

# PROFILE



## **DR. RICHARD ALLEN KENYA**

*Presbyterians Sharing* supports Rick Allen, a community health physician serving the Presbyterian Church of East Africa. As Secretary of the PCEA HIV/AIDS Committee, his role is to address the concerns of the PCEA with respect to HIV/AIDS prevention. He also teaches at the Presbyterian University of East Africa, offering classes on HIV, AIDS, sexually transmitted infections and human sexuality.

In Kenya AIDS is still a taboo subject. As a result it is not discussed openly in safe environments, and there is an incredible amount of misinformation spread about it. The need for education is urgent.

Rick's overseas involvement with the Presbyterian Church in Canada dates back to 1974 when he spent three months as a medical student in India. There he worked primarily in community health focusing on preventive and low-cost curative health services. When he returned to Canada, he completed his Master of Public Health degree. The focus of his work continued to be community health, especially in the area of maternal-child health and sanitation.

Rick began his work in Kenya with The Presbyterian Church in Canada in 1995.

