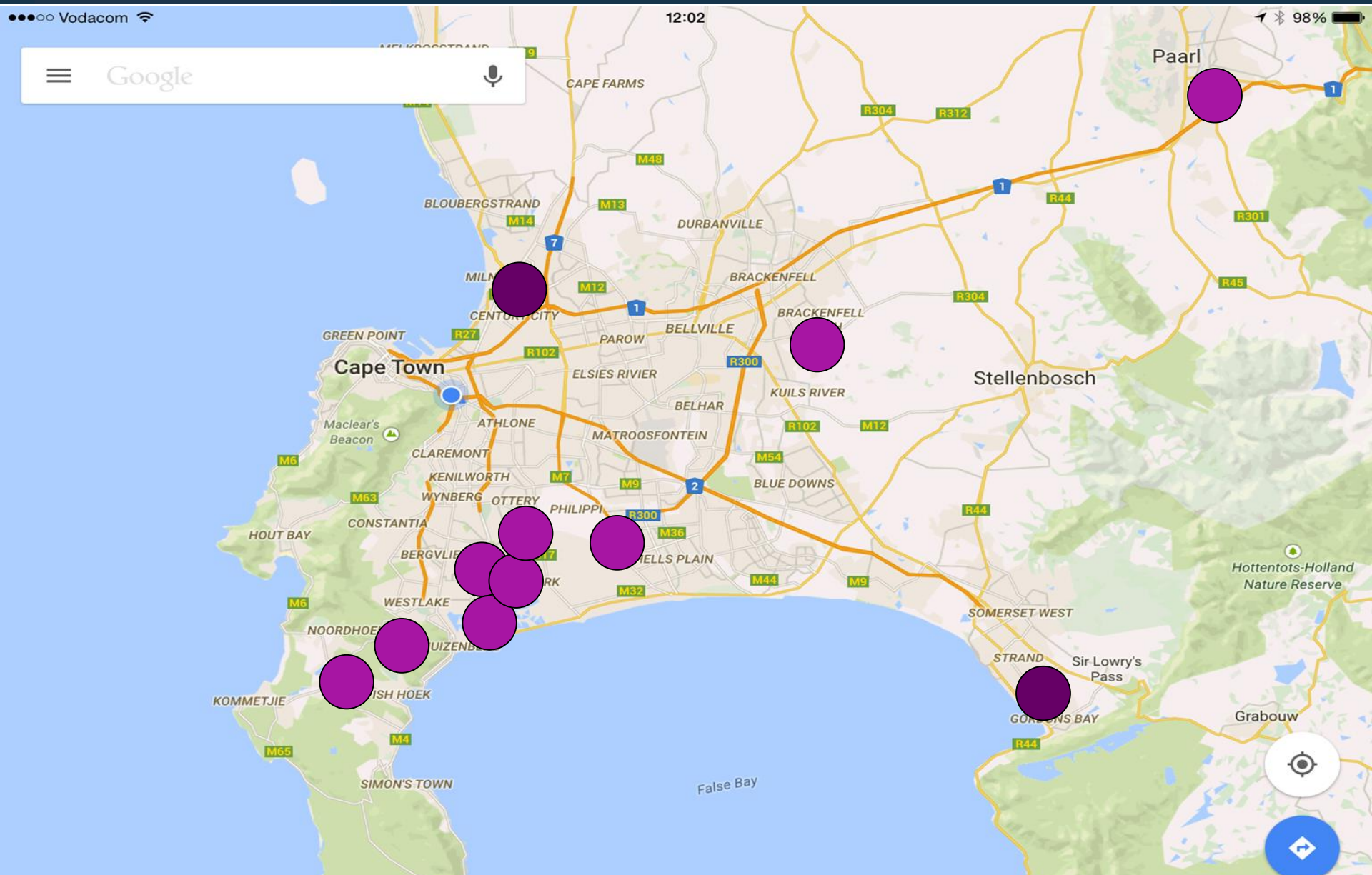
Current stakeholders

Groups/Organizations	Stakeholder type	Site Work
Sweat	MSM Commercial Sex workers	Co-ordinate HIV prevention training & work closely together on advocacy projects.
Health4Men	MSM	Referral clinic for our research participants.
Triangle Project	LGBTI	Resource & rights center for LGBTI community; support with community engagements & recruitment.
Cape Town Pride	LGBTI	Support the organization with the Pride event & with recruitment during pride events.
Metropolitan Church	LGBTI Religious Centre	Co-ordinate HIV prevention training; Platform to share new HIV information.
Pink Tongue	LGBTI newspaper	Media partner-publishes new HIV prevention, treatment, care and support information.
Out Magazine	MSM Magazine	Media partner-publishes new HIV prevention, treatment, care and support information.

Current stakeholders...contd.

Groups/Organizations	Stakeholder type	Site Work
South African Department of Health (DoH)	Provincial Health Policy Maker	Co-ordinate advocacy work for MSM and other key populations with the expertise and support from Desmond Tutu HIV Foundation.
Sonke Gender Justice	MSM and other human rights groups	Work closely with the site on human rights and advocacy and assistance with recruitment.
Gender Dynamix	Transgender Organization	Advocacy and HIV prevention, treatment care and support for TG people; one of the recruitment centers for transgendered women for MTN 017.
Rainbow UCT	MSM	Co-ordinate HIV prevention training; Use as platform for sharing new HIV information.
University of the Western Cape	MSM	Co-ordinate HIV prevention training and use as a platform to share information on new HIV information.
Stellenbosch University	MSM	Co-ordinate HIV prevention training and use as a platform to share new HIV information.

Recruitment bases



Establishing stakeholder relationships

- Inter stakeholders meetings
 - Organizations
- Provincial meetings
 - District AIDS Councils
 - Local Government meetings
- National Meetings
 - SANAC

Maintaining stakeholder relationships

- Partnerships
 - Ongoing irrespective of studies e.g.
 - Referrals, health and para-legal, psycho-social support
 - Couples HCT
- Working together on projects
 - **Reviewing Protocols**
 - Guidance on Prep related demo projects MSM (*HSRC, ANOVA, WHRI*)

“Do your little bit of good where you are; its those little bits of good put together that overwhelm the world.”

- **Passion**
- **Innovation**
- **Progress**
- **Integrity**
- **Respect**
- **Excellence**



Gratitude...

1. Brian Kanyemba
Key Populations Community Engagement Officer
Key Populations Division
2. Karen Dominguez
Key Populations Project Manager
Key Populations Division
3. Cape Town GSH-CRU Study team

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