

**YOUTH AND WOMEN EMPOWERMENT (YAWE) FOUNDATION
IN PARTNERSHIP WITH PERSPEKTIVE FÜR KINDER (AUSTRIA)**

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**REPORT FOR THE 5 DAYS RESIDENTIAL ANNUAL YOUTH CONFERENCE FROM
28TH NOVEMBER TO 2ND DECEMBER 2015.**

THEME: UNITED FOR A POSITIVE CHANGE.

OBJECTIVES:

- To promote adherence on treatment among young people living with HIV/AIDS.
- To promote social economic welfare among the lives of young people living with HIV/AIDS.
- To defeat HIV/AIDS related deaths among the lives of young people living with HIV/AIDS.
- To address stigma and discrimination concerns among young people living with HIV/AIDS.
- To promote behavior change for safer sexual practices.
- To promote disclosure of one's HIV status to important others.

TOPICS:

- LIFE SKILLS.
- BASIC COMPONENTS OF POSITIVE LIVING.

- RELATIONSHIPS
- SPIRITUAL FAITH.

ACTIVITIES/EVENTS:

- CANDLE LIGHT EVENT
- WORLD AIDS DAY

FACILITATORS:

- Mr. Gabriel Programs Manager YOLIDA.
- Miss. Doreen Nurse Kibiito Health Center.
- Mrs. Mabiho Winfred Counselor Boad member YAWE.
- Mr. Rwabakama Moses Counselor Virika Hospital HIV Clinic .
- Mrs. Mugarra Francis Nurse KIDA.
- Mrs. Nyakaana Jennifer Nurse Counselor Buhinga Hospital HIV Clinic.
- Mr. Richard Peer Education Kabarole.

NUMBER OF PEOPLE TARGETED. 150 Youths.

NUMBER OF PEOPLE ATTENDED: 201 Youth

Males=90

Females= 110

Ages. 10years to 18years =130

18years to 30years =70



INTRODUCTION.

Every year Youth and Women Empowerment(YAWE) Foundation in conjunction with Kabarole Unique Stars Association(KUSA) organizes an annual residential youths conference of young people living with HIV in Kabarole District. The purpose of this conference is to strengthen the network of young people living with HIV,share knowledge and experience to address their challenges. In addition it provides the youths with an opportunity to actively participate in World AIDS day commerations that is always on 1st of December. This year a total number of 201 youths attended the conference at Servant King Center from 28th November to 2nd December and each day had it's own special program that went as follows;

Females= 110

Ages. 10years to 18years =130
18years to 30years =70

On **28/11/2015**, it was arrival day as youths came from their respective homes in big numbers and gathered themselves at our four agreed collection stations of Buhinga,Kabarole,Virika HIV Clinics and YAWE Center. On the same day there was hiring of mattresses to the conference place for the youths to sleep on during the night and later the driver started picking the youths from

the collection points to the conference place an exercise that went on till 6:30pm. We had evening tea, orientation of the conference place and supper was served at 7:40pm. Mr. George the Director(YAWE) gave warm welcoming remarks, there was self introduction, sharing conference expectations, asking questions and bed time.



On **29/11/2015**, being a Sunday our program began as early as 6:00am with personal management, 7:30am we had breakfast and 8:30 we had a spiritual input from Servant King Center manager up 10:00am, a discussion on life skills led by Mrs. Mabiho, Winfred, Mr. Gabriel and Miss Doreen started involving asking questions and finding possible answers up 1:00pm lunch break. At 2:00pm Mrs. Mugarra Francis held a discussion on basic components of positive living up 4:30pm when the Honorable Member of Parliament Alex Ruhunda arrived and did the official opening of the 5 days residential annual youth conference. Honorable Alex Ruhunda expressed his heartfelt gratitude on seeing youths living with HIV together for a common good. He greatly appreciated the idea of starting a bakery project and even predicted it's future success.

On **30/11/2015** Mrs. Nyakaana Jennifer, Mr. Rwabakama Moses and Mr. Richard occupied the morning hours from 8:30am to 1:00pm in a discussion on Relationship matters among young people living with HIV/AIDS. In the afternoon we all went to attend the candle light event at Public library in Fort Portal town where Yawe brass band led the marching exercise around town several speeches from Religious leaders, acting District Health Officer (D.H.O) Dr. Nathan, the guest of honor LCV Chairperson Honorable Richard Rwabuhinga who expressed his deep concerns about the high prevalence in the district at 11.3% almost doubling the national figure which is at 7.3%. He went a head to emphasize much on the HIV prevention interventions of Safe Male Circumcision (SMC), Condom Promotion, elimination of mother to child transmission.



On **01/12/2015** it was World AIDS day. All youths looked smart in their green t-shirts which was a contribution from Inka's family support. We all went to the World AIDS day ceremony and our presence was highly recognized and felt by the public. Kasabiiti Christine our Unique Star member

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gave a testimony on positive living which touched the lives of many at the ceremony. The acting District Health Officer(DHO)Dr. Nathan extended his deep appreciation for the great work YAWE is doing to cause positive change in the lives of young people living with HIV/AIDS. YAWE brass band took the playing the National,East Africa and Tooro Kingdom Anthems as soon as the Guest of Honor arrived. YAWE drama club gave a welcoming cultural dance song that made the ceremony more lively. The District LCV chairperson Kabarole Honorable Rwabuhinga Richard also praised the good work YAWE does to reachout communities for HIV Counseling and Testing,Cancer Screenig. The Guest of Honor Minister Local Government Honorable Adolf Mwesige expressed the need for more efforts in the fight against

of



HIV/AIDS and promised to work with the district health implementing partners like YAWE in extending services further more in the hard to reach areas.



On **02/12/2015** was our last day of the conference and a number of invited guest speakers began arriving at 10:00am to officiate the closure. Among these was the Kabarole District HIV/AIDS focal person Mr. Nyakaana Patrick who praised the initiative of coming together every year for knowledge sharing.The District Health Educater(DHE) Madam Catherine also expressed her gratitude to the Director Mr. Akora George for his endless efforts to keep a helping hand on the young people living with HIV/AIDS. Finally the Guest of honor arrived Honorable Alex Ruhunda area Member of Parliament Fort Portal Municipality





with his wife and family friends alongside the comedian KRC presenter Mukwikwi to do official closure and at the same time it was his birthday as he had earlier tasked us to make a birthday cake for him. The Honorable thanked the bakery team for their efforts to make for him a birthday cake and supported it with more capital worth 1 million Ugandan Shillings to paid in installments. This created a lot of smiles to the youth for such a generous contribution towards bakery success. The Honorable promised to always keep in touch with YAWE for more supporting hands. The Director YAWE Mr. Akora George thanked the Honorable for his unconditional love for the youths to always

come despite of his busy schedule. The honorable sliced the cake which was shared among all of us. After we enjoyed our big lunch later departure at 3:00pm.

CHALLENGES.

- Inadequate space to accommodate the 201 youths
- Hiking prices of food in the market.
- Insufficient funds thus limited budget to provide enough as expected.

RECOMMENDATIONS.

- Starting a conference fund program that will help on more support.
- Taking an initiative of Savings and Credit programs.
- Strengthening our network further more in partnering with interested Organizations.

APPRECIATION

YAWE foundation and the entire members of the Unique stars association thanks all partners for the generous contribution made to the Youth Conference it was wonderful. My the almighty God Bless you abundantly. We are looking forward to continuity in working together.

