

Working Towards Zero

Supporting Malaria Elimination in South Africa

Charlie McWeeny, Politics '25
Clinton Health Access Initiative (CHAI)
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CHAI

The Clinton Health Access Initiative operates on the ground in 35 countries around the world, working in support of government partners, and grants 125 countries access to CHAI-negotiated prices for pharmaceuticals and medical equipment.

Malaria in South Africa

Significant progress against malaria has plateaued as funding priorities shifted during COVID-19. The country remains committed to achieving elimination status in the near future.



Vectors at a insectary in Jozini, KZN.

In Accompaniment

CHAI's unique model of supporting government partners gave me the opportunity to work out of the National Department of Health, meeting with senior government officials on a daily basis. Thanks to CHAI's global network, I was also able to collaborate with experts from around the globe.

Supporting Program Reviews

- I compiled data from provincial offices ahead of an annual program review.
- Travelled to provincial offices to train employees in new data tools to stratify interventions, and brought their feedback to the national team.



Environmental health personnel training for indoor residual spraying ahead of the upcoming malaria season in Emangusi, KZN, near the border with Mozambique.

- Led a program review of mobile clinics at informal border crossings to ensure effective allocation of resources and necessary government support.
- Assisted in a WHO technical training with national and provincial staffers ahead of the 2023 – 2028 national strategic plan for malaria.



Visiting the malaria control program in Jozini, KwaZulu-Natal, near the border with Eswatini.



Distributing health supplies to schoolchildren at Maropeng Primary School as part of CHAI's Youth Day service project.

Further Interests

- Additional study of South African politics, including foreign policy.
- Leveraging my background in American politics to reform health systems in the United States.

Challenges Ahead

- Can nationally-defined strategies effectively combat global health threats without significant international collaboration?
- Will South Africa continue to improve coordination in their decentralized health system?

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