1. **Alliance Nikuze** was born on 25 October 1982 in the Democratic Republic of Congo, where she did her high school in biochemistry before going to Rwanda to complete her studies in biological sciences. At the time she was studying her bachelor’s degree, Alliance provided home support to people living with HIV/AIDS. Lately, she has been working with church members/leaders to empower them, and to support linkages between churches, hospitals and community clinics to increase access to healthcare, promote health and prevent diseases. Alliance currently works for the Institute of Human Virology, an institution with extensive experience in HIV/AIDS, which supports three initiatives in Rwanda with funding from PEPFAR.

Alliance is so keen about the fight against HIV/AIDS because it touches her passionately. Three members of her family died of AIDS. She believes continuous commitment of government, organizations and individuals will help to continue slowing the pandemic, as the case has been in Rwanda where such efforts have brought HIV prevalence to two to three times lower than they were 10 years ago. She is interested in HIV biomedical prevention interventions because of their potential to empower, especially for women.

Alliance’s Fellowship project will be centered on male circumcision (MC), an intervention planned to be implemented at the national level in Rwanda as an additional HIV prevention strategy. MC is not a generalized practice in Rwandan communities and its cost is not affordable for the poorest. She’ll look at issues of acceptability of MC and involvement of partners in health – both crucial issues for the successful implementation of this strategy.
2. Gift Trapence is a Programs Manager for Centre for the Development of People (CEDEP), a Malawian Non Governmental organization working on Sexual health and human rights of minority groups. He is an HIV/AIDS and human rights activist especially on issues of sexual minorities. He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in development studies. Gift has worked extensively on men who have sex with men (MSM) sexual health and HIV prevention projects since 2005. He contributed to the pioneering of the first HIV Sero prevalence study among the MSM community in Malawi. He was one of the principal investigators of this MSM study which was published in PLUS ONE, an online journal. The publication can be accessed on http://dx.plos.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0004997

In this fellowship program, Gift is interested in assessing the feasibility and acceptability of certain biomedical prevention strategies such as rectal microbicides, male circumcision and HIV vaccines among MSM in Malawi and also to advocate for MSM inclusion in studies by researchers.

Gift likes reading informative publications, watching football and visiting friends.

3. Jauhara Nanyondo was born on 27 July, 1979, in Kampala, Uganda. She holds a bachelor’s degree in Adult and Community Education, and has five years working experience in public health. She joined the Makerere University Walter Reed Project (MUWRP) as a Research Assistant/Counselor, and was part of a team that successfully recruited and retained over 2000 cohort participants. Currently, she’s part the program’s community outreach department where
she’s charged with mobilization and sensitization of different stakeholders including; community leaders, health professionals, media and community advisory boards (CABs) in relation to HIV vaccine research. Previously, Jauhara worked with Plan Uganda and the Makerere University Case Western University as a community mobilization volunteer and a home visitor. She has reached diverse communities during efforts to build HIV vaccine literacy and drafted CAB by-laws to streamline operations of the CAB.

In her Fellowship, Jauhara will develop a standard training curriculum on HIV vaccine research for the media in Uganda. The media is a strong advocacy tool, and she strongly believes that with standard training, an informed community base of advocates for HIV vaccine research and other new HIV prevention technologies can be built in Uganda. Over the past 5 years, she has developed a passion to advocate for the acceleration of the search and development of these technologies especially those that can be used in Africa.

4. The eldest in a family of four, and a mother of three (two boys; Sacha, 16 years, Zivai, 11 and a girl; Tendayi, 10, Magret Cynthia Mungofa was born on 3 October 1968 in Zimbabwe. She holds a BSc (Hons) degree in Politics and Administration from the University of Zimbabwe and a Masters degree in Development Administration from the Australian National University. She currently works as a Program Manager at the Zimbabwe Women Against HIV/AIDS, Poverty and Violence (ZWAAPV). Cynthia is also a keen publisher, and has written several articles including; “The Corporate Public Sector” and “Tapping the Economy’s Hidden Potential” (Business Herald); “Performance Management in the Public Service” and “Budget 2000: Some Lessons” (Financial Gazette), and “Gender Dimensions of HIV/AIDS” (Gender Forum Magazine).

Previously, Cynthia worked for the Public Service Commission, IRED-Development Innovations and Networks (an international NGO) and the Zimbabwean Ministry of Youth Development, Gender and Employment Creation. She has also served as chair or co-chair on several committees including: the Interministerial Committee on Human Rights and Humanitarian Law; Millennium Development Goals Task Force; Provincial AIDS Action Committee and the Zimbabwe United Nations Development Assistance Framework (ZUNDAF).
Cynthia is a singer-songwriter with a keen interest in the Afro-jazz music genre. She has also traveled extensively at national, regional and international levels. She is a community development practitioner with a special interest in women’s issues especially empowering marginalized women to be agents of change who can design and influence their own destiny. She spearheaded the *Murewa Green Tourism Project* aimed at improving the livelihoods of rural women through showcasing rural life, culture and diversity. Her Fellowship will sensitize high risk groups and marginalized women on microbicides and other viable HIV prevention options. Lobbying for access to these prevention options will also be a key component of her Fellowship.

5. **Nomfundo “Nono” Eland** is the National Coordinator for the Women’s Rights Campaign at the *Treatment Action Campaign* (TAC) in South Africa. She has extensive experience in issues around sexual and reproductive health, health care, and has special interest in gender based violence, particularly violence against women. She’s raising her son, Warona and his nephews to respect women and to see violence of any kind as a crime. Her dream is to see them understand issues of gender and sexuality, and hopes that the future will see more men understand and appreciate this more. She is also a strong advocate for ensuring access to affordable interventions for women in developing countries, for instance access to HPV vaccines and different HIV prevention options.

Nono will bring her extensive community organizing experience to projects related to South African community engagement with key prevention research advocacy topics including male circumcision, PrEP, clinical trials conduct, microbicides and other issues.

6. **Patrick Mwai** has been involved in HIV prevention programs with Kenya AIDS NGOs Consortium (KANCO) for the past four years and his passion has been working with the community to understand their reproductive health problems and partnering with them in
seeking solutions by involving them in participatory education.

Patrick currently serves as the Chairperson of the Kenya Medical Research Institute-University of Washington Community Advisory Board (CAB) in Coast Province, and is the coordinator of the Coast Vaccine Support Network in Kenya which is supported by IAVI. In this capacity, he links the research institutions and the community by repackaging the information on HIV Vaccine awareness in an easy to understand language.

A graduate of the University of Nairobi, Patrick holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree majoring in Sociology and Communication. He also holds a Diploma in Management Information Systems from Strathmore University-Nairobi.

For the Fellowship, Patrick’s main interest is in community advocacy where he seeks to develop a curriculum to educate Kenyan men who have sex with men (MSM) and female sex workers about participation in clinical trials of microbicides, PrEP and HIV vaccines. He’ll also work with CABs to document their involvement in research, use workplace structures to reach community members as well as document beliefs of the local community in relation to clinical trials. He’ll then conduct forums to develop messages in Kiswahili to address these beliefs and in the process form new coalitions to advocate for more education of minority groups.

7. Richard Hasunira wears many hats. He’s an economist, policy analyst, journalist, and passionate HIV/AIDS advocate. He’s currently a Communication Manager at HEPS-Uganda, a health rights advocacy civil society organization. He holds a bachelor’s degree in Arts, an MA in economic policy and planning, and other qualifications in journalism, communication and business management. He’s experienced in writing for the media on issues of policy, health and the economy as journalist, editor and publisher. He has been team leader of policy advocacy research studies for the International Treatment Preparedness Coalition (ITPC) and the Regional Network for Equity in Health in East and Southern Africa (EQUINET) for past several years. Richard’s advocacy work for HIV prevention research started in 2007 when he was part of a media and advocacy mapping study for new prevention research in Uganda. He is keen on biomedical research into microbicides because of the hope they offer women, who remain vulnerable to, and are disproportionately affected by HIV/AIDS.

For his fellowship, Richard will investigate and analyze the effects, on the community, of the closure of the phase III clinical trial MDP 301 of microbicide candidate PRO 2000/5. One arm was stopped in February 2008, but the results of the second arm are expected in November 2009.
8. **Victor Frank Lakay** is a community activist with a strong desire to build a transformed society that offers a better and just life for all. He is currently pursuing a B.A. in development studies from the University of Western Cape, and works as the National Community Health Advocacy Coordinator for the Treatment Action Campaign (TAC) based in Johannesburg. Victor is a member of the Lesbian and Gay Equality Project, formerly the National Coalition for Gay and Lesbian Equality, an organization which challenged discriminatory provisions that governed South Africa and won equal rights for lesbian, gay transgender, bisexual and inter-sex (LGTBI) persons. He is also a member of the Alternative Information & Development Center (AIDC), an organization contributing to the development of alternatives to the challenges of the currently dominant global economic system through research, information production or dissemination, popular education, campaigning and coalition building. As a student, he actively participated in fight against apartheid, something that he takes great pride in. He has previously worked as a consultant for the Parliamentary Monitoring Group, The Equality Project and the South African National AIDS Council in different capacities.

Victor will also bring his extensive community organizing experience to projects related to South African community engagement with key prevention research advocacy topics including male circumcision, PrEP, clinical trials conduct, microbicides and other issues.

9. **TBD.**