

ANNUAL REPORT

2007 – 2008



Report on TKMOAMS Activities
January 2007 – May 2008

1. INTRODUCTION

It is that time of the year when we are once again reporting on our successes and challenges. 2007-2008 has been a very exciting year with lots of activities taking place and lots of challenges go the other side of the line as well. We are proud to have dedicated staff, volunteers who are the pillars of our organization and the board of trustees who keep on advising us on the work we do.

We are also proud to be associated with all stakeholders working in the area of HIV/AIDS including the Namibian government. This helps us to share our experiences and know what others are doing through the platforms of Regional Aids Committees (RACOC) as well as other meetings and workshops.

TKMOAMS could not have achieved what it has achieved so far without the support from our donor partners, we are indebted to you all and we believe the relationship and support will continue, and will further give us the opportunity to fight HIV/AIDS in our country.

2. PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

2.1 Home based care

TKMOAMS have 614 active volunteers in 4 regions of Oshana, Omusati, Oshikoto and Ohangwena. Although we have trained up to 1000 community volunteers, the number reflected above shows that there has been a significant drop out of volunteers for various reasons such as, employment, further studies, relocating to other areas of the country, illness and death.

Home based care services include physical care for e.g. washing a client, do bedding, wound dressing or cleaning, moving the client and helping the clients, on household work such as pounding mahangu, cooking, fetching water etc. Volunteers have also provided basic counseling to clients and family members; spiritual care and more importantly, strengthen families' capacity through educating them on how to care for their loved ones. We also provide and replenish their HBC kits each time when a volunteer visiting a client he/she check if a client needs medication (non-prescribed) or supplies. Volunteer

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distribute the following medications or supplies to clients: Pain killers, Vitamins, gloves, Bandages, lotions, and antiseptic ointments.

Our mode of delivering services in the community is that, volunteers go from house to house in the village; this is aimed at decreasing stigma and discrimination of families affected and individuals living with HIV/AIDS. House to house method is also helping the volunteers to identify people who need care and raise awareness on home-based care services. It is encouraging that the community members know the volunteers very well and there is a high demand for the services provided by volunteers within communities.

TKMOAMS is partnering with the University on Namibia Northern Campus, Department of nursing science. Like in many African countries Namibia is experiencing difficulties related to meeting their daily health needs of every sick person at state health facilities. Home based care is therefore an important component of health care. In this program student-nurses also do part of their practicals at TKMOAMS, working with home based care volunteers. Nurses and volunteers can learn from each other in different ways.

During 2007 we introduced a monthly supervision program; aiming to ensure volunteers are supported, motivated and their work is monitored by staff members. During the visit, staff members are expected to update the volunteers with new information regarding home-based care, HIV/AIDS and M&E activities. The staff members are also expected to visit clients randomly to see whether the clients are receiving quality services from the volunteers and the challenges they are facing.

The organization has strengthened the capacity of volunteer group leaders through quarterly group leaders' meeting at TKMOAMS head office. The meetings are aimed at giving feedback on commitment of volunteers in the community, for e.g. work done (success stories), and also to share challenges confronting volunteers in their work and how to address these challenges. During the meeting information on group management and conflict solving is also provided to the group leaders as incentives to enable them manage their groups properly. Below see the table containing figures of client reached with home based care services.

HOME-based care client reached for the period under review:

Indicators

MONTHS	<u>FEMALE</u>	<u>MALE</u>	TOTAL OF CLIENTS REACHED
Year 2007			
January	585	292	877
Feb	796	381	1176
March	914	464	1378
April	879	546	1425
May	2375	1243	3618
June	2225	1193	3418
July	1215	549	1764
August	1280	703	1983
September	1125	622	1747
October	1510	393	1903
November	1480	639	2119
December	1283	605	1888
Year 2008			
January	1290	608	1898
Feb	1107	596	1703
March	1081	503	1584
April	1220	599	1819
May	1215	606	1821

The impact of home based care on clients and their families

- The provision of HBC in the community is a relief to the burden posed by HIV/AIDS in a health sector especial in government hospitals in particular, but also helping the communities to respond effectively to HIV/AIDS in their own families.
- The positive impact we observed on the clients and their families are that more people are willing to care for the sick.
- Vitamins and Panado provided is helpful for immune system and pain management.
- Through home based care many clients are on ARV and are given information on adherence.

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- Counseling and positive living with the disease (clients accept their status.)
- Many clients have joined support groups where they share experiences, which have also helped many people to disclose their HIV status and live openly with the disease.
- Home-based care component is raising awareness/ educating people on HIV/ AIDS prevention, including re- infection and distribution of condoms.

Support groups for People living with HIV/AIDS (PLWA)

TKMOAMS has 3 support groups that are active; many people who are living with HIV have joined the group and do attend meetings, which happen regularly.

Last year July 15 members from three support groups have attended a workshop on “AIDS and Me”, where they learned how to personalize HIV/AIDS, group management and how to deal with conflicts within groups.

While the office trying to work out modality how to effectively support the groups, the individuals themselves are also expected to come up with practical ideas and initiatives as to how they can support each other and sustain their life. The support group at TKMOAMS centre - Oneshila is still continuing with the income generating project of bead making and necklaces. However, although the production is good, the market to sell their product is a challenge, which makes it difficult to sustain the project or group members to earn good income.



2.2 Orphans and vulnerable children (activities)

TKMOAMS has been supporting children in various ways through trained community volunteers, who are primarily identifying the needy children in their community to benefit from the services that we are providing, such as food, psychosocial support, after school program only at Oneshila and Onamutayi at this point. Apart from mentioned services, volunteers are referring these children to get additional support from the government, or other institutions that are providing support/ services to children, especially social grants provided by the government. We are also advocating for the children to be exempted from paying school fees.

It worth noting that last year 123 volunteers successfully completed training in psychosocial support. This is part of the scaling up of our OVC program and ensuring that volunteers are providing quality services to the children and proper education to the family members.

2.2.1 Feeding program / Soup Kitchens and school uniform

Many children in the community we serve are hungry and need food to survive, concentrate at school and be able to play, focus in their future.

During the same year, TKMOAMS provided supplementary feeding for up to 635 needy children through our six Soup kitchens. However as we are faced with budgetary constraints, we have not been able to supply food to all soup kitchens in 2008, but we have resorted to carrying out a rapid assessment at our four soup kitchens namely Othika, Eendobe, Onakapya and Omaalala, which looks at ways of sustainability and support from the community.

Two soup kitchens such as Oneshila and Onamutai are continuing to provide food to the needy children in these areas. Although TKMOAMS only provides food three days a week this means a lot to many orphans and poor children as they always trust and have hope that Monday, Wednesday and Friday they will have a nice meal at TKMOAMS that they at least enjoy. The figures on the table below vary from month to month this is due to the fact that sometimes some children do not come to soup- kitchens when they have food at home.

We were also fortunate to erect a soup kitchen and a storeroom where the cooking can take place and also for the storage of food supplies

Through the agreement with Pep store we were able to distribute school uniform and 70 children have benefited. The school uniform has encouraged the children to attend school and make children to fit in a school environment even if they are from a poor background.

Indicators of children received meals and PSS

Period: Jan – Dec 2007

Center	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
	F/M	F/M	F/M	F/M	F/M	F/M	F / M	F / M	F / M	F / M	F / M	F / M
Oneshila	24/18	24/33	31/17	45/34	34/45	34/46	25 / 43	33 / 43	19 / 29	21 / 39	30 / 42	25 / 38
Onamutayi	26/32	28/24	26/24	32/38	38/30	38/31	36 / 33	36 / 33	35 / 33	36 / 33	33 / 32	26 / 19
Onakapya	38/44	40/36	40/36	46/43	55/39	41/31	55 / 47	53 / 42	43 / 46	32 / 46	74 / 48	77 / 61
Othika	32/54	61/55	56/63	30/39	33/36	33/36	45 / 59	26 / 51	35 / 46	37 / 54	24 / 42	29 / 34
Omaalala	50/54	36/54	36/54	29/33	60/58	0	27 / 31	40 / 48	40 / 30	51 / 48	18 / 13	38 / 24
Eendombe	24/27	24/26	24/26	24/38	15/22	36/22	49 / 46	117 / 113	28 / 32	30 / 50	30 / 27	29 / 49
Total	423	441	433	431	465	348	496	635	416	477	413	449

2008 January – May 2008

Center	January	February	March	April	May
	F/M	F/M	F/M	F/M	F/M
Oneshila	35/44	0	0	0	34/45
Onamutayi	38/35	38/35	38/35	32/34	32/96
Onakapya	0	0	0	0	0
Othika	0	15/20	15/20	15/20	32/34
Omaalala	23/17	25/28	29/20	36/22	4/52
Eendombe	10/50	30/36	30/36	30/36	5/2
Total	252	227	223	225	336

2.2.2. Soccer team and dancing club

After school programs (dancing and soccer club) are going on very well, the participation of children has been overwhelming and the group is growing every month. Children who are taking in the dancing club are mostly girls we have discussed gender balance in after-school-programs and there is need to look at ways of how are we going to encourage both boys and girls to participate in all programs.

The impact level when food is provided and after school programs

- Children nutritional Status improved
- Children have time to play together and relax
- Children feel strong after dancing or played soccer and that building confident and self esteem.
- Children feel/ more safer at the soup kitchens
- Children feel loved and cared for and have a sense of belonging.
- Children also learn better from others



2.2.3 Prevention of HIV/AIDS outreach and condom distribution

The prevention effort is done by the volunteers through house to house visits and by organizing community meetings where they deliver education messages of HIV/AIDS. The volunteers have also distributed condoms to individuals and identified outlets in their communities. At the moment TKMOAMS is in a process of strengthening prevention programs by training the volunteers on prevention messages and education in general of HIV/AIDS. During the reporting period TKMOAMS has reached 35480 people, including youths and 32571 Condoms were distributed.

3. OTHER PROJECTS

3.1 Savings support clubs

Last year TKMOAMS received financial aid from Stephen Lewis Foundation to support its volunteers who are mostly grandmothers who are providing care to sick people especially those living with HIV/AIDS. The grandmothers in our society are the same people who are bearing the burden of caring for orphans and vulnerable children in their homes as well, hence they also need support. The proposed action was that volunteers need to start with support savings clubs. The savings will address many challenges including basic needs of the volunteers and initiatives for generating more income for sustainability purposes.

The Volunteers Support Savings Club project was implemented and started by orientating volunteers on the project through monthly supervision visits to Home Based Care Volunteers in 36 communities. The guideline for savings was developed, and a coordinator for the project was hired and finally, the project was also introduced to local financial institutions

During the initial phase 30 out of 36 Home Based Care groups managed to open up their savings accounts and deposited their contribution fees or savings into their accounts. Six (6) Home Based care groups that didn't open up their group's accounts yet are also in the process of opening theirs except they are delayed due to the fact that they were not reached for supervision in time due to excessive floods and difficulties in raising contribution fees due to the lack of reliable financial sources by volunteers.

3.2 Food production / Gardening

In 2005 TKMOAMS received support from the French Embassy to establish gardening project in an effort to provide food to orphans and clients needy. CAFO have also contributed to Oshitayi and Afoti gardening project in Oshana region and Omusati respectively. Yelula/Ukhâi donated seeds last year to the Oshitayi project, today the garden is green, with carrots, beans, maize, water melon etc.

Although this year we have experienced extended drought and floods, some of our gardening projects have done very well. We appreciate the work of volunteers and community who worked very hard to realise good results from

these fields. This would not be possible without our donor partners, such as the French Embassy and Church Alliance For Orphans (CAFO). Your support is bearing good results, and is indeed making a difference to orphans and vulnerable children and clients especially those on ARV treatment.

The produce from the gardens are distributed to soup kitchens to feed Orphans and Vulnerable Children (OVC) to the clients who are hungry and need immediate support.



3.3 Bike project

TKMOAMS Bicycle Empowerment Centre (TBEC) is a bike project in Oshakati - Oneshila that was sponsored by Bicycle Empowerment Network (BEN). The project was established in September 2007, after TKMOAMS entered into partnership with BEN Namibia. Already 10 people were trained as bike mechanics of which five have been appointed to work as mechanics at the project. We have hired a volunteer manager who supervises the mechanics. The project started selling as from Nov 2007. TKMOAMS is working closely with DEEP as partner in refurbishing and selling bicycles in Oneshila, we share experiences with regard to marketing and mechanical aspects.

Refurbishing of bicycles

Since the bike project has started, we have been focusing on the refurbishment of bikes, at the beginning the small and medium bikes were mostly in demand compared to the big ones and we started producing these types. Although our mechanics have just completed their training, it was very much encouraging to see how fast they have learned to fix bikes; we also believe that this was attributed to a quality training provided by BEN- Namibia.

The mechanics were motivated by the fact that it was exciting work that also requires a lot of efforts and using the mind to complete or fix the bicycle. For quality control purposes two mechanics are allocated to complete one bike at a time this also helps them to make quality bicycles as they can double check what they have done. After completion of the bike the volunteer manager inspects the work done by the mechanics to ensure quality. They all enter all refurbished bikes into a tall sheet. Our MOTO is that 'we want to do it right for the first time and every time' It is for this reason that we would want to satisfy our customers. *Below see the production table per month.*

Bicycles refurbished

Month	Size	Total
November 2007	Big 21 Medium 7 and Small 80	108
December 2007	Big 7 Medium 11 and Small 19	44
January - May 2008	Big 15 Medium 21 and Small 4	40
		Total 192

Selling of refurbished bikes

The selling of bikes was good for the first two months especially bicycles for children and medium for young people as it's mentioned above. The process of selling is like this: The customer is issued with receipt indicating what type of bikes and the price and the customer will then make a payment through the secretary where a customer is issued with a paid slip. The secretary will then hand all the money received to the finance officer for banking, this is done on a daily basis.

We have also observed a lot of demand from other areas such as Okahao and Outapi in Omusati region, where many people are coming to the centre. We

would like to visit those areas as many people want to buy the bicycles but are not able to reach Oshakati because it is too far. However, in January this year we visited Outapi where we had many customers and almost all the bikes we took were sold. This is just showing how these bikes are in demand, especially in the rural areas. More than N\$30,000 has been realized from the sale of Bicycles thus far.

Bikes Sales Statistics

Month	No of bikes sold
November 2007	77
December 2007	62
January - May 2008	51
Total	190

The impact of Bicycle Project to the community

- We do believe that our project has solved the problem of distance that people are faced with especially those who cannot afford to pay taxis .e.g. going to school, for shopping and collection of water. (alleviation of transport problem)
- We are happy community members managed to buy these bikes meaning that the prices set are affordable. (affordability)
- The project employs 5 people who are now getting income in order to support themselves and their families.

4. Administration and program management

TKMOAMS has been reviewing its policies and manual procedures, as well as job descriptions over the past year and they are finalized, these policies are expect to shape the organization and will able to run its programs, finance smoothly and that all staff knows what is expected from them (deliverance). We are also convinced that the reviewed policies and procedures will promote code of ethics and good governance at TKMOAMS.

TKMOAMS has also reviewed and amended its constitution that was adopted at the Annual General Meeting of 22 May 2007 held at Okatana Roman Catholic Mission.

The organization has also embarked on capacity building of both staff and volunteers. Four staff members have completed their Computer Training and basic elementary English. The Program staff have also undergone trainings such as Monitoring and Evaluation, Finance and Grant Management.

TKMOAMS have also introduced a new data collection system and 72 volunteers/data collectors were trained. As we are scaling up on our holistic approach to support children 123 volunteers have completed and graduated in psychosocial support, while 78 volunteers have undergone a refresher course for home based care.

It is noteworthy that our Board of trustees are active than ever before and four board meetings were held in 2007. The board orientation took place and members participated in our strategic planning, which is expected to be completed in due course.

TKMOAMS now have a new website www.tkmoams.org We believe that the site will improve our communication with the outside world. Apart from that every staff member now has an e-mail address, which will further improve our communication both internally and externally.

5. CHALLENGES

Due to excessive floods which occurred since the beginning of this year (2008), we were affected much in reaching out successfully to most of our Home Based Care Volunteer Groups or Communities. The flood made it impossible for us to reach 20 groups since the beginning of this year (2008).

TKMOAMS is experiencing a shortage of staff due to lack of funds and the staffing is critical to the running of our programs, same to the volunteers, even if we have volunteers who drop out there are no replacements and as result our volunteers are burdened to care for many clients in their communities.

TKMOAMS could not provide most of the volunteers with training in psychosocial and refresher courses in home based care.



6. TKMOAMS IMMEDIATE NEEDS

- As we were hardly hit by floods. TKMOAMS needs to have new offices on higher ground so that if the floods recur, we will be safe
- Enough funds to develop the proposed structure and be able to implement the programs effectively and efficiently.
- Funds for Updating the website and maintenance of the information and communication systems
- Volunteers incentives, such as Umbrellas and shoes
- Home based care kits and enough supplies

7. CONCLUSION

TKMOAMS is striving to improve the life of people who are infected and affected by HIV/AIDS in our country; hence there is need for training of volunteers and staff alike, so that they are able to deliver quality services to the community.

We are also looking forward to complete the strategic plan that will guide us in implementing our programs. TKMOAMS would like to strengthen its relationship



with donor partners, traditional authorities and government; we believe that this will help us to effectively deliver more services to the people of Namibia.

It is imperative to care for our volunteers through the new initiative support savings clubs, we believe that if TKMOAMS can contribute a large portion to these savings it will make a BIG DIFFERENCE in the life of the volunteers and they will remain motivated to deliver care and support services to their respective communities.

Lastly our MOTO is:

'An HIV free society that provides dignity, respect and hope for the future'

and our mission is:

"To improve the quality of life, eliminate stigma and discrimination and restore hope for all including adults, children and people affected by HIV through education, care and support".

8. DONOR ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We are indebted to the following donors:

- PEPFER through Pact-Namibia
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- Bicycle Empowerment network (BEN)
- Namdeb
- Onghalo Austria
- French Embassy
- Africa group of Sweden
- Church Alliance For Orphans (CAFO)