

Y.C. Addressing the challenges in reproductive health and relationship issues among HIV positive Young people.

Uganda

George William Akora

Organization type:

nonprofit/ngo/citizen sector

Budget:

\$1,000 - \$10,000

Website:<http://www.yawefoundation.webs.com>

- [At risk youth](#)
- [Behavioral issues](#)
- [HIV/AIDS](#)
- [Mental health](#)
- [Reproductive health](#)
- [Sexuality](#)
- [Vulnerable populations](#)

Project Summary**Elevator Pitch****Concise Summary: Help us pitch this solution! Provide an explanation within 3-4 short sentences.**

In a country like Uganda and Kabarole district in particular where HIV prevalence is high, it has resulted into many children born with HIV, since the HIV prevalence is high in women of the reproductive age. Many young people born with HIV are growing up to young adulthood because of antiretroviral treatment which keeps them healthy and growing like any other child. But issues related to the challenges they face as they grow up regarding how they can choose their spouse issue related to child bearing have not been addressed. It is against this background that I am proposing a project to specifically deal with young people and attend to their needs regarding reproductive health.

About Project**Problem: What problem is this project trying to address?**

Lack of awareness by most health workers about the reproductive health of young people living with HIV/AIDS at times find it difficult to express their sexual concerns to the health workers due to a big gap between the children and their service providers. One of the youth revealed to me that it is as if all counselors, nurses and doctors want them not to talk about their sexual feelings or the desire to have children and yet we are also human beings we only need guidance to make proper choices regarding our spouse or fiancée. This project will address the knowledge gap of health workers within the project target area by providing basic skills in adolescent counselling and help the service providers build capacity of addressing the needs of HIV positive young people.

About You**Organization:**

Youth and Women Empowerment (YAWE) Foundation

Visit website**Section 1: About You****First Name**

George William

Last Name

Akora

Website<http://www.yawefoundation.webs.com>**Organization**

Youth and Women empowerment (YAWE) foundation

Country

, KAR

Are you an individual between the ages of 18 and 35 who would like to apply for a nine month [Young Champions Program](#) mentored by an Ashoka Fellow?

Yes

Section 2: About Your Organization

Organization Name

Youth and Women Empowerment (YAWE) Foundation

Organization Phone

+256 772 865 098

Organization Address

P.o.Box 188, Fort Portal

Organization Country

, KAR

The information you provide here will be used to fill in any parts of your profile that have been left blank, such as interests, organization information, and website. No contact information will be made public. Please uncheck here if you do not want this to happen..

Your idea

Country your work focuses on

, KAR

Website URL

<http://www.yawefoundation.webs.com>

Innovation

What makes your idea unique?

I think my idea is unique because i have worked in HIV/AIDS treatment program for 4 years but i have not seen any project addressing the issues regarding reproductive health and how HIV positive young people can deal with their concerns ragrding choosing a spause. Most young HIV positive adolscents report to me about how most health workers do not want to hear that they have the desire to have relationships or bear children.

Do you have a patent for this idea?

Yes

Impact

What impact have you had?

During my service with the HIV positive children i have been trying to address the needs of Young people though emotional and pychosocial support, and many young people i have worked with have developed resilience to overcome challenges in life reagrding the every day challenges of life. I have formed support groups of HIV positive adolscents where they meet and discuss their challenges, but i felt there is need for a specialised approach so as to fully attend to them and help them make informed choices regarding reproductive health without posing a danger to their HIV negative counterparts.

Actions

I will Train peer counselors from among the HIV positive adolscents who will work as role models and provide counselling to thier fellow youth. I will also sensetize the health workers involved in treatment of HIV positive children to be aware of how they can address the challenges they encounter in helping HIV positive young people regarding their choices for reproductive health. There will also be a general program of HIV awareness and prevention which will be spear headed by HIV positive youth themselves with the major them: "POSITIVE PREVENTION OF THE SPREAD OF HIV AMONG THE YOUTH" this will be a compaign by HIV positive youth calling upon positive people to take the lead in advocating for HIV prevention.

Results

Expected result:

At least 50 Health workers will be trained in basic counseling skills emphasising on skills of working with young people and adolscents reproductive issues will be emphasised.

100 HIV positive youth throughtot the district will be trained as peer counselors

Community sensetization through drama of HIV positive people and atleast 50 communities will be visited by the drama group of HIV positive youth.

Radio program will reach out the entire community.

What will it take for your project to be successful over the next three years? Please address each year separately, if possible.

Availability of funds and other resources necessary for the project. If funds are available the project will employ other skilled people during the implementation.

YEAR 1 The project will identify and train health workers in hospital with peadiatric HIV/AIDS care, and offer an ongoing support and supervision for the implementation of plans to improve care for HIV positive young people.

YEAR 2 The project will train HIV positive peer counselors who will be deployed to support fellow HIV positive young people in communities and they will be attached to health centers offering tratment and care for children.

What would prevent your project from being a success?

-Lack of funds.

-Lack of skilled people in working with HIV positive children and young people on sexuality issues.

How many people will your project serve annually?

101 1000

What is the average monthly household income in your target community, in US Dollars?

Less than \$50

Does your project seek to have an impact on public policy?

Yes

Sustainability

What stage is your project in?

Idea phase

Is your initiative connected to an established organization?

Yes

If yes, provide organization name.

Youth and Women Empowerment (YAWE) Foundation

How long has this organization been operating?

1 5 years

Does your organization have a Board of Directors or an Advisory Board?

Yes

Does your organization have a non-monetary partnerships with NGOs?

Yes

Does your organization have a non-monetary partnerships with businesses?

Does your organization have a non-monetary partnerships with government?

Yes

Please tell us more about how these partnerships are critical to the success of your innovation.

Partnership with other NGO has helped YAWE foundation to implement activities without direct funding, for example under this project idea the youth being targeted are already receiving a service (Treatment services from eith private, NGOs, or government supported programs, so this project will consolidate the partnership which is already in place but to continue working togethaer to adress the issues of HIV positive young people to promote thier emotional wellbeing and social functioning.

What are the three most important actions needed to grow your initiative or organization?

Getting international partners,to shares ideas regarding resurce mobilisation because local resource are limited compared to the expenses involved in the work.

The Story

What was the defining moment that you led to this innovation?

The defining moment is a situation where one of the young girls aged 19 who grew up with HIV came to me to seek help to enable her make an appropraite choice for a spause or fiancée and she was wondering if the HIV positive people heve the right to mary or have children because all the health workers including counselors have been teling her that she should never think of having sex because she will infect the spouse or get more HIV which will kill her, if she risked getting pregnant she will transmit the virus to her child and also she might die because is pregnancy weakens her body.

Tell us about the social innovator behind this idea.

The social innovator behind this idea is an HIV activist, and a counselor with much emphasis for working with Children living with HIV/AIDS.

How did you first hear about Changemakers?

Through another organization or company

If through another, please provide the name of the organization or company

Maternal health taskforce, communicated to me and sent me this information about the youth opportunity.

Source URL: <https://www.changemakers.com/maternalhealth/entries/yc-addressing-challenges-reproductive-health-and#comment-0>