

Quarterly Review - Project Report

Translation and Dissemination of “Called to Care Manual No.8”



Reporting Period	April 2016 – June 2016
Project No.	I43-001-I058 KH
Funded By	MISEREOR
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Project Background

Youth Activists Initiative Organization (YAIO), a Blantyre based youth organization, in partnership with Strategies for Hope Trust with funding from MISEREOR is implementing a project called “*Translation and Dissemination of “Called to Care Manual No.8.”*” The “Translation and Dissemination of “Called to Care Manual No.8.” project came after YAIO implemented “*Lesson for Life - Called to Care*“, the project designed to help in and out of school youth regardless of their gender; race or ethnic groups by offering them an enjoyable way to learn about improving their self-esteem; building good relationships; making smart decisions; living a healthy lifestyle and resisting peer pressure. Additional attention is given to good communication skills; equal rights of girls and boys; avoiding bad habits such as substance abuse and sexual behaviors that lead to HIV infection. On the other hand, the project also targets opinion leaders that include; care groups, religious, parents, guardians and other people playing a parenting role.

Through the “Called to Care - Lesson For Life project”, YAIO has been using Called to Care Handbook No. 8- “*My Life – Starting Now*” which is user-friendly designed for use with religious institutions, youth groups and communities at different levels of awareness; experience in relation to Life planning and development of skills; as well as knowledge of HIV/ AIDS prevention and care.

Objectives of the project

- To improve understanding of the book content through translation of English to Chichewa edition.
- To enable participants (children and parents) to understand the challenges they face and how to deal with them.
- To help build young people’s self-esteem, which will help them feel confident and able them to overcome obstacles and challenges in their lives.
- To help young people make good decisions, like saying “NO” to sex or to the misuse of drugs and alcohol.
- To provide knowledge and skills which parents need to guide them in supporting their children to grow responsibly

Summary of Project Activities – Second Phase (April to June)

During the period April 2016 to June 2016, Youth Activists Initiative Organization conducted the following activities:

1. Monthly monitoring / field visits

- 20 different organizations were visited during the monthly field visits as part of monitoring exercise to assess and learn how different organizations who received the handbook (*Moyo Wanga – Kuyambira Pano*) during book awareness sessions and distribution activities are using the books.

2. Quarterly Review meeting

- On the 24th June, 2016, YAIO conducted the quarterly review meeting at the Blantyre District Council Conference Room to check and summarize the project’s implementation progress, provide achievements towards expected outcomes, list major breakthroughs and identify key constraints. The meeting provided a platform for stakeholders including; Community Based Organizations, youth organizations, government, faith

based organizations and local citizens to share progress, review actions and determine gaps for corrections. Lessons and learning generated during the meeting will help facilitate vital decision making for better project results. Participants to the Quarterly review meeting were drawn from selected organizations including organizations which were visited during monthly monitoring and field visits.

3. Book Distribution

- During the period, 312 *Moyo Wanga - Kuyambira Pano* handbooks were distributed to 21 organizations.

Chart of Visited Organization

Name of Month	Name of Organization
April	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. District Education Office (School Health and Nutrition Department) 2. Blantyre Synod (Church of Central Africa Presbyterian) 3. Chisomo Children’s Club 4. Chikondi Cholinga Community Based Organization 5. Word Alive Commission for Relief and Development (faith based) 6. Wells of Joy Orphan Care Centre
May	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Malawi Scotland Partnership –MASP Resource Centre 2. Young Voices Organization 3. Centre for Youth Empowerment and Training 4. Seventh Day Adventist Church (Faith based) 5. Mphatso Youth Club 6. Friends of Nature Youth Association 7. Youth Arm Organization
June	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Beehive/ Mother Teresa Children Centre 2. Centre for the Development of People (CEDEP) 3. Environmental Concerned Youth Association (ECOYA) 4. Chitsanzo Youth Support Organization 5. Concerned Youth Organization 6. Blantyre Urban Youth Office 7. Women for Fair Development (WOFAD)

General Outputs:

- 312 *Moyo Wanga - Kuyambira Pano* handbooks distributed to 21 organizations .
- 20 organizations (faith based organization, youth organizations, community based organizations, schools, care centres, government departments) visited.

Book Distribution Chart for the period April 2016 – June 2016

No	Organization	No. of Books
1	Blantyre Urban Youth Office	100
2	Malawi Scotland Partnership	30
3	Mother Teresa Child Care Centre	30
4	Amotofo Child Care Centre	28
5	Parents of Disabled Children in Malawi	22
6	Salvation Army	22
7	Young Advocates	15
8	Environmental Concerned Youth Association	10
9	Friends of Nature	10
10	Chisomo Children's Club	6
11	Sambakhosi Youth Organization	6
12	Chitsanzo Youth Support Organization	5
13	Centre for the Development of People	5
14	Bangwe Youth Organization	3
15	Kamawi Youth Organization	3
16	Foundation for Rural Development	3
17	Opportunity Bank	3
18	Care for Us	3
19	Madalitso Youth Organization	3
20	Youth Action Movement	3
21	Chisomo Youth Club	2
TOTAL		312

Lessons Learnt

- The use of Bible verses in the book encourages people and children to learn faster.
- The Chichewa book is helping a lot of people as most people are now reading the book on their own and are able to transmit the knowledge gained to their peers or target community.
- Most community based organizations do not have forums or meetings with young people in their community but because of the book, they are now able to meet the young people and have discussions using the book.
- Young people are now able to translate things from theory to practice and use.
- The content of the book is valid for the rest of the young peoples' lives.
- The book is helping street kids and other vulnerable children to change from negative to positive behaviors.

Comments from Stakeholders

Limbani Njewa (Beehive/ Mother Teresa Children's Centre) – Since I started using this book, it has been easier for me to plan in life skills sessions with children and even extending the course concepts. The arrangement of the book is very attractive and draws much concentration of young people as they are able to sustain their thinking capacity. The games and case studies in the book are very important hence has a unique approach to their concerns. They now have an opportunity to voice out and being responsible for their lives. Therefore, I recommend that this book has to be used in schools as well but mainly in special clubs to share the knowledge. The book can also be used as reference to teachers, caregivers, social practitioners and everyone working with young people including faith based organizations and the church. As for the children themselves, they need to find these books in the libraries and they should have access to borrow and use them at home. As for us, we have already set up a plan and system for children at our centre to borrow the books and they are now able to express their views through the student's council which we established to give them an opportunity to express their views and ideas”.

Linnah Matanya (Executive Director – Women for Fair Development) – “There is need to conduct community sensitization meeting and group discussion forums with different communities in Blantyre rural as in the rural areas is where young people have different issues that are not being attended to. Radio programs will also help many people who have not seen or read the book across the country to have and learn information from the topics in the book and benefit too”.

Enert Banda (Care giver – Wells of Joy Orphan Care Centre) – “The book is helping young people make informed choices. The book highlights different issues affecting young people and how to overcome the challenges they face daily. Young people at our centre are now learning how to plan for their future and finding good ways and channels that can help them achieve their goals”. From 1st August to 5th August 2016, we have planned a youth camp where YAIO will be invited to train our youths.

Mathews Mulaka (Chairperson- Chikuli/ Kunthembwe Youth Network) - “The books have benefited us much. When the book were introduced to us during Book Dissemination exercise, we only had seven (7) youth clubs in our area but because of the book we have experienced the rise in number in the establishment of youth clubs from seven(7) in March 2016 to thirty seven (37) in June 2016. Right now, we are appealing for more books and trainings for these just established youth clubs so that they can be able to use the books and pass the information to their fellow young people in the community. In our area, all stakeholders including; traditional leaders, teachers, parents, caregivers,

the church and the young people have received these books with many thanks and are able to encourage one another on continued use of these books in the area”.

Sady Mkwate (Director – Chikondi Cholinga Community Based Organization) – “The book is helping our organization in the dissemination of HIV messages to young people. Since receiving these books in February 2016, our organization has been using this book as a tool or manual in addressing young people’s challenges and needs. Many young people we have used the book and are now able to see how rich the information in the book is. We have also distributed these books to other eleven (11) community based organizations in our area whom they are also using with young people in their impact areas. And, there is need to train young people in our area on how they can use the book on their own and during their own free time. Lastly, I request YAIO to conduct frequent visits to organizations using these books and provide the necessary technical support. This project should also be an ongoing project”.

Menard Chabwera (Book user – Concerned Youth Organization) - “The book is really good and it’s in our mother language. The book talks about things and issues really happening on the ground. The contents in the different topics in the book are relevant, inspiring and valid forever. The link with the word of God makes the reader read with seriousness and the listeners very willing to understand. Our organization needs more books because at our meeting place, many young people do come requesting for these books”.

Bennie Msuku (St Columba CCAP Church) – “The book has greater impact in that it has generated much interest in its targeted demographic which is the youth, thereby contributing effectively to the social awareness drive in relation to HIV prevention. There’s a greater need for a trainers programme if the organizations outreach programme is to continue to have a meaningful impact. And funds permitting, it would be in the populations’ interest to have the book translated into fewer local languages for the benefit of the rural populace”.

Solum Mtogolo (Programme Officer- Centre for the Development of People) – “Extract the topics into leaflets. *Moyo Wanga – Kuyambira Pano* is a youth targeted message/guide and should go beyond urban or peri-urban settings. Information on decision making is paramount to youth development and rural youth will equally enjoy the taste. Peer to peer training would be ideal in outreach programming but with limited resources YAIO should take merit in exerting change even to the unimaginable destiny. If possible create a resource centre for youths to participate actively”.

Marjorie Banda (District Education Office) – “The book is educative. Teachers use it as a Teacher’s Guide in Tikambirane Clubs, Mother Group Committees, Girls Guide and Child Protection Committees. The book has changed a lot of young people’s behaviors. The books are very helpful. And as an education office, we propose for trainings for teachers and Primary Education Advisors and also Inspectors to monitor how effective are the teachers using these books”.

Ruth Maluwa (Resource Center Manager- MASP) – “The book is very inspiring and the advantage is that it is in Chichewa language. The information in the book is easy to relate to as well as easy to use and share information especially to adolescents. For the book is new to most of us, there is need to train more people especially those working in different community based organizations on how to use the books so they too should have enough knowledge as they go reaching out to people in their communities, but the trainings should be in phases so as to maintain uniformity in what the book is addressing. There is also need for follow up forums because there are many youth groups in different areas and the forums will be an interacting point beneficial to all stakeholders to share what they are doing about or with the books”. On distribution, YAIO needs to continue with its strategic distribution”.

Reporting in pictures



General Recommendations and Suggestions:

Through the field visits and the quarterly meeting, participants proposed the following actions:

- Training of more trainers or peer educators on how to facilitate using the book
- Printing and distribution of books
- Production of other learning materials like leaflets, radio programs, Television programs using topics from the book
- Conducting regular meetings with partners using the book
- Establishment of **“Moyo Wanga – Kuyambira Pano clubs”** in primary schools
- Partnering with different organizations including the church in disseminating the information in the book
- Mobilization of resources for the project to continue even after the phasing out period
- Extending the project to other districts in Malawi

List of Participants:

No.	Full Name	Organization	Location
1	Sady Mkwate	Chikondi Cholinga Community Based Organization	Machinjiri
2	Limbani Njewa	Beehive – Mother Teresa Child Care Centre	Chilomoni
3	Mathews Mulaka	Chikuli/ Kunthembwe Youth Network	Chikuli
4	Quiteria Moyenda	Mphatso Youth Club	Chikuli
5	Menard Chabwera	Concerned Youth Organization	Kachere
6	Enert Banda	Wells of Joy Orphan Care Centre	BCA Hill
7	Ruth Maluwa	Malawi Scotland Partnership	Nyambadwe
8	Marjorie Banda	District Education Office	Kabula
9	Howard Mlozi	Nation Newspaper	Chichiri
10	Bennie Msuku	St Columba CCAP Church	Chinyonga
11	Godfrey Msoliza	Health Advocacy Network	Limbe
12	Neema Undulu	Friends of Nature	Chimwankhunda
13	Linnah Matanya	Women for Fair Development	Chirimba
14	Fatima Mauluka	Genesis Manja Othandiza	Chilobwe
15	Ruth Mdzeka	Chisomo Childrens Club	Kabula
16	Solum Mtogolo	Centre for the Development of People	Nyambadwe
17	Felix Malele	Chitsanzo Support Youth Organization	Chigumula
18	Eliza Byson	Youth Arm Organization	Chichiri
19	E. Muhamba	Blantyre District Council	Kabula
20	Joyce Tasosa	Youth Activists Initiative Organization	Secretariat
21	Tony Khanyepa	Youth Activists Initiative Organization	Secretariat