



# PROJECT TITLE: VCT PROJECT

PROGRESS REPORT: ANNUAL



PERIOD COVERED: JANUARY- DECEMBER 2011

## **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

HIV/AIDS still continues to be a life threatening catastrophe in the world especially in the sub Sahara Africa region where many lives have been lost as a result of its devastating impact. The spread of HIV has turned a corner, with the number of new infections down by 20% since its peak in 1999. However, campaigners are warning that the war still continues. Furthermore success has been experienced but we can't say we have succeeded until there are zero new HIV infections.

Access to health should not be decided by who you are or where you live, but by equity and social justice. According to UN Aids estimates, there are 33.3 million people living with HIV including 2.5 million children. In 2009 some 2.6 million new infections were reported and a further 1.8 million people dying of AIDS related complications. The vast majority of people with HIV and AIDS live in lower and middle income countries.

Karungu is one of the areas which has fallen in the cruel hands of this monster; many people have lost their beloved ones to this scourge. St Camillus mission Hospital through VCT has made remarkable efforts to avert the spread of HIV/AIDS within Karungu and its environs.

## **OUR GOALS**

Our main goals are:

- ✓ To create awareness among adults and youths within Karungu and its environs
- ✓ To improve the lives of people living with HIV/AIDS by educating them on how to live positively with HIV and to have their behavior changed.
- ✓ To prevent the spread of HIV/AIDS within Karungu and its environs

## **OBJECTIVES**

- ✓ To reduce the spread of HIV among individuals and couples in the community.
- ✓ To help decrease the number of new HIV infections in mothers and children.
- ✓ To refer the infected clients for HIV care and treatments to appropriate support centers and to help identify support groups within their villages.

## **HIGHLIGHTS OF THE REPORT**

This report gives the actual overview of the project within a period of one year and the efforts taken by the St Camillus VCT and the hospital in addressing the HIV issue, staffing, capacity building, challenges, achievements, future plans, and clients statistical analysis for the period covered.

## **INTRODUCTION**

HIV is still a single life catastrophe all over the world. In sub- Sahara region its effect is felt more as compared to the rest of the world, there is still need to do more to prevent its spread. A lot of information has been imparted about effective prevention, but many countries still have difficulty focusing their efforts on interventions that will have the greatest impact in stemming the spread of the virus.

The 2008 Kenya Demographic and Health survey (KDHS) estimated the average HIV prevalence rate among population aged 15-49 at 6.3%, the survey confirmed that women are still more likely to be infected than men, with men at 4.3% and women at 8%. Even though many challenges still remain, Kenyas fight against HIV- AIDS has shown promising success. HIV prevalence is seen as stabilizing at 7%. Nevertheless, the number of new infections remains high and varies across the provinces. Nyanza still has the highest rate among the eight provinces with 14% while North Eastern province rate is estimated at only 1%. Closer to home, however, the prevalence rate in Nyatike District is 25% with Karungu Division showing an increase from 20% to 26% with this years world Aids day theme "Getting to zero new HIV infections, zero discrimination, zero HIV related deaths", St Camillus is in the fore front in the war against HIV/AIDS.

## **ST CAMILLUS MISSION HOSPITAL**

St Camillus mission hospital is situated in Nyanza province, Nyatike District, Karungu division. It is located in the province in which the HIV prevalence rate is among the highest in the entire country (refer to the figures given in the introduction of this report).

The institution has taken every effort to curb the spread of the scourge through various educational, medical and social services. Interventions such as VCT (Voluntary counseling and testing), prevention mother to child transmission of HIV services and other HIV testing and services have been put in place to curb the scourge.

## **STAFFING**

St Camillus VCT site has two trained counselors offering quality services to their clients.



*Testing of a client after counseling*

## **CAPACITY BUILDING**

It is done in various ways throughout the year. VCT staff members meet routinely to discuss important issues and quality assurance matters as the year unfolds thus creating the way for quality services.

## **CHALLENGES**

- ✓ Stigma and discrimination: negative attitudes towards HIV/AIDS is still rampant among individuals who test positive.
- ✓ Condom procurement is a problem: a number of people still are unable to get access to condoms in the site as a result of a shortage from the ministry.
- ✓ Cultural norms: some individuals still believe in old cultural practices such as wife inheritance
- ✓ Lack of funds to support the mobile services in hard to reach areas where there is rapid HIV transmission
- ✓ Few client couples: many people still are unwilling to go for HIV testing services with their spouses. As a result it creates misunderstanding amongst the couples.

## **ACHIEVEMENTS**

- ✓ Since the introduction of VCT services in the institution, many people have had their behavior changed.
- ✓ Confidentiality within the site has lead to stigma reduction among staff and even the people in the community resulting in to the influx of more people in the site.
- ✓ Reduced mortality and morbidity rate: through VCT many people once tested and referred are able to access care and treatment from the patient support centers.

## **FUTURE PLANS**

- ✓ To extend mobile VCT services in hard to reach zones such as the islands of Lake Victoria
- ✓ To maintain and improve quality of services to our clients
- ✓ To organize and promote quality assurance exercise in the site.



*VCT counselor entering client data in the register after testing*

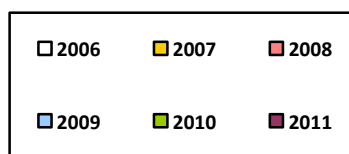
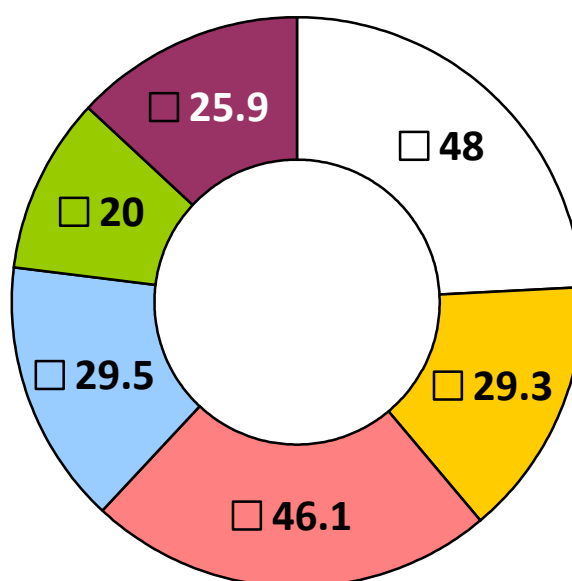
**STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF CLIENTS TESTED FROM JAN- DEC 2011**

MONTH	MALE			FEMALE			TOTAL		
	No. tested	No post	No neg	No. tested	No. post	No. neg	Total tested	Total post	% post
Jan	90	16	74	88	32	56	178	48	27%
Feb	50	22	28	58	22	36	108	44	41%
Mar	42	17	25	47	17	25	89	34	38%
Apr	50	08	42	74	22	52	124	30	24%
May	74	16	58	81	17	64	155	33	21%
Jun	98	09	89	100	18	82	198	27	14%
Jul	73	17	56	80	20	60	153	37	24%
Aug	45	10	35	74	20	54	119	30	25%
Sep	56	12	44	81	20	61	137	32	23%
Oct	60	08	52	66	26	40	126	34	27%
Nov	61	16	45	87	29	58	148	45	30%
Dec	63	16	47	53	19	34	116	35	30%
<b>Total</b>	<b>762</b>	<b>167</b>	<b>595</b>	<b>889</b>	<b>262</b>	<b>622</b>	<b>1651</b>	<b>429</b>	<b>26%</b>

**GRAPHICAL REPRESENTATION OF HIV PREVALENCE RATES AMONG VCT CLIENTS IN KARUNGU AND ITS ENVIRONS**

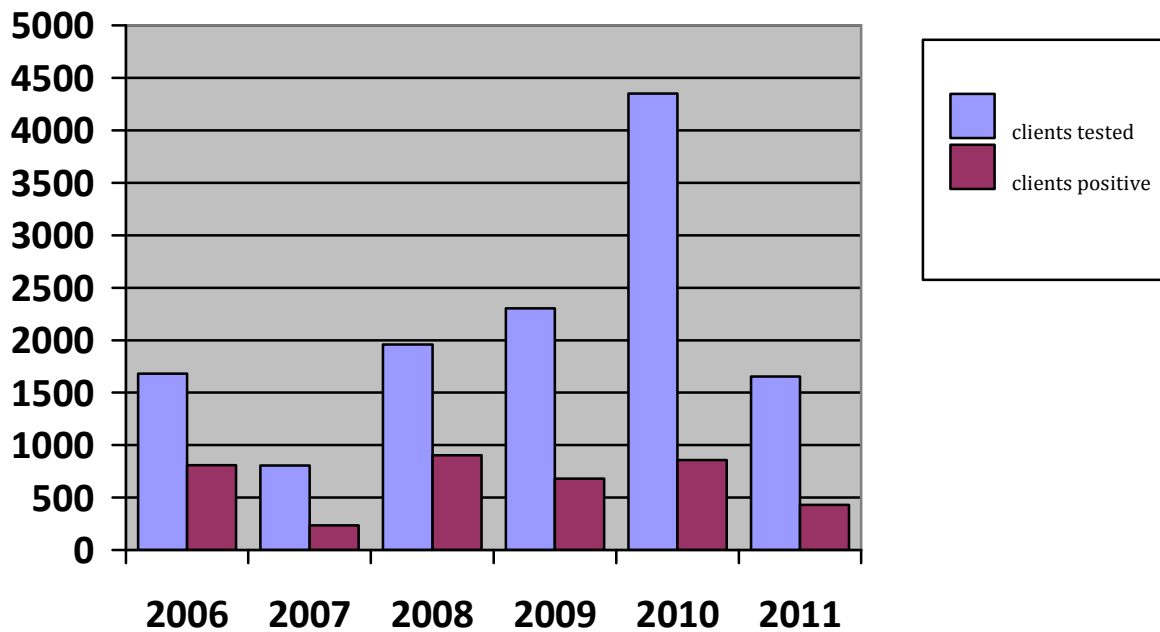
Year	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
% prevalence	48.0	29.3	46.1	29.5	20.0	25.9

HIV/AIDS PREVALENCE



**ANNUAL NUMBER OF PEOPLE TESTED AND PERCENTAGE POSITIVE  
FROM THE YEAR 2006-2011**

<b>YEAR</b>	<b>CLIENTS TESTED</b>	<b>CLIENTS POSITIVE</b>
2006	1681	807(48.0%)
2007	806	236(29.3%)
2008	1959	903(46.1%)
2009	2306	681(29.5%)
2010	4352	858(20.0%)
2011	1651	429(25.9%)



Report by

**Maurice Awuor**  
**VCT Co-ordinator**

# HAPPEN PROJECT - RONGO

## VCT ANNUAL REPORT 2011

Due to high demand of VCT services in Rongo District, more so for the youths in and out of the school, the project started a stand alone VCT service in the Head office, which has really helped to reach the target group of this project and the entire community as is required by the objectives of the HAPPEN Project.

The VCT services were officially started in April 2011 and managed to handle a total of 230 of which out of this figure 5 are positive. 74 females and 156 are males, therefore the project has realized a positive response more so to newly married and young couples.

### Challenges

- Referrals are quite challenging more so for the STIs cases, because the youths needs private and *confidential services and therefore that brings to the attention of the project to consider these.*
- This year the project should focus on the area of confidential services as per required by the National Guidelines. Therefore there is great need to initiate the programs of laboratory services and pharmacy to manage the issues of [OIs] in order to assist the entire project in handling the confidential matters. Being a satellite of the Hospital especially VCT Department, there is a high increase of STI cases among the youth but their zero status is negative, GOK hospitals are really trying their level best but at times they become unreliable in terms of availability of drugs (Antibiotics) for the treatment. So for us to continue with youth friendly services we are therefore required to put the unit which is comprehensive for internal referrals so that we may be able to carry everybody on board.

The table below shows the statistical summary of the clients from April –December 2011

MONTH	MALE			FEMALE			TOTAL	
	No Tested	No positive	No Negative	No Tested	No Positive	No Negative	Total Tested	Total Positive
April	18	1	17	1	0	1	19	1
May	11	0	11	14	2	12	25	2
June	11	0	11	7	0	7	18	0
July	16	1	15	19	0	19	35	1
August	18	0	18	18	0	18	36	0
September	18	0	18	1	0	1	19	0
October	18	0	18	4	0	4	22	0
November	7	0	7	9	0	9	16	0
December	26	1	25	14	0	14	40	0

**Report by**  
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**VCT Counsellor**