



ASN UPENDO VILLAGE

TITLE: ASN UPENDO VILLAGE

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Executive Summary

ASN Upendo Village has continued to live its name by providing love to the community and especially those infected and affected by HIV and AIDS. This report covers the activities that were carried out during the months of July and August 2014.

Among the highlights is that the building of the water bottling structure was completed in the period under review as well as installation of the purifying machine.

In the education department, we are very proud to say this year we have so far seen 5 students complete their academic programs and graduate. In the month of August, school going children were on holiday and we held two academic days. The children have also reported back to school for the third term and prompt payment of their school fees and acquisition of other necessities was effected to facilitate their timely return to their respective schools. The Gender department continued to pursue justice for the victims of gender violence while income Generating Activities Project was able to give 7 dairy goats, 5 to clients and 2 to grandmothers.

The dispensary continued providing preventive as well as curative services to both our clients as well as the wider general public. The social services department has continued to provide psycho-social support to the support group members and the grandmothers taking care of orphans and vulnerable children. We held a kids club in the month of August. A total of 45 children and 34 guardians attended the meeting. It's important to note that since inception, 274 children have been enrolled and 43 of them have benefitted from the sponsorship program.

The report herein provides an in-depth description of the various activities that were carried out by the ASN Upendo Village team in the different departments during the months of July and August 2014. We would like to most sincerely thank all our sponsors because it is as a result of their selfless giving that the lives of people infected and affected by HIV and AIDS in Naivasha has been greatly transformed.

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Administration Department

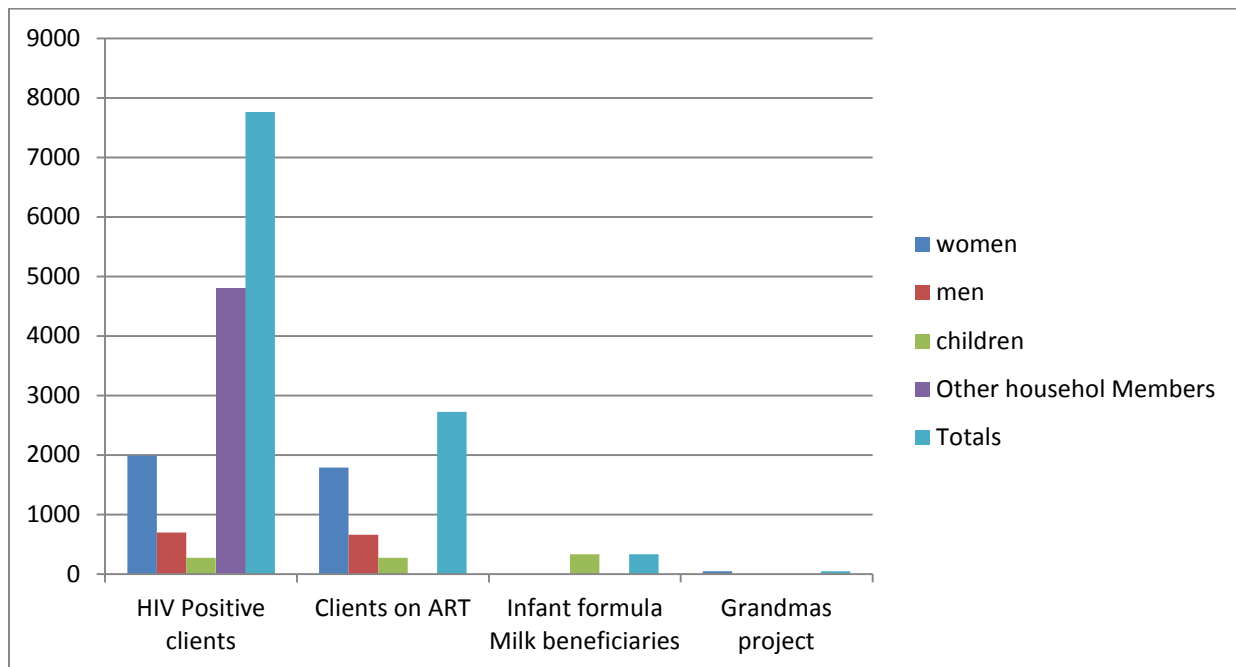
The administration department at ASN Upendo village has continued to support all the activities of the facility. In the period of July and August we were able to complete the construction of the water bottling building. The installation of the purifying machine was also done by the suppliers of the machine. A training on the operations and maintenance of the machine was also carried out.



Pictures during the training.

We continue to enjoy and give better services to the community in the new social services centre building which we are very grateful for.

We have continuously increased the number of people that we serve and the bar graph below shows the statistics.



EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

There has been a significant success in terms of student enrollment and completion rate in their respective academic programs especially at the college/University levels. This year alone the OVC education program has witnessed five students successfully completing their academic programs. Recently during the month of July two sponsored students; Samuel and Stephen graduated from Kenya Methodist University (KEMU) with Diplomas in clinical medicine. Samuel Mbasa Mwangi was being co-sponsored by Harambee project and the Blum family. Stephen Gachoka was being sponsored by Harambee project. The colorful event was also attended by Dr. Kathleen Harrison of Harambee project and her husband John.



Photo: Dr. John, Samuel, Dr. Kathleen & Stephen

The staff in charge of child welfare at Upendo village represented the staff at the graduation. Dr. Kathleen Harrison also presented the two graduates with some tools of trade during a party she organized for them at ASN Upendo village in July 21. They are currently volunteering their services at ASN Upendo Village Dispensary as they wait to undertake their attachment in a government hospital facility for one year starting December this year.



Photo 2: Dr. Kathleen presenting the graduates with tools of trade

During the month of August, the department had two academic days. Academic day I was attended by pupils from the Kindergarten level up to class 7 accompanied by their parents/guardians. Academic day II was organized for High school, college and university students and their parents/guardians. During the two academic days those pupils/students who had performed well academically were awarded. They were different speakers from among the staff giving talks to pupils/students on varied topical issues.



Photo 3: Sr. Florence addressing students during Academic day



Photo 4: Sr. Agnes awarding a pupil during academic day

During this August school holiday, six students under the sponsorship program were recruited to the photo club. The staff in the department instructed them on how to take photos using the disposable cameras from Mary and Karen, who are education coordinators of the ASN Upendo Village OVC education program in the USA.



Photo 5: Samuel & Patricia instructing the new photo club members on how to take photos

All pupils/students under ASN Upendo Village sponsorship program at the primary, secondary and college level have already reported back to their respective institutions of learning for the Third term 2014 on the scheduled opening dates. The Primary kids reported back to school on 1st September, 2014. Those in Secondary and College level reported back on 2nd September, 2014. Prompt payment of their school fees and acquisition of other necessities was effected to facilitate their timely return to their respective schools.

Currently the number of sponsored students is standing at 189. The sponsorship program now has 15 students at college level, 61 students in high school and 103 in primary school. We also have an additional kid in primary school that has been enrolled in the Scholarship program as of September 1, 2014. The sponsorship program has two kids at Kindergarten school level. We have 7 students currently in the sponsorship program waiting to join College/University. One of

the 2013 Form 4 school leavers has already been admitted for a Bachelor's of Science degree in I.T at the Multi Media University of Kenya.

Type of institution	Boys	Girls	Total
Nursery School	1	1	2
Primary School	52	51	103
Secondary School	29	33	62
Polytechnic/College/University	9	6	15
Secondary School Leavers	5	2	7
College leavers	4	1	5
TOTAL	100	94	194

Table 1: Gender distribution of sponsored students at ASN Upendo Villa

INCOME GENERATING PROGRAM

The income generating program is still working towards empowering our clients and the guardians so as to break the poverty cycle. During the period under review the following activities were carried out.

Dairy goats

We gave out 7 dairy goats: five to clients and two to grandmothers. These grandmothers have been left with children who are on ARVs. The ceremony was graced by Dr. Kathleen Harrison, the director of Harambee project and her husband, Dr. John. The beneficiaries were very happy and so was Dr. Kathleen. The goat's milk will be of great help to those families. The milk production has gone down due to the drought that is being experienced in many places around our catchment area.



Clients and grandmas receive the dairy goats.

During the months of July and August, three goats have given birth. Out of the three, one gave birth to twin female kids. The other two have male kids. The milk production is low because of the drought, only a half a liter.

In July and August, five home visits were done to monitor the progress of the program and the following are the findings. Two families had planted maize, beans and potatoes but there was no yield because of the drought. One family had planted potatoes and harvested four bags in garden where they could have harvested ten bags if there was enough rainfall. One family sold a male kid at Kshs 8,000 and bought a female dairy goat at the same cost. The other family that was visited the mother does business and its progressing well.

Chicken

A hundred chicks have been booked from Kenya Agricultural Research Institute and they will be issued to 50 clients when they will be ready.

The following support groups were visited during the period under review and educated on the importance of the IGAS. Below is the table showing the number of the participants and the support groups.

Support group	July	August	Total
Maaimahiu		58	58
Karai	69	80	149
Town grandmas	25		25
Mirera		81	81
Maaimahiu grandmas		15	15
Town	62	51	113

Challenges

Three goats have died in the months of July and August. The causes were that they had lung infections.

Medical Department

In the months under review, the dispensary continued to provide preventive and curative services to both our clients and the general public. The table below shows the different services that were provided.

SERVICES	JULY	AUGUST	TOTAL
Antenatal	2	3	5
Child welfare clinic	25	33	58
Consultation	242	329	571
V.C.T	23	24	47

The table below shows how clients utilized laboratory services:

TESTS	JULY	AUGUST	TOTAL
Routine Tests	165	271	436
Full Haemogram	14	161	175
Thyroid Function Test	0	1	1
Prostate Specific Antigen test	1	1	2
Kidney Function Test	0	4	4

ACHIEVEMENT

- With the hospital information system now fully operational, we are able to capture all the information from the moment a patient gets to the clinic till the moment he leaves.

Nutrition Department

The nutrition department of ASN Upendo Village is charged with the responsibilities of ensuring that the clients receive the nutritional knowledge which is vital in boosting their immunity as well as distributing nutritious food supplements in collaboration with the social services department.

During the months of July and August the clients had their four monthly support group meetings. We were very grateful to our local donor who donated maize flour, beans, rice and cooking oil. These items have been very beneficial to complement the nutritious food supplements they receive from Upendo Village.

Support group attendance

Name of the support group	July	August	Average
Mirera	84	72	78
Town	62	51	57
Karai	69	69	69
Maai-Mahiu	55	58	57
Total	270	250	261

All the above clients were able to benefit from our nutritional supplements although we have noted a decrease in the number of those attending the support groups. This can be attributed by a number of factors including some getting employment, stigma while others have been able to begin their own small and micro business as a result of employment initiatives organized by ASN Upendo Village.

Social Support Services

Clientele

The numbers of people we serve continue to soar. Below is a tabulation of clients served since the inception of ASN Upendo Village;

	Women	Men	Children	Other house hold members	Total
HIV positive clients	1,990	701	274	4,797	7,762
Clients on ART	1,789	663	274	n/a	2,726
Infant Formula milk-beneficiaries					336
Grandmas project	50				50

Prevention of mother to Child Transmission – PMTCT Program

The PMTCT program at Upendo Village was started in February 2009 and Jose Luis De Barrueta Foundation (JLDBF) funded the program by; purchasing infant formula milk, water filters, thermos flasks, paying National Hospital Insurance Fund that enabled mothers to deliver in health facilities, payment of staff, monthly stipend for and training for community health worker and transport and snacks for mothers during their monthly group meeting.

In January 2014, we started receiving infant formula milk from the government and therefore Jose Luis De Barrueta Foundation stopped funding for the formula milk, purchase of water filters and thermos flasks but continued supporting us with the Community health worker trainings and monthly allowances. The JLDBF support was ending in June 2014 but in August 2014, the foundation re-extended its support from July to December 2014. We highly appreciate the foundation for supporting ASN Upendo Village.

On 15th August 2014, a staff of upendo village attended a one day sensitization seminar organized by DANONE baby Nutrition. The one day sensitization meeting with children homes and institutions staff working with children, the aim of the meeting was to assess the quality of nutrition care of orphans and abandoned babies in the children homes and to update the care givers, on infant feeding in line with the WHO recommendation.

In January 2014, we started getting Infant formula milk from the government; it was a shock and unfortunate during the meeting to be informed that the supply of baby formula milk to health facilities has been withdrawn. The breast milk substitutes (Regulation and control) Bill

2012, “An act of Parliament to provide for appropriate marketing and distribution of breast milk substitutes; to provide for safe and adequate nutrition for infants through the promotion of breast feeding and proper use of breast substitutes, where necessary, and for connected purposes”. We had already stopped enrolling expectant mothers and babies in July 2014 when we started experiencing this problem of milk supply. We are now forced to wean all babies by September and October 2014. Since the stock we have can take us that far.



*A PMTCT mother explaining to a Community health worker during
A home visit how she uses the formula milk feeding guide*

Community health workers (CHWs)

A team of 15 members continue to offer the much needed psycho social support to the affected and infected with HIV and AIDS. During the period under review July and August, the team made 169 and 180 home visits respectively.

Kids club

The number of HIV positive children keeps growing. Since the inception of the program we have enrolled 274 HIV positive children. We have 43 children who have benefitted from the sponsorship program; 2 in kindergarten, 32 in Primary schools, 8 in secondary schools and 1 in a polytechnic.

On 12th August 2014, we held the kids club meeting. A total of 45 children and 34 guardians attended the meeting. The meeting started with prayer and scripture sharing from Proverbs 2: 1- 6. We had four groups; age 3 to 7, age 8 to 11, age 12 to 19 and guardians. The guardians were taken through disclosure of children's HIV statuses and challenges. The teenagers had a discussion on adherence to ART, as children age 8 and 11 learnt about the importance of taking their ART. The young children made drawings.



Sr. Agnes helping kids club members with drawings



Left: Kids club members with their guardians during their meeting

Right: Kids club teenagers in a discussion with Upendo Village and Kijabe staff



Support groups

The support groups continue to empower our clients to live positively. During the period under review, we held four group therapy meetings. Two support groups were taught on HIV and AIDs while the other two were taught on T.B. signs and symptoms, treatment and prevention. During the period under review an average of 267 clients attended the group therapy meetings.



Members of the Karai support group

Gender Desk

The gender desk continues to support people affected by gender based violence. The staff in-charge supports and guides the affected people to find justice in our legal law system. Challenges encountered are, whenever a new magistrate comes in; the previous court cases have to be repeated no matter how far they had gone, and this is what happened to most of last years' cases. In the month of July 2014, 5 cases were in court in which 4 were defilement cases and 1 rape case. In August, 2 defilement cases were heard in the court and they are still on. However, there is much to be done for justice to prevail.

Grandmother's Project

The grandmothers' project is doing well. During the meeting with grandmas, we shared a bible verse (Jeremiah 29:11) that God has good plans for all of us. They were trained on adherence to ART. During their experience sharing, most of the grandmothers remarked on how Upendo Village has helped them by giving some of them interest free loans to boost their small businesses, sponsorship of their grandchildren and nutrition supplementation. They were grateful to our grandmothers and children sponsors and donors in the US, and local sponsors.



Left: Staff giving a blanket and clothing to a grandmother of 3 orphans. Right: a total orphan receiving clothes from staff

Local donation

On August 23rd, 2014, we were privileged to receive donations of clothing, foodstuffs, blankets, past revision papers for secondary examination and cooking oil. The coordinator of the group is a university student who had mobilized his relatives to donate. It was a good gesture from the young man with a big heart for Upendo Village. We are grateful to all our sponsors and donors, God bless you.