

COMMUNITY HEALTH POLICY

Jan-2.025



Community Health Policy

Bukulula Action for Children and Young People Uganda (ACYP)

Jan 2025

1. Preamble: Our Commitment to Community Health

ACYP is deeply committed to improving the health and well-being of the communities we serve in Uganda. We recognize that health is a fundamental human right and a cornerstone of sustainable development. This Community Health Policy outlines our principles, objectives, and operational guidelines for delivering comprehensive and integrated community health programs. We strive to empower individuals and communities to take ownership of their health, prevent disease, and access quality primary healthcare services.

2. Guiding Principles

Our community health programs are guided by the following principles:

Community Participation and Ownership:

We actively involve community members in the design, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of our programs, ensuring they are culturally appropriate and responsive to local needs.

Equity and Inclusion:

We are committed to reaching the most vulnerable and marginalized populations, addressing health disparities and ensuring equitable access to services.

Integration and Holistic Approach:





We recognize the interconnectedness of different health issues and strive to deliver integrated programs that address the social, environmental, and behavioural determinants of health.

Evidence-Based Practices:

We utilize evidence-based interventions and best practices to ensure the effectiveness and impact of our programs.

Collaboration and Partnerships:

We actively collaborate with local governments, healthcare facilities, other NGOs, community leaders, and relevant stakeholders to maximize resources and achieve shared goals.

Sustainability:

We aim to build local capacity and promote sustainable solutions that will continue to benefit the community in the long term.

Accountability and Transparency:

We are committed to transparency in our operations and accountability to the communities we serve and our partners.

3. Programmatic Areas

This policy applies to all community health programs undertaken by ACYP, including but not limited to:

• Immunization Support:

Activities aimed at increasing immunization coverage, including community mobilization, education, and logistical support.

HIV and TB Adherence Support:





Providing counselling, education, and support services to individuals living with HIV and TB to promote treatment adherence and improve health outcomes.

Drug Delivery:

Establishing safe and efficient systems for the delivery of essential medicines to community members, particularly in remote areas.

• Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH):

Implementing programs focused on improving access to safe water, sanitation facilities, and promoting hygiene practices, including the distribution of water purifiers and construction of plate racks.

Malnutrition Prevention and Management:

Conducting training on nutrition, promoting healthy feeding practices, and providing support for the management of malnutrition.

• Mosquito Net Distribution:

Procuring and distributing insecticide-treated mosquito nets to prevent malaria transmission.

• Community Health Education and Workshops:

Organizing workshops and awareness campaigns on various community health topics.

Primary Healthcare Support:

Facilitating access to primary healthcare services and strengthening linkages between communities and healthcare facilities.





4. Operational Guidelines

To ensure the effective implementation of our community health programs, we will adhere to the following operational guidelines:

- Needs Assessment: Conduct thorough needs assessments to identify priority health issues and understand the local context before designing and implementing programs.
- **Program Planning:** Develop detailed work plans with clear objectives, activities, timelines, and resource allocation.
- Community Mobilization: Employ effective community mobilization strategies to ensure community buy-in and participation.
- Training and Capacity Building: Provide adequate training and ongoing support to community health workers and volunteers.
- Data Collection and Monitoring: Establish robust data collection systems to monitor program progress, track key indicators, and identify areas for improvement.
- **Evaluation:** Conduct regular evaluations to assess the impact and effectiveness of our programs and inform future interventions.
- Reporting: Prepare timely and accurate reports for donors, partners, and the community.
- Ethical Considerations: Adhere to ethical principles in all our activities, including informed consent, confidentiality, and respect for individual dignity.
- Safety and Security: Ensure the safety and security of our staff, volunteers, and program beneficiaries.
- Resource Management: Utilize resources efficiently and transparently to maximize program impact.

5. Roles and Responsibilities

This policy applies to all staff, volunteers, and partners involved in the implementation of ACYP's community health programs. Specific roles and responsibilities will be outlined in program-specific guidelines and job descriptions. Overall responsibility for





the implementation and oversight of this policy rests with the Board of Directors and Project Coordinator.

6. Monitoring and Evaluation of the Policy

This policy will be reviewed and updated periodically, or as needed, to ensure its continued relevance and effectiveness. The health department headed by project health officer with project coordinator will be responsible for monitoring the implementation of this policy and recommending any necessary revisions.

7. Dissemination and Communication

This policy will be disseminated to all staff, volunteers, partners, and relevant stakeholders. It will be made available in accessible formats and languages as appropriate.

8. Conclusion

By adhering to this Community Health Policy, ACYP reaffirms its commitment to working collaboratively with communities to achieve lasting improvements in health and well-being. We believe that through our dedicated efforts and strong partnerships, we can make a significant difference in the lives of the people we serve.

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