



UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS (COMMUNITY-BASED ADHERENCE AND OTZ INTERVENTIONS FOR PLHIV -LOCAL PARTNER/SUB- AWARDEE)

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS-USAID FAHARI YA JAMII PROGRAM, ADMINISTRATION
DEPARTMENT - UON/FYJ/CA/2/2021

The Project

The University of Nairobi has received funding from the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) to support implementation of the Kenya Health Partnerships for Quality Services (HIV, FP/RMNCAH, Nutrition and WASH) in Nairobi and Kajiado Counties through the USAID Fahari ya Jamii Project.

University of Nairobi/Fahari Ya Jamii Project is issuing a Request for Applications (RFA) to provide technical system strengthening support for the FYJ project under USAID Contract No.:72061521CA00014. The Fahari Ya Jamii project is seeking applications from parties interested in implementing grant-funded project activities, based on the terms of references contained in the herein.

This Request for Applications (RFA) seeks applicants interested in proposing grant-funded activities to support program goals. Specifically, the program is seeking to fund community-based adherence and OTZ interventions for PLHIV in 15 Fahari Ya Jamii-supported health facilities in Nairobi County and 5 in Kajiado County.

FYJ Program Request for Applications.

1. Scope of Work for TPA/OTZ

This document describes the scope of work for local partner/subawardee in supporting facility and community-based adherence and OTZ interventions in Fahari Ya Jamii supported facilities.

2. Background:

According to the latest NACC report (2018), national performance towards the 90-90-90 targets stood as follows: 66% HIV testing coverage, 67% linkage to treatment, and 83% viral load suppression. The annual prevalence is currently at 4.9% among adults between 15-64 years while the annual HIV incidence is 0.14% among adults (15-64 years) corresponding to 36,000 new infections annually (KENPHIA 2018). New infections are higher among women than men with a third of all new infections contributed by AGYWs. This indicates that women are more vulnerable to new infections.

Nairobi County, the Capital City of Kenya, is one of Kenya's 47 counties contributing to more than 80% of new HIV infections, 80% of people living with HIV (PLHIV), and 80% of unmet need. Nairobi County is one of the 14 high ART coverage counties that collectively contribute to 55% of the national HIV burden. It has a highly mobile population due to in-county migration and it also hosts refugees from neighboring countries. In addition, many individuals work in the city during the day but reside in peri-urban towns in the neighboring Kiambu, Machakos and Kajiado counties. The HIV prevalence is 3.8%; ART coverage of 90% among adults with 93% viral load suppression, while ART coverage among children is at 54% with VLS of 72.8%; MTCT rates, self-testing rates, and Linkage and retention are still lower than the national targets.

Kajiado County is situated to the south of Nairobi County and borders Tanzania to the south. Its population consists of the indigenous nomadic Maasai pastoralists; workers in Nairobi County who reside in peri-urban centers of Ngong, Kiserian and Ongata Rongai; and other residents who live and work in the county. In Kajiado, The HIV Prevalence is 4.6%, the ART coverage is at 65% in adults and viral load suppression of 88%, while ART coverage in children is at 69% with VLS of 67%; MTCT rates and self-testing rates remain low. In addition, retention rates have been low especially among men aged <40 years and women <35 years in the first year of treatment.

In line with the UNAIDS 95-95-95 global strategy, timely HIV diagnosis, optimal linkage, and retention to care for persons diagnosed with HIV, increased coverage of ART and viral suppression are essential for improving the health outcomes and wellness of people living with HIV. The availability of free Anti-retroviral drugs (ARVs) has arguably been the biggest milestone towards this end, as well as new global and national guidelines including test and treat. These efforts have significantly reduced mortality rates associated with HIV/AIDS related illnesses. However, provision of free ARVs to people living with HIV/AIDS is one thing but ensuring that there is optimal adherence to the same is yet another tough task.

Moving forward, there is need for innovative solutions to scale up and introduce effective approaches in client retention at health facilities, innovative approaches to achieve viral load suppression, methodologies to motivate clients on adherence and attending PSSGs, provision of friendlier services at health facilities, and strengthen facility-community linkages.

3. Objective of the SOW

The Main objective of this proposal is to support facility and community-based adherence and OTZ interventions for PLHIV in 15 Fahari Ya Jamii-supported health facilities in Nairobi County and 5 in Kajiado County. The project will work through Treatment preparation and adherence counsellors, peer educators and OTZ champions to strengthen adherence and psychosocial support in project supported facilities.

Targeted outcomes:

The project will be measured on an ongoing basis to and the expected target outcomes at the end of the grant period include:

1. Enhanced capacity to support adherence interventions in project supported sites
2. Treatment preparation and adherence counseling services provided to new patients, non-suppressed patients, pediatrics clients and adolescents.
3. More than 90% of ART enrolled clients are retained on treatment at 12 months
4. More than 90% viral suppression rates amongst eligible ART Clients attending the target health facilities

4. Description of activities

Specifically, the program is seeking to fund the following activities within the 9-month grant period (2021- 2022). The organization shall independently perform all work and furnish all labor, materials, supplies, equipment, and services (except as otherwise specified in the contract) to perform the following services:

a) Support facility-based adherence interventions:

- Adherence counselling sessions to new and continuing clients enrolled in the CCC and PMTCT clinic
- Treatment preparation and treatment literacy sessions for children, caregivers, adolescents, and adults on first- and second-line treatment regimen
- Management of clinical appointments including implementation of appointment reminders (e.g use of *Ushauri* Platform)
- Psychosocial support groups for new clients, high viraemia clients, pediatrics, and care givers as well as adolescents according to their need
- Implement OTZ interventions targeting adolescents
- Management of clients with high viral load
- Coordination of referrals within the facilities, between facilities and referrals to community services

b) Support community- based adherence and continuity of treatment interventions

- Implement Community ART groups in project facilities
- Conduct home visits and physical tracing for priority clients including High viral load clients, defaulters, and interruption in treatment clients

5. Reporting and Monitoring Process:

- Develop and submit a comprehensive work plan, including detailed Gantt charts, and performance monitoring plan.
- Submit monthly update reports to *Fahari Ya Jamii* on the status of implementation activities.
 - Reports will include age disaggregation where possible.
- Submit a final report to *Fahari Ya Jamii* that includes the overall successes of the grant, challenges, lessons learned, and final performance monitoring plan that demonstrates outcomes achieved.
- Participate in planning meetings as needed.
- Develop success stories on lessons learned and results of the work

6. Proposed sites:

Sub-county	Ward	Name of Facility
Westlands Sub County	Kangemi Ward	Kangemi Health Center
Ruaraka Sub County	Mathare north Ward	Mathare North Health Center

Embakasi North Sub County	Dandora area i Ward	Dandora II Health Centre
Embakasi Central Sub County	Kayole central Ward	Kayole II Sub-District Hospital
Starehe Sub County	Nairobi central Ward	Special Treatment Clinic (STC) Casino
Makadara Sub County	Maringo/hamza Ward	Makadara Health Center
Westlands Sub County	Parklands/Highridge Ward	Westlands Health Centre
Embakasi North Sub County	Kariobangi north Ward	Kariobangi Health Centre
Kasarani Sub County	Kasarani Ward	Kasarani Health Center
Starehe Sub County	Landimawe Ward	Ngaira Rhodes Dispensary
Makadara Sub County	Viwandani Ward	Lunga Lunga Health Center
Makadara Sub County	Harambee Ward	Jericho Health Centre
Roysambu Sub County	Kahawa Ward	Kahawa West Health Centre
Embakasi South Sub County	Imara Daima Ward	Mukuru Health Centre
Makadara Sub County	Maringo/hamza Ward	Bahati Health Centre

Sub-county	Ward	Facility
Kajiado East Sub County	Oloosirkon/Sholinke Ward	Kitengela Sub-district Hospital
Loitokitok Sub County	Kuku Ward	Loitokitok District Hospital
Kajiado North Sub County	Nkaimurunya Ward	Ongata Rongai Health Centre
Kajiado North Sub County	Ngong Ward	Ngong Sub-District Hospital
Kajiado Central Sub County	Ildamat Ward	Kajiado District Hospital

Eligibility Criteria

Applicants must meet the following requirements to participate in the request for applications. All applications will undergo an initial eligibility screening to ensure they comply with the eligibility criteria.

1. This call for applications is **ONLY** open to locally registered for-profit companies and non-profit organizations who have a local presence in Nairobi and/or Kajiado. Applications are encouraged from local organizations that have previously worked with USAID.
2. The Applicant should have worked/is currently working on the intervention or a related area.
3. The applicant should demonstrate innovative GBV interventions approaches.
4. Applicants must have a DUNS number and be registered in the System for Award Management (SAM) as a pre-requisite to receive USAID funds.

Applicants fully meeting the Eligibility Criteria will undergo a responsibility determination prior to award to ensure that they have the technical and organizational capacity to manage a USAID-funded award.

Application and Submission Information.

To apply please submit your application/proposal and the following documentation ((scanned copies) to the underlisted address:

- a) Organization Registration Certificate
- b) Valid Tax Compliance Certificate/Exemption Certificate where applicable
- c) Audited Accounts for the last 2 years
- d) Organization Constitution/Memorandum/Articles of Association
- e) Contact Person and Address

**The Vice Chancellor,
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So as to reach not later than 10th January 2022 by 5:00 PM.