

The SOKA Transformative Peer Counseling Training Workshop for Teens in Partnership with Africa Aids Foundation (January-June 2011)

Venues: Wangunyu Primary School and Nyeri Baptist Church

Total Participants: 109

Part of our 2010-2011 targets was to raise 100 teenage-peer counselors. Each one of these trained youths is challenged to reach out to thirty (30) others, especially raising greater awareness on HIV-AIDS continue with the exponential effect, as we attempt to arrest the HIV-AIDS prevalent rate amongst the youth. We rejoice for going beyond our target and training a total of 159 teenagers. This year we had two successful workshops, one at Wangunyu Primary School, and the other at Nyeri Baptist church. The participants were drawn from the 13-18 years age group.

The challenges that most of the students pass through expose them to great risks of becoming failures in life, succumbing to drug abuse and becoming victims of HIV-AIDS and STI's. We therefore not only are involved in raising awareness on the pandemic and its realities, but also seek to empower the teens holistically and hence be better prepared to address the issues that make them most vulnerable. Our peer counseling program therefore seeks to equip the Youths with quality life skills by addressing the following areas: Self-awareness and self-worth, Good communication, Body changes at puberty and through teenage, Family and Friends, Consequences of Premarital and Extramarital Sex, The Facts about HIV-AIDS and Sexually Transmitted Infections, Dispelling Myths about Puberty, Sex and AIDS, Valuing Abstinence, Sexual Vulnerability and Protection, Achieving our Goals and Dreams.

Wangunyu Primary School Peer Counseling Empowerment Program: After meeting with the administration of the school during our Peer Counseling Campaign program, the teachers in charge of counseling in the school were thrilled about our willingness to help with the program and immediately arranged for a session. Beyond helping them with the knowledge and skills in peer counseling, the teachers expressed a desperate need amongst the girls for supply of sanitary towels.



Year 8 Students from Wangunyu Primary School, after the seminar. A total of 68 Teens attended this workshop on the 8th July 2011. Next year most of these students will move to Secondary school (Boarding). This program enables them to be better prepared to make this adjustment.



Above is Esther Addressing the kids on HIV AIDS She is trained social worker who has had a vast experience in handling youths infected and affected by HIV and AIDS and drugs.



Above, Titus presents 2 boxes of sanitary towels to the Deputy Head Teacher for the girls. This was a great relieve to the teachers because they have been forced to chip in from their pockets or campaign from other lady teachers. This supply was adequate for each girl present for immediate use, plus one more round

Nyeri Baptist Church Peer Counseling Empowerment Program: Here we had 41 teens participate in the training program that was done on 30th April 2011. The teens extended their afternoon session with an afternoon soccer match to crown the activities of the day.



Above is Elizabeth addresses the kids on HIV AIDS.



Above is Pastor Peter addressing the kids the virtue of abstinence.

WAY FORWARD.

1. Follow upon the 159 kids who have this far been trained on fields of peer counseling getting to know how they are moving on and the challenges they are facing; helping them to move on.
2. Fine tune the curriculum on training the TOT's and Train TOT's.
3. Train another lot of 100 by the end of the month of June 2012.