STRENGTHENING OVC CARE AND SUPPORT IN BAYLOR-UGANDA

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Presentation Outline

• Overview of Baylor- Uganda
• Fellow’s TORs
• Key Achievements
• Lessons Learnt
• Next steps
• Acknowledgement
Overview of Baylor- Uganda

- Indigenous not-for-profit NGO and largest provider of Pediatric HIV treatment in Uganda, registered in 2005
- Affiliated to Baylor International Pediatric AIDS Initiative (BIPAI), USA
Terms Of Reference

• Development of OVC strategy for Baylor- Uganda and initiating its implementation

• Development of strategies to improve and strengthen livelihoods of PLWHA specifically care takers of OVC and OVC out of school.

• Strengthening spiritual counseling

• Resource mobilization

• Participation in prevention, care and treatment activities
Development of OVC strategy for Baylor- Uganda

1. Documents review
2. Developed data collection tools
3. Internal consultative meetings
4. External consultative meetings
5. Gaps identification
6. Draft OVC strategy
7. Being streamlined to NSSP 2
Strategies to improve and strengthen livelihoods of PLWHA

• Did rapid assessment of livelihood strategies of care takers

• Findings (80 OVC, 100 care takers):
  – Over 80% of care takers had insufficient capital for IGAs
  – 40% of OVC out of school wanted to start up small scale businesses; but majority did not have vocational skills

• 5 small groups of care takers supported with revolving fund
Strengthening Spiritual Counseling in Baylor- Uganda

- Conducted a Qualitative Rapid Assessment
- Prepared a report and presented findings to psycho-social unit and program directors
- As a result, the following are underway:
  - Spiritual counseling to be incorporated in daily psychosocial counseling
  - Baylor counselors, social workers, CHBC to get training in spiritual counseling
  - Spiritual counselors from all traditional religious sects to come on board
Resource Mobilization

- Developed 6 concepts for OVC submitted to Canadian Feed the Children - Uganda
- Participated in proposal writing in response to a CDC RFA on operational research for strengthening Program implementation through PEPFAR
- Currently member of a team developing a proposal on disclosure of HIV-status to Children in Low and Middle- Income country settings in response to an NIH RFA
HIV Prevention, Care and Treatment Program activities

- Organised and facilitated quarterly care takers meetings
- Organised and facilitated adolescent peer support meetings
- Managed process of food distribution to needy OVC caretakers
HIV Prevention, Care and Treatment Program Activities

- Developed a tool used to register OVC and the schools they attend

- Initiated baseline survey on HIV prevention and psychosocial support in 8 secondary schools in Kabarole
  - 1 of 8 schools had psychosocial support being offered
  - 2 teachers in each 5 of the 8 schools trained in HIV
  - 1 school nurse had attended an HIV related training
HIV Prevention, Care and Treatment Program Activities

- Findings informed design of my programmatic activity
- Developed Programmatic activity proposal on “Strengthening HIV Prevention and Psychosocial support among Adolescents in Secondary schools in Kabarole District”
Management activities

• Attended a one-week strategic planning and annual review workshop
• Attended middle level management meetings
• Acted as Coordinator KOICA and EJAF projects
• Participated in the recruitment process of 4 new Baylor staff
• Represented Baylor-Uganda in workshops
• Coordinate Baylor staff to attend short courses organised by the Fellowship program
Communication


Conference presentations:
- Annual Pediatric conference- September 2010
- Annual BIPAI meeting –May 2011 in Lesotho
Communication

- Working with vulnerable populations in resource limited settings - January 2011, Rome Italy

- Adolescents Perception of the Peer support Program in Baylor- USHS conference 16th June 2011
Lessons Learnt

- Working with multidisciplinary professionals
- Multi-tasking
- Conducting activities with minimal funding
- Being curious and proactive
- Leadership and Managerial skills from my mentors
- Looking out for opportunities from every challenge
Next steps

• Complete development of OVC strategy and disseminate it
• Mobilise additional resources to implement strategy
• Write more abstracts for conferences
• Implementing programmatic activity

“Strengthening HIV Prevention and psychosocial support for adolescents in secondary schools in Kabarole district”
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