EKWENDENI MISSION HOSPITAL
HIV/AIDS Program.

Community AIDS Resource Centre.

Narrative and Data Quarterly Report for Youth Activities

(JANUARY TO MARCH 2008)

Reported to: Church of Scotland in Geneva.
INTRODUCTION
This report highlights youth activities that took place at the Resource Centre and in youth clubs around the catchment area of Ekwendeni Hospital. The report is for the months of January to March 2008.

Every month youth clubs come up with their own work plans on how they are going to carry out activities in their clubs. Amongst the activities that youths performed in this quarter in their youth club includes drama and home based care activities.

DRAMA
The anti-AIDS youth clubs have conducted 123 drama performances in this quarter in different areas of Ekwendeni Hospital catchment area at different times. These drama performances have helped in dissemination of information in the villages on abstinence and being faithful as our priority message to youths at large and condom use to youth who are married and are at risk of contracting HIV.

STIGMA REDUCTION CAMPAIGNS
As one way of disseminating the information through Music, Drama performances, traditional dances, health talks pertaining to HIV/AIDS and Live Testimonies, Peer Educators, People living with HIV/AIDS (PLWAs) Together with the Ekwendeni Hospital staff for different programmes we conducted an open day campaign at Bwabwa primary school on 12th January, 2008, which draw many people and the AIDS band performed very well during this campaign. All activities focused on the importance of HIV Counseling and Testing services, abstinence, being faithful and encouraging Positive living to those who have HIV.
LIFE SKILLS TRAINING FOR IN AND OUT OF SCHOOL YOUTHS.
In January 2008, we had one day orientation on life skills training in the following schools and Churches: Enyezini and Baula secondary schools, Baula, Kabwanda, Matheni, Mwenje, Enyezini, Phutula and Chipapa primary schools, and Baula CCAP, Enyezini CCAP, Phutula Roman catholic, Baula Roman catholic Enyezini Seventhday Churches were also covered.
In March 2008, we had the following schools and Churches, Ekwendeni, Bokosi and Lidoma secondary schools, Ngazi, Kaweche, Kaluhoro, Ukani, Ngongo, Ekwendeni, Bokosi, Church of Christ and ST Michael’s primary schools and Ekwendeni CCAP, Ngazi CCAP, Ekwendeni Assemblies of God, Ekwendeni Living waters, Ekwendeni Holy cross and Ekwendeni Church of Christ Churches.

During these orientation trainings, peer educators were involved, and more youth were very open to their fellow youth on some of their problems especially on physical growth, since peer educators are youths. In these trainings we included abstinence and being faithful behavior change interventions approach so that youths should spend their time wisely instead of involving themselves in immoral behaviours which may risk their lives.

VIDEO SHOWS / DSTV.
Video is shown everyday, Monday to Friday in the activity room, and more youths and elderly people have been coming for these shows which attracts more clients for HIV Counseling and Testing, Sexually Transmitted Infection services and all youth activities at the centre.
COMPUTER LESSONS
Computer lessons are now attracting many people as well as elders since the lessons are offered on free basis. In these computer lessons we included abstinence and being faithful, behavior change interventions approach so that youths should spend their time wisely instead of involving themselves in immoral behaviours which may risk their lives.

MUSIC
As one way of disseminating the information through Music, the AIDS Resource Centre Youth Band had been performing very well like singing HIV/AIDS songs in the community during Stigma reduction campaigns. In line with peer education, band members had been conducting mobile campaigns and relaxation at the centre and in organized meetings by the Hospital i.e. Voluntary Counseling and Testing, Stigma reduction and HIV/AIDS campaigns i.e. Mobile campaigns, etc

THE INDOOR GAME
We have the following indoor games Bawo, Chess, Pool, Snakes & ladder, Kids Champion football and Kids toys. These games attract more youths and make them busy, so that they should not involve themselves in immoral behavior.
YOUTH FRIENDLY HEALTH SERVICES and VCT

YFHS is also done here at the resource centre on Tuesdays and Thursdays respectively, and more youths come for this activity because they express their problems free simply because this activity is carried by their fellow youths who were trained. In this quarter 6 youths found with STIs have been treated and receive general counseling. Voluntary Counseling and Testing Services are done every day at Youth Centre. Youth who have received counseling and testing for HIV are 1986 and out of the number 47 were found HIV positive aged 14 – 25.

HOME BASED CARE

Youths are also participating in home based care in which we as youths have been dormant for the past years and now they participant full time. The youth club members have been visiting chronically ill patients in the Community of Ekwendeni hospital. During the visit they provide domestic support like food and house chores. Apart from giving their needs, they were also proved psychosocial support (spiritual and moral support) they also give drugs to treat opportunistic infections.

In this quarter, 610 patients have been visited and received support, out of the number (184 Male and 426 female). Patients on ARV treatment 507(153Male, 298Female and 56 Children). The programme has 775 patients registered.
CHALLENGES

1. The programme is lacking Reliable Income Generating Activities for sustainability. i.e. if we can have the following things that may help to run other programmes.
   a. Pig and Goat management
   b. Maize mill
   c. Telephone bureau
2. Inadequate sporting materials like balls for Volleyball, Football, Netball and Uniforms which promotes physical activities and at the same time, making the Youth busy.
3. Youth Peer educators, Home based care givers and Voluntary Counseling and Testing Promoters, need to be refreshed in performing skills.
4. Capacity building for the staff in various youth activities is needed.
   i.e. Supervisors. Need to be trained in Administration and HIV/AIDS Management.
5. Lack of beddings, food (nutrition) and hospital bills for patients who are on Home Based Care youth programme.

SUCCESS STORIES

• Increased participation of youths in Resource centre activities and community youth clubs activities as compared to the statistics of the past.
• 10 New youth club have been formed
• Opening of youth VCT centre at the Resource centre
• 7 Youth counselors trained and working as volunteers at the youth centre and in the under five out reach clinics.

RECOMMENDATION.

• The programme is running well and the youth are very happy and ready to do HIV/AIDS activities in the community and other many more.
• There is need to increase some other programme for the school leavers who are youths i.e. Income generating activities (Goat and Pig management, Poultry and Telephone bureau (mobile) to sustain the programme.
• There is need to have reliable Income Generating Activities to sustain AIDS Resource Centre programmes as well as solving some problems faced within the programme. i.e. by having Maize Mill, having Telephone bureau in villages and Pig management.

PEER EDUCATORS and TRADITIONAL LEADERS ADVOCATING ABOUT HARMFUL PRACTICES THAT HELP TO TRANSMIT HIV, NEED TO STOP.
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<th>TYPE OF ACTIVITIES</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5 – 14 yrs</td>
<td>15 – 24 yrs</td>
<td>25 – 44 yrs</td>
<td>Over 45 yrs</td>
<td>TOTALS</td>
<td>Totals</td>
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<td>Health talks/Videos</td>
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<td>abstinence &amp; Being faithful</td>
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<td>Drama performance</td>
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<td>Number of IEC materials</td>
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<td>Number of youth reached with other Preventions (condom use).</td>
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<td>Bible study.</td>
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<td>COMMETS/REMARKS</td>
<td>Many youth clubs do not have sports materials i.e. footballs, netballs, volley balls, etc.</td>
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