



The UKUN Mission

HIV/AIDS Prevention, Palliative Care, Orphan & Vulnerable Child Support

Uhakika Kituo cha Ushauri Nasaha (UKUN) is a non-governmental, non-political, and non-profit organization based in Bagamoyo District in the Coastal Region of Tanzania. The mission of UKUN is to contribute to the primary prevention of the HIV/AIDS pandemic in Bagamoyo; to support palliative care services for people living with HIV/AIDS; and to improve the quality of life for the district's Orphans and Vulnerable Children (OVC).

UKUN was formed in 2002 as a result of research carried out by the Ministry of Health through the National AIDS Control Program (NACP), in collaboration with DANIDA in Bagamoyo District. The research showed that the majority of patients with chronic illness preferred to be treated at home and close to their relatives. Guided by this finding, Bagamoyo community members saw the importance of coordinating efforts toward care and support for residents affected by HIV/AIDS, with an emphasis on providing home-based care.

The **objectives** of UKUN are as follows:

1. To increase technical and organizational capacity to deliver community care and support services to people living with HIV/AIDS and orphans and vulnerable children.
2. To promote awareness on HIV/AIDS, TB and Malaria through information, education and communication.
3. To reduce stigma associated with HIV/AIDS.
4. To promote the use of prophylaxis and ITNs in high risk malaria population areas and vulnerable groups.
5. To establish and strengthen effective linkages between UKUN and public and private institutions to provide quality and comprehensive home based care services to people with chronic illness including those with HIV/AIDS.
6. To support local staff to help groups through skill development for income generating activities and help set up HIV/AIDS support networks.