
MWANGAZA EDUCATION FOR PARTNERSHIP ELCT/ELCA COMMUNITY HEALTH TRAINING REPORT OCTOBER, 2016

Introduction:

In October, 2016 Mwangaza conducted a two-week community health training, which was held in the first and third week. Participants for the first week came from East of Lake Victoria and Dodoma dioceses, while the third week involved participants from Northern, Pare and South Western Dioceses. All together forty seven (47) men and women attended. The topic covered include:-

1. Gender based violence
2. Women's health
3. Water borne diseases
4. Effective communication
5. Effective parenting
6. HIV/AIDS stigma and
7. Conflict and resolution

The facilitation team included John Kavishe, Salome Lally, Richard Mbwambo, Mary E. Laizer and Mackrine Shao Rumanyika.



Gender based violence:

In this topic the facilitator engaged participants in learning; the causes and effects of gender based violence and abuse, vivid examples of gender based violence and abusive practices from their communities. Then they discussed in detail about the role of each stake holder in changing \ people's attitude towards gender stereotype and patriarchal system.

Women's health:

Here the participants learned about the meaning of health, the difference between gender, sex and sexuality, women's sexual and gender roles, the importance of women's health, the diseases which affect women, six aspects of health which are; physical, mental, emotional, social, psychological and economic.



Water borne diseases:

The facilitator led the participants in learning about the difference between clean and safe water, the importance of water in human body, how diseases enter the human bodies through water, how to purify water for domestic use, and how to keep water sources clean and safe.

Learning:

Most of the participants were from the communities without running water. Therefore this was a great opportunity for them as they got a very useful knowledge on how to make water safe for daily uses.

Effective communication:

This topic is aimed at equipping the participants with communication skills which they can use for advocacy and teaching in their communities.

Participants engaged in discussion and other activities in order to learn the concepts related to communication; the communication process, important parts of effective communication, barriers to effective communication and how to eliminate them.

Effective parenting

In this topic the facilitator led a discussion on:- the challenges parents are facing in raising their children now as compared to 1970's and 80's, what are the causes of these challenges, what are the roles of parents in raising of children, what challenges parents face in the course of raising their children, how to teach children to be obedient, among others.

**HIV/AIDS stigma:**

The facilitator enabled participants to be aware of concepts such as; meaning and difference between HIV and AIDS, ways through which HIV is transmitted, causes and effects of stigma to people, ways to reduce stigma in their communities.

Learning:

Even though different organizations have been giving education about how HIV is transmitted, stigma is still being a big problem in the society. For future seminars Mwangaza will add the sub topic about how to take care of the HIV/AIDS patients.

Conflict Resolution:

The participants engaged in learning about the meaning of conflicts, causes of conflicts in their communities, how conflicts affect welfare of the people in the society, the meaning of resolution, qualities of a good mediator, and procedures of resolving conflicts.

Conclusion

Mwangaza will continue to work with the teams as they conduct follow up trainings in their respective congregations through making regular phone calls to monitor progress. Furthermore, Mwangaza staff will visit two sites in 2017 to monitor progress and evaluate impact of the program.

We thank God because we accomplished what we had in our plans. Mwangaza would like to thank all stakeholders for their continued support to this program. ELCA(World Hunger) and Friends of Mwangaza(FOM) for their financial and technical support. Also with extend our gratitude to Diocese leaders for organizing the participants' selection and transportation to Mwangaza Centre.

May God's Love be with you all

Salome Lally Richard Mbwambo and John Kavishe
Mwangaza Team