

ELEANOR BELLOWS PILLSBURY (EBP) FUND

Project Update

March 2002

COMPLETED PROJECTS

ANGOBefa - Angola

Based in Luanda, ANGOBEFA is an IPPF affiliate that operates a mobile outreach clinic serving the internally displaced population. The aim of their project was to inform adolescent IDPs on the prevention and treatment of STIs including HIV and family planning through distribution of brochures describing condom use, STI treatment, and contraceptive options.

In conjunction with BPRM-funded project activities, ANGOBEFA:

- Produced IEC materials including brochures, T-shirts and caps.
- Engaged in World AIDS Day activities.
- Conducted a door-to-door campaign to raise awareness among youth about how to prevent HIV/AIDS.
- Conducted a study with the target population, youth and adolescents, about how to deal with persons living with HIV/AIDS within the family and community.
- Supported people living with AIDS and assist AIDS orphans with educational scholarships.
- Carried out 4 health fairs in the markets of Luanda on STD/HIV/AIDS prevention
- Held workshops to train 46 community activists on prevention, forms of transmission and STD/HIV/AIDS counseling techniques.

Contact: WCRWC meet ANGOBEFA during assessment visit in February 2001 and a site visit is scheduled for April 2002.

Reproductive Health Group - Liberia

The Adolescent Reproductive Health Project (ARHP) of the Reproductive Health Group (RHG) was launched in June 2001 in Sinje Grand Capemount County, Western Liberia. The ARHP aims to improve the RH situation of the adolescents in Sinje and encourages adolescent involvement in all aspects of the program.

ARHP:

- Recruited youth leaders with advisement from adolescents.
- Training:
 - Conducted a one-day training youth friendly services for 10 Clinical staff of the Sinje Health Center to improve the knowledge and skill of the staff on the adolescent RH health needs, geared towards the provision of quality RH services for them.
 - Conducted a 3-day training workshop on STI/HIV/AIDS prevention, importance of family planning how to protect against sexual violence. There were 44 youths that participated in both workshops. The aim was to increase the knowledge of the adolescents on RH issues thus enabling them to take appropriate decisions in safeguarding their sexuality.
- IEC activities:
 - Peer education on various RH issues in the community.
 - soccer matches during which adolescents delivered RH messages to the mainly adolescent crowd
 - drama and cultural performances depicting RH issues followed by discussion
 - Health talk sessions on the signs and types of STIs and importance of treatment if infected.
- Distribution of family planning and STIS/HIV/AIDS prevention methods.

Contact: Visited by RHRC member, Susan Purdin of Columbia University.

Chama Cha Uzazi Na Malezi Bora (UMATI) - Tanzania

UMATI has worked to improve the IEC component of their current adolescent RH project activities. UMATI has accomplished this through equipping the youth center with AV equipment, producing and distributing videotapes for training purposes, training peer educators in participatory theatre to disseminate messages to adolescents.

UMATI:

- Mobilized youth and adolescent drama groups.
- Identified problems to be addressed including consequences of early pregnancies, drug abuse, unsafe sex, condom use to prevent HIV/AIDS.
- Developed messages and transferred them into drama, songs and lecture sessions.
- Trained peer educators on the use of various IEC materials to actively change behavior of target population in the community.
- Conducted an IEC campaign in Kibondo camps including a discussion of causes of identified problems. A total of 200 youth and adolescents from two camps attended the sessions.

Contact: WCRWC met with UMATI during conference in Thailand in January 2002 and had the opportunity to view the IEC videos produced by the project.

CURRENT PROJECTS

Mae Tao Clinic/Social Action for Women - Thailand

The Mae Tao Clinic (MTC) in conjunction with the Social Action for Women (SAW) are working together on their adolescent health projects. These EBP funded projects are also collaborating with the Karen Women's Organization (KWO) to implement their projects.

MTC aims to promote awareness of adolescent health needs among displaced Burmese community, train adolescent girls on RH and encourage them to organize support groups among themselves, encourage community-based women's groups to support adolescent health needs, and train MTC RH staff and women's organizations in promoting adolescent RH. SAW is focusing on raising awareness of RH needs among under-aged migrant workers, training 60 migrant workers on RH, timely referring patients for medical treatment of their RH needs.

MTC and SAW

- Worked together to develop their projects' curriculum and training activities
- determined selection criteria for trainers and trainees
- developed a draft of the curriculum
- developed an adolescent health survey
- implemented an adolescent reproductive health mini-survey in collaboration with the Karen Refugee Camp Committee in Mae La refugee camp and among migrant workers in the Mae Sot area to assess the knowledge, attitudes, and behaviors of adolescents in these two populations.
- participated in a Reproductive Health and Human Rights workshop. The Adolescent Reproductive Health Training Group will use the knowledge gained from this workshop and from the survey to further fine-tune the curriculum.

Contact: WCRWC staff met with MTC and SAW staff during conference in Thailand in January 2002.

FAWE - Sierra Leone Grafton and Kenema

Sexual and RH Project for Youth and Adolescents

FAWE aims to reduce the rate of STIs/HIV/AIDS, reduce the rate of unwanted pregnancies and induced abortion, and train adolescent girl mothers as peer group counselors. To accomplish these goals FAWE will conduct IEC activities on human sexuality, RH, and responsible parenting; perform STI screening, counseling and treatment; and provide contraceptive services. Other activities include counseling, treatment and referrals of abortion-related complications; antenatal care; and training courses for girl mothers as peer group counselors.

FAWE :

- Trained youth peer counselors: 108 girl mothers of the FAWE Grafton Skills Training and Development Center participated and were trained in sexual and reproductive health as well as peer counseling. Oral assessment at the end of the course was rated between 75-90%.
- Conducted a Reproductive Health Workshop: trainees have learned to take care of themselves hygienically i.e. during menstruation and after. When pregnant, lactating or in everyday dealings with the body especially the reproductive area (vagina). They are also involved in telling other women of the same age group in their environs on what they were taught.
- Held classes on skills training.
- Reported that participants have started counseling their peers and neighbors about the necessity for prompt visits to Health Clinics for the detection of Sexual Reproductive Health problems and the necessity for regular visits to Health Clinics for check-ups and safe motherhood. Medical services to these trainees will start very soon

Leadership Training/Reproductive Health Care Project for Adolescent Girls

FAWE aims to provide 50 adolescent girls with leadership training, increase their knowledge about reproductive health and ways to protect themselves from sexual violence, teach motherhood skills and offer school scholarships. Activities include workshops for leadership and reproductive health training, an RH sensitization and awareness-raising campaign and the creation of a scholarship scheme.

FAWE:

- Reported on the abuse of girls. Awaiting further reports from FAWE Kenema.

Contact: WCRWC Field Representative in Sierra Leone works with FAWE on a regular basis.

National Union of Eritrean Youth and Students (NUEYS) – Eritrea

Improve adolescent RH in 3 sites through IEC campaign in order to prevent the increase in infection rate of HIV/AIDS among the female returnees. Peer educators, IEC materials, condom distribution, advocacy sessions to sensitize officials, community leaders, aid and health providers.

Contact: RHRC Member CARE has worked with NUEYS on partnership training.

Concerned Parents Association (CPA) – Uganda

Enhance psychosocial support for adolescents' RH in N. Uganda through creating a more conducive environment and provide adolescents with appropriate RH counseling and services. Promote community support among community leaders and sensitize adolescents about counseling, services and sexual behaviors, form RH support groups

- five groups formed in Kitgum, each targeting a county. Five others have been formed in Apac district. Target youth are 10-24 year olds, very sexually active population with high rates of STIs. Youth do not have access to health services due to lack of available health facilities and poverty.
- CPA plans to provide free treatment for STD/STI to members in all the 10 groups and promote behavioral change and train peer educators to offer support to members of their groups.

Contact: CPA staff will be attending a partnership and logistics training hosted by RHRC members.

CORD – Zambia

Create youth-friendly center (equipped with games, books and videos and generator to operate in the evening) as focal point for RH activities in Nangweshi camp, establishment and training of refugee management committee to manage center in collaboration with CORD.

Contact: WCRWC met with CORD during assessment visit in September 2001 and will visit project in April 2002.

NEWLY APPROVED PROJECTS

Gulu Youth For Action (GYFA) – Northern Uganda

WCRWC staff worked with GYFA on adolescent research study in Uganda.

POTENTIAL PROJECTS

Volunteer Team Against AIDS (EVAS) – Goma, The Democratic Republic of Congo

Taraqee Trust – Quetta, Pakistan

Organization for Social Development – Quetta, Pakistan

Health and Development Center for Afghan Women – NWFP, Pakistan

Watwero – N. Uganda

CORD – Zambia

RHG – Liberia