

## **CFPHS Monthly Report – May 2009**

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Community-Based Family Planning and HIV/AIDS Services (CFPHS) Project

May 2009

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**COMMUNITY BASED FAMILY PLANNING AND HIV&AIDS SERVICES PROJECT**  
**(CFPHS)**

**Contract No: GHS-1-00-07-00006-00**  
**Task Order No: GHS-1-03-07-00006-00**  
**Monthly Report for May, 2009**

**1. Main activities**

The main activities for the month of May, 2009 included: (1) Supportive supervision of CBDAs, HSAs and LTPM service providers to the districts by central level; (2) Producing IEC Materials (3) Conducting Long Term Permanent Methods training for nurses; (4) Conducting data quality assessments through field visits to the districts; (5) Identifying Family Planning/HIV/AIDS listeners' clubs; and (6) Participating in various program-related meetings.

**2. Accomplishments**

**2.1 Supportive supervision of CBDAs, HSAs and LTPM service providers**

During the month, the FP Technical Advisor provided supportive supervision to the eight districts.

**Results**

- It was established that all CBDAs are well linked with the HSAs who are providing DMPA. In most cases the HSAs are referring clients for pills to the CBDAs and CBDAs are referring DMPA clients to HSAs trained to provide DMPA.
- All service providers had enough stocks of contraceptives during the month.
- Observed that one HSA registered 81 new clients in the month of May, and four HSAs have completed the first registers of 210 clients.
- Most of the trained HSAs are stationed in the hard to reach communities where they also manage village clinics for the BASICS project.
- The HSAs have integrated the FP in their day to day and outreach clinics. This provides an opportunity to integrate essential services at the community level (FP, HIV /AIDS, Child health).
- RHU provided 10,000 female condoms for CBDAs and observed that condoms remain the most popular method among the youth.

## **Comments**

There is need for continuous supportive supervision to all service providers (CBDAs, HSAs, LTPM) to ensure quality service delivery and collection of accurate and quality data.

## **2.2 Producing IEC Materials**

The process of producing the IEC materials is in progress and at the final stages.

### **Results**

- The IEC materials being developed include leaflets, brochures, flyers, posters, T shirts, wall signs and concrete billboards.
- Consultations with different stake holders were made during the reporting period. Some CBDAs were consulted in Chikwawa to assess how they work and how best the materials can be developed to suit their needs.
- A Consultant from PSI Washington has been engaged to speed up the development of the materials. The materials will be finalized in June, 09.

## **Comments**

The production of the radio drama series entitled “Zina Umanena” (*some things are worthy talking about*) started in the reporting period and is expected to complete in June, 09.

## **2.3 Conducting LTPM training for nurses**

Nkhotakota district hospital conducted training in LTPM and it was a six-day competency-based training. The training covered update in female condom, emergency contraception, and insertion of implants and IUCD, followed by practicum.

### **Results**

- A total of eleven (11) nurses were trained. Ten nurses (2 males and 8 females) from health centers in Nkhotakota were trained in implant and IUCD insertion. One nurse was sponsored by BLM.
- A total of 77 implants were inserted during the practicum.

## **Comments**

On average each trainee had seven implant insertions, which shows that there is a demand for this method in the communities. As such, there is a need to ensure availability of adequate stocks of implant sets in all the health centers. The project

staff is discussing the supply issue with USAID|DELIVER to facilitate the procurement of more implants to avoid stock outs.

## **2.4 Lesson learning visit to St. Luke's Door to Door HTC Program**

A lesson learning visit was conducted by the Chief of Party, HIV Technical Advisor, The Policy Specialist and the HTC Officer from the HIV Unit of the MoH. The purpose of the visit was to learn from St. Luke's experiences in implementing door to door HTC services in order to improve the HTC services being provided by CBDAs under the CFPHS project.

### **Results**

- The St. Lukes program shared with the visiting team the recruitment of counselors, the HTC trainings provided allocation of counselors to sites, community mobilization, the actual implementation, reporting and supervision of the HTC program, and on how they observe issues of quality assurance.
- A visit to two households which benefited from the door to door HTC services showed that people preferred the door to door approach of HIV testing than going to a health facility. They felt there was confidentiality and had more time to ask the providers questions about HIV.



### **Comment**

The team learnt that St. Lukes is implementing using specially recruited paid counselors and HSAs who supervise and restock the counselors with supplies. Counselors are allocated to provide testing in other villages away from where they

were recruited, unlike the CBDA HTC program where they are based in their own community. The program has some similarities to the CFPHS project HTC program. It is likely that many lessons learned will contribute towards improving the implementation our program.

## **2.5 Conducting data quality assessment in Kasungu and Salima**

Two data quality assessment field visits were carried out in Kasungu and Salima. The Monitoring and Evaluation Advisor facilitated the assessments in line with the USAID/Malawi Data Quality Monitoring tool. In Salima the exercise was done jointly with HIV/AIDS Technical Advisor who carried out a supportive supervision for CBDAs trained in HTC within the communities that were visited.

### **Results**

#### **Salima and Kasungu Data quality assessment**

- Supported Ministry of Health personnel, District Coordinators and Administrative Assistant in consolidating and reporting monthly performance data for each quarter.
- Provided guidelines for complete reporting of all CBDAs and Health Facilities including district hospitals and maintaining an updated location of health facilities and CBDAs.
- Provided feedback for January to March performance data for the entire program in the eight districts.
- The three CBDAs, a health facility and district hospital visited illustrated that under reporting in Salima and Kasungu was the cause for data being below most core indicators.



**District FP provider and CBDA trainer, HSA focal person for CBDA reports, D.C. Salima and the CBDA providing On Job Training while reviewing records: 26<sup>th</sup> May, 2009 .**

### **Comment**

The visit helped update the January to March, 2009 data and in Salima the assignment of an HSA as a focal person to follow up on reports was encouraged.

### **Salima HTC Field visit**

- Provided more information on the role of the HTC CBDAs on the door to door HTC services in the community and the necessary support required from the Health Center and in the community.
- The HTC supervisor conducted sit-in observations for two HTC CBDAs during a visit to Khombedza Health Center and commended the counselors' performance. Sit-in observations during HTC session by a qualified HTC Supervisor is one of the requirements that all the HTC CBDAs have to undergo before they start testing in the communities.
- CBDAs were encouraged to work together with existing CBO groups in their areas as they are the support structures for the people who are HIV positive. Some of the CBDAs are already members of CBOs.

## **2.6 Program related meetings**

### **Meeting with Intra-Health**

FP advisor attended three days dissemination and planning workshop for Intra-Health.

#### **Results**

- Intra-Health disseminated the baseline findings for LTPM which was conducted in 15 districts of Malawi and developed a two year plan of activities which included implementation of LTPM in all the districts and strengthen LTPM in pre-service.
- CFPHS will collaborate with Intra-Health in LPTM training for service providers in the eight target districts.

### **Planning Meeting for IEC materials for DMPA**

The CFPHS project Team participated in a planning meeting with Adventist Health Services (AHS) to brainstorm the development of DMPA IEC materials for pilot phase. The Program Manager, Accountant and M&E officers attended from AHS.

#### **Results**

- The CFPHS project learned that AHS has funds to develop IEC material for their Zomba district pilot phase.
- CFPHS agreed to provide technical assistance in the process of IEC material development.

#### **Comment**

- Some of the possible IEC materials to be developed are DMPA check list, leaf lets, and posters.
- The team discussed the approaches, list of participants for the planned IEC development workshop from 12<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> July, 2009, budgets, pretesting, and printing of the IEC materials.

## **3. Deliverables**

Technical and Financial reports for the month of April, 2009 were submitted to USAID according to schedule.

## **4. Challenges and Issues**

### **4.1 Stock outs for HIV testing kits**

HIV Testing kits stock outs which were experienced in the month of April, 09 affected the CBDAs scheduled period for their attachment at Health Centers.

The coordination between MSH and the DHMTs in target districts will be intensified to ensure that HIV testing kits and other relevant supplies are made available to trained HTC CBDAs from the health centers.

### **4.2 Procurement of Bicycles for newly trained CBDAs**

As reported in the previous month, due to funding constraints, bicycles for newly trained CBDAs have not yet been purchased. A total of 539 trained CBDAs have not received bicycles and are unable to cover their catchment areas due to long walking distances. Funds for some bicycles are included in the pipeline submitted to USAID during the reporting period.

## **5. Major activities for June 2009**

- Supportive supervision visit from MSH's Vice President, Center for Health Services
- Planning for DMPA IEC materials development with AHS funds
- Training of club leaders in the remaining four Districts
- Final production of the radio drama series
- Training of remaining CBDAs
- Pre testing of IEC materials with target groups before final printing
- Training of community drama groups
- Development of Open Day Guidelines
- Attend Open Day in Chikwawa and Mangochi
- Continue consultative meetings with Muslim Association of Malawi on Family Planning and HIV/AIDS advocacy;
- Recruit the consultant for the integration study and start the activity
- Facilitate the identification of HIV community based groups
- Facilitate supportive supervision of HTC counsellors, HSAs, and CBDAs.
- Follow up on results of data quality assessment in the two districts
- Facilitate and Participate in quarterly planning and Review meetings