

Woza Moya Project

Team REFLECTIONS for 2011

Date: 08 December 2011

Venue: Woza Moya Community Centre

Minutes done by: Mthobisi Mthembu & S'Celo Chiya

Highlights

1. All Woza Moya team members working well, home visits going smoothly.
2. What makes us happy is that the orphans are receiving food parcels; they need this support because many was starving before.
3. The vulnerable people who are in the Food Security programme of vegetables and chickens and eggs and goats projects are doing well; nutrition is moving upwards in these households
4. To help people help themselves and socialize with them (like support groups) is good. They grow more confidence and belief that they can do things by themselves
5. The research and the training for IMCI (Integrated Management of Children Illness) is excellent. Our partnership with District Department of Health is great. We respect each other and this makes our work as in REFFERALS to Ixopo Clinic and Hospital to be efficient.
6. The unity and trust between patients and the Woza Moya CCWs because they have been working together for long time. Community look for the CCWs for everything in their lives.
7. The community still see Woza Moya is important even though they don't give many things, like tablets, anymore due to funding crisis.
8. The people now listen more to the CCWs when they encourage people to go the clinic.
9. The CCWs own internal Monthly Support Groups at Woza Moya are good. The CCWs talk about many things together and also about their work & end up to solving a lot of their own problems together by themselves.
10. The community share their HIV status much more because of CCWs on going encourage.
11. The home visits reporting form for Statistics & Database is now it's easy than before.
12. If you have report a certain case at the monthly report group meetings (RGMS) there is a good follow up because the Programme Assistants now have time to do this.
13. We not lose any team member this year. No one is dying. This is great.
14. To expand to the people of Mthakathi because the people there are most poor because of olden day fall out politics; the chief of that time threw this area away and now they have to follow a Chief who is very far away so they cannot get anything. Woza Moya ignore the politics and help these people. We have no politics here our Director is say.
15. The financial crisis but we can still do our work even.
16. Christmas went well this year. We like the small quality party for the Gogos/Guardians & the orphaned & vulnerable children and also the children living with aids. Woza Moya special friends from Durban did GREAT Christmas presents for each everyone which was so exciting to children & Grannies and Hank help us a lot.
17. The respect at Woza Moya still continues. The whole community is learning from how Woza Moya does the Respect. It is spreading out from Woza Moya to teach others.
18. Private donors – especially Sue mention Kathleen and also Hank for 2011 and what they done for us. And Trish Bartley & Friends. Everyone is clapping again.

19. CRAFTS projects are going so well and people are buying, community members are benefiting by this huge success.
20. Play School highlights are 3 Play Therapists doing ok by themselves, with Linda and Helen coming less to Woza Moya now.
21. Early Childhood Development trainings of 6 months were excellent for 3 Play Therapists and also 6 CCWs. All have now this ECD qualification. Thanks to AFSA!
22. The after school Circus School for the orphaned and vulnerable of Chibini children is great. They also love to do Martial Arts with Sabee. And our 5 Youth do run Circus School fantastic job.
23. The monthly local victim empowerment forum (LVEF) meetings in Ixopo are very good. All the stakeholders of NGOs and Government Departments are working together to stop violence against women and children.
24. The Assistant Programme Managers are all great, all work perfectly, everyone says thanks to them and the Programme Managers, and is clapping.
25. The HIV+ Support Groups are going too well, with more than 500 people now attending meetings every month all over Ofafa Valleys. People are strong and love to see each other.
26. The Children Living with Aids Support Group is also very great. They meet every quarter during the school holidays for long day of fun at Woza Moya. They also do the group counselling and also one on one counselling. The children tell us they love this day too much.
27. Exchange visits to other projects are fantastic and we learn a lot. Thanks to OXFAM!
28. The Youth & Media work is excellent. OXFAM & Chantal & Roy are helping us all the time. The Youth feel happy their project with Sinevuso High School excited to continue peer work together next year. All respond well, the parents, teachers and students.
29. Sue explain how OXFAM help us a lot with our financial crisis
30. Our Management Committee continue meet every quarter to discuss all things about our project. Each is committed to our work and us and our project. We love them!
31. Develate database trainings this year is excellent. Paul Dean is amazing and we see in future, even though is difficult now, this to benefit our project a lot.
32. Great trainings from the District Department of health, like PMTCT, Maternal Health, Baby Weighing, Immunizations. CCW team is so good with a lot of new knowledge and skills.
33. Monthly Creighton Clinic is excellent; we take all the children with disabilities to specialists there. We push as many children into our Woza Moya bakkie and drive them. Debbie at Creighton is great partner because she does the referral letters and helps children a lot.
34. Sue mention the great help we get from Volunteers like Jovita, Ian, Sandy, Roy & Sandi & many others, coming from Buddhist Community next door. We are bless by this great help.

Challenges & Solutions

1. The taxi fares sometimes get finished. Then not enough money for the Programme Assistants to do all the follow up visits every month.
As everyone knew that we have funding crisis but we can include on the next budget those things. Even yesterday OXFAM is phoning our Director to say they have some extra money to help us pass this tough time. She will request more money to Transport.
2. Poor people in community don't have money even to travel town to get access to help.
Unfortunately we not give peoples in community monies. Our Director explains this is old golden rules for Woza Moya. We must find another ways of help, like link with DoSD,

- look at income generation projects, see if they fit in there Sue say. If we have small (piece meal) jobs at WM makes sure we use these people. Keep the list in our office.*
3. *The sexual, physical and emotion abuse of women and especially vulnerable & orphaned children*
Continue educate children and families about procedures to follow, who, how to touch in abuse case. We also discuss new idea to start Men's support groups when more funding is coming one day. The LVEF is a good place to take these cases too.
 4. *Some people don't disclose their HIV status even now because they don't trust anyone, even the CCWs.*
Tell them that you knew how to be confidentiality. Keep build a good relationship with your client, don't fight and shout them. Some people take longer. Don't give up.
 5. *The family matters interfere to our work as CCWs. They tell us everything even if it is not relate to our work and sometime difficult because then some family members they believe we take sides.*
Just teach the client carefully about the life. We living very close by to our clients so if it became too difficult then refer to our managers; they are used to solving these problems.
 6. *Community need follow up soon, when we report serious cases at the monthly meetings. We cannot wait for more money for taxi fares because some people end up to dying.*
As mention before we plan to try get more money for transport for next year and to solve this problem. We are understand and are attempt a lot.
 7. *The grandparents don't tell the HIV+ children what is the treatment for & how to take them. They try to hide the fact of ARVs and pretend it another kind of normal medicines.*
Very important to CCWs to refer these case to HBC Managers who plan visit the Guardians and make plan for these children, come to Children living with Aids support group meetings where we teach them by themselves everything about HIV and ARVs and how to look after by themselves.
 8. *The careless family it's not easy to help them. People who do not want to stand up by themselves are difficult to do work together.*
Firstly have some counselling for families to see more why it is like this. What other reasons make this kind of behaviour maybe. But also be firm, our policy of people to meet us halfway in our interventions.
 9. *Mothers don't follow rules about breastfeeding. We explain that they must breastfeed ONLY - not to mixed feeding especially if HIV+ but they do things by themselves and the babies end up to become HIV+*
Keep educating the mothers with facts, just state all the problems that person can come across if she doesn't do breastfeeding and continue encourage mother in early stages.
 10. *Some people are not appreciate our work, knowledge, skills we bring to them. They only wanting more and especially the material things, like clothing, food parcels, medicines.*
Nothing you can do, be polite & patient to client's maybe he/she is not in a good mood.
 11. *Some other people say we don't do enough work. They expect us to do all the cooking, cleaning, bed baths etc.*
We do not do all this. Find primary care giver in each home, giving them support, knowledge, skills and materials. This makes family themselves takes responsibility and can allow us CCWs do much more valuable work in much more homes.

12. Complaints there are duplication of work with Government Departments now employing CCWs in Ofafa. Clients feel confused by different CCWs doing exactly same thing.
CCWs ask Woza Moya Managers to talk with others who work in community now. We all discuss a lot, decide to build good relationship with others who do as we do. Let's invite all other new stakeholders in Ofafa to Woza Moya for meeting to do good networking.
13. The Government Departments pay their CCWs much more than the Woza Moya CCWs. In DEC one CCWs left us to do same work in Ofafa under the Government, even though he say that we really doing good quality working; it is only the money that makes him move.
We cannot compete with Government. Sue say it's like David and Goliath! We must make the relationship to work, there is no other ways. We feel happy that the Government will at least be to pay for x10 of our CCWs with good stipends. Our problem is less respect and the bully of Government people but we must be to positive.
14. At Play School the Guardians don't understand our way of ECD (early childhood development). They push children to become too clever too fast, as in to reading and writing, whereas we are believe that they child must play more and be happy and free.
Keep on educating at parents meetings it is the only way for freedom of happy children.
15. Children love the trampoline so much that is always full up with children jumping higher all the time. We don't know how to control all the time. Lilizwe is broke arm.
We can ask some big childrens to help us next year.
16. Develate database is really great, we know this but every time we are finding a difficult problem and then we cannot fix it and then we leave it. Our managers of give up.
Next year we plan to start again and try again!
17. Last year and 2011 a senior manager was very sick, we tried and tried to help him. Woza Moya pay for him 6 different private doctors in all, paid full salary for more than 1year while he not working, gave food parcels all this time, our managers arrange & force a family reconciliation for him. But he only pretend to take medication, not want listen to any of doctors or us and he tell peoples too many lies, that end up to give us bad name.
After 1yr Management Committee make decision to stop efforts, salary and food parcels.
18. Department of Health does new plans about HBC and not include us as the people who know this work very well. Our Managers bring back information from some meetings.
We all discuss a lot about these things and Youth & Media team made videos of us. Our Director continue bring information back to our team so we can know what's happening.
19. Animals are stamping on food gardens and eat to destroy crops and dirty our waters and in winter there is water shortage. Even the toilets are too dirty for water supplies.
We look to new W.A.S.H. (Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene) programme with Alan to help

The newer CCWs (community care workers) say thanks for great discussions, it helps them a lot.

All of the Woza Moya team is gives each other small Christmas presents.

Few words of thanks from Director, Managers & Management Committee, Congratulations! We join hands for special pray to God for funding for our work and our project and our community of Ofafa.

Closing Songs and Prayers