

OVC and HIV Awareness Project

The organisation was funded by Youth Alive Zambia through CHAZ under the Global Fund round 8 to implement the orphans and vulnerable children and HIV awareness with the total amount of ZMK 540,652,730.00 from (June 2010 to March 2012). The main aim of the project was to contribute to the fight against HIV and AIDS pandemic among the youth and children in school by the end of March 2012 of Nchelenge District through OVC support and HIV and AIDS awareness.

The Project specific objectives were as follows:

1. To enhance the quality of life of OVC by 31st December 2010, by providing them with school fees, school requisites and nutrition supplement
2. To reduce in the spread of HIV and AIDS among children and youths 10-19 years and 20-29 years groups through promotion of behaviour change communication as desirable to reduce HIV transmission.

Achievements

The organisation has provided support at improving the lives of youths, children and families directly affected by AIDS related morbidity and mortality. During the implementation, the organisation supported 20 OVCs in college, 45 OVCs in Secondary/High Schools, 500 OVC s in Primary/basic School 100 OVCs with nutritional supplement to improve their living condition. The achievements of the OVC support was mat to strengthen communities to meet the needs of orphans and vulnerable children affected by HIV and AIDS, supporting community based responses, helping children and adolescents meet their own needs, creating a supportive social environment.

It also intends that this support will help the OVCs access education opportunities with dignity and will boost their desire to learn, so that they can contribute to the development of their families and country. The reduction of illiteracy among the OVCs also helps them in making informed decisions related to HIV and AIDS. The project also focused on making the project of OVC programme sustainable through the revitalization of community OVC welfare committee which will help continue supporting the OVCs and enhancing the skills in information , technology for their survival.

With this vision in mind, the project was not a drop in the ocean, has it helped to revitalized vulnerable children to released the importance of education, especially though who dropped due to financial problem. The OVC project has transformed many in terms of proving care and support to behavioural change. It has helped the beneficiaries in mindset change and if this is coupled with the practice input, the impact will be remarkable. What is needed is to keep up the momentum in terms of resource mobilization to ensure that both the theory on STEPS OVC and safe from harm practical gaps are filled. Lessons learnt should also be co-opted into subsequent OVC and HIV prevention projects to ensure their overwhelming success.