

SWHAP Newsletter September 2011

Reflections

Peer Educators should be empowered to become leaders, they should be trained to take initiatives so programmes are not reliant on the efforts of the coordinators alone- Kedious Mphiningo, Revco, Zimbabwe.

Sustainability starts with us...let's not look upon SWHAP funds as eternal. We need to build internal business cases for our HIV and Aids programmes, management will put in money if they can see results- Russell Ives, Sandvik, Botswana.

Cost benefit examples from Atlas Copco South Africa and Ericom Zimbabwe teach us the importance of record-keeping so that we can attach a monetary value to the benefits of our programmes- Simon Hinga, Raffia Bags, Tanzania.



Brighton Chingoma from Dyno Nobel Zimbabwe and Ronald Lind from Scania Namibia share a moment at the recent SWHAP conference

Tamarind Translations, Kenya E-Forum Launch

Tamarind Translations launched a Translator & Interpreter Wellness e-Forum for its staff and consultants on Friday 26 August 2011. Tamarind has been working with SWHAP since June 2011 and the e-forum has 50 members. The forum debates are conducted online and SWHAP has provided experts to moderate the various themes.

Southern Africa Regional Conference

SWHAP held its annual regional conference in August in Gaborone, Botswana, which was attended by 87 participants representing 31 companies from eight countries. The theme of the conference was "Leadership in workplace programmes - scale up and sustain". In his opening address, Lars G. Malmer, Chairman of the SWHAP Board, highlighted the passion required in leadership. "Leadership is not only brain but also heart". "No passion no leadership" became the mantra for the two-day conference, setting the tone for the proceedings. At the end of the conference, participants felt empowered by the information that was imparted, and were eager to implement changes and new ideas in their workplace programmes.



Delegates at the Southern Africa Regional Conference

Babcock South Africa Woman's Day Mad Hatters Tea Party

Babcock South Africa held a Mad Hatters Tea Party in August to commemorate National Women's month. Participants were asked to decorate a polystyrene hat and an award was given for the best hat. The aim of the day was to allow women to take time out from their stressful environments and to share information on manageable chronic diseases. A cancer survivor gave a testimony encouraging women to get screened early for cervical cancer and HIV. Relating HIV to other chronic conditions helps to break down stigma as it shows that HIV, just like any other chronic disease, can be managed.

Supply Chain and Mentorship Programmes

The Raffia Bags Kenya mentorship of Athi River Mining (ARM) which employs 1200 workers has

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reached an advanced stage. In July, 30 Peer Educators from the company were trained to reach out to their colleagues and community as part of setting up the HIV and AIDS workplace programme. 26 Peer Educators have also been trained in Zimbabwe as part of the Sandvik Supply Chain Programme.

Community Outreach

SWHAP partners continue to take their community responsibilities seriously, on Saturday the 17th September 2011, Neighbours Against AIDS (NAA) partners held a successful Medical camp, reaching close to 1,000 members of the Lunga Lunga Slums, an informal settlement in Nairobi. SWHAP partners, SKF and Tetra Pak, in collaboration with 8 neighbouring companies located in the Nairobi's Industrial area, organised the medical camp providing children and adults with medical consultations, de-worming, hygiene promotion, sensitization on HIV and AIDS as well as HIV testing.

On the 17th of September Ericom Zimbabwe held their Family Wellness Day at Mukuwisi Woodlands. The event was well attended with over 160 people present. SWHAP peer educators conducted Bridges of Hope activities raising awareness on Prevention of Parent to Child Transmission. Population Services International Zimbabwe (PSI) provided VCT services for 19 couples and 55 individuals, whilst the Zimbabwe Sugar and Diabetes association screened for diabetes.

VCT

Voluntary testing and counselling (VCT) is useful as an entry point for care, treatment and support. Sandvik Mining and Construction Tanzania in collaboration with Amref VCT Services organised community VCT in the branches that they operate at Mwanza, Buly, Kakola and Buzwagi in September. An astounding 877 people were tested from Sandvik branches as well as neighbouring companies and communities. In related VCT news, Atlas Copco Botswana conducted VCT at all its sites recording 100% VCT uptake in Francistown.

Peer Education Training

Peer education forms a vital component of any workplace HIV and AIDS programme. In Southern Africa peer educator training has taken place in Zimbabwe and Botswana on sexual and

reproductive health and gender mainstreaming in the workplace. Spousal network meetings for Zambia and Zimbabwe are scheduled for the end of September and first week of October respectively.

Additionally, the Atlas Copco Botswana BCL Contract Community Wellness Department, trained 33 Peer Educators in August including three from Atlas Copco. The training was held at the Bosele Hotel. Key focus areas from the Wellness Strategy 2011 – 2012 were shared with the Peer Educators.

In South Africa 29 Peer Educators were trained in August and September using the Make a Difference (MAD) Tool Kit.

Sandvik President in Zambia for Presentation Ceremony

Sandvik Zambia held a third training for Peer Educators under the Bridges of Hope Programme in June 2011. 22 Peer Educators including spouses were trained bringing the total trained at Sandvik to 67. Sandvik President Olof Faxander was in Kitwe Zambia on the 29th of September to present certificates to the recently certified Bridges of Hope Peer Educators. He also met with spouses and women from the Sandvik women's club. Mr Faxander noted that he was very impressed and inspired by the Sandvik Wellness programme and its community outreach initiatives.



Sandvik President Olof Faxander presenting certificates

Condolences

Sad news from Scania Botswana as they lost one of their Peer Educators who passed away in September. She will be sorely missed. Condolences to her family and the Scania Botswana Team.

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