

HELP MISSION DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH ACTIVITIES 2004-2007 IN PRIMARY SCHOOLS

When HMDS started working with Primary schools in 2004, we found out that young people lack correct and comprehensive information on key Reproductive Health issues including HIV and AIDS and harmful cultural practices. This was due to the fact that; encounter barriers in accessing Reproductive Health, lack of essential health knowledge. This made young people more vulnerable to sexual abuse and violence, STIs, HIV, unplanned pregnancies, FGM, early and forced marriages. During our discussion with the teens, we found out that parents were illiterate, lack capacity to communicate with their children on sexuality due to cultural norms.

During the period 2004 - 2007 we worked with 12 primary schools and we provided reproductive health activity under girl's club component in these schools. These schools were: Misakwani Primary in Machakos, Olarinyiro Primary and Kwanjiku Primary in Laikipia, Ainapmoi Primary in Samburu and, Kongasis Primary, Utalii, Analat Primary and Nduriri Primary, Nakuru, Ng'ambo , Illing'arua, Sintaan, Loberer Primary, Nginya'ng primary, Mugarini primary and St. Maximilla Kolbe Primary schools in Baringo.

Goals

The goals of the activities in primary schools were:

1. To improve the accessible to quality Knowledge and services on reproductive health to young people in these learning institutions.
2. Reduce unplanned early pregnancy in schools.
3. Reduce the rate of girl's drop-out of schools.
4. Reduce/ eliminate early and forced marriages in young girls.
5. Reduce female genital mutilation (FGM) in the society
6. To improve their access to knowledge on HIV/AIDS, STIs, STD.

Provide free guiding and counseling and general life skills

ACHIEVEMENT OF THE PROJECT ACTIVITY.

- We reached over 2,500 youth in primary schools
- We held 42 HIV/AIDS Campaigns in comprehensive with GBV (Earlier and forced marriages and FGM) campaigns in the project areas for entire project period.
- We successfully had 136 peers to peer guiding and counseling at youth friendly environment on reproductive health.
- We had 42 Community events and local leaders' workshops discussing issues on earlier marriages, female genital mutilation (FGM), and school drop-out and way forward.

