



MoH



COMMUNITY CONVERSATION ENHANCEMENT (CCE) WACYIGELINTA BULSHADA EE KA HORTAGA HIV/AIDS

Target Group: Universities in Puntland-Somalia

Project Title

HIV Prevention and Case Management Project

Grant 2021-2023

Implementing Organization

Integrated Service for Displaced People

(ISDP)

Quarter Four

October, November, December 2023

Community Conversation Enhancement

(CCE Narrative Report)

Introduction

University students are the key vulnerable population or risk group most at risk, and they need more awareness of HIV/AIDS knowledge. This report presents an overview of the Community Conversation Enhancement (CCE) sessions focused on HIV/AIDS awareness conducted. These sessions were organized to promote a heightened understanding of HIV/AIDS, reduce stigma, and encourage prevention and testing. Collaborating with faculty members and teachers, these events aimed to foster a supportive and informed environment for students. HIV/AIDS remains a global public health concern, and universities play a crucial role in educating the younger generation about prevention, stigmatization, and support for those affected. The CCE sessions were designed to engage students in meaningful conversations about HIV/AIDS, ensuring that accurate information is disseminated and fostering an empathetic and inclusive campus culture.

The CCE advocacy and the community conversations engage community groups in dialogues among themselves to listen to and learn from one another, leading to new understanding and insights and community action to address community issues. It is a knowledge HIV intervention using interactive and collaborative learning methods leading to community action and implementation facilitated by mentoring support by local partners. The CCE or Community Conversation has its roots in several learning theories and participatory approaches such as social learning theory, actor-oriented approach, participatory learning and action, constructivist theory of knowledge, and action-oriented research.

The CCE sessions included a range of activities tailored to engage students and promote active participation. The goal was to create a comprehensive and supportive learning environment. University students are at very high risk of getting infected by HIV/AIDS. CCE as one of the intervention programmes has a significant role. Community Conversations are the main methodology used in the Community Capacity Enhancement (CCE) programme.

In the first part of the advocacy, all the awareness campaigns were CCE sessions to be reached per session in 40 participants in the higher institution. Most of them were poor knowledge for HIV/AIDS prevention and discrimination methods for the community. There were only a few students who have knowledge and concept for HIV prevention. So all the students interviewed in the first episode were people of low concept and knowledge for HIV prevention.

This programme, implemented by ISDP, and coordinated by regional PAC COMMISSIONS, MOH and Daryeel Network, also took part of community conversation enhancement and other part of activities. CCE sessions focus on the HIV/AIDS awareness of the students to prevent and reduce the impacts and spreading of HIV/AIDS. CCE, along with programmes in prevention and control of HIV/AIDS.

Purpose

The CCE sessions resulted in increased awareness and understanding of HIV/AIDS among students at both universities. Positive feedback indicated, students expressed a greater willingness to engage in conversations and educate the younger generations and promote prevention and testing. The sessions also fostered a sense of unity and support within the student communities.

This quarter four 2023 targeting University Students in all puntland universities Bossaso, Gardo, Garowe and Galkaio, also we planned ahead the sessions which can be reached with different regions to be reached in each sessions According to the scheduled of CCE sessions per region which is took place on this quarter four 2023, HIV/AIDS awareness University student with different regions in Puntland **such as 3 sessions in Bossaso, 3 sessions Garowe, 2 sessions Galkaio, 1 session Gardo,**

Objectives:

- ❖ To educate students about the facts, myths, and misconceptions surrounding HIV/AIDS.
- ❖ To reduce stigma associated with HIV/AIDS through open and respectful conversations.
- ❖ To empower students with knowledge about prevention, testing, and support services.
- ❖ To encourage a culture of inclusivity, empathy, and non-judgmental attitudes towards individuals living with HIV/AIDS.
- ❖ Facilitate access to further information by encouraging individuals to contact the designated hotline with the short number **311**.
- ❖ To improve the capacity building for the students in the universities
- ❖ To share the students, the concept for HIV/AIDs and other issues
- ❖ To improve the awareness of the students for HIV/AIDs
- ❖ To increase the knowledge for HIV in the university students
- ❖ To enhance the concept and knowledge for the students in HIV
- ❖ To make a campaign for the community and other vulnerable
- ❖ To learn how to prevent the impact of HIV and other conditions
- ❖ To learn the students how to avoid the community discriminations
- ❖ To eradicate the community discriminations for HIV and others.

The Specific Objectives

CCE Sessions providing relevant information to health policymakers and other stakeholders in developing strategies related to supporting adolescents in improving their knowledge, attitudes, practices, values and skills needed to achieve the requisite behavioural changes to protect them from HIV infection, Community conversations, while holding great potential to help communities recognize their potential strengths and capacities for responding more effectively to HIV, are not a magic bullet. Poverty, poor harvests and political instability frustrated and limited many participants' efforts to put their plans into action. On the other hand, support from outside the community, in this case the increasing availability of antiretroviral treatment, played a vital role in enabling communities to challenge stigma and envision new, more positive, ways of responding to the epidemic. Community conversations enhancement is very important mechanism should be facilitated dialogue of HIV/AIDS AWARENESS university students and each everyone should concept knowledge of HIV Prevention and where they provided services of HIV testing and counselling,

- ✓ To educate the participants the way of Transmission prevention and control of HIV in the Community
- ✓ To educate the participants the methods used to send the message in the community
- ✓ To know the participants the Impact of HIV in the community
- ✓ The general objective of this training was to gain the Students appropriate Awareness of knowledge of HIV prevention and control to aware their impact in the community
- ✓ Knowledge, attitudes and practices (KAPs) regarding HIV/AIDS serve as the cornerstones in the fight against HIV.
- ✓ Adequate knowledge regarding HIV/AIDS is a powerful way of promoting positive attitudes as well as engaging in safe practices.
- ✓ The attitude regarding HIV/AIDS in turn is expected to determine people's sexual behaviour. Many prevention programmes have focussed on increasing knowledge on transmission, with the aim of overcoming misconceptions that could prevent behavioural change towards safe practices and also reduce the stigma against PLHIV.
- ✓ To assess HIV and AIDS knowledge, attitudes, and practices University students improving our understanding of the HIV pandemic is a crucial step towards the fight against HIV and AIDS.
- ✓ Adequate information about HIV and AIDS can assist in the promotion of positive attitudes, reduction of stigmatisation, as well as behaviour modification from incorrect and unsafe practices to correct and safe practices,
- ✓ The focus of several HIV and AIDS prevention interventions that were conducted in both rural and urban areas.

Community Conversation Enhancement 9 CCE Sessions Quarterly based per locations and targeted on this quarter 4 2023 University students in Puntland and total reached per session, during implementations of quarterly CCE Sessions with different targets specially this quarter 4 2023 targeted with University student of transforming their knowledge and attitudes of perception of HIV/AIDS so most of the student not fully aware or generally had inadequate knowledge regarding of HIV/AIDS. Promoting university student into positive attitudes as well as engaging in safe practices.

Community Conversation Enhancement 9 CCE Sessions in Puntland				
Target Group: Universities Students Institutions Colleges in Puntland-Somalia				
3 CCE SESSIONS BOSSASO, BARI REGION				
Implemented Date	Location: Bossaso	# Female	# Male	TOTAL
5th-Nov-2023	1-Bossaso University	17	23	40
6th-Nov-2023	2-Bossaso University	36	4	40
7th-Nov-2023	3-Sahan College	29	9	38
		82	36	118
3 CCE SESSIONS GAROWE, NUGAAL, REGION				
Implemented Date	Location: Garowe	# Female	# Male	TOTAL
4th-Nov-2023	1-Frontier University Garowe	44	0	44
5th-Nov-2023	2-Frontier University Garowe	24	2	26
6th-Nov-2023	3-Haji Abdi Health Science College	23	6	29
		91	8	99
2 CCE SESSIONS GALKAIO, MUDUG REGION				
Implemented Date	Location: Galkaio	# Female	# Male	TOTAL
8th-Nov-2023	1- Global University	38	2	40
9th-Nov-2023	2- Redsea University	28	12	40
		66	14	80
1 CCE SESSIONS GARDO, KARKAAR REGION				
Implemented Date	Location: Gardo	# Female	# Male	TOTAL
4th-Nov-2023	1- Gutale Institute Of Medical Science	31	8	39
		31	8	39

COMMUNITY CONVERSATION ENHANCEMENT (CCE)			
9 CCE SESSIONS REACHED PER REGION	# Female	# Male	Total
Bossaso: 3 Sessions	82	36	118
Garowe: 3 Sessions	91	8	99
Galkaio: 2 Sessions	66	14	80
Gardo: 1 Session	31	8	39
TOTAL REACHED	270	66	336

Key findings/Challenges,

These findings demonstrate that although the overall prevalence of HIV in Universities is lower than the national prevalence, the prevalence of HIV related risk factors is high, and there is a high likelihood that HIV prevalence in Universities may increase.

Most universities have many gaps and access to HIV/AIDS services within universities inadequate. In addition, information management systems for HIV programme monitoring in universities are inadequate, the major factor for HIV transmission is engaging in high-risk sexual behaviours. It appears as if some people do not fear HIV infection:

- ✓ lack of access to adequate reproductive health services,
- ✓ lack of adequate information
- ✓ misconceptions on high-risk practices among participants and a negative attitude towards PLHIV
- ✓ Lack of prevention and treatment information,
- ✓ limited access to healthcare services, and societal norms predispose community especially young women and girls, to violence;
- ✓ early marriages are some of the factors that predispose them to high-risk sexual practices
- ✓ There is a problematic relationship between knowledge of disease and behaviour, especially when considering the fact that youth can show high knowledge levels of diseases, but some still engage in risky behaviours

Recommendations

It is recommended that deliberate action is taken to support universities in mainstreaming HIV/AIDS prevention and control activities in their programmes, with the involvement of administrators, staff and students. There is also need to increase access to HIV/AIDS and Reproductive Health services for students.

Conclusion

Knowledge and attitude of the students play a big role in their HIV risk Understanding knowledge, attitude, practice and intervention strategies of HIV and AIDS is significant in policy formulation by PAC commission and other related Ministries such as Ministry of education and leads to improved health-related practice by the Ministry of Health.

Annex Pictures, 3 CCE Session Bossaso



Annex Pictures, 3 CCE Session Garowe



Annex Pictures, 1 CCE Session Gardo

