



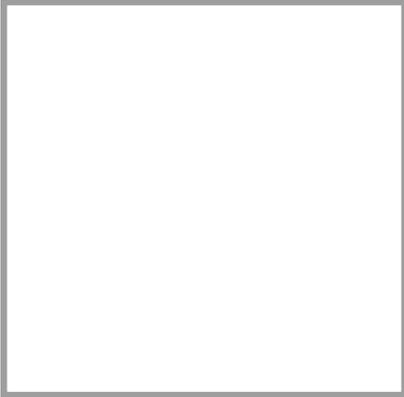
KERICHO YOUTH CENTRE 2015 ANNUAL REPORT



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MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD CHAIR



2015 has been a great year of success. Achievements to note include the constant support from our main donor- The Walter Reed Project, collaboration with Digital Opportunity Trust (DOT) and the Ministry of Health Kericho County. The organization has also achieved its major milestone of owning its own piece of land. This journey started in the year 2012 when the KYC fraternity had a meeting and organized its first ever fundraising dinner. 3-years later, this goal has been achieved.

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According to the Kenya AIDS Strategic Framework 2015-2018 Kenya is one of the six HIV ‘high burden’ countries in Africa – about 1.6 million people were living with HIV infection at the end of 2013. Women in Kenya are more vulnerable to HIV infection compared to Kenyan men, with the national HIV prevalence at 7.6 per cent for women and 5.6 per cent for men. I would testify of Kericho Youth Centre work through my first-hand experience and interacting with its personnel. The organization has been instrumental in transforming girls’ lives by providing crucial information on HIV and reproductive health matters in innovative and results oriented ways. I have witnessed the drop in no. of teenage pregnancies in high school going girls in both the institution I serve and other schools in Kericho County.

Notwithstanding, the year has also been characterised by reduction in funding and shift in donor policies that has necessitated the organization to make strategic adjustments. Moving forward, we will need to embrace new ways of operation. This will include adopting a private sector approach and broadening our sources of funding beyond the traditional donors. We as a board together with the organization’s management must establish strategic partnerships so that the organization is able to survive the turbulent times and the changes in the donor world. It is also critical for the organization to have the financial commitment and involvement of county governments to ensure lasting change in the lives of the youth. I am a pleased to be at the helm of an organisation as professional and reputable as KYC which makes a difference in the life of the youth and communities in Kericho County and Kenya at large. The organisation’s priorities and activities truly reflect and respond to the health and social needs of Kericho County communities.

I would like to appreciate all of KYC’s team, partners and supporters who helped us to make a real difference in the lives of thousands of young people across the County in 2015. I acknowledge that our achievements were largely made possible by your support. As the KYC Board moves this organisation forward, we welcome you to continue taking this journey with us, and look forward to making new partnerships that will help us achieve our vision of highly informed and empowered youth and communities.

MESSAGE FROM THE MANAGER

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It is my pleasure and privilege to report yet that our organization continues with the momentum of growth and impressive performance in provision of HIV prevention services to the youth and other community members within Kericho County.

In the financial year 2015, the organization was able to provide HIV testing and counselling services to 26, 427 individuals. Through the Other Prevention programs (OP) targeting youth who are already sexually active or Most at risk, we were able to reach to 16,015 young women aged 15-24 years. Among these were 2235 female sex workers. A total of 288 truck drivers were reached using the Respect-Kenya intervention. 1204 individuals were able to access reproductive health services in our clinic.

I would like to sincerely appreciate our donors Henry Jackson Foundation through the Walter reed project for their financial support and technical assistance.

I would like to appreciate I Choose a Life for supporting us during the institutional strengthening project. I thank the board of directors for their leadership and guidance, advice on policy review and continuous support in overseeing the project implementation. I would also like to thank the Kericho Youth Centre staff for their sacrifice and tireless effort in providing services to the community members.

Finally, I want to thank all the volunteers for sacrificing their time and choosing to work in educating the community on HIV/AIDS matters. I would also wish to the Kericho District Hospital in supporting our reproductive Health program and offering technical assistance.

Highlights

26,427 individuals received counselling services

2235 female sex workers reached through sister to sister program

288 truck drivers reached through Respect-K curriculum

1204 individuals accessed Reproductive health services



BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Kericho Youth Centre (KYC) is a non-profit, non-governmental organization (NGO) based in Kericho District, South Rift Valley province of Kenya. KYC implements the following activities, HIV/AIDS Prevention, Sexual and Reproductive Health Services, peace building, environmental conservation and economic strengthening programs targeting the young people.

The organization began in August 2005 as a Focused Group Discussion (FGD) in response to the growing concern that there was limited access to counselling and testing services among the youth aged 15 to 24 in Kericho despite this age group providing about half of all new HIV infections in the world. The Kericho Youth Centre was therefore established as a youth friendly Centre where young people in Kericho and the larger South Rift Valley region could readily access VCT services in a youth friendly environment as well as receive on-going support through recreational activities to reduce the risk of HIV infection.

The Centre's establishment was supported by President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) through the Walter Reed Project (WRP) and initially managed by the Kericho District Hospital (KDH). In 2007 the Kericho Youth Centre became a duly registered Local Non-Governmental Organization under the NGO - Coordination Act and appointed a Board of Governors to manage its affairs.

Kericho Youth Centre seeks to increase access to accurate information regarding sexual health that will allow the youth to make informed decisions about their sexuality. To stem the rise in new HIV infection, the organization is actively involved in behaviour change activities through use of appropriate approaches such as peer education and works with both in-school youth and out of school youth.

Kericho Youth Centre is also committed to enhance service uptake among the youth through providing counselling and testing services, treatment of sexually transmitted infections and counselling on family planning options at our reproductive health clinic.

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VISION OF KYC

We envisage a highly informed, empowered and healthy youth & communities.

MISSION OF KYC

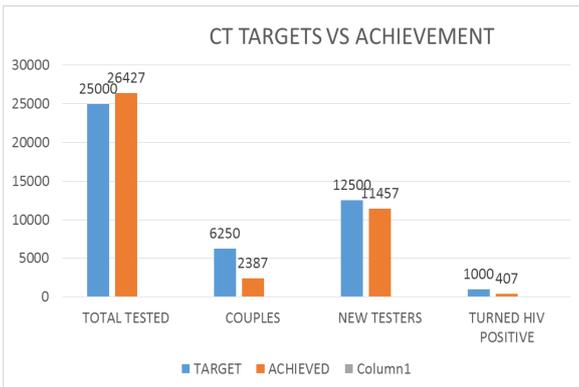
KYC's mission is to serve as an empowerment Centre for the youth and communities, equipping them with Life-enhancing skills through: economic empowerment, leadership & governance, health, environmental conservation programs aimed at making them productive and self-reliant.



World Environmental day at Kipchorian



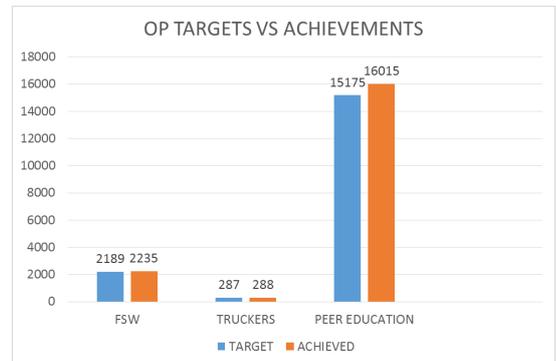
1.1 Counselling and Testing Program (CT)



The focus of HIV testing and counselling activities were on new testers, females and couples. A total of 26,427 individuals received HTC services.

1.2 Other Prevention Program (OP)

The programs implemented in this program include: Peer education curriculum. Sister to Sister and Men as Partners in HIV prevention (MAPP). Train females aged 15-24 years within the general population with individual and/or small group level HIV prevention interventions that are based on evidence and/or meet the minimum standards required. 16015 females were trained during this financial year. Train female sex workers with individual and/or small group level HIV prevention interventions that are based on evidence and/or meet the minimum standards required. 2235 female sex workers were trained. Train truckers with individual and/or small group level HIV prevention interventions that are based on evidence and/or meet the minimum standards required. 288 truck drivers were trained.



1.3 Reproductive Health

Through the integration of services we have been able to provide reproductive health services to 1204 individuals during this financial year. Of these 205 were males and 999 were females. A total of 602 received family planning services, 554 individuals were treated for various Sexually Transmitted Infections while 48 females had pregnancy tests.

1.2 Social Development

The program in this strategic objective were geared towards empowering the youth to participate in self and societal development. Under this Kericho Youth Center attracts the youth through Board games, TV room, Library, Outdoor games and also group discussions. We marked both world AIDs day, World HIV vaccine day and world TB day to commemorate the efforts gained in the fight against the diseases. We held two talent shows where the youth came and exposed their talents beauty pageant and body building.

1.3 Economic Empowerment

This programs focuses on educating and empowering the youth. The activities carried out include: life skills training, entrepreneurship training, and information communication technology and employment readiness foundation. Through our network with Digital Opportunity Trust (DOT) we have managed to train over 400 youths on ICT skills and business startup skills in Kericho County.

1.4 Environmental Health

Our staff, volunteers and interns participated in the World Environmental day. KYC partnered with the County government and did a town clean up exercise which was graced by his Excellency the governor of Kericho.

We commemorated world peace day and during the event planted over 500 tree seedlings at Moi gardens and many universities came up for the event.

During world environmental day which was marked at Kipkelion, at the banks of River Kipchorian we planted over 1000 tree seedlings. An occasion which was graced by schools and colleges around Kericho County.

Program Success Points

- a) Increase in the number of couples and new testers due the strategy we used that is door to door and work place counselling and testing.
- b) The clients who turned HIV positive were 75% efficiently linked to care and treatment and all the referrals were followed to the later. Though this is well below the UNAIDS target of 90-90-90 strategy
- c) Increase in the no. of clients seeking HIV prevention and reproductive health information due to the outreaches and trainings we were conducting.
- d) Reduced risky sexual behaviour among the general population and youth and the most at risk populations as a result of the interventions implemented.

Program Challenges

- We received limited supply of test kits from KEMSA but we sourced some from local dispensaries and this enabled us surpass our targets.
- Due to limited funding and shift in donor trends, we have had to adjust some of the interventions. Interventions focusing on Abstinence and Faithfulness were dropped to a focus on Key Populations and girls Aged between 15-24 years.
- Limited resources e.g. transport restricted our areas of operations and thus some communities in remote areas were disadvantaged in receiving our services.
- 100% linkage of positive clients for ART services was not achieved. Data provided, literacy levels and client personal challenges made it difficult to link them despite numerous effort by the team to reach them.

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