

Rukungiri District Network of People Living with HIV (RUDINET)



Vision: An empowered population that is able to live a healthy, productive and quality life.

Mission: To coordinate, strengthen and support robust community level livelihood programs for marginalized and vulnerable categories of populations in the communities of Rukungiri district.

HISTORY

RUDINET is a registered Community Based Organization (CBO) founded in 1998 and registered in 2001 with Rukungiri District Local Government. It is a member of the district HIV and AIDS service organizations in Rukungiri and serves as an umbrella organization that coordinates all the 12 sub counties PLHA networks within the district. RUDINET is a member of National Forum of People Living with HIV & AIDS Networks in Uganda (NAFOPHANU).

PROGRAMS

HIV and AIDS: RUDINET has for the past years competed and benefited from USAID funding under different grants programs. The USAID strengthening TB and HIV & AIDS response in South Western Uganda (STAR -SW - Project) was implemented for three years and it ended in 2014 and the follow -ups are still taking place. The goal of the project was to empower the communities to access sustainable quality HIV & AIDS and TB services. Currently RUDINE is implementing a three years project funded by the basket fund of USAID, IRISH AIDS, DFID, DENIDA and the Swedish Embassy under the Civil Society Fund (CSF) the project is aimed at contributing to the reduction in the number of annual new HIV infections in Rukungiri district in the next five years.

RUDINET is empowering individuals and communities to effectively demand for combination HIV prevention services, adoption of safe sexual behaviors and addressing socio-cultural factors that fuel the spread of HIV among the communities in Rukungiri district.



Furthermore, RUDINET with support from the Program for Accessible Health, Communication and Education (PACE) is facilitated in monitoring and supporting organizations that provide starter kits package for PLHIV. The starter kit package includes items like insecticide, treatable mosquito nets, water guards, Jerricans and other small household items like soap.

Human Rights: Under this program RUDINET is implementing an advocacy project titled strengthening the voice of PLHIV for improved accountability and transparency in health service delivery. The project is funded by the Democratic Governance facility through the National Forum of People Living with HIV. The major aim of this project is to strengthen the capacity of 12 Sub County PLHIV forums to advocate and demand for gender responsive planning, budgeting and implementation for a comprehensive health service delivery.

CHALLENGES

Funding gaps that hinder long-term planning of the organization and clientele service delivery.

Sustainability of projects is a big challenge due to financial inadequacies.

High staff turnover due to short term nature of projects and inadequate funding for keeping.

ACHIEVEMENTS

RUDINET has Provided HIV prevention services to over 25,000 people since 2010 in the area of EMTCT, SMC, BCC, Care and treatment and referrals for TB as highlighted below.

RUDINET has in total supported the delivery of 1228 starter kits package to PLHIV in five Sub Counties

Facilitated 12 PLHIV Sub County networks to monitor health service delivery which has increased the transparency on accountability in HIV and AIDS activities

The community structures have been utilized in to promote the right of people living with HIV and AIDS.

The people living with HIV/AIDS have been supported to participate in the district planning, AIDS coordination and budget conference meetings.

The expert clients have been supported to monitor availability and accessibility of ART in public health facilities

RUDINET has contributed towards the reduction of HIV prevalence rates through supply of condoms and sensitization on HIV prevention and economically empowering the most at risk populations.

