USING SAFE SPACE MODEL TO SCALE UP HIV PREVENTION IN ADOLESCENT GIRLS AND YOUNG WOMEN

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Background

- HIV prevalence in 15-64-year-olds in Migori County high at 13%
- Which is 2.7 times higher than the national prevalence 4.9%
- 28% of all new HIV infections were among adolescent 10-19 years,
- While 52% were young people age 15-24 years.

LVCT Health -STEPS Project implemented DREAMS program with an objective of reducing new HIV infections among adolescent girls and young women (AGYW) aged 10-24 years in Migori County, Kenya in 12 wards

Methods

Between June 2017 and June 2021:

- The DREAMS program mobilized and screened AGYW for HIV vulnerability,
- Eligible AGYW were enrolled and offered services
- Mentors, facilitators, and health service providers were engaged and trained.
- Mandatory primary and need-based secondary interventions were provided
- Community spaces considered to be safe from harassment, where AGYW could have fun, relax, display talents, and express themselves were identified and established.

- AGYW were segmented based on age categories (10-14, 15-19 and 20-24 years), geographic location, marital and schooling status.
- Due to COVID-19 pandemic, Number of AGYW in safe spaces was reduced from 30 to 15
- Ministry of health protocols were observed- Open spaces
- Service completion data was uploaded in DREAMS database, exported, and



Safe Space Meeting

Results

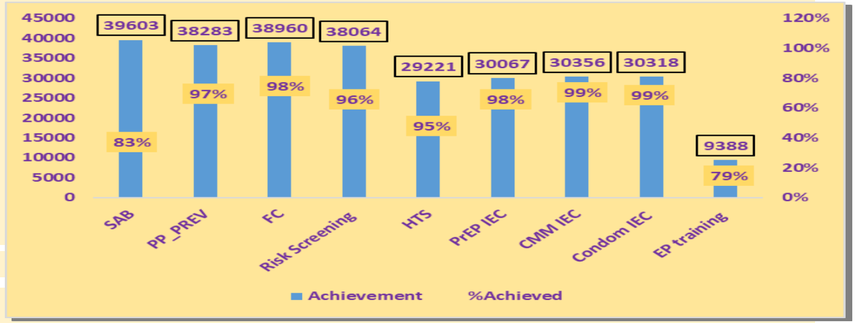


Economic Empowerment - IGA Mentorship taking place at Safe Space

By June 2021,
1,206 Safe Space established

52,477 AGYW screened for vulnerability
93% (47,587) Enrolled in DREAMS
83% (39,603) AGYW Active at Safe Space

Received Primary/Required Age-based interventions



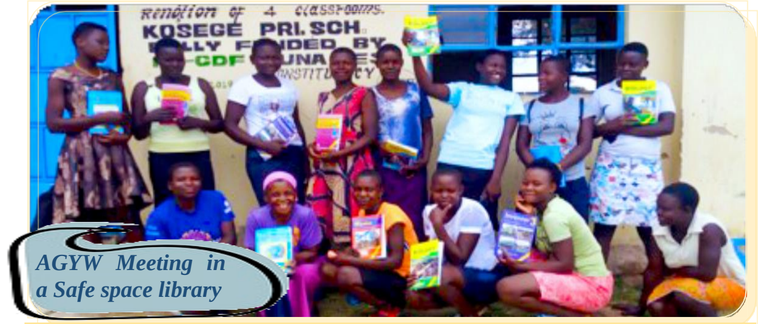
Secondary Services/ interventions

- Of 2,339 Eligible for PrEP, 89% were initiated
- Among 5,097- sexually active, 99% received Contraceptives
- 92% (17,778)- Education subsidy support
- 60% (7,718_ - Economic Strengthening
- 100%(16,560) Received Post Violence Care.

This are Needs-based interventions that are part of the DREAMS core package, but will not be received by all AGYW in that age group.

Conclusions

Safe spaces are platforms for scaling up comprehensive HIV prevention interventions among AGYW.



AGYW Meeting in a Safe space library

Key Words

- SAB: -Social Asset Building
- PP_PREV: - School/Community HIV & Violence Prevention
- FC: Financial Literacy training
- HTS: HIV Testing Services
- PrEP: Pre Exposure prophylaxis
- DREAMS: Determined, Resilient, Empowered, AIDS Free and Safe
- CMM: Contraceptive Method Mix
- IEC: Information, Education, Communication
- EP: Entrepreneurship training
- STEPS: Support Towards Expanded Prevention Services
- GBV: Gender Based Violence
- STEPS: Support Towards Expanded Prevention Services
- IGA: Income Generating Activity

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CDC Disclaimer
The findings and conclusions in this paper are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the official position of the funding agencies.

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