• **Project Partners**
  Zambia-Emory HIV Research Project (ZEHRP)

• **Populations/Communities Served**
  Heterosexual HIV discordant couples [one partner is HIV(-), one partner is HIV(+)]

• **Project Dates**
  August 2, 2008- August 13, 2008
• **Project goals**

The principal research objectives of ZEHRP are to uncover factors relating to HIV risk and transmission, to gain a better understanding of how to prevent the spread of HIV, and to improve the quality of life among HIV infected Zambian adults.

• **Expected outcomes**

With continued support of this project a greater percent of candidates enrolled in the study will receive education and counseling to decrease their chances of transmission.
• Progress to date

ZEHRP has focused on voluntary counseling and treatment as an effective method in conducting research and providing care. Using this method, they have seen results showing a 7-8% new transmission rate in discordant couples who are receiving counseling, in comparison to a 20-25% new transmission rate in couples without this counseling and treatment.

• Next steps

- Advocate for programs supporting the rights of discordant couples domestically and internationally in my future career as a global-health focused physician assistant.
- Utilize the research of ZEHRP in future global health pursuits and refer clinicians, organizations, and agencies to the bodies of work produced by ZEHRP.
Clockwise: Some natural flora of Zambia, the entrance to the research site in Lusaka, the waiting area for patients enrolled in the study, and two of the many people who help the project run successfully
Lusaka, Zambia

Jamie Ellingwood, BA, PA-S

Emory University Physician Assistant Program