



HDI

HEALTH DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE

Striving for a healthy society

Quarterly Newsletter

HIGHLIGHTS FROM APRIL TO JUNE 2017





MASS CAMPAIGNS AGAINST HIV

From April to June, HDI held 4 events in Nyanza, Muhanga, Huye, and Ruhango Districts to promote public awareness on HIV transmission and prevention. These events were attended by over **1,900** people. Attendees learned how to protect their health through [educational sketches](#), audience-participation quizzes, [testimonies](#), and [speeches](#). Over **340** people were tested for HIV and **29,400** condoms were distributed.

Teacher Training

May 9-12th

HDI invited **30** teachers from 15 partner schools in Kigali to participate in a 4 day training on Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights laws and policies in Rwanda. These teachers were chosen based on their demonstrated commitment to support their students' health clubs via Project SHARE. During this training, teachers learned further about HIV, family planning, human rights, school health policy, and comprehensive sexuality education.



IDAHOT

May 17th

Together with the LGBT community in Rwanda, HDI celebrated the International Day Against Homophobia and Transphobia. LGBT community members gave testimonies on how their families either accepted or rejected them due to their sexualities. Invited guests gave speeches, attendees watched an educational film, and community members sold handicrafts to guests. This event was supported by Jumelage/Rhineland-Palatinate and the Dutchy Embassy. Over **100** people attended, including development partners and the Dutch Ambassador.

SHARE AWARENESS EVENTS

Project SHARE teaches Rwandan youth comprehensive sexuality education through peer educators and health clubs. SHARE encourages clubs and student leaders to plan and host public awareness events to spread positive health messages to their schools and communities. In May and June, 6 clubs held awareness events with [poems](#), sketches, [songs](#), [dances](#), and debates. These activities discussed HIV prevention, menstrual hygiene, unplanned pregnancies, and sexuality education. Over [2000](#) people attended.



INTERVIEWS

Peer Educators

Project SHARE is possible because of Peer Educators, stellar adolescent leaders who teach their peers about healthy living and choices.

Tuyishimire Sylvie

"What we have learned from SHARE is not going to go away. I am going to keep on talking to my peers about HIV prevention, using condoms, and abstinence. I will encourage them to develop themselves by working together to keep talking to their peers about not having unprotected sex."



Tumukunde Rachel

"Being a peer educator helped me gain confidence and know who I am... Because of SHARE, I became very knowledgeable about HIV and AIDS. Before, I hadn't known very much."



Future Doctors

Every month, HDI teaches medical students about how to provide stigma-free healthcare to their future patients.

Oda Munyura

"For a doctor to do their work well, they should respect human rights. Helping key populations without stigmatizing or judging them is necessary because it is their right to have health care."



Blaise Ntacyabukura

"This training was very important for me... I learned about HDI's approach and how their ideas originally came from medical doctors. I learned the approach of how to focus on key groups who are most affected by issues."





Young Women Leaders' Training on Reproductive Health and Rights

May 30th

Representing 10 universities and higher learning institutions, **19** female leaders attended this training. During this training, they were sensitized on cultural and legal issues surrounding abortion and reproductive rights in Rwanda. They discussed and learned about pregnancy, family planning, sexual and reproductive rights, abortion, contraception, and the Rwanda Penal Code. At the end of the training, participants created action plans, committing to supporting reproductive rights for women in their respective universities and communities.



Gasabo District Open Day

June 29-30th

Together with other stakeholders, HDI participated in this two-day platform to share our work with community members in Gasabo District. Over **80** people visited our stand where we educated them on family planning and HIV prevention.

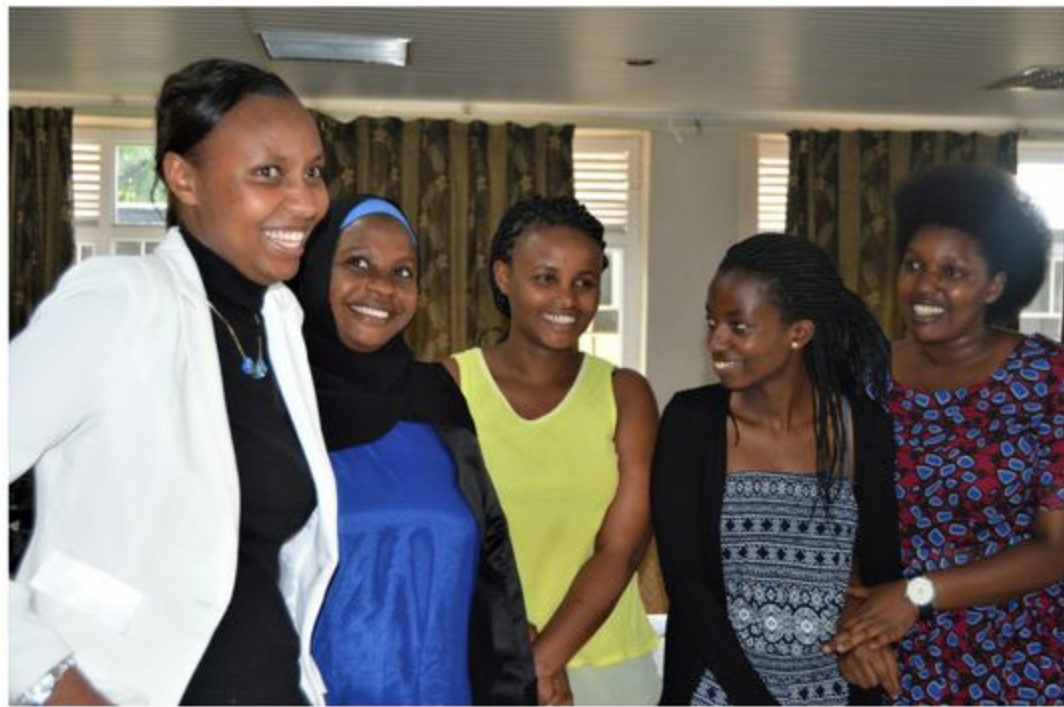


Center for Health and Rights

In the months April, May, and June, HDI's Center for Health and Rights in Kicukiro provided HIV testing, counseling, and accurate information on sexual and reproductive health to over **2100** clients. In addition, they provided over **3000** condoms.

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

- Ministry of Health
- Rwanda Bio-Medical Center
- Rwanda Governance Board
- The Center for Reproductive Rights
- The David and Lucille Packard Foundation
- DFID
- The Embassy of the Netherlands
- The Embassy of Sweden
- FOSI
- GIZ
- Global Fund to Fight HIV, TB, and Malaria
- GloveMed
- Jumelage/Rhineland-Palatinate
- Norwegian People's Aid
- PSA
- PSF/Emory University
- Promundo
- UHAI-EASHRI
- UNAIDS
- UNICEF
- ViiV Healthcare



CONTACT US

Email: info@hdirwanda.org

Website: www.hdirwanda.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/HDIRwanda/

Twitter: @HDIRwanda

Phone: +250 788 309 262

Hotlines for Sexual and Reproductive Health Information:

3530

0780 903 530

0722 903 530