

MASTERPIECE HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION



THE RED RIBBON PROJECT *REPORT*

Project Duration
1st November 2009 14th December 2009

Executive Summary

THE RED RIBBON PROJECT

HIV/AIDS is a global pandemic with most of its sufferers in sub-Saharan Africa. Nigeria, the most populous country in sub-Saharan Africa with about 33% of its population being young people, paramount attention must be given to this age group in order to secure the future of the country. Sexual and Reproductive Health problems affect youths worldwide and Nigeria is not left out, as a sub-Saharan country, these problems are further compounded by a lack of education, poverty, and poor knowledge about reproductive health. Kano State is a Nigerian state with the highest population as estimated by the 2006 National Population Census and so by extrapolation has one of the highest concentrations of 15-24 year olds. The need for action is now.

The RED RIBBON PROJECT is developed by Masterpiece Health and Development Organization, an organization formed by young Nigerians residing in Kano State with the main aim of promoting sustainable health and development. HIV/AIDS have been the focus of the organization's activities since its inception. It is a project developed by young people, for young people, in order to maximize its reach to youths from all localities of Kano State. The Red Ribbon Project is so far one of Masterpiece's best projects as almost all its set targets were reached. Youths were trained to seek and share information about HIV/AIDS, a youth conference was organized to provide an avenue for youths to learn about the latest information about the disease so that they can make informed decisions, and voluntary counseling and testing centers were provided which is a hall mark activity in HIV/AIDS prevention. Some of the activities of this project include, training of facilitators on Y-COM, Outreach Training Exercises to 2 secondary schools, and the 2nd Youth Conference on HIV/AIDS.

The Red Ribbon Project was implemented successfully because of the participation of some philanthropic individuals and organizations dedicated to reducing the scourge of HIV/AIDS in Kano State and Nigeria. We are most grateful to Hajiya Talatu Bashir and Hajiya Jemila Yahaya Ibrahim, advisers of this organization and great contributors to this project both financially and in kinds. We are also grateful to Aminu Kano Teaching Hospital, dRPC, Women Development Microfinance Bank, and Society for Family Health for their financial contributions. Special thanks to Nura Ibrahim (Taraba State Team Leader, Management Science for Health), Dr Zainab Idris (Kaduna State Team Leader, PATHS 2), Nafisa Abubakar (Lecturer, Usman Danfodio University, Sokoto), Professor A. G. Habib (Aminu Kano Teaching Hospital, Kano State) for their captivating, educational, and highly enlightening presentations during the conference. We will also like to extend our gratitude to all members of the media, and also to all politicians present during the event. Our heart goes to all youths who volunteered to be the first set trained on Y COM, and also implemented the manual in the selected secondary schools, Yasir Jibril Nuhu, Shamsudeen Abdulrahman Rafindadi, Maryam MK Bashir, Rakiya Gambo Musa, Yahaya Musa, Murtala Muhammad Umar, Abdulwasiu B Popoola, Auwal Ahmad and Faiza Lawal, we are grateful.

We are happy to say that the activities of this project served thousands of youths in Kano State. Thank you very much.



14th December 2009

Abdu Abdullahi Adamu (LDM Fellow)
President, Masterpiece Health and Development Organization.

Justification

Nigeria is the most populous country in Africa with a population of about 140 million according to the 2006 national population census. More than half of the population is in Northern Nigeria which encompasses 19 states distributed across 3 geopolitical zones of the 6 zones in Nigeria.

Kano is a state in Northwestern Nigeria, and Nigeria's most populated state with a population of about 10 million (2006 National Census). The predominant religion in this state is Islam.

Kano State, a major commercial center, has most of its population in rural areas, poor and uneducated with inadequate access to quality health care. Societal misconceptions, cultural and religious barriers and poor leadership have contributed to extremely poor sexual and reproductive health knowledge. The demand for and access to these sexual and reproductive health services is poor thereby translating to high level of teenage pregnancy, poorly managed sexually transmitted diseases, poor access to contraception, and increase transmission of HIV/AIDS amongst its populace especially youths.

33% of Nigeria's population are youths aged 10-24 years and it is estimated that by 2025, the number of Nigeria's youths will exceed 57 million, median age at first intercourse for male is 20.3 and for female is 17.8. A lack of sexual health information and services place this young people at risk of early pregnancy, sexually transmitted diseases including HIV/AIDS. Recent data have already shown that teen pregnancy rate in Nigeria is 103 per 1000 and HIV/AIDS prevalence amongst youths is 3% for male and 6% for female (Source available from the POLICY Project). In addition, early pregnancy and childbearing limit the educational and employment opportunities. Yet innovative programs can provide

Youths with sexual and reproductive health information and services they need. The Nigeria STD/HIV Control estimates that 60% of new HIV infection occurs amongst youths aged 15-24 years, in one study among female teens, over 80% of those aged 17-19 had experienced sexual intercourse, in fact, at the time of the study 8.2% had Chlamydial infection, 6.6% had trichomoniasis. Overall, 16.5% had some sexually transmitted infections. Over 6% of these women under the age of 17 had some sexually transmitted infection.

Nigeria is a ticking time bomb as the AIDS epidemic is claiming a large percentage of its young adult population. Nigeria presents a perfect comfort zone for AIDS with its young population at the highest risk. The need for youth targeted interventions is now and Nigeria's civil societies and leaders must take multiple actions to slow down the spread of the virus especially amongst its youths.

Masterpiece Health and Development Organization is a not for profit, non-governmental organization with the aim of promoting sustainable health and development. As an organization set up by Nigerian youths with its base in Kano State, youth health and development remains a vital part of our objectives. We have engaged in several activities to raise awareness about HIV/AIDS, these include Operation R (Responsibility) which is a youth based event with a set of activities like sports and also information sharing about HIV/AIDS and other STDs. The Operation R games held in 2008 have the theme; shun sex, go for sport. We have also organized interactive radio programs for young people to discuss major health problems as it affects youths. In December 2008, we organized the 3 Day World AIDS Day Campaign Project which included activities such as outreach campaigns to rural areas like Dawakin Kudu, Yar gaya, and Garko, HIV/AIDS Quiz

Competitions, and the 2008 Youth Conference on HIV/AIDS. Our array of activities has affected the lives of thousands of youths in Kano State. We are an organization with special interest in improving sexual and reproductive health especially amongst youths.

Masterpiece is driven by passionate and committed youths ranging from students to young worker and entrepreneurs and is headed by an executive council mainly composed of student doctors who are nine in number, and an administrative body of 17 members. We are also guided by 5 distinguished and professional advisers who are authorities in the field of health, developments, and philanthropy. We are registered with the Kano State Government and with our CAC registration in view.

The level of success recorded in the 2008 World AIDS Day Campaign Project served as a major motivator to the development of this sequel which will not only consolidate on the previous achievement but also guarantee continued involvement of youths in Kano in planning and delivery of health related policies and services which is one of the corner stone objective of Masterpiece as an organization that seeks to develop youths towards meeting the challenges of our time

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Overall Goal: Improve the sexual and reproductive health of youths aged 15-24 in Kano State through outreach programs and a youth conference.

Specific Objectives

1. Increase the compliance to voluntary counseling and testing amongst youths.
2. Improve the information base of youths on HIV/AIDS
3. Decrease transmission rates amongst youths aged 15-24 years.
4. Promote information sharing on HIV/AIDS between parents/teachers and youths.

Activities

Training of Trainers workshop on Y-COM

(A manual on effective communication of HIV/AIDS information to senior secondary school students to improve their knowledge base, information seeking and sharing behavior, and mobilizing youths for action)

Number of trainees in attendance: 11

Number of trainers in attendance: 1

Number of topics discussed: 7

Number of Questions rose: 10-15

% of trainees who think the training was adequate: On a scale of 5, 1 gave 2.5, 6 gave 3 and 4 gave 4. This means that they were all satisfied with the modal been averagely satisfied.

Majority of the trainees felt that the training was important as it would help them in spreading appropriate information during the outreach. They believe it to be a collective effort and youths should be target of interventions aimed at curbing the spread of HIV in Nigeria.

On the trainer, many felt he did a good job, he was confident, eloquent, and addressed questions posed to him very well.

Trainees

Abdullahi Isah Kauranmata

Rakiya Gambo Musa

Auwal Ahmad

Yasir Jibril Nuhu

Faiza Lawal Mohammed

Maryam MK Bashir

Yahaya Musa Suleiman

Abdulwasiu B Popoola

Murtala M Umar

Rukayya Sidi

Shamsudeen Abdulrahaman

Trainer

Abdu Abdullahi Adamu

Outreach Campaign to 2 Secondary Schools in Kano Metropolis

No of facilitators in attendance: 10

Number and type of materials/teaching aids used: 10 Y COM Manuals were used.

Number of students in attendance: 61

Percentage pledges made: 100%

Percentage satisfaction: 100%

Most of the students said they have learnt a lot about HIV/AIDS especially its history, transmission and prevention, they also learnt about how it can affect their future and the importance of VCT. They believed the training helped them know how to protect themselves from HIV and how not to behave to people with HIV/AIDS and that discrimination could slow down the fight against HIV/AIDS, they also learnt about the importance of premarital VCT.

2009 Youth Conference on HIV/AIDS

No of Youths in attendance: 226

No of special guest in attendance: 10

No of parents in attendance: 23

No of VCT booths present: 3

No of Information desk present: 1

No of visits to information desk: 57

No of topics presented: 5

No of questions asked: 5 10

No of pledges made: 218

No of people willing to take HIV test at the end of the conference: 76

No of SBCC materials distributed: 600

VCT

The total number of people who had VCT were 36 in number, 30 males and 6 females. None was found to be positive. None had STI or Tuberculosis. Subsequently none was referred.

Paper presented

A total of 5 presentations were made, and the topics were as follows;

1. I know my HIV Status; what next? By Professor A. G. Habib of Aminu Kano Teaching Hospital, Kano State.
2. Stigmatization: Its effect on HIV/AIDS programming in Nigeria by Dr Zainab Idris, State Team Leader, PATHS 2, Kaduna State.
3. Youths for youths: Collective responsibility in the fight against HIV/AIDS by Nafisa Abubakar, Lecturer, Usman Danfodio University, Sokoto State.
4. The Dangers of Silence by Abdu Abdullahi Adamu, Masterpiece Health and Development Organization
5. Knowledge, attitude and source of information about HIV/AIDS amongst secondary school students in Kano metropolis. Authored by ADAMU AA, Bashir MA, Umar, MM. Presented by Murtala M Umar, Masterpiece Health and Development Organization.

Red Ribbon Award Recipients

1. Dr Hadiza Shehu Galadanci, Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Aminu Kano Teaching Hospital, Kano State.
2. Dr Ibrahim Adamu Yakasai, Director General, Kano State Hospital Management Board, Kano State.
3. Abdulrahman Abdu, Executive Director, YEHD, Kano State.

Expense Report

Donations received

Cash

1. Women Development Microfinance Bank	N30,000
2. Aminu Kano Teaching Hospital	N75,000
3. Society for Family Health	N20,000
4. Hajiya Jemila Yahaya Ibrahim	N20,000

Cheque

1. dRPC	N42,000
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Materials

1. 200 event posters	Haj Jemila Yahaya Ibrahim
2. 200 event jotters	Haj Jemila Yahaya Ibrahim
3. 100 Conference Bags	Haj Jemila Yahaya Ibrahim
4. IEC Materials	Society for Family Health, Kano
5. 10 T Shirts	Society for Family Health, Kano
6. 50 Board games (Snake and ladder)	Society for Family Health, Kano

Expenditure

Training of Trainers Workshop

1. Refreshment	N2250
2. Production of manuals 12 @ N220 each	N2640
3. Flip board, marker, liquid gum, rim of plain papers	N3600
4. Total	N8490

Outreach Campaign

1. Fuel for 2 vehicles at 500 each	N1000
2. Communication	N400
3. Total	N1400

Youth Conference on HIV/AIDS

1. Renting of Hall	N25,000
2. Production of 3 awards at 10,000 each	N30,000
3. Production of 2 banners at 5,000 each	N10,000
4. Branding of conference bags	N7,500
5. Production fo 200 stickers at 20 each	N4,000
6. Refreshments (Meatpie, bottled drinks, Table waterN39,560 VIP Juices)	
7. Fuel of 5 vehicles at 1000 each	N5,000
8. Hiring of projector and P screen	N5,000
9. Payment of 9 members of the press at 1000 each	N9,000
10. Production of audio documentary	N2,000
11. Payment of MC	N4,000
12. Payment of security	N1,000
13. Communications	N4,000
14. Total	N146,060

Grand Total = N155,950.00

Conclusion

In this project, which was planned and executed achieved most of its set targets, but as the saying of goes, perfection is a moving target, we hope to perform better in next year's commemoration of World AIDS Day.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Abdulkarim I Dahiru', with a stylized flourish at the end.

14th December 2009

Abdulkarim I Dahiru
Monitoring and Evaluation Officer