**SYSC: REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH CARE SERVICES MICRO-PROJECT**

**Context**

Youth in the slums of Shauri Yako and Manajengo are experiencing significant, growing (but untracked) rates of unplanned teenage pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases. The HIV/AIDS rate is on the rise amongst youth 14 to 20 according to the government of Kenya. Significant social problems like sexual abuse, young girls turning to prostitution as a means to earn an income are not uncommon and human trafficking is a reality.

Yet there are no health service providers in Shauri Yako right now, and no health focused government or international aid support to our community. Although the new Kenyan government has focused on improving health services across the country, efforts have been limited by a variety of factors, from strikes by medical care providers to limited equipment and drugs. Where health service centres exist they provide services for a subsidized fee. Some churches also try to supplement government health services by offering care at a small fee, but even this is out of reach for those in the slums.

**Goals**

* Raise funds to provide free family planning services, reproductive health information and condoms to youth living in the Shauri Yako and Manjengo slums for six months
* Help reduce the rates of sexual violence, sexually transmitted diseases and increase family planning
* Meet the right of youth to reproductive health services, so they may feel safer, empowered by information and make informed decisions
* Increase the effectiveness of SYSC’s other programming, such as vocational skills training, so youth can participate healthily
* Reduce gender-based discrimination and violence
* Improve human security

**Project Overview**

This micro-project will allow SYSC to reintroduce critical reproductive health care services in the SYSC and Manjengo slums. We will focus on providing family planning services, knowledge and availability of contraception (free condoms), regularized reproductive and family planning health care sessions, peer to peer community education and outreach and awareness raising about sexual violence.

SYSC has made arrangements to partner with the Family Health Options Centre in Nyeri town, and will second an individual for the project’s six-month duration as a Health Educator. This individual will be responsible for:

* Providing twice monthly individual and group counselling at SYSC community centre
* Training volunteer peer-to-peer educators to lead outreach and the dissemination of condoms and printed educational materials within the community, including at schools, churches and local youth gatherings (note that mentors will be awarded a small honorarium to cover their expenses/opportunity costs of their time)
* Partnering with SYSC’s staff lead, who is a trained HIV/AIDS and sexually transmitted diseases outreach worker, to mobilize and facilitate community events:
  + Two monthly community events at SYSC’s centre
  + Additional organized events local schools and churches

**Why will this Project be Successful?**

* Because the project will tackle real and significant community problems that are otherwise going unaddressed
* Because the community has championed the project and is united around its success
* Because SYSC can build on its past experience and success providing reproductive health care services
* Because SYSC will partner with a local public health organization to increase the effectiveness of its efforts
* Because education initiatives can be built into SYSC’s existing programs to increase reach and impact

**Budget**

Health Educator/Facilitator, salary:16,000 x 6 months = 96,000

Developing and printing for educational materials like flyers = 12,000

Mobilization and organizing educational events 14,000 x 6 months = 84,000

Condom supplies for men and women = 55,000

Stationery and printing = 17,000

**Total in Kenya Shillings** = **264,000**

**Total in US Dollars = 3000**