



Ministering to adolescents Living with HIV

We Did It

Joshua Muhia, Kenya Maarifa Representative, has been meeting with CARE For AIDS (CFA) for months in the hopes that they would adopt the Maarifa curriculum as a training tool with their clients. CFA is an organization that believes that Kenyan churches have the power to become caregivers and providers for Kenya's HIV-positive population.

The many hours of negotiation paid off and on August 10th Joshua held an orientation on the Maarifa curriculum for the CFA team. Managers from 10 CFA centers around Nairobi were trained on how to facilitate the Maarifa Curriculum.

Kenyan counselors at each CFA center guide 80 HIV+ clients through a nine-month process of transformation. Clients graduate at the end of the nine-month program and counselors recruit another group of 80 HIV+ clients from the community for the next class.

After going through the Maarifa manuals, the CFA team agreed the manuals were holistic and edifying to their target audience. They liked that the manual was systematic and gradual and that the structure of the manual would fit well into their nine-month program.

The CFA team practiced facilitating two of the chapters and were especially interested in the chapter on disclosure and how it could be of use to their clients.

The expectation is that the CFA team will:

1. Carry out one-on-one counseling for targeted groups
2. Conduct 9 sessions of Maarifa trainings with targeted ALHIV
3. Evaluate the program and share reports

The expectation is that the Maarifa team will:

1. Be able to visit the centers to monitor progress with permission
2. Develop a reporting tool that will be used by both CFA and Maarifa

Upon completing the training one trainee said, "Among behavior change approaches that aim at equipping ALHIV with attitudes and behaviors that promote holistic wellbeing, I find the Maarifa manual to be the easiest to use.



Joshua Muhia, Maarifa Kenya Representative, leading a training for facilitators of the Maarifa curriculum at Mwiki Deliverance Church in Kasarani, Kenya.



CFA Trainees and Joshua Muhia, fourth from right, after facilitator training on August 10, 2021.

Another trainee said, "Today I leave this training an empowered person. I have already identified my previous mistakes and with Maarifa, I have the tools that will make a big impact and stop myself from lecturing too much."

This is what we've been hoping for - a big organization that will use the Maarifa curriculum as part of their programming and then share the results with us so there is proof of its effectiveness! This has been the missing piece of the puzzle! Praise God!

Now to create a reporting tool so monitoring can begin!



Summer Obstacle Course

I had big plans to contact all my donors personally this summer. That didn't happen. Nadia's daycare closed permanently on July 2 and so did my window of opportunity to do much work until Kindergarten starts on August 30th.

So please, don't think I've forgotten about you! I would love to talk to you in person. However, I'm also trying to be realistic about time and energy. So I've decided to send out an email or two (to those of you whose emails I have) to let you know what's been on my heart and more about how you can be involved in changing lives of ALHIV in Kenya.

Prayer makes it all possible!

Kenya:

- Healing for Kelvin, Maarifa peer mentor, who had minor surgery
- Prayers for Joshua Muhia who was recently diagnosed with diabetes
- Prayers that the partnership with CFA will be successful and for God to be glorified through it.
- Prayers for all people living with HIV in Kenya and around the world during this pandemic. They are already struggling with keeping their immune systems strong and COVID is another threat.
- Pray that HIV drugs become plentiful and that all those who need them can have access.
- And please pray God's provision of the orphans who are facing HIV and Covid alone.

North Carolina:

- Pray for Nadia's transition to Kindergarten.
- Pray for Daniel's business to pickup
- Pray for me to not get overwhelmed by the to-do list and remember that I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

You all are the reason that Maarifa is reaching its audience. You are its oxygen! Thank you for your faithfulness in giving and praying! Be blessed to be a blessing!

In His Service,
Jessica, Daniel, & Nadia Steyn

GIVING

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