

Scaling Up Peer Education from an NGO Perspective

Jerry Aurah, Youth Coordinator
National Organization of Peer Educators
(NOPE) - a Kenyan NGO

7 June 2006

Background

- Soaring HIV prevalence in Kenya
- State of Peer Education
 - Demand from donors – some funding available
 - Lack of capacity in the field
 - No standard curriculum
 - Awareness fatigue
 - No behavior change strategy in place
 - No policy in peer education



Goal: Institutionalize peer-centered approaches in programs

Mission: Build capacity of organizations and communities to manage and sustain peer-centered programs

Our Vision



To be a recognized leader in provision and promotion of quality peer centered approaches for communities and organizations in health and social needs.

What we do:

- Provide training and technical assistance
 - 75 trainers available
 - 10 training courses
- Implement Programs
 - Youth
 - Workplace
- Other
 - Research, Monitoring & Evaluation
 - BCC strategy and material development

Where we work:

- Started in **3** provinces of Kenya
- Expanded to **7** of 8 provinces
- Expanded to other countries (**Southern Sudan, Rwanda, Uganda, & Tanzania**)
- Plan to continue expansion-
 - More districts in each province
 - Last province – Northeastern Province

Youth Peer Education Programs

- Ambassadors of Change
- RAY – *Tuliza!*
- 1st Annual Conference on Peer Education HIV and AIDS
- Professional training services
 - Support 25 organizations
 - Have directly trained **2,500** youth peer educators since 2000



What others say:

“NOPE has grown into a self-sustaining organization, which is USAID’s dream for every NGO surrounding HIV and AIDS.”

- Cheryl Sonnichsen, Senior Advisor on HIV and AIDS USAID/Kenya

Successes

- Quality work and services delivered
 - 54 workplaces and 28 youth serving organizations **pay** for services
 - 3,500 peer educators and trainers trained
- Development of standardized training materials and on the way to a curriculum
- NOPE has become a stakeholder on **3** influential national bodies affecting youth programs
- 1st Annual Conference on Peer Education HIV and AIDS (attracted **600** delegates)

Successes continued

- Consulted and influenced policy implementation plan – peer education is a main strategy in the new ARH & D policy
- Engaging private sector – workplace program serves as an entry point for advocacy and further expansion into communities, including youth (Unilever Tea Kenya)
- Strategic planning for NOPE during growth phase
- Expansion and demand from neighbors - Southern Sudan, Rwanda, Uganda and Tanzania

Challenges

- Continuing expansion while maintaining quality of services and products
- Integrity of training team
- Maintaining qualified and motivated volunteer trainers, since they work as needed
- Idea of creating a national organization with corporate members has not been fully realized
- Convincing groups to spend on follow-up and monitoring after training

Maintaining Scale (and Growing)

- Expand corporate membership, especially the private sector
- Continuous staff development and program capacity building
- Initiate an inclusive Y-PEER network and link to their global activities
- Strengthen partnerships with government agencies and development partners
- Continually market services and products

Credits



ActionAid

