








PHR and its partner, the Kenya Health Rights Advocacy Forum (HERAF), are working with medical, nursing, pharmacy, paramedical and dental students across Kenya to build a vibrant student movement to fight AIDS and promote health rights countrywide.

This outreach effort is just beginning, and the results are already impressive. In Nairobi, a coalition of student groups, including, MESA (Medical Students against AIDS), Association of Medical Students of the University Of Nairobi (AMSUN), Nursing Students of the University of Nairobi Association (NUNSA), Nairobi University Pharmacy Students Association (NUPSA) and Nairobi University Dental Students Association (NUDSA) partnered with student leaders from Kenya Medical Training College to host the country's first AIDS Week of Action in July 2007.

The theme for the Week of Action was "Health Students Uniting towards Excellence in the Health Workforce." Activities included advocacy skills-building sessions, a "white coat" demonstration centered on the lack of health workers in Kenya, and outreach to policy makers through a Stakeholder Forum and a statement to the Government of Kenya— signed by 1,196 students and supporters—calling for a response to five key gaps in the health sector. The students are now in the process of forming a student group dedicated to advocacy to carry forward their agenda, which includes action on health workforce shortages and access to essential medicines. HERAF is networking with students at Moi University in Eldoret and will also launch a Week of Action and additional advocacy activities there.

HERAF and health student leaders in Kenya will follow up on these successful landmark Weeks of Action through a variety of activities, which may include:

-  Human Rights Trainings
-  Advocacy Skills Building
-  Campaigns on Key AIDS and Health Rights Issues
-  Outreach to Policy Makers
-  Conferences and Workshops
-  Community Based Voluntary Service
-  Partnerships with Student Activists Worldwide

