

WOFAK NEWSLETTER



NUTRITIONAL SUPPORT FOR VULNERABLE HOUSEHOLDS IN HOMA BAY COUNTY

Kenya reported its first case of COVID-19 on 13 March 2020. Since then, COVID-19 cases have gone higher by the day and Kenya is currently at 6,070 cases. As the numbers of COVID-19 cases continue to rise in the country, Women, Youth and children have and continue to be affected in different ways. This has led to massive changes in health, social and economic areas of their lives.

The measures put in place by the Government to curb the spread of COVID-19; including cessation of movement, curfew and closing most of urban and rural markets (to enforce social-distancing) have led to loss of jobs and income. This has resulted in poverty and inability of caregivers of children living with HIV to provide food for their children. This therefore affects adherence to ART for children living with HIV as they cannot take their medication without food.



CHV headed to a vulnerable household to distribute food

It is for this reason that WOFAK, in partnership with MoH, NACC, NASCOP and the County Government of Homa Bay has been supported by aidsfonds to provide nutritional support and Personal Protective Equipment to the most vulnerable households of CLHIV in Homa Bay County including households headed by AGYW (child headed households). Food baskets and PPE distribution is done by our CHVs, working closely with WOFAK staff and community leaders. The CHVs use this opportunity to provide information on COVID-19, adherence support and nutritional information.

With the extension of measures to curb the spread of COVID-19, there is increased uncertainty of when life will get back to normal. Stigma around COVID-19 has brought about fear of exposure making it difficult for CLHIV and their Caregivers to visit health facilities. More sensitization is therefore required to address COVID-19 stigma especially for PLHIV.



Caregiver receiving food basket



CHV sensitizing caregiver



Hand washing demonstration