

***“Help to deliver final blow on COVID 19”***

**Proposal**

**Marginalized and Vulnerable Population Relief Program (VPRP- COVID 19)**

**Compounded vulnerability during State of Emergency Regulations**

**September 2020**

# **Introduction**

Corona Virus (COVD 19) has presented devastating impacts to public health globally as a pandemic of unparallel magnitude. The pandemic has put tremendous train on the health infrastructure asserting structural and legal barriers to access health services and, in some cases, exposing the already exposed communities to destitution. Although it has not been scientifically proved that the People living with HIV and on effective antiretroviral treatment (ART) are at an increased risk of getting coronavirus, or developing severe symptoms, the link between the virus and HIV cannot be utterly dismissed. In fact, there is sufficient empirical evidence that People living with HIV not on treatment or virally suppressed may be at a greater risk.

As with the general population, older people living with HIV and those with other underlying health conditions are under severe risk of infection hence the need to take precautionary measures to avert infections and stabilize their conditions. People living with HIV who have a compromised immune system should be extra cautious to prevent coronavirus infection.

These include people with

a low CD4 count (<200 copies/cell),

a high viral load,

or a recent opportunistic infection.

This is because your immune system may not be prepared to deal with the virus. We also know that people living with HIV are more vulnerable to respiratory infections when their HIV is not well managed. For this reason, adherence should not be negotiable and all efforts should be made to ensure no one feels left behind.

# **Background for funding request**

Namibia Network of AIDS Service Organizations (NANASO) is mandated as network civil society body to monitor the health impacts of epidemics and pandemic affecting the Namibian health space. In our initial health watch initiative, we have observed disturbing incidents of displacement of communities including the marginalized, homeless, sex workers, LGBTIQ communities, children, adolescent girls and young women and people with disabilities. These groups are disproportionally affected as opposed to the general population when it comes to the Corona Virus (Covid 19) effects. Since the era of C0VID 19 has exposed inequality levels in relation to access to services such as water, sanitation and shelter, people living with chronic diseases such as HIV and TB face a daunting moment in living memory to retain their health and dignity. Area of priority include treatment adherence, prevention of new infections, nutritional support, sanitary towels, water, protection of income, provision of basic protection gears such as masks, sanitizers and general food security in homes.

# **Justification of support**

It is this background that we request for assistance to support our effort to restore the dignity and health right of these individuals stripped from them by Corona virus. The vulnerable and marginalized population relief program provides targeted interventions for groups that have been affected severely by the impact of Corona (COVID 19).

Your support will go a long way to assisting these vulnerable marginalized population regain control of their health status and pave the way for a healthier population where HIV and TB does not resurface as a major public health threat post CIVID 19. Our offices are undated with request for relief help to assist them during this difficult time of COVID 19. Already more than 50 groups around the country have approached our office with desperate needs for support, some of them are in the far remote area close to borders of our Country as far Katwitwi bordering with Angola, also notably even here in the Capital some groups are suffering a lot, no food, lack of water and sanitation.

The groups include HIV support groups, orphanage, homeless groups, displaced key populations including sex workers, lesbians, gays, homosexuals, children groups, TB support groups and pensioners.

Over 700 people find themselves in crowded COVD 19 Quarantine tented camps in the capital city Windhoek after being moved to reduce the speed of infection by the virus, is notable and matter of urgency that as country overall we have over 9 ,071 people in various quarantine facilities and amongst them some are struggling to feed themselves. These communities are vulnerable as they do not have adequate supplies of food, sanitation, warm clothing and blankets.

# **Areas of Support**

We have identified the following areas for possible assistance during the period September to March 2021 and beyond;

1. **Food parcel** Monthly food rations and toiletry supplies (combos) (to be disbursed in coupons) for the populations including, People living with HIV, TB, LGBTIQ (evicted groups), People with disabilities, children, elderly and adolescent girls and young women
2. **Reproductive Health Pack** Sanitary towels for girls.
3. **Health Pack** Sanitizers and masks for populations living in rural areas
4. **Infant- parcel** (Formula milk for infants, nappies, Bath soap and lotion, warm clothes and blankets)
5. **Pensioners care parcel;** Cream to protect skin from developing wounds and healing wounds and nappies for bedridden elderlies, winter blankets, and warm clothes.
6. Health promotion session through NANASO trained volunteers.
7. COVID 19 Impact monitoring and oversight teams to monitor packaging and distribution of parcels and provide needed oversight to ensure coordinated and transparent process of implementation. The teams will visit various beneficiaries of the program to zoom into the impact of COVID 19 and compile monthly reports.

Planned activities will leverage on each other and draw efficiencies where possible to ensure value for money and reach more with less.

# **Categories of assistance & Budget needed :**

There are various tiers of need required to augment the interventions to create appropriate relief measures.

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| **Budget line Item** | **Description** | **Budget in USD** |
| Food | Parcels will include Pasta, Maize Meal, Rice, Cooking Oil, Bread Flour, Yeast, Tinned food, Sugar, Tea/Coffee, Cereals, Soup and Water. | 15,000.00 |
| Toiletry | Washing Detergent, Bath Soap, Toilet Paper, Tooth paste. And Barrier Cream for Bed Sores, Nappies | 10,325.00 |
| Blankets and Clothes | Blankets and Clothes for infants, children and pensioners. | 5,400.00 |
| Infant- parcel | Formula Milk, Nappies, Bath soap, Lotion, Washing Detergent, Fabric Softener. | 200.00 |
| Pensioners care parcel | Barrier Cream for Bed Sores, Nappies | - |
| Hygiene Parcel for Girls | Sanitary towels, Panty Liners, | 25.00 |
| Health Promotion | 1.     Development and printing of pamphlets. | 50.00 |
|  | 2.     Translation of information into local languages. | - |
| Mask and Sanitizers | 1.     Procurement of Mask and Hand Sanitizers. And Procurement of materials to develop home-made sanitation stands. | 14,000.00 |
|  | 2.     Procurement of materials to develop home-made sanitation stands. | - |
| Coordination, Oversight, Support Visit and Feedback and Reporting | Coordination is critical for proper reporting and as well oversight to be able to provide technical back stopping and regular review of success and short coming and remedial actions to taken, this will further in reach us to provide and produce a quality well covered comprehensive report to the donor base on our various tool of monitoring and evaluation . | 5,000.00 |
| Administration & Overhead costs |  |  |
| **Total Budget** |  | **50,000.00** |

# **Monitoring and reporting**

Comprehensive monitoring of implementation and distribution of the relieve items will be carried out. Monitoring tools will be utilized to capture all essential data to support and to provide evidence needed for reporting. The tools will include variables required to curb abuse of the relief aid. Monthly implementation, financial and distribution reports will be compiled to be shared with donors and to guide further operations.