

**Cameroon Baptist Convention Health Services- Youth Network for Health (CBCHS-YONEFOH)
Activity Report (October, 2012 to January, 2013)**

Submitted to Global Giving, February, 2013

The spread of HIV among youth in Cameroon is still critical. That is why since inception, CBCHS' Youth Network for Health (YONEFOH) program is making consistent strides to restrain the spread of HIV among youths ages (15-25 years). The program's goal for this year is to adequately empower at least 50,000 youth for behavior change via continuous sensitization and provide access to Voluntary Counseling & Testing (VCT) to them through a school/club- based approach.



**YONEFOH
Health
Education
in Government
Bilingual High
School(GBHS)
Mbu-Warr**

During the September 2012 challenge, the program raised 1,060 USD on Global Giving and used the funds to carry out general health education and Voluntary Counseling and Testing (VCT) in two schools in underserved rural communities (Government High School (GHS), Mbu-Warr and Government Bilingual High School (GBHS), Bamali). A total of 146 boys and 109 girls opted for HIV testing in

GBHS Mbu-Warr while 107 boys and 249 girls also went in for HIV testing in GBHS Bamali. Thus, some 608 youth were able to access HIV testing of whom one tested positive. While the 'negatives' pledged to adopt behavior change measures to stay negative, the one that tested positive was immediately linked to the nearest care and treatment center in Bamali for follow up and treatment.

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Students filling forms for free HIV Counseling and Testing in GBHS Balikumbat



Blood sample collection for HIV testing in GBHS Balikumbat

Testimonies:

- 1. I was a sickly for about three years, One day a friend invited me so that we could do our free HIV test organized by YONEFOH. It turned out to be a turning point in my life. When I was diagnosed HIV positive, the counselor took time to clarify my doubts about HIV and AIDS. This made me accept my status after a while. I first felt very awful but they followed me up and linked me to a support group where I learnt to combat self stigma and live positively. Today, I am a happy and healthy person thanks to their timely intervention and support. With the psychosocial*

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support I am receiving through my support group, I can now face life with more optimism and focus on my studies as I look forward to becoming a medical doctor in the future. **(Elizabeth, Catholic University Bamenda)**

2. “Personally, this workshop has changed my way of life and I made a decision to delay sex until marriage and teach others about AIDS/STDs. The workshop also inspired me in choosing a career and to avoid bad friends and focus on my future. Many thanks to the facilitators. **(Pascaline Nyuysemo, Form 2 student, GHS Mbu-Warr School)**
3. “I used to live a very careless life in the past but after I received their lessons, I made the hard decision to go in for my HIV test. Now I know my status and will learn to live a less promiscuous life. Thanks to this initiative I am now a better person.”
(Henry, 24, polytechnic Bambui)



A student expressing her concerns during a health talk in GTHS Bamenda



Students speaking-up during a health talk in GTHS Bamenda

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4. *I am speechless and lack words to express my joy. I thought that HIV/AIDS was a rumor but I have seen it with my own eyes. I did not also know about the numerous STDs that were mentioned. As from today my life has changed and I will never remain the same. Your mission here has transformed my life. God will bless you abundantly. May your partnership with our school be forever.*

Liven 17, Shishong youth



**Health education in GTHS
Bamenda**

Total expenses:

HIV kits and other material = 408,000 CFA (816 USD)

Transport to the sites =65,000 CFA (130 USD)

Catering to staff = 46,000 CFA (92 USD)

Grand total for all = 519,000 CFA (1038 USD)

This is how most of the students felt after the education STDs and the VCT. Do you know who made this possible? You guessed right! You made it!!! Your contributions made the difference in the life of Elizabeth, Pascaline, Henry and Yiven among many others.

We will keep you updated as we take our next trips in other communities. We would like to know what you think about our work and as our partners; your suggestions are most welcome.

Best regards

**Fundraising Team
CBCHS-Cameroon**

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