

World AIDS Day - 1st December 2007



Stop AIDS; Keep the Promise - Leadership

REPORT

**MARKED ON
November 30th - December 2nd,
2007**

AT

**ST. CAMILLUS DALA KIYE
CHILDREN WELFARE HOME**

**KARUNGU DIVISION, MIGORI
DISTRICT**



**ST. CAMILLUS
MISSION HOSPITAL
CRS AIDS RELIEF**



**ART PROJECT
CMMB/MCH**



**PMTCT PROJECT
VCT PROJECT**



**ST. CAMILLUS DALA KIY
CHILDREN WELFARE HO**



**MERCY ORPHAN
SUPPORT PROGRAM**



HAPPEN PROJECT



HOPE & LIFE PROJECT





AWAKE PROJECT

TABLE OF CONTENTS	PAGE
LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS	3
AKNOWLEDGEMENT	4
INTRODUCTION	5
WAD 2007 THEME, OBJECTIVES AND EXPECTED RESULTS	6
CONCLUSION	20
WAD 2007 FINANCIAL REPORT	21

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

WAD	World AIDS Day
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
AED	Academy for Educational Development
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
AIDS	Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
PMTCT	Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission
ART	Anti-Retroviral Therapy
VCT	Voluntary Counseling and Testing
C-VCT	Couple Voluntary Testing and Counseling
IEC	Informative, Educative and Communicative
PLWHA	People Living With HIV/AIDS
HAPPEN	HIV/AIDS Prevention & Protection Empowerment Network
DO	District Officer
OVC	Orphans and Vulnerable Children
CBO	Community Based organization
CRS	Catholic Relief Services
CRSC	Catholic Relief Services Consortium
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
MOSUP	Mercy Orphan Support Program
NACC	National Aids Control Council

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I feel enthralled to take this great opportunity to express my most sincere gratitude to the following organizations for their selfless financial, material and technical support towards marking WAD 2007: AED/USAID, Catholic Relief Services (CRS) and SALUTE C.SVILUPPO-Italy.

I would also like to commend the shrewd organization and participation of the following organizations that are working under the St. Camillus Mission – St. Camillus Dala Kiye Children Welfare Home, MOSUP, HAPPEN, AWAKE, AIDS Relief/ART, PMTCT, Hope and Life, VCT and St. Camillus Mission Hospital. Special thanks also go to the following individuals for contributing their hard earned resources to our organization towards WAD 2007 activities: Hon. Joshua Orwa Ojode, Peres Ogutu (the Area Chief) and headmistress Kiranda girls, A Jiwa Samji, Joseph Majiwa, Jared Ouma, Thomas Yongo, Gideon Watta, Sharrif and the Area Assistant Chief, Mr. Barnabas Majiwa. Special gratitude also extended to the proprietors of the following organizations and enterprises; MOH Migori District, Ouru superstores and Onduru transporters.

I commendably acknowledge the skilful stewardship of the organizing committee for the WAD 2007. The team did everything possible to facilitate the successful accomplishments of all the planned activities for the WAD 2007. All the staffs that were assigned responsibilities in various areas deserve to be appreciated for job well done. Their contributions, given so willingly and enthusiastically were not only crucial and necessary but also optimized commitment in taking away AIDS away from the community. I would also like to extend my thanks to the entire staff of St. Camillus Mission Karungu for their individual financial and material sacrifices towards the same. I feel indebted to all the pupils and teachers from the primary schools in Nyatike and Gwassi areas who took part in the WAD 2007 celebrations for their commitments and contributions in various activities. It is also not possible to forget the involvement of community members and their substantial contributions in terms of physical participation. I appreciate all community groups that presented very educative items during WAD 2007 and ball game teams for their professional presentations. Special thanks also extended to the students of B.L Tezza Complex Secondary and Primary Schools for their relentless participation through out this year's event.

Gauging from this exemplary commitment from all the stakeholders involved in the fight against HIV/AIDS in Nyatike and Gwassi communities, I am sincerely upbeat that we are in the right track of alleviating the society of the suffering brought about by the HIV/AIDS scourge. Lots of thanks to all of you and May the almighty God bless you all. Looking forward to your continued support and cooperation.

Fr. Emilio Balliana
The Programs Director

Sign: _____

Date: _____

INTRODUCTION

Background Information

St. Camillus Mission – Karungu is a Faith-based Organization. It was founded in 1997 by the religious congregation of the ‘Order of the Servants of the Sick’ (Camillians). The organization comprises mainly of two institutions – a Mission Hospital (St. Camillus Mission Hospital) and an OVC Care and Support Center (St. Camillus Dala Kiye Children Welfare Home). The organization is situated at the deep southern shore of Lake Victoria in Karungu Division, Migori District, Nyanza Province in the Republic of Kenya.

The hospital endeavors to compassionately alleviate human suffering and pain by increasing access to quality health care services to the poor sick and less fortunate members of the society. St. Camillus Dala Kiye Children Welfare Home provides humanitarian and developmental services to OVC. All these are manifested in good governance and improved livelihoods of the targeted communities in education, health, food and nutrition, Child development, advocacy and HIV/AIDS.

HIV/AIDS Continues to be a major challenge to the socio-economic development in Nyatike community, like other communities in Nyanza province along the shores of Lake Victoria. Since 2001, St. Camillus Mission – Karungu marks World AIDS Day for at least 3 consecutive days, always ensuring that 1st December on which the whole world marks WAD falls within the 3 days. The purpose remains that of expressing our Solidarity, Commitment, Compassion and Extending assistance to PLWHA, OVC and their caregivers. An organizing committee of at least 15 people drawn from St. Camillus Mission affiliate organizations is usually constituted by the mission to plan and roll out WAD activities. It has been realized that more synergy is generated towards an AIDS-free community as we work as a team, pulling our resources together. All must demonstrate concerns and commitments to the combat against AIDS in a process that involves all the sectors in the community in delivering Good News of Love, Care and concerns to God’s children in the midst of HIV/AIDS pandemic.

The theme, **Stop AIDS; Keep the Promise – Leadership** was adopted this year 2007 to keep a live the fact that AIDS has not gone away from our community and is still with us. We emphasize the fact that AIDS will stop and our community will be AIDS – free if all sorts of promises at individual, family and community levels are kept.

Key stakeholders in Karungu community were represented in the Organizing Committee for this year’s (2007) WAD. All are currently involved in HIV/AIDS

continuum of care and support service provision in the division from Awareness & Education, Prevention & Control, Care and Support to Impact Mitigation. These include the following organizations:

St. Camillus Mission Hospital

Provides quality health care services to all community members and oversees the implementation of the following projects:

1) AIDSRelief-ART Project

The project reaching over 2,500 clients enrolled in Anti retroviral Therapy and over 3,000 people on general care

2) PMTCT Project

The project provides therapeutic services that ensure that HIV positive mothers undergo safe deliveries to HIV negative babies. Between 80 – 90 mothers are being reached with the services on a monthly basis.

3) VCT project

The project provides VCT services and helps people to make informed decision concerning their health in the limelight of HIV/AIDS. About 20 clients are attended to on a daily basis.

4) Hope & Life project

This project is a membership group for people living with HIV/AIDS. It is currently working with over 2,612 members and 45 support groups in the community. It endeavors to provide an opportunity for collective bargaining power for the members.

5) AWAKE project

The project focuses on HIV/AIDS prevention and control targeting youths in schools and structured groups in the community. All the 35 primary schools and 4 secondary schools in Karungu division have been reached with prevention and control services in the past.

St. Camillus Dala Kiye Children Welfare Home.

The program works with and for OVC from the communities in Migori and Suba districts to improve their welfare. The interventions are designed to mitigate the impacts of HIV/AIDS on the OVC. This is being realized through the following projects:

1. School-based Care and Support
2. Foster Family Care and Protection
3. Foster Family Care and Protection for OVC with special needs

Mercy Orphan Support Group Project

Caring and supporting 3,500 OVC and 1,200 caregivers in their village settings through community care and support systems.

WAD 2007 THEME, OBJECTIVES, PLANNED ACTIVITIES AND RESULTS

Theme

For the year 2007 St. Camillus Mission has adopted the world AIDS campaign's theme "Stop AIDS, Keep the Promise - Leadership". This is an appeal to governments and policy makers to ensure they meet the targets they have agreed to in the fight against HIV and AIDS. The governments of 189 member countries of UN signed a Declaration of commitment in June 2001 to take action on HIV and AIDS in the fields of leadership, prevention, care and support, treatment, reducing vulnerability, and human rights.

The 2007 theme, "Leadership", highlights the need for innovation, vision and perseverance in the face of the AIDS challenge. The campaign calls on all sectors of society such as families, communities and civil society organizations – rather than just governments – to take the initiative and provide leadership on AIDS.

The following were the objectives and results set forth for marking WAD 2007

Broad Objective

To contribute to the work towards an AIDS – free world

Specific objectives

- Raise awareness on HIV and AIDS in Nyatike community
- Making and selling red ribbons, wear red ribbons and ask others to do the same in expressing solidarity with those already infected and affected by HIV and AIDS
- Sign up as a supporter of the Stop AIDS campaign in Nyatike community
- Protect oneself and your partner – this is the first and the best way to stop the spread of HIV
- Provide an opportunity for free HIV test
- Organizing a creative writing campaign on HIV and AIDS
- Arranging a sponsored bicycle riding race
- Getting friends, family, colleagues, community members or children to express their feelings and expand their knowledge about AIDS
- Setting up a debate and a quiz for the youths and couples or other groups separately

Planned Activities

1. All HIV/AIDS field workers from different organizations in Karungu Division mobilize and sensitize the community during their respective project field activities on WAD 2007.
2. At least 1000 community members participate in 2 concurrent 3Km processions from Sori Beach and Oodi beach to St. Camillus Dala Kiye Children Welfare Home
3. 4 identified competent HIV/AIDS community educators, each running a session a day for 3 days, create awareness, educate and demystify myths surrounding HIV/AIDS.
4. 4 identified competent life skills trainers, for least a session with youths everyday for 3 days impart the skills and knowledge necessary for negotiating and maintaining safe behaviors among youths in and out of schools.
5. At least 10 qualified VCT counselors provide free Voluntary Counseling and Testing and Couple Voluntary Counseling and Testing services to community members in need of the services.
6. At least 6 senior and 6 junior football teams, 8 volleyball and 8 netball teams register and participate in the WAD 2007 Tournaments.
7. At least 20 youths register as bicycle riders and participate in the WAD 2007 Bicycle Riding Competition through 40km route within Karungu division.
8. 1 Holy Mass celebrated to mark WAD 2007 opening ceremony for spiritual nourishment to the infected people and their affected family members.
9. At least 150 PLWHA identified in Karungu receive a one time social support services such as a package of supplementary food support.
10. At least 4 education sessions conducted to equip the community members with adequate information & knowledge on the HIV/AIDS care and support services available in Karungu including Home Based Care, PMTCT, VCT, OVC care and support.
11. Over 15 different groups of youths, women, institutions and other mixed special entertainment groups present educative songs, poems, drama and skits.
12. At least 15 key speakers including professionals in medical, education, business, development and church leaders, politicians, provincial administration, opinion leaders, women leaders, youths and representatives of OVC and PLWHA provide an open forum for addressing typical issues in the community related to HIV/AIDS ,widow inheritance, marriage, fidelity, family, alcoholism, drug abuse ,orphans and child abuse.
13. Key participants, 3 best teams in each ball game – Football, Netball and Volleyball and the first 10 best bicycle riders awarded for outstanding performance in the WAD 2007 tournaments.

WAD 2007 ACTIVITIES AND ACTUAL RESULTS

1. *Processions.*

As have been the practice in the past celebrations, WAD 2007 was jump started by holding twin processions that started at around 9.00am from Sori center and Oodi beach respectively. The processions were flagged off by the local provincial administration representatives. Each procession covered a distance of approximately

3km from St. Camillus Dala Kiye Children Welfare Home. About 2000 enthusiastic members of the public and other invited guests drawn from all cadres participated in this noble exercise. In both accounts, the participants carried huge burners that bore the theme of WAD 2007 of Stop AIDS; Keep the Promise – Leadership. The theme basically acted as a rallying call that was meant to remind individuals, families, communities, Governments, and Organizations that AIDS is still with us and all must keep the promises they made at any levels, working together towards an AIDS-FreeWorld. The occasion was marked by song and dance as participants sang educative songs that helped to demystify the myths that surround HIV/AIDS. The processions entered St.Camillus Dala Kiye grounds at around 9.45am to arousing rounds of applause and ululations from hundreds of expectant participants that were already gathered at the celebration venue.



The WAD 2007 procession snakes its way through Sori centre- St. Camillus road.

2. Opening ceremony

This was the main activity that took place immediately after the procession. The event commenced at around 10.00am and there was a large crowd in hand to witness this grand moment. Fr .Emilio Balliana, the Director of St. Camillus Dala Kiye Children Welfare Home and Mr. Meshack Obilo, the AIDS Relief Program Coordinator, presided over the occasion that took place at the St. Camillus Dala Kiye grounds. A number of invited guests, mainly comprising of representatives from various CBO, NGO, government departmental representatives and individual collaborators were also present.

The following activities took place in the sequence outlined below during the opening ceremony that started at 10.00am and ended at around 12.30p.m:

- Opening prayers led by Fr.Emilio Balliana
- Opening remarks by the area chief
- Speeches by several invited guests

- Entertainments (songs, plays, kits and verses) by pupils from different primary schools in Karungu Division and other guest performers.
- Personal testimonies of life experience by a number of people living with HIV/AIDS
- Educative and sensitizing speeches by invited guests representing health, education, youths, women, PLWHA, social & culture and religious interests
- Closing speech by a representative of the area D.O
- Meals and refreshments for over 2500 invited guests and participants



Part of the crowd that had gathered at venue follows the proceedings of the official opening ceremony



It is entertainment galore for the official Opening Ceremony

3. Informative, Educative and communicative Presentations

A number of primary schools from Karungu division and beyond plus other organized groups drawn from Nyatike and Gwasssi communities performed rib cracking and informative presentations that were in line with WAD 2007 theme of “Stop AIDS; Keep the promise – Leadership”. In total there were about 20 primary schools and around 10 organized groups. Both groups provided sufficient entertainment and education for the entire period of WAD 2007. There was also a number of testimonies from invited PLWHAS.

An open forum for networking and collaboration for all the HIV/AIDS stakeholders in the division was realized as all the informative, educative and communicative presentations majorly focused on:

- Exploring the year’s theme- ‘Stop AIDS: Keep the Promise - Leadership’
- Taking leadership role in issues to do with HIV/AIDS.
- VCT and C-VCT services
- Provision of love and care to those living with HIV/AIDS
- Positive living
- Prevention, care and support to PLWHA
- Fighting against stigma and discrimination
- Access to treatment and the availability of ART services
- Care and protection of the orphans and vulnerable children
- The children rights and child protection
- Cultural, social, religious and economic effects of HIV/AIDS
- Strengthening community responses towards mitigating the effects of AIDS.



***B.L Tezza Complex Secondary School students
recite an educative verse***

4. Free VCT services

Free VCT services have always formed a very crucial component of each year's WAD and therefore this year was no exception. Everything right from the testing kits, venue and qualified counselors were efficient in rolling out this noble exercise. The organizing committee of WAD 2007 contributed greatly to this exercise by going into a full blown publicity drive that urged all and sundry to participate in the exercise that ran concurrently with other activities for the three days.

Every participant that walked out of the VCT rooms attested to the high level of organization and the skilled workmanship that was demonstrated by the various officers that were tasked with the exercise.



Anxious participants jam the entrance of one of the VCT rooms during WAD 2007

Statistics of the VCT attendants

DAYS	HIV POSITIVE		HIV NEGATIVE		TOTAL
	MALES	FEMALES	MALES	FEMALES	
DAY1 30/11/2007	8	12	45	65	130
DAY2 1/12/2007	14	26	88	42	170
DAY3 2/12/2007	7	13	39	41	100
TOTAL	29	51	172	148	400
% HIV STATUS	7.2%	12.8%	43%	37%	100%

5. Skill building demonstrations

Information was plenty during this year's WAD. A number of projects had stands where their staffs were stationed to help answer questions and inquiries from

participants. Participants were educated on the theme of this year's WAD, "Stop AIDS; Keep the Promise – Leadership"

Every project that is operating under the St. Camillus Mission namely; St. Camillus Mission Hospital, St. Camillus Dala Kiye, HAPPEN Project, Hope and Life, AWAKE, AIDS Relief/CRS, MOSUP and PMTCT had their stands that were emblazoned with huge banners bearing the mission and vision of the projects plus their target groups and coverage area. There were also skill demonstrations from various caregiver support groups who took the golden opportunity to showcase their wares to the participants of WAD 2007. Students and youths were equally impressive in their stands where they disseminated plenty of information to their colleagues on a wide range of topical issues such as Facts on HIV/AIDS and Life Skills.

In general participants who visited these stands were never disappointed as they left when they were more knowledgeable on HIV/AIDS pandemic. The projects that had their exhibition stands also worked round the clock to see into it that their stands were adequately supplied with brochures, fliers and a host of other educative materials on HIV/AIDS pandemic.



Youths in one of the demonstration stands



MOSUP caregivers display their wares in their demonstration stand

6. Bicycle Riding Competition

Bicycle riding competition is an event that has been synonymous with every WAD celebrations in St. Camillus Mission .The event acts as a major crowd puller and have over the years received positive response from the competitors as the organizers endowed with shrewd mobilization skills, usually ensure that those who finish in top positions are rewarded accordingly.

This year's exercise attracted a total of 18 cyclists with some coming from far flung areas of Nyatike and Gwassi constituencies. The competition was marked on the final day of WAD celebrations (Sunday, 2nd December). When the area District Officer flagged off the competition at around 8.00am, it was all systems go as every cyclist embarked on a mission of emerging the winner. The event was characterized with the usual pomp and color. The cyclists covered a distance of 41km with the finishing point being at St. Camillus Dala Kiye Children Welfare Home grounds.

The event organizers distributed IEC materials to all the cyclists. Continuing the tempo of the past events, the competition lived to its billing as one of the most competitive and the most coveted events of WAD.

This year's event was characterized with a lot of pomp and color

7. Celebration of the Holly Mass

The mass was celebrated on the final day of WAD 2007 celebrations (Sunday, 2nd December 2007).The celebration of the holy mass was presided over by a camillian father, Fr. Julius Morara of St. Camillus Mission, Karungu and a Passionist priest, Fr. Jacob from Karungu parish.

The mass was celebrated in remembrance of those who have lost their lives as a result of HIV/AIDS pandemic, those who are living with the deadly virus and those who have been made vulnerable by the devastating effects of HIV/AIDS like the OVC and the old overburdened OVC caregivers. The mass commenced at around 10.00am and ran for about 90 minutes.



Holy mass in progress

8. Provision of meals and refreshments

Meals and refreshments was provided for all the participants and invited guests for the entire duration that WAD 2007 was celebrated. Both breakfast and lunch was catered for.

Table indicating the estimated number of People Fed During Wad 2007

DAY	BREAKFAST	LUNCH
DAY 1 30/12/2007	800	2500
DAY 2 1/12/2007	800	2500
DAY 3 2/12/2007	800	3000
TOTAL	2400	8000



Participants' line up for their lunch in the dining hall

9. Ballgame Tournament Matches

The games attracted participants in two disciplines namely football and netball. In both areas, there were entries in senior and junior categories. All the matches were manned by very professional referees. The table below summarizes the number of teams that participated in the tournament.

Discipline	No. of participating teams
Boys senior Soccer	6
Boys junior Soccer	6
Girls senior Netball	3
Girls junior netball	6

For the three days of WAD 2007, a total of 14 football matches were played and the top three finishers in each category walked away with a variety of fabulous prizes ranging from games kits, balls and trophies. As the tournaments progressed, the attendants were also encouraged to go for VCT and get to know their status. IEC materials were also issued to both the participants and those in attendance.

The winners of this year's tournament were as follows

- Boys' senior soccer: Nyangori F.C
- Boys' junior soccer: Rabuor primary School
- Netball Senior: St. Camillus netball team
- Netball Junior: Kopala Primary School



A group photo for B.L Tezza Complex Primary school football team



Spectators watch one of the football matches

10. Provision of Red Ribbons, Lottery Tickets and Lottery Draws

This is an exercise that ran for the three consecutive days of WAD 2007 and ran concurrently with other WAD activities. Each lottery ticket was being sold at Ksh 20 with each buyer winning an instant prize of a red ribbon. The red ribbon is an international symbol of AIDS awareness that is worn by people all year round and particularly around World AIDS Day to demonstrate care and concern about HIV and AIDS, to remind others of the need for their support and commitment. The grand draw for the lottery tickets was done on the final day of the celebration (Sunday, 2nd December) with winners walking away with a variety of lucrative prizes that included bicycles, goat, shirts among other items. In the end, over 100 prizes were won.



One of the proud winners of the lottery admires his prize

11. Closing Ceremony

As the adage goes, “All that has a beginning, got to have an end” and so this years WAD was no exception. The curtain suddenly fell on this grand event on Sunday, 2nd December 2007 at around 5.00pm. A crowd of excited participants thronged the grounds for this great event. The key speech of the day was delivered by Fr. Julius Morara, the Assistant Programs Director; St. Camillus Dala Kiye Children Welfare Home. The following activities took place during the WAD 2007 closing ceremony;

- Entertainment
- Awarding winners of various events
- Lottery draws
- Closing speeches by several invited guests
- Closing prayers by Fr. Julius Morara

Mr. Meshack Obilo, the AIDS Relief/ART Project Coordinator facilitated the exercise of awarding the various winners.

Fr. Julius Morara, a Camillian priest, led the gathering in a closing prayer at around 5.00 p.m.



Fr. Julius Morara gives a speech to attentive listeners during the closing ceremony



Part of the crowd that gathered to witness the closing ceremony

ACHIEVEMENTS

The following achievements were made based on the objectives:

- About 3000 participants and guests were able to converge at St. Camillus Dala Kiye Children Welfare Home grounds.
- Participants got plenty of information regarding HIV/AIDS
- Community members are readily taking up the initiatives to enhance HIV/AIDS prevention, provide appropriate care and support PLWHA.

- Vulnerable community members are subsequently getting empowered, especially the PLWHA and are commendably braving the heartbreaking challenges emanating from cultural, social and economic prejudices.
- There has been enhanced Prevention, Control, Care, and Support to infected and affected people in the community.
- Strategic interventions are available for the young people to have access to the information, education and services necessary to develop the life skills required to reduce their vulnerability to HIV infection.
- There has been strengthened leadership through networking and collaboration among Community Development Stakeholders to provide sustainable integrated support services to people living with HIV/AIDS and their families in the community.
- Access to antiretroviral treatment to PLWHA in the community is steadily increasing

LESSONS LEARNT

- PLWHAS need adequate care and support
- That HIV/AIDS is still the leading cause of death in Karungu Division
- That it calls for Positive Behavior Change among community members to combat the rapid spread of HIV/AIDS.

THE WAY FORWARD

- There is still need for extensive sensitization on the local community on the HIV/AIDS pandemic.
- More IEC materials like caps and T-shirts should be made available during such events
- There should be a day reserved for candle lighting ceremony to remember those who have perished as a result of contracting HIV/AIDS.

CONCLUSION

World AIDS Day is an event that is marked every year on 1st December. In a show of solidarity with the rest of the world, St. Camillus Mission usually reserve three days for celebrating this day ever since 2001, with 1st December being the climax of the celebrations. This year's global theme of, 'Stop AIDS; Keep the Promise – Leadership was equally adopted by the Mission.

The event is usually dedicated to help address the social responses of fear, denial, stigma and discrimination that have accompanied HIV/AIDS epidemic. It is also meant to trigger responses of compassion, solidarity and support from all the community members.

In Karungu, the sporadic effects of HIV/AIDS are still being felt. St. Camillus Mission is at the vanguard of seeking to restore hope and sanity among the local community members by embarking onto intense mobilization and sensitization on HIV/AIDS related issues.

FINANCIAL REPORT