

## **New Partnership Will Build HIV/AIDS Diagnostic Capacity in Tanzania's Zonal Laboratories**

Colorado's Boulder Community Hospital is partnering with five clinical sites in Tanzania and their affiliated laboratories. These sites—Muhimbili Hospital in Dar es Salaam, which serves as the national reference lab; and four zonal labs in Bugando Hospital in Mwanza; Kilimanjaro Christian Medical Center in Moshi; Ikonda Mission Hospital in Iringa; and Mnazi Mmoja Hospital in Zanzibar—also serve as a laboratory sciences training centers.

With funding from PEPFAR and programmatic support from the Twinning Center, partners are building laboratory capacity through peer-to-peer collaboration and mentoring thereby playing a key role in strengthening Tanzania's ability to provide much-needed care and treatment to PLWHA.

Key partnership objectives include improving the quality and scope of training on the use of automated laboratory equipment and rapid HIV testing procedures and facilitating implementation of sound laboratory policies, guidelines, and standards.

**This new partnership will help train and mentor laboratory technicians and faculty as a way to improve HIV/AIDS diagnostic and monitoring procedures in Tanzania.**