



Global Initiative Against HPV and Cervical Cancer

GIAHC: A Year in Review

January 2020-December 2020

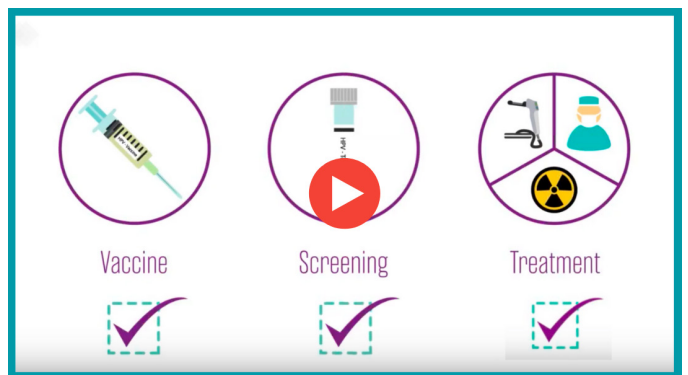
In January 2020, GIAHC co-organized the second **Us vs. HPV Prevention Week** along with the American Medical Women’s Association (AMWA) and Indiana University National Center of Excellence. The webinars were a great success. We were honored to have several world-renowned experts participate including Dr. Princess Nothemba (Nono) Simelela, Assistant Director- General (DG)/Special Adviser to DG Strategic Programmatic Priorities at the World Health Organization (WHO).

Us vs HPV 2020 Sponsors



Dr. Ana Viamonte Ros, MD, MPH

On February 4th, we participated in World Cancer Day and **disseminated the cervical cancer elimination video worldwide** along with Union for International Cancer Control (UICC) and Basic Health International (BHI.) The video has been dubbed in 5 different languages.



In March, The American Medical Women’s Association (AMWA) presented Dr. Shobha Krishnan with the **Esther Pohl Lovejoy Award**. This award was created in 1968 by the American Women’s Hospitals Service to be given to a woman physician who had demonstrated her interest and dedication to the promotion of international relations through improvement in international health.



Read more about Esther Pohl Lovejoy here.

And then came the SARS, CoV-2! **What a game changer this has been.** We immediately shifted gears and partnered with organizations to help and support our society. Here are some highlights:

- GIAHC collaborated with the **American Medical Women’s Association (AMWA)** to provide useful information to our healthcare heroes working on the frontlines under adverse circumstances.

Us vs. HPV Supporters



- American Cancer Society (ACS)
- Basic Health International (BHI)
- Grounds for Health (GFH)
- International Papillomavirus Society (IPVS)
- Jhpiego
- Marie Stopes International (MSI)
- Moffitt Cancer Center—Center for Immunization Infection Research in Cancer (CIIRC)
- PATH
- TogetHER
- Union for International Cancer Control (UICC)
- World Health Organization (WHO)

- Dr. Krishnan **provided a video testimonial for the World Health Worker Week** (April 5-11, 2020) to discuss the importance of health worker leadership and the need to provide greater leadership opportunities for frontline health workers across the globe.
- **Duke University's Center for Global Women's Health Technologies** interviewed Dr. Krishnan in April about her experiences with the effects of COVID-19 on frontline women specifically, as well as the effects of the virus on cervical cancer patients.
- In May, GIAHC partnered with Women in Negotiation (WIN) to host a virtual summit—**Women on the Front Lines**—to benefit our healthcare heroes on the frontlines and raise funds for **Mask a Hero**.
- In July, GIAHC Young Leaders partnered with **the Kellogg Sisters Corona Quilt Project** to link our experiences to those of others, building a web of healing, inspiration, belonging and positive action. It is made up of squares created by people/organizations from around the world, courageously giving voice to our experience.



Image of quilt squares from the Corona Quilt Project on Instagram @coronaquiltproject

- GIAHC expanded the scope of its work with the **Lantern Project in South Africa** that provides hygiene products, undergarments and solar lanterns to girls in rural village who lack these essential supplies. Due to the COVID-19 virus, this project has been expanded to include soap and hand sanitizers.

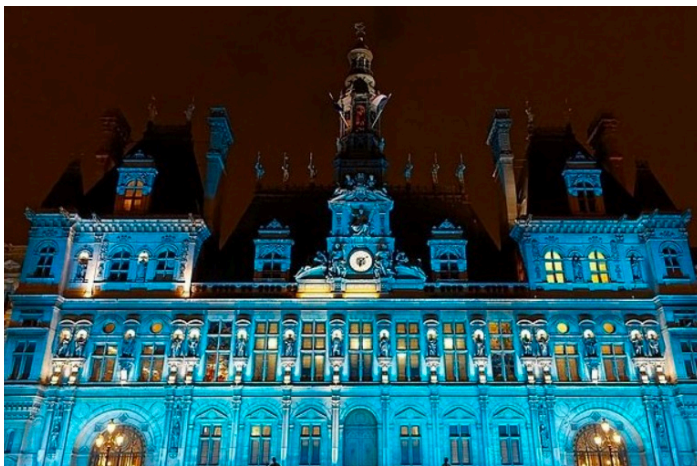


- GIAHC signed an MOU with the **Clinton Health Initiative Access (CHAI), Rwanda**, to raise awareness about cervical cancer prevention and the tools that are currently available to eliminate this cancer. The project will be initiated by launching a website to reflect Rwanda's progress in this field and provide relevant information to attain the goals set forth by the WHO on the cervical cancer elimination initiative.



- In August came the great news that the World Health Organization adopted the global strategy to accelerate the elimination of cervical cancer as a public health problem. The resolution urges member states to take strategic and bold action to scale up and sus-

tain prevention through HPV vaccination; screening and treatment of pre-cancerous lesions; and management of invasive cervical cancer, including access to palliative care, to eliminate cervical cancer once and for all. The **official launch took place on November 17**, following the close of the 73rd World Health Assembly. Due to the pandemic, the event was held virtually and hosted by WHO leadership.



Over 100 landmarks across the globe were illuminated in teal on November 17, 2020, to celebrate the world's historic commitment to eliminate cervical cancer. Pictured above: Town Hall in Paris, France

2020 HPV and Cervical Cancer Champion Award

The 2020 award was presented to **Prarthana Vasudevan**, a global health scientist and practitioner, passionate about translating evidence for decision making and policy. For the past five years, Prarthana has specialized in vaccine communications and advocacy.



Prarthana is currently a DrPH student at the The George Washington University. Prior to this, she worked at the Johns Hopkins International Vaccine Access Center (IVAC) on various policy and advocacy projects.

Prarthana received her Master of Science (MS) in Biological Sciences from the University of Maryland and her Master of Science in Public Health (MSPH) in Global Disease Epidemiology & Control from the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health,

where she also earned a Certificate in Vaccine Science & Policy. With GIAHC, Prarthana leads a team of young members to develop and maintain technical content, as well as provides strategic advocacy and communications input on GIAHC projects.

Us vs. HPV

In December, we have been busy preparing to launch our 3rd Us vs. HPV Prevention Week. We are confident that it is bound to be an informative and exciting one.

The **2021 Us vs. HPV webinar series** will take place January 25-29, 2021. We will build on the information delivered at the 2020 Us vs. HPV webinar series, the 2021 session will provide the latest updates on FDA's approval of the HPV vaccine for oropharyngeal cancer, World Health Organization's (WHO) formal adoption of the global strategy to eliminate cervical cancer and American Cancer Society's modifications to the cervical cancer screening guidelines, among other important topics. **Free registration is available now.**



Support GIAHC

If you would like to support our programs, you can do so by **making a tax-deductible contribution in one of several ways at the GIAHC website.** Thank you for your support!

We wish you and your family a safe and healthy Holiday season and a better and brighter 2021!