

CAIK

COMMUNITY ADVOCACY INITIATIVE IN KENYA

BACKGROUND

- In Kenya the PWID community face the challenge of acquiring national identity cards due to lack of knowledge of the procedure of acquiring and its importance. This is also due to the stigma and discrimination associated with drug use.
- I decided together with other stakeholders in the harm reduction fraternity to address the issue.
- I visited the local authorities representing the government to seek assistance for documentation of our community members at the national registry.

DESCRIPTION: PROVISION OF NATIONAL IDENTITY CARDS TO PWIDS IN KENYA

- I started by visiting hotspots in Nairobi, Kenya to get the number the number and names of community members in need of identity cards.
- 300 community members among them 230 male and 70 female were in need of Identity cards.
- I forwarded the names to the government local authorities (chiefs) and explained the problem. They were cooperative and linked me with the relevant registry of persons government officials who were very glad to help.
- I was chosen as the lead person in our community to identify genuine members in need of IDs and stand as surety for them in the registration process.

EFFECTIVENESS

- Out of the 300 members in need of IDs, I manage with the other stakeholders to assist 210 members acquire identity cards.
- This enabled them to open personal savings accounts with banks and access finance and government services i.e. Government health cover insurance.
- They also joined together to form self help groups for social economic empowerment
- They were also legally recognized by the government

EFFECTIVENESS

- In collaboration with the Nairobi women representative in parliament, managed to get 18 members of our community with identity cards, fully paid scholarships in driving courses at AAKENYA, through the government affirmative action fund.
- 40 members of the community consisting of 17 male and 23 females are waiting to join hair and beauty courses through the government affirmative action fund.
- This has enabled the members of the community to be more socially and financially stable.