

USAID/CSDS Report

Report for the period June 1st 2009 to June 30th 2009

Subproject FCO Number 07-00100-10-02

Training and Counseling on HIV/AIDS and Domestic Violence Project

Implementing Agency:

Help & Shelter

Report preparer:

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Narrative Report Format

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I. CURRENT STATUS and PROGRESS

During the month of June the organization received funds as was prepared on the cash flow register to implement the planned activities as stated on the work-plan tool.

Planned Activities

Planned activities were as follows:

- 1. Behavioural Change Communication through One-on-One Community Outreach**
 - (1) Face to face counseling
 - (2) Client questionnaire analysis (feedback from clients using the client questionnaire forms)
 - (3) Referrals
 - (4) Hotline counseling
 - (5) Court support and counseling (in school youth)
- 2. A & B prevention program**
 - (1) ISY-Prevention A – the conduct of abstinence messages in secondary schools
 - (2) OSY – Prevention A & B – the conduct of abstinence and be faithful messages to out of school youths from groups in 3 communities
- 3. Distribution of BCC materials and condoms to walk-ins**
- 4. Project management**

1 Prevention

1.1 Community Outreach

Face to face counseling

This activity was conducted by two full time counselors and two part time counselors at our office situated on Homestretch Avenue, Durban Park, Georgetown.

The delivery of HIV prevention and appropriate BCC messages was done on a one-to-one basis with clients. The total numbers of persons newly reached through one-off outreach intervention with the following messages were;

- Messages that promote Abstinence only (A) - **2** males and **9** females; total **7**
- Messages that promote faithfulness only (B) - **5** males and **33** females; total **38**
- Messages that promote both Abstinence and Faithfulness (A&B) - **4** females
- Messages that promote behavior change beyond abstinence & faithfulness (partner reduction, condom use, HIV Testing) - **12** males and **45** females; total **57**

The number of persons previously reached through community outreach one-off outreach intervention using appropriate prevention messages was as follows;

- Messages that promote Abstinence only (A) - **2** males and **15** females; total **17**
- Messages that promote faithfulness only (B) was **2** males and **9** females; total **11**
- Messages that promote behavior change beyond Abstinence and Faithfulness (partner reduction, condom use, HIV testing etc) were **4** males and **16** females; total **20**

An overall clientele data shows the clients who had accessed the services of Help & Shelter during the month of June 2009 under the following categories were;

- New clients – **37**
- Repeat clients – **71**
- Hotline – **59**
- Court support - **40** attendances
- Client referrals – **37**
- Non-client referrals - **15**

Client's questionnaire analysis

35 client questionnaires were completed and returned

- Rating of counselling sessions –

Very Good	–	28 (80%)
Good	–	7 (20%)
- Interest in returning for follow up sessions - 35 clients (100%)
- Through what means did clients hear about H&S
 - Radio - 4 (11%)
 - TV - 9 (26%)
 - Leaflet - 0
 - Newspaper - 0
 - Other - 13 (37%)
 - Radio & TV – 4 (11%)
 - Multiple source – (Radio, TV, Newspaper, Leaflet, other) – 3 (8%)
- HIV information received – 35 (100%)

Referrals

3 clients were referred for HIV/C&T:

- 1 to Best Hospital West Coast Demerara
- 1 to the St Joseph Mercy Hospital
- 1 to the Plaisance Health Centre

Hotline counseling

For the month of June 2009 the hotline service was activated during the evenings and weekends to the 2 hotline counselors.

Court Support and Counseling (in school youth)

The two court support counselors who have attended the courts in Region 4 and these include Providence on the East Bank, Mahaica, Cove & John, Vigilance, Sparendam, on the East Coast and courts 2, 2, 5 and 6 in Georgetown. For the month of June 2009 the counselors attended courts on 40 occasions with clients who are mostly children and who have been sexually molested, rape or other-wise abused. Moral support

is also given to women who have applied for protection orders under the Domestic Violence Act. Help & Shelter continue to have in place a legal consultant who would assist in the application of this activity.

1.2 A & B Prevention Program

ISY Program

Soesdyke Community High School

The number of sessions completed at the school: 6

In attendance at the last session: 41

Males: 11

Females: 30

The school is designated as an examination centre as a result the children attend class on a shift system.

The schools administration has been very cooperative and supportive of the prevention sessions.

Cummings Lodge Secondary School

The number of sessions completed at the school: 6

In attendance at the last session: 28 participants.

Males: 9

Females: 19

Challenge:

The school has been involved in several extra curricular activities. In addition examination period came thus cutting short the period of work for the program.

In terms of attendance, just over fifty percent of participants were at the last session. This however seem to reflect on the general class absenteeism; during certain periods for example, when it rains, students stay away from school.

Stewartville Secondary School

Number of sessions completed: 10

In attendance at the last session: 49

Males: 11

Females: 38

Success

The Head Teacher has been high in praise of the work being done at the school. Special mentioned was made in a letter sent to the Prevention Coordinator expressing great appreciation for the outstanding work being done by the team.

The children thanked the prevention officers for the sessions; saying thanks for the information, how it benefitted and the made a commitment to share the information in the community. Parents' session is slated for 9th July 2009 at the Stewartville Secondary school.

OSY Program

Kuru Kururu Youth Group

4 sessions have been completed to date.

In attendance at the last session were 8 regular participants.

Males: 3

Females: 5

Participants are growing in confidence with each session. As a result there is more participation.

Challenges

Due to the participants inconsistent attendances to the sessions have therefore placed a challenge on the Prevention Team with regards to capturing these persons on the register.

There are many youths, especially males, in the community that are not employed and can be seen sitting in small groups doing nothing, thus the reason of getting the adults, parents and community leaders involve so that these youths will be encouraged to attend the program.

Success

As a result of the intervention in the community several community leaders have shown great interest and appreciation on the program. On June 17th a one day workshop for parents was conducted at the Kuru Kururu agricultural extension centre with 34 persons in attendance. The topics highlighted were discussed: Understanding self, Understanding the relationship between Domestic Violence and Child Abuse and Stress Management.

The participants were also provided with handouts on the various topics.

During the lunch break participants were taken on a tour of the Community Library, where they got first hand information about the services offered and future plans for extension. Parents seemed excited and many of them have made a decision to access the service of the library.

At the end of the workshop it was recommended that a follow up be done that would involve more persons.

To date four participants of the Prevention program have joined the community library.

On Wednesday July 8th Major General Joe Singh and a team of interested persons are scheduled to visit the group all in an effort to have a needs assessment done for the wider community.

Soesdyke Craft Centre:

5 sessions have been completed to date.

Number of participants who attended the last session: 9 (all females)

Challenges

Some participants are continuing to show inconsistency in their attendance. The difficulty is to understand the reason since participants are given a stipend on a monthly basis.

Success

The participants who were attending and participating in the prevention sessions have shown an interest in learning new skills and are therefore seeking the means of making the necessary changes in their lives. The prevention officers are very pleased about the positive changes the participants have shown.

1.3 Distribution of BCC materials and Condoms to walk-ins.

Number of male condoms - 0

Number of female condoms – 0

1.4 Project Management

The objective of this activity is to provide quality leadership and management systems and provide resources to effectively implement proposed activities within Help & Shelter.

Planning meetings are normally held every fortnight on Tuesdays, director's meetings held on the third Thursday of each month, Volunteers meeting on the second Saturday of each month and supervisory counselors meetings are held on the first Wednesday of each month. Internal repairs and painting is being carried out at the moment.

Contract fees were paid to staff with all other accounting activities conducted including an acquittal is scheduled to be conducted by CSDS field officer on Friday 10th July 2009.

Positive/negative variances by activity at the end of the month were as follows:

ACTIVITY	VARIANCES +[-]	JUSTIFICATIONS	COORDINATOR'S COMMENT
Hotline Counseling	\$107,275	Stipend	Training to commence sometime in 2009 due to the inadequate number of participants
Face – To – Face Counseling	\$ 11,544	Photo. Transportation,	Spending within budget.
In- School Counselling	\$ (640)	Photo. Of forms	Overspend on photo forms.
ISY - Cummings lodge	\$15,116	transportation	Spending favorably on target.
ISY – ST. John's College change to Stewartville	\$26,790	Transportation	continuing sessions with Stewartville Sec. sch.
ISY – Kingston Community High change to soesdyke C/H	\$16,820	Transportation	Continuing sessions with Soesdyke High school.
OSY- Grove Craft Centre	\$33,455	Photo. Leaflets , Stationery & transportation	Completed prevention sessions.
OSY- West Ruimveldt Change to Kuru- Kuru	\$(5,840)	Transportation	Additional sessions held for the month.
OSY- Meadow Brook change to Soesdyke Craft Centre	\$(1,260)	Transportation	Transportation cost increase.
Office Expense	\$92,941	Electricity , Telephone, Internet, etc	Utilities Expense was not fully utilize due to H & S Fire.

II. CONSTRAINTS

The main constraint the project is facing is in relation to the OSY program in terms of the target number to be reached and this is due to inconsistent attendance by the participants. There is also the matter of the hotline training, which is to be done before September 2009.

III. SUBSEQUENT PERIOD WORKPLAN

Activities for July 2009	Projected Date	Projected Time
1. Prevention -Other Counseling (face-to-face & hotline)	Every month	Monday to Friday from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm Hotline at evenings, weekends and holidays

2. Prevention –A&B Court support counseling	Every month	Working hours Monday to Friday 8:00 am to 4:00 pm
3. Prevention – A- ISY program	Every month	Working hours on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays (Plan to do sessions with the parents and teachers during the summer vocation)
4. Prevention-Other OSY Program	Every month	Working hours on Wednesdays (plan to do sessions with the group during the summer vocation)
5. Project Management/Overhead	Every month	Working hours/some weekends and holidays

All activities will be executed as planned.

IV. Materials/Products

1. Help & Shelter materials

Help & Shelter continued to re-print 17 brochures on domestic violence, child abuse, TIP and gender-based violence for the purpose of dissemination to clients, workshop participants, NGOs, the government ministries based on request and other agencies, secondary and UG students and other individuals. **3500** brochures were given out during the month.

- Wife Abuse
- Child Abuse
- Child Neglect
- Gender-Based Violence
- Understanding Spousal Abuse (3-in-1)
- Rape
- Sexual Assault
- Harassment Poisons the Work Place (3-in-1)
- Anger Management
- Human Trafficking
- Stop Trafficking in Women
- For Parents
- The Shelter
- Domestic Violence Act
- Domestic Violence Resource Brochure
- Help & Shelter Fact Sheet
- Handout on Healthy & Unhealthy Relationship

2. Posters distributed

- Child Abuse -105
- GHARP - 94
- H & S - 174

- Fathers are parents too – 95
- Trafficking in Persons – 105