

Together Alive Youth Link (TAYL)

Modern History

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Together Alive Youth Link

This report details the strides TAYL has made during the last two years to in reduce the HIV/AIDS infection rate among youth and mitigate the impact among the infected orphans and widows.

We have also chosen to recognize the great prospects, accomplishments, and distinctive awards that our workers and partners have been given.

TAYL acknowledges that the spread of HIV transmission in Mbarara is not a random event—the spread of the virus is profoundly influenced by the adverse conditions — such as poverty, oppression, discrimination, and illiteracy — which re found there.

This is the situation that inspired TAYL to increase efforts to prevent HIV infection. We focus on individual risk behavior, as well as broad societal factors which foster HIV, in order to help the population of Mbarara protect themselves.

This report catalogues TAYL's accomplishments made in the HIV/AIDS interventions areas by Behavioral Change Communication (BCC), Management of Sexually Transmitted Infections, Condom Social Marketing, and Mitigation of Impact among the Infected Orphans and Children.

TAYL has addressed risk behaviours among youth through the BCC project. While the project is still in its preliminary stages, it has made great leaps in helping children avoid peer pressure and providing children with technical skills necessary (in mechanics, engineering, carpentry and metal welding) that will help them secure employments.

Young orphans are being provided with nursery school services, their families financially supporting through local organizations. This has a long-term affect of increasing their socio-economic status, making them less likely to get STIs.

TAYL has worked with the Uganda AIDS Commission, TASO, the Mbarara District Farmers Association, the Uganda AIDS Herbal Research Organisation, the Humanity and Nature Advocacy Organisation and other grassroot clinics and CBOs within the district in order to strengthen our AIDS awareness program.

TAYL has been able to secure websites at www.togetheralive.org and www.togetheralive.com. Through these sites, we hope to further extend our education and awareness programme by reaching a larger audience. However, we must note that the major setback of our program is the lack of financial support.

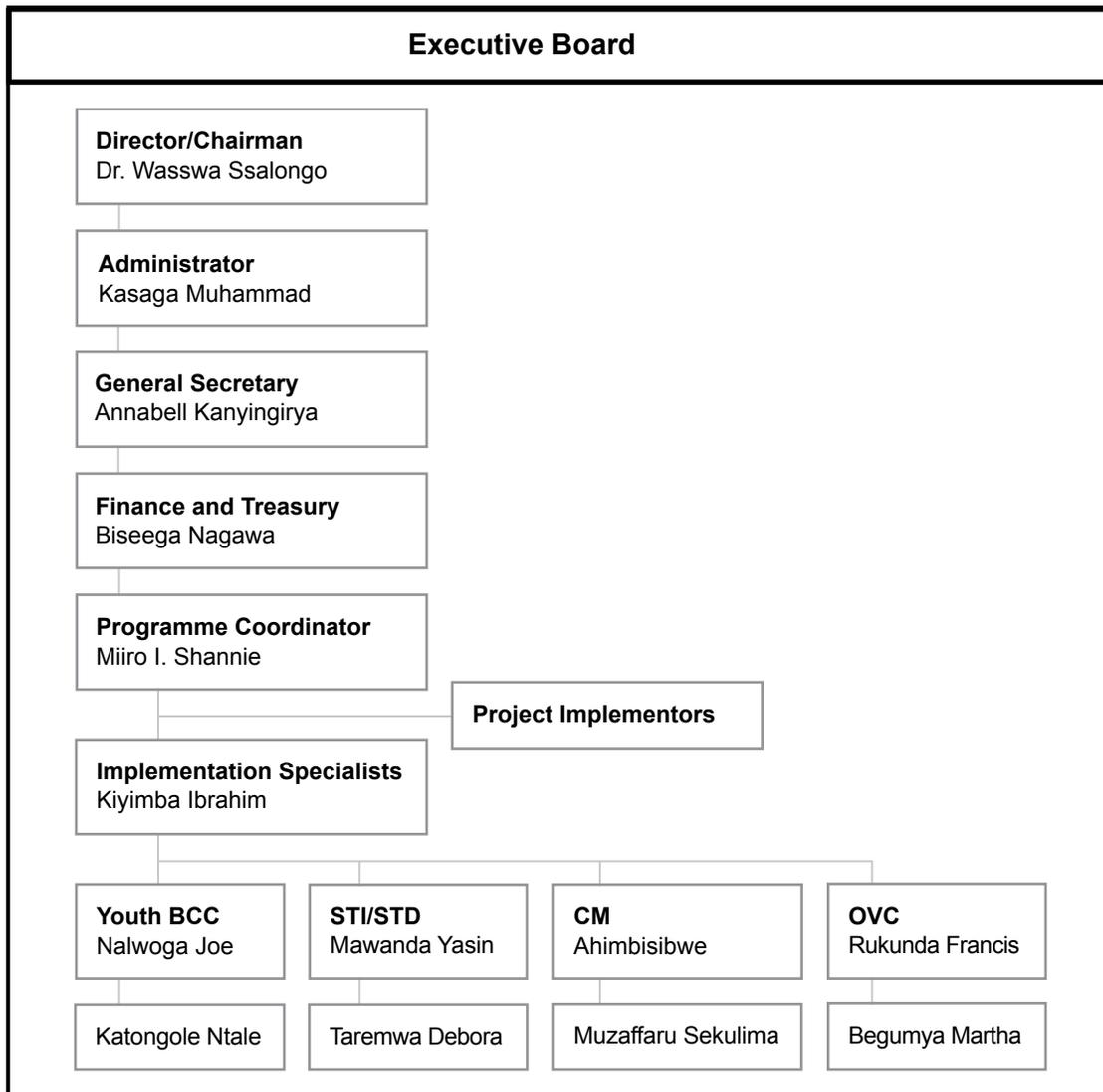
Acknowledgement

TAYL extends its sincere gratitude to Total Kashari Ltd. and Talicco Ltd, which have entirely funded the initial two years of our program.

We also like to thank Mr. Les Pappas for funding the opening and launching of our websites under www.togetheralive.org/com.

Finally, we would like to thank our principal collaborators, the Uganda AIDS Commission, the Mbarara District Farmers Association, the Humanity and Nature Advocacy Organisation (U), the Uganda AIDS Herbal Research Organisation and all CBOs and private clinics collaborating with TAYL in Mbarara.

List of Acronyms	
ABC	Abstinence, Being Faithful and Regular use of Condoms.
AIDS	Acquired Immune-Deficiency Syndrome.
BCC	Behavioural Change Communication
CBO	Community Based Organisation.
CBSTI	Community-Based Sexually Transmitted Infection Trial Scheme.
CDC	Centre for Disease Control
COCs	Community Out-Reach Centres
EEC	Entertainment Education Community
HIV	Human Immune Virus.
OVC	Orphans and Vulnerable Children.
SDA	Safari Day Allowance.
STI	Sexual transmitted Infections.
TASO	The AIDS Support Organisation.
TAYL	Together Alive Youth Link.

**Trusteeship Board:**

Name	Address	Post
Dr. Mukibi	Orbropadtriac, Mbarara Teaching Hospital	Chairperson
Dr. Midrage Lubega	District Health Educator, Mbarara	Vice Chairperson
Ms. Nanyonga Jennipher	Youth and Gender Officer, TAYL	Secretary
M.D. Mike Matsiko	South Western Region Manager, TASO	Technical Advisor
Bishop Kyamugambi	Ankole Diocese Ruharo	Finance / Treasury

Modern history of public health shows that biomedical intervention alone is rarely sufficient for bringing disease epidemics under control (Brandt, 1987).

In Sub-Saharan Africa issues like famine, poverty, draught, war, ignorance, child labour, and discrimination are all factors that further weaken the population already devastated by HIV/AIDS.

This report outlines the prevalence of HIV/AIDS in the Mbarara District and lists the steps TAYL has undertaken. Given the limited role of biomedical interventions particularly among the poorer population, TAYL believes that educational programs and preventive strategies, combined with mitigation of impact among the infected, offer the best solution in the fight against the AIDS epidemic.

There are four priority intervention strategies based on prevention and management:

1. Behavioral Change Communication (BCC)
2. Sexual Transmission Infection Management
3. Social Marketing of condoms
4. Mitigation of Impact among orphans and vulnerable children

This strategy was designed to support the ABC approach (e.g. A – Abstinence, B – Being faithful and C – Effectively and regularly using condoms).

All of our actions were done in order to:

- Prevent new infections by educating people about condom use, testing, and faithfulness while using culturally and personally relevant means to alter the behavior
- Improve the quality of life of individuals with HIV infections through early diagnosis, counselling, care, and support
- Provide information, advocacy, and resources to empower vulnerable people and communities to strive against discrimination
- Reduce discrimination by eliminating ignorance, stereotypes, and irrational fear of persons with HIV/AIDS
- Promote understanding, tolerance, freedom of opinion, and freedom of expression

Once we have the means to strengthen our programs on a long-term basis, we believe that the AIDS epidemic and its negative impact will be reduced drastically and that those suffering from the disease will be able to assimilate and help others dealing with the disease.

1.0 Behavioural Change Communication (BCC) by TAYL

Prevention is the mainstay of the response to AIDS, but is seldom implemented at the necessary scale. Effective, inexpensive and relatively simple HIV prevention programs do exist, but the pace of the epidemic is clearly outstripping most efforts towards effective prevention programming.

These circumstances inspired TAYL to scale up a comprehensive programme on AIDS education and awareness in its area of operation (Mbarara and its neighbouring districts).

1.a AIDS Education and Awareness

Despite three decades of knowledge and awareness, a basic AIDS education remains fundamental to in response to the epidemic. TAYL studies of prevention programmes in low and middle income residents in the Mbarara district indicate that an effective behavior change project should include both educational and communicational components, using a range of media, from the traditional to the contemporary.

The radio is the most popular form of entertainment in the Mbarara district, and therefore has the potential to significantly reduce to rate of infection.

1.b TAYL FM Radio Listenership Survey

Given the aforementioned situation, TAYL embarked on a vigorous FM radio survey program in order to determine the differences in various FM radio audiences in the Mbarara district.

1.b(i) The sample radios were

- Radio West FM
- Vision FM
- Endigito FM
- Greater African Radio

1.b(ii) The study was conducted in the following sample areas

- Biharwe Sub-county
- Bubaare Sub-county
- Nyakitunda Sub-county
- Nyamitanga Division (Municipality)

1.b(iii) Study to determine which radio stations are the most popular among youth

This study is associated with a budgetary implication that provides information as basis for a cost effective and efficient BCC project. It also reviewed the cost of running different announcements within various programmes. Youth 13–28 years old were surveyed about which radio station they primarily listen to in Nyakitunda Biharwe Sub-County, Bubaare Sub-County, and Nyamitanga Division.

The four radio stations surveyed showed that Radio West has the biggest area coverage with frequencies reaching Kasese, Kabale, Fort portal, Masaka, Kampala, and Jinja. The rest of the radio stations — Endigito, Vision, and Greater Africa reach only Mbarara and some parts of Ntungamo.

The main languages for all stations are in Runyankore, Rukiga, Runyoro and Rutoro (collectively known as Runyakitara), Rufumbira and Lhukonzo (both more local dialects), English, and Luganda.

1.b(iv) BCC Messages Production (Sport Production)

The experienced staff for all radio stations can help in the production of spots at studio rates, using state of art digital equipment at the following rates:

Radio Spot Production Rates	
Voice	30,000
Sound Effect	40,000
Music Bed	50,000
Studio	100,000
Total	250,000

Source: Radio West Ltd.

Materials required on cassettes, D.A.Ts ¼ reel-to-reel tapes

1.b(v) Advertising Rates

Segment	Time	Rates/30 Seconds
A	06.00 – 09.00 / 18.00 – 21.00	Sh. 39,000= (Prime) / Sh. 39,000=
B	09.00 – 12.00 / 12.00 – 15.00	Sh. 31,900= / Sh. 31,900=
C	15.00 – 18.00 / 21.00 – 24.00	Sh. 26,900= / Sh. 26,900=
DJ Mention		Sh. 19,900=

Source: Radio West Ltd.

Among all the radio stations surveyed, Radio West Ltd has the lowest rates of advertising in addition to the largest audience ranging in 80 – 90% of both rural and urban populations. It also has the widest network coverage that reaches areas in western, southern, and central parts of Uganda. Based on these findings, TAYL intends to use Radio West for running its AIDS education and BCC program. The project will begin immediately once TAYL receives more funding.

1.2(i) Changing behavior for in school and out of school youth

TAYL has evaluated its programmes on sexual behavioural change among various age, gender, and economic groups. The evaluation reveals that effective approaches for young people and children involve life-skills based education that promoting of healthy behaviour. These include taking greater responsibility for their own lives, making healthy choices, gaining strength to resist peer pressure, and minimizing harmful behaviours.

Using this information, TAYL adopted Live Healthy Lives, an educational campaign for adolescents (ages 13 – 25). The campaign has already attracted and been developed in six schools in Mbarara

municipality, six schools in Biharwe Sub-county, four schools in Mwizi-Bugamba Sub-county, and four schools in Nyakitunda Sub-County.

The campaign also utilized social network centres (especially in trading centers), which are used for promoting healthy behaviours through entertainment education and act as our Community Outreach Centers (COCs). These centers provide a good means to target the out-of-school adolescents who come to enjoy our (TAYL) entertainment services. This enables us to pass on AIDS prevention messages to the whole of the youth. Presently TAYL has four centers in Mbarara Municipality, two centers in Biharwe, three centers Bubaare, and three centers in Luuti.

1.2(ii) Evaluating TAYL Peer Education at Community Outreach Centres

Sub-County	Centre Name	No. of Visits per month	Estimated No. of People in Crowd	Supervisors
Biharwe	Katojo Youth Centre	4	320–360	Mr. Rukondo .Y Mr. Kiyimba Ms. Rutaro Jane
	Rwobuyenje Adolescents Recreation Centre	6	100–120	Ms. Halima Bisegwa Mr. Mawanda Mr. Rukondo
	Kishasha Play Ground	3	220–250	Ms. Anabel Mr. Kiyimba Mr. Mawanda
	Makenke Barracks & Youth Centre	4	180–240	Mr. Mawanda Ms. Josephine T. Mr. Kasaga M. A.
	Ntungu Alive Centre	6	140–160	Ms. Halima Bisegwa Mr. Mawanda Mr. Rukondo
	Kasherara Village Joint Kiswe Centre	4	176–180	Mr. Rukondo .Y Mr. Kiyimba Ms. Rutaro Jane
Nyakitunda	Nyakitunda Youth and Adolescents Connect	4	120–135	Ms. Anabel Ms. Patricia Nsiime Mr. Mawanda
	Nyabani Youth Centre	2	80–110	Mr. Rukondo Yonani Mr. Mr. Shannie .I Ms. Bisegwa Halima

Total number of visits at different community outreach centres per month33 total

**1.2(iii) Evaluating the TAYL Performance of schools for Youth and Adolescents
BCC campaign (Mbarara Municipality and Rwampara County)**

Sub-County	School	No. of Visits per school per month	Average student attendance	Supervisors
Mbarara Municipality	Ngabo Academy	3 times/visits	360	Ms. Anabel Mr. Kiyimba Mr. Mawanda
	Mbarara Modern School	2 times/visits	248	Mr. Rukondo Yonani Mr. Mr. Shannie .I Ms. Bisegwa Halima
	Mbarara High School	4 times/visits	380	Ms. Anabel Ms. Patricia Nsiime Mr. Mawanda
	Mbarara College School	2 times/visits	252	Mr. Mawanda Ms. Josephine .T. Mr. Kasaga M. A
	Progressive Secondary School	3 times/visits	340	Mr. Rukondo .Y Mr. Kiyimba Ms. Juma Jane
	Mbarara S.S.S.	2 times/visits	198	Mr. Rukondo .Y Mr. Kiyimba Ms. Rotaro Jane
Mbarara S.S.S.	Bujaga S.S.S.	4 times/visits	187	Ms. Halima Bisegwa Mr. Mawanda Mr. Rukondo
	Nyakayojo Secondary School	3 times/visits	262	Ms. Anabel Mr. Kiyimba Mr. Mawanda
	Bugamba S.S.S.	2 times/visits	170	Ms. Anabel Ms. Patricia Nsiime Mr. Mawanda
	Mwizi S.S.S.	3 times/visits	190	Mr. Mawanda Ms. Josephine T. Mr. Kasaga M. A.

Total schools visited in the whole district.....28 schools

Total average students attended to2587 students

1.3 The Impact of Intensified Youth Peer Education and BCC on HIV Testing

Knowledge of HIV status is the best way to prevent the spread of AIDS treatment and is supported by documented benefits; however the current reach of HIV testing services is poor due to lack of testing facilities in TAYL's community outreach clinics, especially in Nyakitunda, Mwizi, Bugamba, and Biharwe. HIV voluntary testing has often received a low usage, largely due to fear of stigma and discrimination.

TAYL is working to protect people who get tested from stigma and discrimination, and to assure those who are positive access to integrated prevention, treatment, and care services.

1.3(i) Rapid Scale up of Voluntary Testing

In order to increase the number of people voluntarily testing for STIs, TAYL emphasizes education open to the public based on the following points:

- Emphasize the promotion of testing for HIV
- Emphasize pre-test counseling, provided either on an individual basis or in group settings with individual follow up
- Emphasize the use of rapid tests to permit immediate post-test counseling for both HIV-negative and HIV positive individuals

However reaching our third goal has proved difficult due to lack of testing facilities in our community outreach clinics. This has seriously reduced the effectiveness of our HIV prevention strategy.

Dissemination of Information on HIV/AIDS within different Community Outreaches for out-of-school youth at different dates.

There are several methods used by TAYL to disseminate HIV/AIDS information:

- Entertainment Education Communication describes educational plays acted out on a raised stage
- Brochures printed in local dialects and languages distributed at regular three month intervals
- Ten Families Outreach unit program sends TAYL counselors to educated groups of ten families about AIDS prevention methods and the advantages of skilled labor and small businesses.

Area	Venues/Places	Method
Mbarara Municipality, "Kakooba Division"	Nyamityobora Primary School playground	Brochures in Runyankore
	Makenke Barracks playground	Entertainment Education
	Rwemigina Technical School playground	Ten Family Outreach
Mbarara Municipality "Nyamitanga Division"	Nyamitanga Technical play ground	Brochures in Runyankore
	Katete Primary School playground	Entertainment Education
		Ten Family Outreach
Mbarara Municipality "Kamukuzi Division"	Kakyeka play ground	Brochures in Kinyankore
	Kamukuzi Primary School playground	Entertainment Education
	Ntare School playground	Ten Family Outreach
	Mbarara High School playground	
	Boma ground	
	Ruti trading centre	
	Nyakayigo S.S.S. playground	
Biharwe Subcounty	Biharwe trading center playground	Brochures in Runyankore
	Kishasha I Parish play ground, Rwobuyenje	Entertainment Education
	Kishasaha II (Rwekunyū)	Ten Family Outreach
	Kishasha III (Kishasha primary school)	
	Rwenjeku Parish playground	
	Rwakaterere and Bunusya Zones	
	Kaburangire Zone, up to Rwizi River	
	Kyempitsi trading centre	
Kazo Subcounty	Mbaba trading centre	Brochures in Runyankore
	Akayenga trading centre	Entertainment Education

Area	Venues/Places	Method
Kazo Subcounty (con't)	Bihendwa	Ten Family Outreach
	Ibaare I	
	Ibaare II	
	Akashondwa	
Bwizibwera/Rwanya- mahembe	Bwizibwera trading centre	Brochures in Runyankore
	Ribindi trading centre	Entertainment Education
	Nyakisharara	Ten Family Outreach
	Igorora trading centre	
Bubaare Subcounty	Katojo Parish Headquarters	Brochures in Runyankore
	Kikesa Parish	Entertainment Education
	Kashaka I	Ten Family Outreach
	Kashaka II	

TAYL Behaviour Change Communication Film for Tertiary Institution

This film is a part of TAYL BCC project and is about the life style of the youth in higher institutions of education. It looks at the behaviour of these youths with the aim of influencing their life styles positively.

The 7th International Congress on AIDS of Asia and the Pacific

TAYL under sponsorship of Total Kashari Ltd. was able to participate in the above congress. TAYL was represented by its Project Coordinator, Mr. Shannie I. Miuro, who presented an abstract highlighting the acceleration in cross-generational sex.

The 1st Global Annual African HIV/AIDS Conference Update

TAYL is among the central planners and organizers of this conference. The conference will take place annually and will be the first Annual Global HIV-AIDS conference to take place in Africa; the event is slated for July 2006.

2.0 Preventing and treating sexually transmitted infections

TAYL, under its strategy of “combination prevention,” is working on preventing, diagnosing, and treating sexually transmitted infections. This is an essential component of our program because untreated sexual transmitted infections drastically increase the risk of HIV transmission. TAYL has emphasized using condoms and seeking early treatment for STIs, the advantage of which is that most bacterial STIs and parasitic infections can be treated easily and inexpensively with antibiotics.

2.1 Community Based Sexually Transmitted Infections Trial

TAYL has started a community-based sexually transmitted infection trial at Parish level after finding that many adolescents are infected with STIs. Our solution to this problem is to combine the resources of all private clinics in a “Community-Based Sexually Transmitted Infection Trial Scheme” (CBSTI).

So far, 12 clinics have been added on board and these include Akantambira, Zimbe, Kijuungu Community Clinic, Ntungu, Rwegye, K. Johns Health Care, Luuti, Kaberere Life Care Centre, Nyamityobora Health Point, and Karanorya Health for All Clinics. These clinics will act as our centres for condom distribution and promotion centres for social marketing.

Unfortunately, in many parts of Mbarara, STI diagnosis and treatment is hampering HIV prevention efforts. The major cause of this problem is lack of financial resources.

3.1 Promoting Male Condom Use

Scientific data overwhelmingly confirms that male Latex condoms are highly effective in preventing sexual HIV transmission (CDC, 2002) and play a key role in successful prevention programmes. In addition, condoms prevent other sexually transmitted infections associated with increased risk of acquiring and transmitting HIV. Nevertheless, despite clear public health benefits, condom use is still low in many areas, especially rural settings. This problem is aggravated lack of access to condom supply centers. Lack of accessibility to condoms has been pronounced in Nyakitumba South Western part of Mbarara district. In response, TAYL has decided to network with private organizations in the health sector to emphasize the use of condom marketing and the use of TAYL's community-based sexually transmitted infection Prevention and Treatment Clinics.

TAYL has promoted condom use through clear messages that dispel common myths and misconceptions about them. The primary method of communication is public "Entertainment Education." Since this method is cheap and able to attract many people at once, it has yielded immediate results, especially in the rate of condom use in trading centers. However, there are still constraints associated with this method. In particular, girls who wish to use condoms still experience difficulty in convincing their partners to practice safe sex. This underscores our need to address gender issues within safe sex marketing, which can only be done with more funding.

3.2 Funding For Condom Supply

Despite the clear need, there are still not enough condoms available in many regions. Often, where they are available, people are not willing to spend a few shillings to purchase them. This is a serious obstacle. TAYL clinics in Nyakitwunda, Rwampara, Buganda and Mwizi report low purchase rates due to high prices. This problem originates from the Ministry of Health's selectivity in choosing which brands to allow on the market. Suppliers who meet their exacting standard are able to charge high prices because they have a monopoly within Uganda. The most preferred brand is "Life Guard," but it is very expensive for impoverished villagers. This is yet another setback that can be alleviated with greater funding.

3.3 Young people

TAYL realizes that young people are a critical focus for behaviour change programmes, since people 15-24 years old make up an estimated one half of all newly infected. However, young people in different parts of Mbarara district face different kinds of risks. Prevention programming must be designed to address a variety of circumstances.

3.4 Women and Girls

The specific vulnerability of women and girls is well documented, especially in rural areas of Mbarara district. Among young people, the gender disparity in infection rates with women is central to most prevention strategies. TAYL has started to implement programs that do just this.

As a sub intervention, TAYL has advocated sending girls to school. This is in line with the international initiative "Education for All." Two main points we emphasize in our community schools as being central to the prevention of the spread of HIV to girls are:

- Ensuring that HIV prevention education is the same quality as the rest of the education that all children and young people deserve
- Ensuring that special measures are taken to reach youth that are not in school by extending the program of education, so the needs of other children, especially those who can't afford education after primary seven, are met.

Our Tailoring Skills programme has been extended to girls in order to protect them from exploitation, poverty, and poor living conditions. TAYL is now designing a programme to target older girls within our program; this includes informational packages that address a variety of gender-related legal, social, and economic disadvantages that women face.

Generally, the most popular prevention techniques among youth who are regularly sexually active are fidelity and consistent, correct use of condoms. The behavior of the population is changing towards positive understanding of condom use.

Students in rural schools (Buganda and Bujaga) know less about the importance of and the usage of condoms than those in urban schools. Consequently, our emphasis after adequate funding is received will be on further educating rural schools.

chapter 3

Together Alive Youth Link

4.1 Mitigation of Impact on society, persons, orphans, and vulnerable children

At regional and national levels, the economic and demographic devastation caused by the epidemic has received substantial media and academic attention. However, the epidemic's often-catastrophic impact on HIV-affected households deserves greater analysis and effort.

Within the Mbarara district, the sub-county Nyakituuda is the worst hit. Even before the AIDS epidemic started affecting the population, the living standards of the people were already deteriorating markedly due to high levels of poverty in the area.

The epidemic drives many households to destitution. Many families split after the death of one or both partners, then children are parceled out to relatives or community members who are equally poor.

4.2 How house holds feel the impact of AIDS in Mbarara district

"AIDS undercuts the resilience which households and communities draw upon to cope during periods of difficulty. In the face of an external shock, poor households respond with a variety of strategies including altering income generating activities and consumption patterns as well as calling upon family and community support. AIDS strikes at productive adults, the asset most likely to help during crisis."

AIDS creates an extraordinary need for constant care of infected persons. Usually this is accomplished by withdrawing other household members from school or work to care for the sick family member(s). AIDS also causes household expenditure to rise as a result of medical, funeral, and other related costs. In addition, many orphans become malnourished. In Mbarara AIDS is unfolding in a setting already dominated by chronic malnutrition and food shortages, which are now becoming chronic.

The combination of widespread hunger, water crisis, chronic poverty, and the HIV/AIDS pandemic is devastating and may soon lead to catastrophe.

4.3 Impact on agriculture and rural development

A healthy agricultural sector is central to the well-being and sufficiency of low-income families in rural areas. In the hardest hit areas of the Mbarara district, like Nyakitunda and Bwegemba sub-counties, the epidemic has affected the agricultural trade — killing many agricultural workers prematurely. The loss of labour reduces farming income and lowers household assets. In rural communities, gender inequality also increases the epidemic's agricultural impact. Women caring for seriously ill husbands spend up to 50 % less time doing farm work.

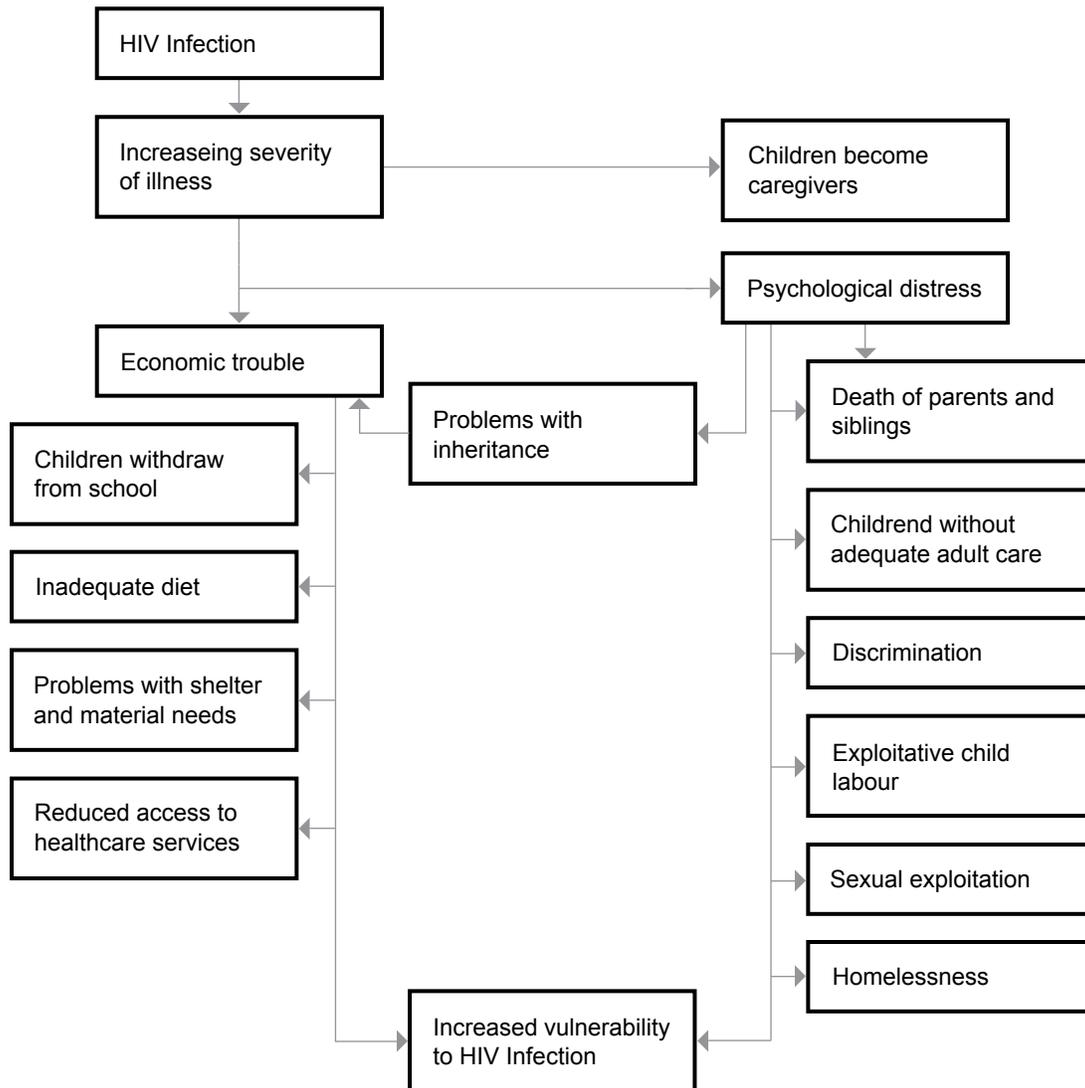
4.4 The Impact on vulnerable children

No one can understand the emotional anguish a child experiences watching one or both of his or her parents die. When one parent is infected with HIV/AIDS there is a high probability that the other parent is also infected. Children often lose their parents in quick succession.

An orphaned child's suffering is often compounded by being separated from siblings. Many experience depression, anger, guilt, and fear for their futures. The experience can lead to problems such as Post-Traumatic Stress Syndrome, alcohol and drug abuse, aggression, and even suicide.

Poverty and social dislocation also add to an orphaned child's emotional distress. Factors such as loss of household incomes, and the cost of treating HIV related illnesses and many others leave orphaned children destitute. A parent's death also deprives them of the learning values they need to become socially knowledgeable and economically productive adults.

Problems among children and families affected by HIV and AIDS



4.4(i) Orphans at risk

Without the protective environment of their homes, orphaned children face increased risk of violence, exploitation, and abuse. They may be badly treated by guardians and dispossessed of inheritance and property. Those living with foster families are more likely to be malnourished, underweight, or short for their age compared to non-orphans.

4.4(iii) TAYL support programme

(a) Affected Community / Families

AIDS affected households rely heavily on relatives and community support systems to weather the economic impact of AIDS. Many orphans in Nyakitunda are able to attend TAYL's Kishashare village school.

(b) Action / Steps taken by TAYL

Creation of community-based women, youth, and orphan group of institutional development. The community is divided into 30-35 member "clusters," which are regularly visited for counseling and

training in different economic skills in a program called “Assembling for Empowering HIV/AIDS Infected women” in Nyakitunda Sub-county.

Send the groups to training and counseling sessions by our counselors and enterprise at least once a week. We train these groups in programs such as small scale enterprise, poultry farming, bee keeping, hand crafting, packaging agro-products, fish farming, vegetable planting, tailoring, bricklaying, carpentry, and tree planting.

After the groups complete their small-scale business training, TAYL provides programme members with a small, low interest loan so that they may invest in their enterprise or start a business. TAYL has several different savings clubs, gain saving schemes, labour exchange clubs, and church savings groups.

The program results are expected to have positive impact on the adolescents, orphans, and women based on several factors:

- It will act as a community safety net where all HIV infected individuals will have a chance to meet, create new experiences, make new friends, and forge new opportunities for future well-being.
- It will improve livelihoods and empower women, creating a new group capable of fighting against discrimination and stigma.
- It will streamline all of the programs in order to better assist orphans and women, and integrate infected people into collective planning and development.

4.4(iv) Women as well as women, youth and orphan groups functioning in Nyakitunda Sub-county in Mbarara District:

Kasharira Tuhwere Efakazi Ne Efuzi Clum

After much suffering, the people of Kasharira sat down and decided on a solution for the problems they were facing. They came up the organization Kasharira Tuhwere Effuzi Na Nefakazi Hamwe Na Batarikweyamba (Orphans, Widows and Needy People). Each member, of the 125 member group, brought a contribution of 2,500 Uganda shillings. TAYL collected 312,500 Uganda shillings which were then used to help orphans and widows. After receiving this money they started projects like bee-keeping, potato farming, machine building, brick laying, baking, pig farming, poultry farming, and small-scale banking.

However, the amount generated was ultimately insufficient to face the AIDS pandemic. The vast majority of Kasharira are widows and orphans. Those who have already contracted the virus do not have assistance with medicine, STI screening, and AIDS information. Subsequently, they risk transmitting any and all sexually transmitted diseases and associated problems. TAYL seeks funds to help the widows in running the projects to fight poverty in their areas.

KASHARIRA YOUTH CLUB LINK (KYC) 1999

In 1999, after some re-organization, TAYL developed a strategy of forming a youth club under the (TAYL) Kasharira branch (which now houses 217 members). The aim was to sensitize youth by informing them about AIDS and Sexually Transmitted Diseases.

In 2001 TAYL sought assistance from the government but met failure. From this failure that we decided to create more youth projects to assist young adults in learning the skills necessary to have careers in poultry farming, carpentry, pig farming, brick laying, and small scale banking.

It was from these projects that enough income was generated to get professional educators to teach the youth about AIDS and its associated problems. However, the demand is very widespread, and TAYL could not cover all ground with its current resources. TAYL requests the government to assist by checking youth HIV status, informing youth about AIDS and extending medical services to the village of Kasharira.

We are seeking outside financial assistance to give TAYL the necessary funds to run our proposed projects, to educate the illiterate youth and to fight pandemic diseases like AIDS, malaria, tuberculosis, dysentery, and other sexually transmitted diseases which have become a threat to the youth in Kashari.

Kasharira Branch

The Kasharira branch started as an infants' care center in 2001 with thirty-three children, some of whom were disabled, underprivileged, and orphaned. The number of children increased as people discovered that the home was beneficial to the community. As of now, it is home to around two hundred children.

In the beginning, TAYL faced the problems such as:

- Lack of space, the shaded area under trees was used for classes.
- Lack of furniture, carpets were made of banana fibres.
- Poor sanitation, there were no latrines, dust bins and children suffered from malnutrition and diseases like Kwashiorkor, marasmus, malaria developed. Indigenous treatments were being given to such patients due to lack of medical care.

At the time TAYL was financially drained and the people who looked after these children could not be paid. In order to solve this problem, TAYL set up projects to generate income. One such project was a club called Together Youth Link, which now has 157 members — some who make bee hives and some who grow Irish potatoes.

As much as TAYL strove to develop these projects, certain problems were always encountered:

- Illiteracy
- Poor medical facilities
- Lack of clothing
- Lack of capita

TAYL is planning to take the following actions (amounts in Uganda shillings):

- Set up buildings for nursery to primary seven, which will require 150 million
- Build an administration block and staff quarters, which will require 20 million UConstruct pit latrines and install a water tank, which will require 15 million
- Provide health and Youth centres, which will require 100 million
- Develop our projects in order to generate more income.
- See to the needs of children ages 4-12

We kindly ask for any assistance that will support TAYL's efforts to halt, and eventually reverse, the HIV/AIDS epidemic in Uganda.

Atuhaire Diana,
TAYL Secretary

4.4(v) Present a functional programme for orphans in Nyakituda

This programme is operated under the Orphan and Vulnerable Children Intervention (OVC) operational in this sub-county. Since the programme was initiated, a total of 200 orphans who have lost their fathers and 80 orphans who have lost their mothers have joined TAYL in one sub-county of Nyakitunda. Most of these orphans are under 10 years of age.

4.4(vi) The TAYL Orphan Nursery Class Programme

This programme has been initiated by TAYL in Nyakitunda Sub-county but will hopefully spread to other parts of the district. The program would need more funding in order to be launched on a larger scale.

4.4(viii) The TAYL Orphan Nursery Class Sustainability Strategies

Orphans opting to take on mechanics training will be trained, along with the others, in the "TAYL Mbarara Town Training Garage." The site will provide employment opportunities for orphans in their adolescences and will generate sustainable income to facilitate the nursery and primary school orphans under TAYL's OVC programme.

4.4(ix) The Nyakitunda Orphan Nursery class (4-10 year old orphans)

TAYL is presently running an orphan nursery school in Kasherera village with a total of 280 orphans. The school is managed by four trained nursery teachers. All pupils live with their guardians attend during the day.

4.4(x) School setting

On average, the age of pupils in 4-10. This is the age when a child most deserves extra attention and care for healthy development. The curriculum for the school is based on the National Curriculum for Nursery Schools.

Structure of the School and Number of Pupils in each class

Class	Number of pupils	Age Set	Class	Number of pupils	Age Set
Baby Class	90	4-6	Top Class	62	8-10
Middle Class	68	6-8	Primary One	59	10-13

4.4(x)b Together Alive Apprenticeship Youth and Orphan Training

TAYL's has developed an array of apprenticeship and training programs to prepare orphans and the youth for a self-sustaining adulthood in order to reduce risk and vulnerability in their futures.

Carpentry training

TAYL has set up three carpentry workshops and has a network of sixteen other workshops owned by private organizations. The privately owned workshops provide voluntarily run training workshops and are supervised by TAYL on weekly basis.

Together Alive motorcycle and vehicle workshop

TAYL has also setup a workshop to train orphans and youth motorcycle engineering. The workshop belongs to the founding members of TAYL who have volunteered to turn it into an official commercial training school for orphans and youth in Mbarara.

The motor vehicle workshop is currently training twenty orphans. Twelve are first year students and are in their eighth or second year. They will train over a five-year period in order to gain expertise in motor engineering. The long-term objective of this training is to equip orphans and youth with the work skills necessary to find jobs.

Efficiency Strategy

A system of check-ups established by TAYL will assess the strengths and weaknesses of the nursery and training programs in order to improve them. To do this, TAYL will strengthen focus groups, interview counselors, map potential intervention sites, survey our students and teachers, conduct case studies, and collect data from our programs.

TAYL HIV/AIDS summary Activities Accomplished

HIV prevention activities:

- FM radio survey for mass media campaigns
- Voluntary counselling and testing
- Condom social marketing
- School-based AIDS education
- Peer education for out-of-school youth
- Treatment of Sexually Transmitted Infections

Orphan Support:

- Community support for orphan care
- School services to orphans
- Orphan apprenticeship training

- Representatives attended the American Days in Uganda at Lake View hotel on behalf of TAYL.
- Representatives attended the Federation of Uganda employers at Classic Hotel on behalf of TAYL and Talicco Ltd.
- The RDC Mbarara visited the TAYL office and promised to refer those who ask after a youth organisation in his office to TAYL.
- TAYL attended a workshop on HIV/AIDS education at Radio West offices.
- Project Coordinator Mr. Miiro I Shannie attended the AIDS Conference in Japan.
- TAYL attended to the Organization of the first annual HIV/AIDS update in Nairobi 2006—TAYL was represented by finance personnel Ms. Biseega Nagawa, implementation specialist Mr. Kiyimba Ibrahim, and programmes coordinator Mr. Miiro.I.Shannie.
- The TAYL website was launched as www.togetheralive.com

Problems Encountered

The biggest problem TAYL encountered was, and has always been, lack of adequate funds to facilitate our activities. The source of major funds for 2005 was Total Kashari Ltd., which sponsored TAYL activities for the whole of the year.

Another problem was the lack of transport to enable our field staff to access remote areas with very poor road conditions. This has delayed seminars with civil society, workgroups, lectures, meetings, and training sessions due to postponements.

305,500 Ugandan Shillings per month from TALICCO along with a grant of 8 million from Total Kashari LTD is being put into TAYL orphan and youth programs in Mbarara municipality and Nyakitunda Subcounty. These programmes include community based BCC for in school and out-of school youth, TAYL nursery school programme, TAYL carpentry and metal workshop programme, TAYL-women empowerment/capacity building programme, and TAYL motor vehicle and cycle engineering training workshop.

Averaged monthly Costs:

Name of Worker	Full Time	Voluntary Workers SDA	Cost for Full Time at person at month-sh.	Cost for Voluntary at SDA-Safari Day
Ms. Annabel		x		3,000
Mr. Yonani Rukondo		x		3,000
Mr. Guma James		x		3,000
Mr. Mawanda		x		3,000
Ms. Biseegwa	x		200,000	
Mr. Kasaga M. Ali		x		3,000
Mr. Shannie Miiro	x		200,000	
Mr. Kiyimba	x		200,000	
Ms. Josephine T.		x		3,000
Ms. Rutaro Jane		x		3,000
Total Half Time				Sh. 168,000
Total Full Time				Sh. 600,000
Office Rent				Sh. 200,000
Av. Monthly Cost				Sh. 968,000

Sh. 968,000 monthly expenditure used part of the funds from TALICO monthly micro-grant of sh. 300,000 and the TAYL-Total Kashari sh.6 million grant for 2005 (all of which totals to sh.11,600,000) to facilitate TAYL activities in 2005.