PrEP-aring for the Future of HIV Prevention and Moving Forward in Mental Health

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Introduction
- The OGHH team supports Peace Corps posts to provide training, resources, technical assistance, and external support to conduct evaluations
- Worked closely with two HIV program specialists
- Worked to develop training for PCVs and posts and reviewed existing programming

Objective of Internship
To learn more about the work Peace Corps does in global health and how OGHH contributes to that effort, and to assist in creating training and programming which adds positively to their goals

Work profile
- Assisted HIV specialists on several projects
- Developed a training surrounding pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP)
- Conducted a review of Peace Corps programmatic documents to create an inventory of PCV mental health activities

Reflection
- Completed HIV training
- Completed training surrounding PrEP and its use
- Conducted a literature review of PrEP guidelines and information
- Compiled information for a PrEP basics course outline
- Engaged with OGHH specialists and reviewed their feedback on course information
- Created a training presentation and transcript
- Recorded and formatted PrEP course
- Drafted knowledge check questions for course modules
- Conducted a review of post LPFs to screen for mental health and wellbeing-related activities carried out by PCVs
- Created an inventory of PCV psychosocial-related activities to allow for further review and improvement

Looking ahead
- Solidified interest for further work in global and public health
- Increased interest in becoming a PCV
- Better understanding of the Peace Corps as an organization and its work

Conclusions
- PrEP is an important key to HIV prevention, and education is an important first step to increasing its prevalence
- More work can be done to improve the tasks PCVs are involved in regarding mental health and wellbeing to better support all groups Peace Corps works with

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