

Profile of a Successful *Accompagnateur* at Inshuti Mu Buzima, Rwanda

- Wants to help the sick. The *accompagnateur* often will be a person in the same HIV association or someone the patient trusts.
- Lives near the patient and ideally should be acquainted with the patient. It is important that patients trust their *accompagnateur* and feel comfortable talking with him/her whenever they have a problem.
- Is at least 18 years old and has some ability to read and write.
- Is in good health as sometimes the work involves walking long distances each day to visit patients. A physical exam or laboratory test may be given to ensure that the person is healthy before he/she starts working.
- Is a respected and trusted person in the community.
- Has lived in the community in which he/she will be working for at least five years.
- An *accompagnateur* cannot be:
 - someone living in the same house as the patient
 - a very close relative
 - someone who has been convicted of a crime or accused of stealing.