

Partners for Community Transformation (PaCT)

Project Title	:	Improving nutrition needs for 250 HIV positive children
Project Location	:	Mityana District
Project Duration	:	6 months
Target group	:	Families with children living with HIV.
Project Budget	:	\$10,000

Project Background.

Since the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic in December 2019, many countries have, on top of losing their nationals, been equally economically affected with the closure of many medium and small scale businesses. On 21st March 2020, the first case of COVID 19 was confirmed in Uganda by the Ministry of Health (MoH). By 20th May, over 200 cases had been confirmed, creating a lot of panic and anxiety among the citizens. On 28th March 2020, the government of the Republic of Uganda announced a total lockdown for 14 days. On the expiry of the first lockdown, the government extended it for 21 days, as the situation was being assessed & monitored. The lockdown lasted several months. Fifteen months later, the country started a second lockdown, which lasted 42 days. To date, it is not yet clear as the Ministry of Health continues to register new cases and new variants. The situation is worrisome to the nationals as many of them have fully utilized their small savings to buy food for their families.

Millions of people who survived on daily income from small and medium businesses such as market vendors, casual labourers on building projects, saloon workers, bar & lodge workers, taxi drivers & their operators, Boda-Boda riders to mention but a few are gravely affected with no source of income. It should be remembered that these are categories of individuals that live hand to mouth. These groups of people are joined by the elderly, child-headed homes, persons with disabilities, and those with health conditions such as HIV. Indeed, the living conditions of over 200,000 people out of the 400,000-total population of Mityana District are distressed as many are living on one meal a day, worst of all comprised of poor-quality diet. News of starvation and loud voices demanding food from the leaders are the order of the day on national televisions. The leaders are concerned that if the situation doesn't improve soon, the nation may start

registering deaths as a result of hunger. The situation is made worse for children on HIV treatment who require a well-balanced diet to ensure maximum adherence to their treatment.

In addition to the above, the police crime desk has announced a crime-increase rate among the youth as they are continuously breaking into people's gardens and homes to steal food, as a means of continuous survival.

Proposed Action & Cost implication:

To contribute towards livelihood safeguarding, PaCT envisages supporting about 250 children living with HIV with food aid to their families. Food will include 10kgs of beans, 25kgs of maize flour, powder milk, 10kg of silverfish, 2kg of peanut butter, and fortified porridge in 3 weeks intervals.

In addition, the families will receive tokens to facilitate their transport to health centres to receive treatment. This support will buy them time to recover from the effects of the lockdowns and find new sources of income. The families will also receive token facilitation to start poultry projects focusing on the production of eggs to supplement both the diet and income. The children have already been identified from TASO lists as one of the leading HIV/AIDS leading organisations in Uganda.

Budget outline.

- Transport token = \$35
- A Bag of 10kgs of beans = \$14
- A Bag of 25kgs of maize flour = \$20
- A packet of fortified porridge = \$2.5
- 5 kg of silverfish = \$ 15
- Powder Milk = \$ 20
- Chicken for poultry project = \$ 200
- Tray of eggs = \$ 10