LESSONS FROM THE FRAMEWORK FOR DIALOGUE BETWEEN PLHIV AND RELIGIOUS LEADERS AROUND STIGMA

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KENYAN JOURNEY

- Country to Country sharing forum
- Ethiopia
- Malawi
- Uganda
NATIONAL DIALOGUE MEETING

PLHIV Groups
Religious Leader
Development Partners
NACC
CSO’s working with PLHIV
DIALOGUE OUTPUTS: JOINT ACTIONS

Evidence – dialogue – joint action
Kenya Dialogue Joint Actions Focus

- Break the Silence about HIV Stigma
- Facilitate dialogue at different levels within faith based institutions
- Spearhead Joint Advocacy Efforts for Safer and Healthier Living
- Change how religious leaders and People Living with HIV relate
WE WOULD BE OPEN TO FURTHER DIALOGUE, OF COURSE.

Sexual reproductive health

Faith healing

HIV Prevention
AFTER THE MEETING

- Implementing joint actions
  1) HIV Messaging
EXTENT OF GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE AMONG RELIGIOUS FAITHFUL COMMUNITY IN KENYA
MALE INVOLVEMENT
Post Dialogue Review

- Creation of safe spaces and avenues for PLHIV to participate in faith activities and decision-making.

- Congregational responses focused on support groups formation & support and pastoral home visits have increased.

- Language of religious leaders changed to non-judgmental, non-stigmatizing and respects human dignity.
A joint statement by participants highlighting their commitment in eliminating HIV stigma with special attention to adolescents and young people living with HIV

Religious leaders stepping up to join the “Live the Promise Campaign” by WCC-EAA

Joint Press Release with UNAIDS and WCC-EAA

A press conference held on Monday 6th February 2017 and continued media engagement to eliminate stigma and support for adolescents, youth and people living HIV
POST-DIALOGUE IMPLEMENTATION

- Initiation of dialogue at the congregational level
  - Formed a county dialogue working group
  - Undertaking joint advocacy initiatives 2015- Viral Load Machine
  - Fundraising initiatives at county level
  - Started integrating HIV issues in sermons
  - Invited PLHIV for a breakfast meeting
  - Formed a support group
  - Put aside one Sunday every month for HIV message dissemination
LESSONS LEARNT

- Have a clear monitoring plan post dialogue
- Continuous provision of technical support to RL
- County level dialogues are critical in ensuring support of county plans
- For effectiveness in stigma reduction, congregational dialogues are critical
- Need to have county level support committees
- There is need for enhanced evidence based programmes within faith communities
‘FELT’ ATTITUDE BY PLHIV WITHIN THE CONGREGATIONS?

- I have sensed love in the congregation
- I have sensed understanding from the leaders
- I want to help reach others who may be in the congregation and are afraid of disclosing and seeking help.
- I want spiritual support
Evidence – dialogue – joint action
THANK YOU!

Global Network of People Living with HIV (GNP+)