

How we make a difference.



Success Story

*KS was a sex worker and mother of 5 children. She became very ill and was unable to work and relied on a friend for food and shelter. KHC community team was testing people for HIV and they were taken to KS’ home. She was tested HIV positive and was referred to KHC to start on antiretroviral therapy treatment.*

*"After relapsing on taking my ARVs and engaging in risky behaviour for over a year I became very ill and was bedridden. Not until KHC community volunteers were referred to my home and I was restarted on treatment along with psychosocial counselling because of my risky behaviour especially with drugs and alcohol that greatly affected my adherence.*

*After 2 years on being on KHC ART program, I receive my medication and lab investigations from the convenience of my home where I reside with my children. I am very thankful that KHC was there for me and bought me back to life” KS says.*

**We have been fortunate to have had the assistance of so many of our partners throughout our journey. Thank you and we know that together we have been able to achieve very important milestones in ensuring that many people who could not afford medical help have been able to access it through our organisation.**

**The covid19 pandemic has presented many challenges to our operations, we will however strive to maintain our services for the betterment of our patients.**

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With support from CDC/PEPFAR,  
Samaritan Hospice

Kawempe Home Care  
HIV/AIDS Program



**Our program is for those vulnerable patients who due to their personal circumstances find it difficult to access testing, treatment and care.**

HIV continues to be a major global public health issue, having claimed more than 32 million lives so far.

However, with increasing access to effective HIV prevention, diagnosis, treatment and care, including for opportunistic infections, HIV infection has become a manageable chronic health condition, enabling people living with HIV to live long and healthy lives. In Uganda the HIV epidemic in the 1980's and 90's dramatically changed the population profile of the country. Today, youth in Uganda are the youngest population in the world, with 77% of its population being under 25 years of age. Ugandan HIV data shows.

Number of people living with HIV	1,400,000
Number of children 0-14 years	100,000
Women 15+	770,000
Number of patients receiving ART	1,004,000
High prevalence in Sex Workers	34.2%
World Health Organisation (WHO) website (2018)	

Accessing HIV care services is still a problem for disadvantaged people in remote communities.



**Kawempe Home Care (KHC)** is a community based non-governmental organisation that believes the most disadvantaged people in our communities deserve access to medical treatment and care. Our HIV/AIDS program provides these people with access to HIV services with support from the Kampala HIV project funded by CDC/PEPFAR with the Infectious Diseases Institute as the lead implementing partner.

### How We Help

#### HIV Testing Services (HTS)

We actively work through our community network to identify people who are chronically ill or, at risk such as pregnant mothers.

- HIV testing and counselling is done at KHC facility, Kasangati outreach and in the community.
- At risk groups are encouraged to come to us for testing or we provide self-HIV testing.



#### Our Counsellors Provide:

- HIV pre and post-test counselling
- Sensitization and health education about HIV for clients at the clinic and in the community as well as bereavement support.
- Assisted Partner Notification (APN) and Social Network Strategy (SNS) programs provide valuable information of other potential clients at risk due to the association with someone who is HIV positive.

#### Clinical Services

- Provide medical consultation and treatment of opportunistic infections.
- Screening and treatment of Tuberculosis.
- There is also provision for Antiretroviral Therapy (ART) and follow up for HIV clients and provision of Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) and Post Exposure Prophylaxis (PEP).
- Our Elimination of Mother to Child Transmission program is very important and we have seen an increase in the number of pregnant women coming to us for testing. The mothers deliver from public health centres that are part of this collaboration. We are pleased that on our program 100% of the babies delivered are born HIV negative.

#### Community Home Visits

- Patients that are bedridden and receiving palliative care are routinely visited by our clinicians for drug refill and tests to monitor their progress and also manage pain.
- Patients that are stranded without transport to access the facility are also visited.



#### Orphans and Vulnerable Children's Program (OVC)

- Children on the KHC ART program that are vulnerable are provided with HIV care and also their school fees are paid. This can resolve some of the psychosocial issues that may hinder their adherence on ARVs
- Through this program KHC also carries out boarding school visits to regularly check children's adherence, give drug refills and also bleed them for viral load. This ensures continuity of their care and treatment even while at school. This strategy has helped KHC achieve 94% suppression amongst the children.

#### Our Key HIV Strategies

- Community involvement.
- Use of peer support groups.
- Use of expert clients that have been on KHC ART program and are performing well.
- Home based care for the bedridden patients.
- Community follow up of the TB and HIV patients (home visit).
- Identify community hot spots and provide drug refills for the key populations.
- Follow up phone calls for the patients who miss their appointments.
- Fast track drug refills for patients who are stable and do not have to wait to see a clinician.
- Community drug deliveries by the expert clients for stable HIV patients.
- Flexible operating hours for the busy patients.

#### Some of Our Achievements

- KHC (2019-2020), tested 5364 people for HIV; 171 (3.2%) of these were HIV positive and 168 (98%) were enrolled in care.
- Viral suppression rate for all active clients in care is at 94%.
- TB completion rate is at 80% for clients that have been receiving TB treatment at KHC.
- Retention rate for clients that have been receiving ART for at least one year is at 78%
- Overall positivity rate (yield) from HTS and APN services that have been offered was 13% and SNS services yielded 7%.
- Many of our community volunteers are also clients and through their own experience they provide valuable support and motivation to other clients on how to live their lives positively.

#### What Support is Needed?

KHC relies on the good will of our friends and partners to support our programs and we need your help to ensure we can continue to help more patients. We need:

- Protective equipment for the staff.
- Medicines for treating the opportunistic infections.
- Laboratory equipment.
- Equipment for carrying out investigations e.g liver function tests.
- Investment in additional clinical space to treat patients.

