



ADOLESCENTES E JOVENS

DETERMINADAS

RESILIENTES

EMPODERADAS

LIVRES DE HIV/SIDA

MENTORADAS

SEGURAS

DECIDEM MELHOR SEU FUTURO



WORLD EDUCATION'S BANTWANA INITIATIVE IN MOZAMBIQUE

THE NEED

Despite considerable progress in the overall global HIV/AIDS response, the HIV/AIDS epidemic among females aged 15-24 in Eastern and Southern Africa is particularly alarming, with as many as 7,000 new infections occurring each week. The impact of the HIV/AIDS epidemic over the past two decades in Mozambique, coupled with having one of the highest rates of child marriage in the world (56% of girls being married before age 18), has exacerbated the incidence of abuse, violence, and exploitation of vulnerable females in both rural and urban Mozambique.

THE PROJECT

In 2015, with funding from PEPFAR, Gates Foundation and Nike Foundation, USAID launched the **DREAMS** (Determined, Resilient, Empowered, AIDS-free, Mentored, and Safe) Initiative, an ambitious partnership to reduce HIV infection among Adolescent Girls and Young Women (AGYW) ages 15-24 in 10 sub-Saharan African countries over two years. World Education Inc.'s Bantwana Initiative (WEI/B) is implementing the two-year DREAMS program in Mozambique across five, high HIV-burden districts in three provinces – Gaza, Sofala, and Zambézia. WEI/B's DREAMS activities are being layered onto Força à Comunidade e às Crianças (FCC) project: a five-year (2015-2020) initiative aimed at improving and expanding evidenced-based models of integrated support for OVC and their households across Manica, Sofala, and Zambézia provinces.



GOAL AND STRATEGIC APPROACH

The overall goal of DREAMS is a 40% reduction in incidence among AGYW in the targeted DREAMS areas by the end of the two-year period. DREAMS interventions address HIV risk and its related socio-economic determinants, resulting in: 1) increased access of AGYW to Adolescent Friendly Health Services (AFHS) to reduce their risk of HIV infection; 2) increased social asset building of AGYW and their families; and, 3) increased community mobilization to prevent HIV among AGYW. WEI/B is delivering an integrated package of comprehensive services that address the age-specific needs of in- and out-of-school AGYW and their families in the five DREAMS target districts. WEI/B and partners use a 'layered approach' ensuring that each adolescent girl or young woman receives a core package of services that tackles factors that exacerbate the HIV epidemic.

Determined Resilient Empowered AIDS-Free Mentored Safe



KEY INTERVENTIONS AND ACTIVITIES

Adolescent Friendly Health Services (AFHS): WEI/B activities leverage opportunities to create demand for AFHS, and develop and widely disseminate information to enhance linkages and referrals between community, school and AFHS.

Develop and roll out Child Protection, School and Community Leaders Trainings on Family Planning (FP), identifying Gender Based Violence (GBV) cases, HIV prevention and response services, child marriage and trafficking, and the importance of early reporting and referrals in order to provide support and accurate information to AGYW regarding critical services they need.

Coordinate a multi-sectoral outreach intervention, “Stop the Bus” (Paragem Unica Chapa 100) Campaign, designed to empower communities, young girls and women and to bring GBV prevention messages to in and out of school girls ages 10-24 in their local areas, and immediately link them to medical, legal and counseling support services.

Engage traditional and community leaders to identify AFHS in their communities, and undertake various mobilization activities to increase knowledge of other community leaders and members around GBV and HIV prevention and response, utilizing approaches such as small group discussions, community dialogues, and role plays.

Identify and train peer educators to improve linkages of AGYW to non-clinical services and information at school and community health corners (cantinhos).

Coordinate quarterly district-level meetings between local partners, community committees, CCPCs, health and social services district level staff, service providers, and other key stakeholders (e.g. police) to foster effective linkages and strengthen community referrals to AFHS.

Social Asset Building: WEI/B activities increase social assets among AGYW so that they are better able to exert control over their own lives, protect themselves from HIV, and participate meaningfully and effectively in their societies.

Award and provide support to schools as they manage School Block Grants and Education Subsidies to support vulnerable girls to stay in school, transition from primary to secondary school, and help reintegrate girls who have recently dropped out.

Establish and support School and Community-based Child Rights Clubs (CRCs) to build children’s awareness of their rights and responsibilities and knowledge about how and where to report abuse; engage schools, teachers, and community members to advocate for and protect children’s rights; and encourage children to make healthy choices.

Establish school-based Girl Empowerment Clubs (GECs) or safe spaces to equip in-school AGYW (15-24) with information on HIV prevention, reproductive health, leadership, and life skills.

Community Mobilization: WEI/B activities include economic strengthening activities for AGYW and their caregivers, as well as HIV and GBV prevention activities for AGYW, their caregivers and the larger community.

Establish and/or encourage AGYW and their caregivers to join Village Savings and Loans Associations (VSLA+) groups. The VSLA+ groups also serve as a platform for integrated social service delivery, such as HIV sexual and reproductive rights, GBV and information and services.

Develop and roll out a suitable parenting education program to benefit both caregivers of AGYW and out-of-school AGYW aged 15 – 24 years.

Deliver ARSH services through a tested sports intervention that utilizes sports competitions to transmit messages about sexual and reproductive health to adolescent boys and girls, coupled with service referrals to community-based clinics.

Promote Community Dialogues on HIV and GBV in order to escalate the engagement of men and boys and create demand for services uptake such as FP, condom use, and HIV testing.

Determined

Resilient

Empowered

AIDS-Free

Mentored

Safe