

YOUTHS FOR HUMAN RIGHTS PROTECTION AND TRANSPARENCY INITIATIVE (YARPTI)

PROJECT PROPOSAL

Name of the Project	: Eket HIV/AIDS and STD Awareness Project
Funding Period	: One Year
Geographical Area of the Project	: Eket , Akwa Ibom State, Nigeria
Name of the Organization	: Youths for Human Rights Protection and Transparency Initiative (YARPTI)
Postal Address	: Mission Junction, Orji Opp Immaculate Heart Catholic Chuech Orji, Owerri, Imo State, Nigeria
Status of the Organization	: Registered NGO.
Year of Registration	: 2 nd April 2015
Registration Number	: CAC/IT/No 76825
Contact Person	: Kenneth Uwadi
Contact Phone	: +2348037982714
Contact E-mail	: kennethuwadi@gmail.com
Website	: www.yarpti.org
E-Mail Address	: info@yarpti.org

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The mandate of this project is to give information on HIV and STDs to people in Eket Community that will help them make healthy decisions for themselves and their families. We will be working with 2 local health centre on this project. Nigeria has the second-largest number of people living with HIV. The HIV epidemic in Nigeria is complex and varies widely by region. In Eket an area in Akwa Ibom State the epidemic is more concentrated and driven by high-risk behaviours including prostitution, high prevalence of sexually transmitted infections (STI), illegal drug taking , clandestine high-risk heterosexual and homosexual practices and irregular blood screening.

PROBLEM STATEMENT

Eket is the second largest city in Akwa Ibom State, Nigeria. The name also refers to the indigenous ethnic group of the region and to their language. The city itself, an industrial city that in recent years has become a conurbation engulfing separate villages, has a population of over 200,000, while entire urban area, which covers Okon, Nsit Ubium, Afaha Eket and Esit Eket, has a combined population of 364,489, the second largest urban population in Akwa Ibom state. There are several reports of high death rate in the area many are HIV like deaths. Investigation conducted indicates that poverty is particularly high in three areas of town. Drug traffic and prostitution are concentrated heavily in the community. The relatively high death rates in the area imply a breakdown in the health services delivery system. Investigation further shows that once diagnosed of HIV the people of the area shy away from taking full advantage of new life-saving therapies. The people are at high risk of HIV because they abuse drugs and exchange sex for money, drugs and resources. Reports have it that so many have died of AIDS and many currently have AIDS.

BEHAVIORAL RISKS FOR HIV

Because they are involved in illegal activities, sex workers and drug users in Eket are afraid of facing arrest and prosecution. This fear extends to them being suspicious of some institutions, including hospitals and social service agencies. Sex workers tell YARPTI outreach workers that they feel judged by staff in such organizations. Many believe that the AIDS virus is the result of a U.S. government conspiracy targeting the African community, and many believe that recovery clinics intentionally keep clients addicted to tablets so the clinic can continue to receive federal funds. Sex workers and drug users, accustomed to the direct talk of the street, also distrust information couched in “bureaucratese” or educational pamphlets that only use images of people clearly not from the local community.

AGENCY DESCRIPTION

Youths for Human Rights Protection and Transparency Initiative (YARPTI) is a not-for-profit, non-governmental organization established on the 2nd of April 2015 to protect, establish, engage and empower young people in Nigeria including women and children. The organisation has its main office in Owerri, Imo State of Nigeria.

YARPTI's standard mandates that at least two young women must be part of its leadership team. 4 members constitute the organisation's board of trustees while 8 persons are members of the leadership team. YARPTI has 7 office staff and 18 volunteers.

We strive to not only give youths a voice but also provide them with the tools to succeed in a world where the odds are stacked against them. We envision a society where children, youths and women are viewed as assets and resources, and thus encouraged to develop their full potentials.

CAPABILITY AND EXPERIENCE OF APPLICANT

In line with our mission statement YARPTI strives to stop the devastating spread of HIV and STDs among Nigerian communities. To accomplish this, YARPTI provides street outreach to high-risk populations with a staff. In addition, YARPTI actively recruits outreach staff from targeted communities and populations. Half of the current outreach staff are former sex workers (YARPTI requires proof of two years of sobriety prior to hiring a former sex worker)

HIV/STDs Services Provided

HIV/AIDS Education: Street outreach and small group workshops for sex workers and drug users; safer sex condom distribution as well as distribution of DVDs on HIV and STD prevention

HIV Testing: Mobile testing in neighbourhoods where at-risk people live and work.

Community Forums: Discussions on AIDS and other STDs intended to break down the barriers and taboos that impede discussion of the impact of these diseases on Nigerians

Peer Support Groups: Peer directed groups provide emotional support for persons living with HIV, their families and social networks.

In this HIV awareness project in Eket, YARPTI will engage two leading Hospitals in Eket: Good Shepherd Hospital and Abik Medical Centre. Good Shepherd Hospital will be mobilized to provide STD screening, counseling and assistance on disease prevention. Good Shepherd will also provide treatment for persons identified with STDs while Abik Medical Centre will provide HIV/AIDS screening and long-term medical care to HIV positive persons.

PROPOSED PROGRAM OBJECTIVE

To reduce HIV and STD incidence among high-risk populations of Nigerians in Eket, Akwa Ibom State

To increase knowledge among illegal drug users and sex workers about their health status.

To ensure timely access to appropriate medical care for sex workers and illegal drug users

To increase knowledge about HIV and HIV-prevention techniques among illegal drug users and sex workers.

To increase the use of safer sex techniques and safer needle practices among illegal drug users, sex workers and their partners.

OBJECTIVES FOR YEAR ONE

To provide HIV and STD testing to 400 illegal drug users and sex workers.

For persons who test positive for HIV, to enroll 80% at the Abik Medical Centre

For persons who test positive for an STD, to ensure medical treatment for 75%.

To enroll 24 substance users in a rehabilitation program.

For 33% of clients who identify needs, to make on-the-spot appointments with a referral agency.

For clients for whom appointments were made, to achieve a 50% rate of completed referrals.

To convey basic information about harm reduction techniques to 600 members of the target population.

To have 300 members of target population commit to using latex barriers (condom) with their clients and/or partners the next time they have sex.

PROGRAM PLAN

Street outreach will occur in neighborhoods where sex workers conduct their street-based economy. Outreach workers will be individuals familiar with the neighborhoods and who are trusted by potential participants. Short and intensive HIV prevention education messages will be provided on the street. The primary objective of this outreach is to enrol people into small group risk-reduction education sessions to be held during mobile testing activity.

These sessions will take place in rented hotel/motel rooms close to areas of high drug use and sex trade activity. Presentations on harm reduction will be provided by YARPTI staff. Information on STDs and treatment will be provided by a nurse practitioner from Good Shepherd Hospital . Any participants who wish to go into recovery can be enrolled on with fees that will be paid by YARPTI from Project funds. STD and HIV testing will be provided on-site. Participants who test positive will be recontacted and provided counseling and referral to treatment.

EVALUATION PLAN:

Process and outcome objectives will be tracked. We will examine the implementation of the project, document what services were delivered, how they were delivered, and who received them. Technical assistance in evaluation will be provided by Dr. Joy Tobin of YARPTI . At the end of this project more youth will know more about how to help prevent the spread of new infections of HIV and STDs . And they will better understand what life is like for people infected with HIV/AIDS and STDs. This project will promote healthier living for youths

MANAGEMENT PLAN

Administrative and fiscal responsibility for the Project will reside with YARPTI . The project will be staffed by three organizations (YARPTI, Good Shepherd Hospital, Abik Clinic). Each organization will be responsible for personnel management tasks related to their employees

TARGET POPULATION

Our target audience is youth between the ages of 13 and 39 .As the analysis above suggests, people living in Eket are at greater risk for HIV/AIDS and STDs. However, within the Eket community, sub-populations exist that are at even higher risk such as

Injecting Drug Users (IDUs) and Crack Users

From investigation the percentage of newly reported AIDS cases in Eket is attributable to injecting drug use . It has increased steadily in Eket. In 2000, IDUs accounted for 1% of

cases; in 2010, 10%; and in 2015, 21% according to Jean Clifford group Survey Families Project (January 2015 Report) Crack cocaine use is a risk factor for syphilis (and therefore HIV), probably because it leads to risky sexual practices.

Sex Workers

Prostitution is a fact of life in Eket. In 2015, 388 arrests were made for prostitution. 58% of those arrested were Akwa Ibom young girls and women . While this does not imply that 58% of

sex workers in Eket are Akwa Ibom people, it does suggest that the majority of sex workers

who solicit on the street of Eket are Akwa Ibom and Cross River State people, because the street is the target of police surveillance. And street-based sex workers are typically at higher risk for HIV infection than other sex workers.

Many have marijuana and cocaine addiction and spend much of their time seeking for ways to secure the drug, including exchanging sex for marijuana. This results in an atrophying of their social network and a tenuous relation to health providers. Furthermore, street sex workers tend to be poorer, and so more likely to engage in high-risk sex in return for additional money.

Although HIV/AIDS data are not tabulated for sex workers as a category, prostitution is cited as a behavior of populations at high risk for HIV infection.

TARGET POPULATION'S SOURCES OF HEALTH INFORMATION

Hustling people and drugs sellers live in closed environments but they don't know about relevant health services close to them. Even if it's only a few miles away, or even a few blocks away, they know nothing but their little corner or whatever, nothing outside of that. Investigation also reveals that "drug" users and those involved in the sex industry often engage in activities and lifestyles that place them outside the reach of more mainstream information channels. Evidence reported by YARPTI outreach workers suggests that members of the target population receive most of their information from television or word of mouth. Frequently, the television is located in the common room/lobby of their apartment building or hotel, and by default the program is a talk show. While such shows often cover health-related topics, including HIV/AIDS, the information is generally partial and sometimes incorrect.

FISCAL CAPACITY

YARPTI's 2015 budget was \$32,800. Our 2016 operating budget is \$32,388. Since its inception in 2015 the organization has administered over 20 projects meeting program objectives, reporting requirements and audit standards.

BUDGET

S/NO	DESCRIPTION	QUANTITY	AMOUNT NAIRA	AMOUNT USD
	Fee for one coordinator for workshop , PSA's for			
1	25 days	1	375,000.00	1,500.00
	Four facilitators for 2			
2	days	4	200,000.00	800.00

	Two resource contractors for HIV/AIDS and STD prevention training/screening for			
3	25 days	2	550,000.00	2,200.00
4	Hotel Hall space X 25 days	1	375,000.00	1,500.00
	fee for 15 workshop participants 5 from each			
5	community	15	75,000.00	300.00
6	Lunch for 20 for 2 days	20	40,000.00	160.00
7	Posters	1000	50,000.00	200.00
8	Brochures	1000	65,000.00	260.00
9	Stickers	1000	40,000.00	160.00
10	Condoms	2000	100,000.00	400.00
11	Digital Camera/HIV film hire	1	150,000.00	600.00
12	HIV Prevention DVDs	500	100,000.00	400.00
13	Photos	200	25,000.00	100.00
14	Phone calls		10,000.00	40.00
15	Local Radio Jingles	2	90,000.00	360.00
18	STD Treatment	400	500,000.00	2,000.00
19	HIV/AIDS referral	400		
			2,745,000.00	10,980.00

ACCOUNT INFORMATION

The organization maintains only one account in Diamond Bank Plc with two board of trustee members as signatory as directed by the constitution

Account name: Youths human rights protection

Bank: Diamond Bank Plc

Account number: 0064672419

Swift code(routing code) : DBLNNGLA.