

HDT Working Modality in Rungwe and Methodology Appreciated by Stakeholders A Case of Project Funded by Global Fund

HIV education and quality life for PLIV is a project implemented by HDT in Rungwe district and funded by Global Fund through AMREF. Implemented in ten wards of the district, it started in October 2006 and is due to end July 2010. The wards are Kambasegera, Itete, Masukulu, Lwangwa, Mpuguso, Kyimo, Isongole, Nkunga, Kandete and Suma.

In a short span of time, when the project resumed after one year of complete stop due to funding limitation, we have registered substantial achievement as outlined below:

Strengthening partnership between state and non state actors: the most appreciated stakeholders meeting has been conducted and chaired by the District Executive Director. Bringing together eighteen members of district department, FBO and NGO actors in the district, participants appreciated to know what HDT was doing and contributed to the plan. HDT was reported as the only NGO bringing stakeholders together to maximize the input from most of stakeholders in Rungwe District.



Working in partnership with district health team and through an innovative methodology of theater for development, one theater performance was conducted mainly to engage communities to identify antecedent cues and community perceived problems. Among the issues identified by community members were inheritance of widows, drunkenness and having many casual sexual partners. Immediate outcome were registered where as a result of the performance where a total of 51 people understood the rationale for testing. Out of those tested ten (19.6%) were positive. Those who were positive were advised to visit Isongole dispensary for continuous support and counseling or can visit Makandana District hospital for CTC services. HDT vehicle is the main means of transport to reach communities in those rural areas of Rungwe District.

Working in collaboration with district health team, HDT is providing nutrition to 150 PLHIV on ARV. This component provides an opportunity for HDT and district to provide services to PLHIV on one hand and establish scientifically through a comparison groups of cohort and control the effect of nutrition on the outcome of



treatment. The results of this study will be used to inform policy formulation and implementation. On the service domain, the aim is to improve their health so that are able to participate in economic activities. Nutritional support will continue for six months continuously then they will be weaned to income generating groups where they will be given grants.