

Advocacy toolkit case studies

ESTABLISHING RELATIONSHIPS WITH GOVERNMENT IN CHINA

THEME: HIV

ADVOCACY APPROACHES: Building relationships

Demonstrating good practice

In China, engagement with government is all about relationship. Chinese culture prizes relationships for the long term. Organisations there spent many years building relationships with government officials, through all the layers of government, intentionally investing time and energy and expenditure. One organisation, concerned for people living with HIV, focused on the Health Bureau and the Centre for Disease Control. This was required because the different ministries and departments do not often work together. As they engaged with the government, they led by example, showcasing models of good practice and demonstrating what the outworking of government policy looks like for people living with HIV. They also established trust and respect, so that the officials listened to what they said during meetings.