Friends Women's Association

APRIL 2023 Report

Table of Contents

FRIENDS WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION 1

APRIL 2023 REPORT 1

ACTIVITIES 4

CARING FOR HIV POSITIVE PEOPLE (CHIVPP) 4

IMPROVING WOMEN'S REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH (IWRH) 5

RAPE SURVIVORS' SUPPORT (RSS) 5

MEDICAL TEAM 12

CONSULTATIONS 12

LABORATORY 12

FAMILY PLANNING 13

PRENATAL CONSULTATION (PNC) 13

ANTI-RETROVIRAL SITE 13

PHARMACY 13

PSYCHOSOCIAL TEAM 14

COVID-19 AND NTASEKA CLINIC

In the month of April 2023, Friends Women's Association has continued to apply covid restrictions restrictions at Ntaseka Clinic for both the staff and the beneficiaries' protection.

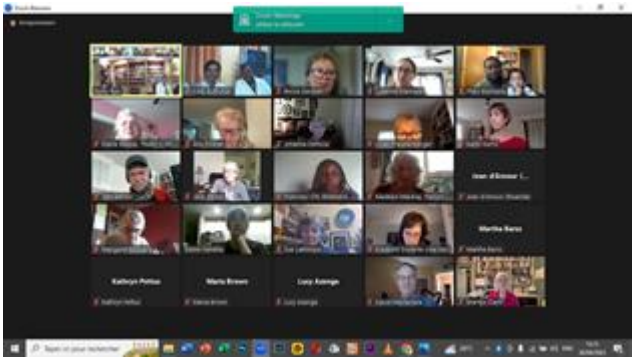
Since April 21st, the FWA national coordinator has been in the US to attend the face-to- face meeting of the Friends Peace Teams and speaking tours as well.

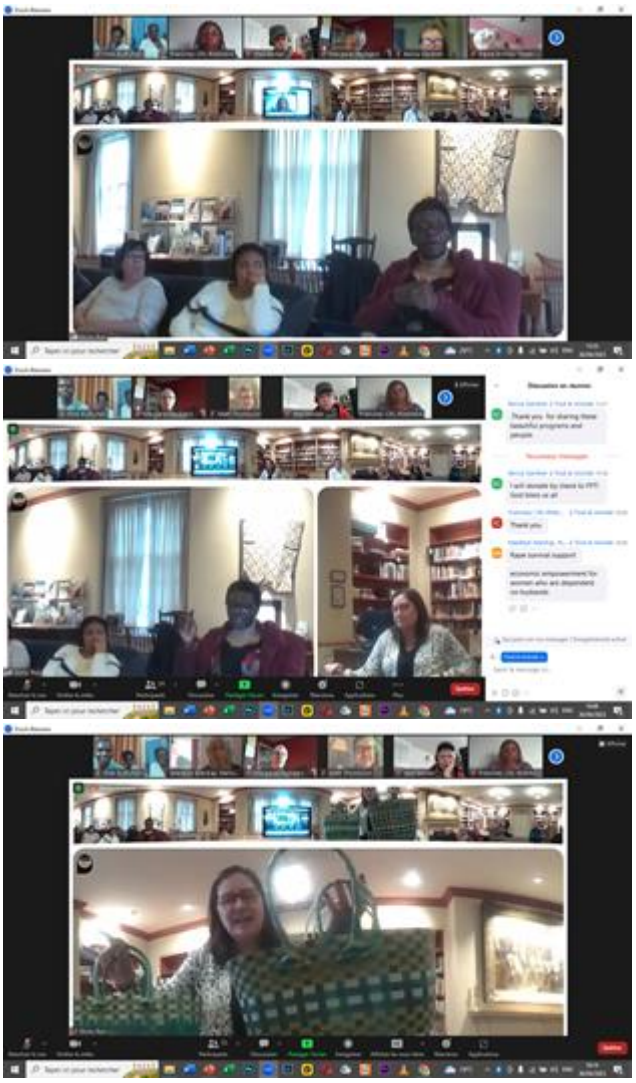
At Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health

At Sandi Spring on April 22st, 2023

On April 30,2023, Ntahuba Parfaite, the national coordinator spoke at Stony Run Friends Meeting. The new project presented is **Food Support for HIV+ Beneficiaries' Health Improvement at Ntaseka Clinic, Burundi.**

It was a hybrid presentation. Some people were present physically at Stony Run Friends Meeting, others were there virtually. Sandi Morton, Rosalie Dance and Adrian Bishop have been the organizers of such events





Kathy showing the FWA handmade baskets to the audience

ACTIVITIES

Caring for HIV Positive People (CHIVPP)

In the month of April, medical follow-up and home visits were done for our HIV positive people.

Under the support of the of the African Great lakes region, vulnerable children are supervised by volunteers through afternoon classes to strengthen their capacities.

Maternity Ward Building

Although Ntaseka maternity ward still needs some medical equipment; both the delivery and the hospitalization services arecurrently functional.

Babies born at Ntaseka clinic

In the same month of April, under the support of the AGLI of the FPT, more medical equipment were purchased

Improving Women's Reproductive Health (IWRH)

FWA community health workers and FWA staff have continued to educate men, women and young people on the importance of birth control.

On APRIL 26, 2023, a discussion group of 20 women of childbearing age members of the FWA SGHs was organized to discuss sexual and reproductive health in general and the contribution of men to improving the health of families regarding birth control in Burundi

NTASEKA Clinic medical staff including midwife Augustin HARUSHIMANA and Huguette INGABIRE were Facilitators

The discussion group began with a survey of the participants regarding their lifestyle as married women and the results were:

- All 20 participants are members in FWA Self Help Groups

- 12/20 are legally married

- 5/20 are illegally married with many partners

- 3/20 do not know where their husbands are and have children from different men

- 20/20 are between 17 and 35 years old

- 20/20 do not know their menstrual cycle

- 11/20 present are in the family planning program

- 8/20 have already been to the health center at least once with their husbands

- 20/20 were waiting for their periods to return to ask for information on family planning

- 3/20 have had sex outside their marriage to show their husband that they too are capable of doing it but in secret

We discussed sexual and reproductive health after childbirth and the sexual life of the couple after childbirth, and information related to free care and some necessary information on the services of Ntaseka Clinic as well as the contribution of Husbands on improving mother and child health and we also discussed on mentoring how mothers help young girls to be sexually responsible.

Recommendations

- Organize Make home visits to meet men

- Publicly award role model families in prenatal consultation and in family planning

- Give SHGs opportunities for free services such as certain laboratory tests to monitor their health

- Make more discussion groups to not only share these kinds of experiences but also to network

- Engage men in such discussion groups through mixed debates which include men women, women and young girls

Discussion group for breastfeeding women on the importance of family planning

As of APRIL 30, 2023, a discussion group of 20 young girls, members of the SGHs, was organized to discuss on sexual and reproductive health in general and income-generating activities for girls.

Providers of NTASEKA clinic midwife Augustin HARUSHIMANA and Huguette INGABIRE were Facilitators

The discussion group began with a survey of the participants regarding their lifestyle as young girls and the results were:

- All 20 participants are in FWA Self Help Groups

- 20/20 are pupils and students

- 20/20 are between 17 and 23 years old

- 20/20 do not know their menstrual cycle

- 20/20 are not on information they have about sexual health

- 7/20 had their first sexual intercourse before the age of 20

We discussed about sexual and reproductive health and financial independence of young girls and some necessary information about the services of Ntaseka Clinic and we also discussed about mentoring how mothers help young girls to be sexually responsible.

Story:

My name is Dorine. I have heard about Ntaseka clinic for some time. My friend told me that you have to be part of the SHGs to attend the young girls' group discussion. Here I am now. I have a lot of unanswered questions, I'm here in this group discussion to get answers to different questions about sexual health; I'm afraid of getting pregnant outside of marriage, I'm afraid of making the wrong choice of partner, I'm afraid of HIV, and one of my concerns to face all these challenges is to have the money, with the money no boy tells you what to do and FWA is our hope to reach this bus in as young girls here.

Recommendations

- Continue to support young girls' projects

- Increase sexual and reproductive health dscussion groups

- Ensure the coordination of mentors or the more experienced help the less

- Engage boys to be at the same level of understanding of sexual and reproductive health information as young girls

- Organize youth events and networking

Discussion group on sexual and reproductive health for young girls

Rape Survivors' Support (RSS)

In the month of April, the Rape Survivors Support program had different activities: the supervision of Self-Help Groups (SHGs) and the Growing Potatoes Project field visit. At the end of April 2023, we had a total of 159 SHGs in Kamenge, Bujumbura Mairie province for a total of 3763 women and 35 SHGs for 863 women in Nyabiraba commune, Bujumbura province.

1. SHG

TOTAL SHGs				
No	**Name of SHG**	**Month of creation**	**Member Number**	**Created by**
SHG Total Number:	**159**			

Evaluation of the SHGs

As the table shows, in the month April 4 SHGs made a sharing and the result are as follows;

No	About sharing	Number of SHG	Total
1	Total money saved	4	9,935,000

2	Total Credit granted	4	9,450,000
3	Total interest	4	4,820,000
4	People who didn't paid	4	20
5	Total money not refunded	4	3,070,000

Classification of SHG

After evaluation it was found that;

Active	Less Active	Sick	Total
2	1	1	**4**

2. HROC Workshops (April 24-27)

In the month of April, two training workshops were held in Randa in Bubanza province in the execution of the RSS project

Story 1

"My mother was a victim of GBV and abandoned me very young to marry another husband. I lived from one house to another which pushed me to get married very early without thinking much about my choice.

There were always conflicts in our house: He beat me pregnant, He brought a girl to my house and I had to leave the room to let them do what they wanted. I slept in the sitting room with my child.

One day I had just given birth to my second child and He wanted to force me to have sex, and I refused because I was not yet cured. He kicked me in the back and I fell to the ground; that's how I broke up with him.

A woman took me and gave me capital to do a small business. I worked hard and I had money to equip myself and live alone with my children.

My husband had information that I became an independent woman. Then he begged me to forgive him and I accepted to live together again. When I went to his house, the same night He stole everything I had including money and clothes. I was so traumatized that I didn't know that I went out naked to cry for help. Unfortunately we couldn't find him.

I was wondering how I'm going to start again my life and where am I going to find the money to pay for the house and do a new business. I used to cry day and night. I didn't tell anyone what I was going through. I used to see his second wife wearing my own garment and it hurt me so much.

Now I live with my two children and I try to rebuild my life, this training helped me to reflect on what traumatized me and to share it now I feel discharged."

Story 2

"I legally married a man who used to beat me and stole all my crops to sell them for drinking beer and give to other women. I separated with this man and I was able to buy a plot of land and I built a small house.

I am legally married to another man and we live in my house. I was unlucky. This man is my biggest nightmare in my life; He doesn't beat me but he traumatizes me psychologically; He says bad words to me and I can't sleep. He's always drunk, He doesn't work it's me who must work to find what we eat.

When I was preparing the meal that He didn't like, He said words to me that hurt me. He does not accept that I even go to church. Even today I lied that I went to the hospital.

I have 5 children and I'm in a dilemma; I can't divorce I'm afraid of losing my only one house that I have. My heart is bleeding I don't know what I should do."

Photos

3. *Income Generating Activities*

Income generating activities have continued. There was field visit for the Growing Wheat Project initiated by two SHGs in Nyabiraba whose members are from the Batwa ethnic group.

Chanelle, one of the FWA staff visiting both the groups and their children

ACTION ON GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE (AGBV)

In the month of April 2023, in the context of the project "Connecting the Global to the Local: Strengthening Women's Leadership for the Localization of the United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 (2000) on "Women, Peace and Security", seven psychologists and 132 psychologists' assistants have been receiving gender-based violence survivors for both listening and counselling.

MEDICAL TEAM

CONSULTATIONS

Our medical doctors consulted with 153 cases, including 66 adults (26 men and 40 women), 19 children (8 boys and 11 girls), 26 HIV positive people and 42 pregnant women for ultrasound. The nurse received 317 patients including 218 adults and 99 children.

LABORATORY

In the month of April, apart from HIV voluntary testing, there were a total of 384 tests.

Test	Test completed	Positive	Negative
G.E. Malaria test	114	32	82
Quick malaria test	51	12	39
ECBU Urine test	15	11	4
Selles Stool test	23	19	4
Pregnancy	35	10	25
Sero-widal Typhoïd fever	47	20	27
Glycémie Diabetes	7	2	5
RPR VDRL (Syphilis)	25	0	25
Complete Blood Count	48	13	35
Hepatitis B	5	0	5
Hepatitis C	2	0	2
Viral Load	12	1	11
Total Tests: 384			

FAMILY PLANNING

629 people received contraceptives from FWA's nurse, including 366 old cases and 263 new ones. 432 received the contraceptive injection, 115 were given contraceptive pills, 63 received male condoms, 2 received UID and 17 received implants.

PRENATAL CONSULTATION (PNC)

In April, 78 women came for prenatal consultation (PNC), including 23 who came for PNC 1, 28 for PNC 2, 18 for PNC 3 and 9 for PNC 4.
42 pregnant women came for the ultrasound test.

ANTI-RETROVIRAL SITE

At the end of April, we had 330 patients under retro drugs followed at NTASEKA clinic, including 267 women and 63 men.

PHARMACY

Regarding medications, FWA was able to purchase the minimum needed medicine.

PSYCHOSOCIAL TEAM

In the month of April, 96 people were tested for HIV and received pre and post HIV test counselling. Out of them, two woman was detected HIV positive with 2% of seropositivity.

Total Number of People Tested:	96
Total Number of Women Tested:	86
% of People Tested Who Are Women:	90%
Average Age:	30
Median Age:	29
Total HIV+ :	2
Total HIV- :	94
Number of Women HIV+ :	2
Total % Seropositivity:	2%
% of Women Tested Who Are HIV+:	2%

For more pictures click here: https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1evNiJ72jA1IFlhEGSBsa-bOf_roH0EVq?usp=sharing