



UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI

REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS (RFA) FOR LOCAL IMPLEMENTING PARTNER(S) (LIP), FOR THE USAID FAHARI YA JAMII (FYJ) PROGRAM, UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI

Ref: RFA/UON/FYJ/CA-08T/08/2022

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 Program (FYJ).

The University of Nairobi/Fahari Ya Jamii Program is issuing a Request for Applications (RFA) to provide technical system strengthening support for the FYJ project under USAID Cooperative Agreement 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 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 HIV Care & Treatment and PMTCT interventions in Fahari Ya Jamii supported facilities within Nairobi County.

Activity: *Increasing access to and utilization of health services for Male Sex Workers (MSW), Men who have Sex with Men (MSM) and Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Intersex (LGBTI) communities as a component of Key Population (KPs).*

1. Scope of Work.

This document describes the scope of work for MSM-Led organization in increasing access to and utilization of health services for Male Sex Workers (MSW), Men who have sex with men (MSM) and lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex (LGBTI) communities as a component of Key Population within the informal settlements and all regions of the sub counties of Nairobi County.

2. Background

Key populations who include Men having Sex with Men (MSM); injection drug users (IDUs) and sex workers, male and female, (SW/MSW/FSW) are at high risk of HIV infection, alcohol and substance and abuse, discrimination, gender-based violence (GBV), human rights abuses and overall low health indicators. Members of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, Queer, intersex (LGBTQI) communities report very high levels of violence due to their sexual orientation and they note that the police forces frequently abuse them rather than offer assistance. Perpetrators of violence against this community are rarely prosecuted and actual figures for GBV are not known. One of the major barriers to access of health services for these groups is the attitude of health service providers. Sensitization training for health service providers on key populations will be a major component toward increasing access to and utilization of health services. Afya Jijini will use existing curricula and guidelines to implement evidence based behavioral interventions and in-service trainings to sensitize health workers on the needs and rights of key populations in health service delivery.

In Kenya, HIV is concentrated among key populations such as male and female sex workers, men who have sex with men, and injection drug users, accounting for one-third of all new infections. Key populations in Kenya are affected by punitive laws, regulations and policies, human rights abuses, alcohol and substance abuse, gender-based violence and widespread discrimination. The resulting stigmatization and marginalization lead to low uptake of HIV services leading to overall low health indicators for these populations. The disproportionate effect of HIV among key populations and young women is largely related to the risky nature of commercial sex work, relying on sex as a means to address economic wants and needs, the high risk of sexual activities such as unprotected anal sex, and limited access to information and health services due to stigma and criminalization.

3. Objective

The objective of this grant is to support increase to, access to and uptake of HIV services by key populations (KPs) i.e., **MSW, MSM and LGBTQI** through support of evidence-based risk reduction approaches. It will cooperate with county, other development partners and civil society stakeholders to reduce the vulnerability of key populations by addressing major barriers to access HIV health services, including the continuance and adherence to ARVs, and by desensitizing health service providers to the specific needs of key populations to access friendly health services and support. The LIP will strengthen work with LGBTQI communities and their representatives in order to find improved methods of targeting, collaborating with, and supporting these groups.

Target Outcome of Grant Activity:

The project will be measured for success on an ongoing basis and the expected outcomes by the end of the reporting period. The following will be the expected outcome:

- Reach **6,044 MSM, MSW and LGBTQI** with minimum of one of each of the combination prevention package for Key population.
- Increase access to pre-exposure prophylaxis, voluntary medical male circumcision for partners of sex workers (MSW, FSW) and tuberculosis prevention services
- Expanded implementation of HIV self-testing, index testing and network testing strategies
- Improved treatment literacy, including transformative undetectable = untransmittable messages

- Wider range of differentiated and key-population-competent health services, including violence prevention and response
- Better access to new first-line antiretroviral therapy and viral-load testing services
- Increased use of online platforms to engage previously unreached individuals and connect them to HIV services
- Identify ways to capitalize on local technical and management expertise

The LIP and Fahari Ya Jamii will jointly review the deliverables on a monthly basis and come up corrective with action plans, to ensure progress towards achievement of targets as well as contribute to improved quality of care in HIV care and treatment and prevention services.

4. Award Information

It is expected that up to KES 23,500,000 will be available to fund the successful applicant in FY 2022/23. The budget year will start from October 1, 2022 and end on September 30, 2023. The Proposed activities budget cannot exceed the allowable amount described above. Annual continuation awards will depend on the availability of funds, grantee progress in meeting the project goals and objectives, timely submission of required data and reports, and compliance with all terms and conditions of award. The Prime Award is a Cooperative agreement and all the rules and conditions of the Prime will flow down to the sub award.

5. Description of activities

The project will run from October 1st 2022 to September 30th 2023 and will be expected to support the delivery of the defined minimum package for key populations that includes at a minimum one of each of the *behavioral, biomedical and structural* interventions as outlined below:

A. Behavioral Components of the HIV/STI Package of Services

- Evidence informed Peer Education and Outreach
- Risk Assessment, Risk Reduction Counselling and Skills Building
- Promotion, Demonstration and Distribution of Male and Female Condoms and Water-Based Lubricants
- Harm Reduction, Screening and Treatment for Drug and Alcohol Abuse
- GBV & IPV Screening and referral for LIVES counselling & PM+

B. Biomedical Components of the HIV/STI Package of Services

- HIV Testing and Counselling
- STI Screening and Treatment
- TB Screening and Referral to Treatment
- HIV Care and Treatment
- Reproductive Health Services
- Family Planning
- Post-Abortion Care Services
- Cervical Cancer Screening
- Emergency Contraception
- Post-Exposure Prophylaxis
- GBV & IPV Screening & Management referrals

C. Structural Interventions

- 100% Condom Use Program
- Services to Mitigate Safety around Sexual Violence
- Support to Expand Choices beyond Sex Work (Safety nets and Livelihoods)
- Data consumption and review forums

The following are the care and treatment sites supported by USAID FAHARI YA JAMII that will provide Key Population friendly services integrated with the general population to ensure sustainability and as a means of self-reliance:

Sub County	FYJ Supported facilities
Embakasi East	Mukuru HC, Ruben medical center, Mukuru
Embakasi West	Kayole 2 SDH, Mama Lucy Kibaki hospital,
Westlands	Kangemi Health Center, Westlands Health Centre
Dagoretti	Ngong Road Health Centre
Starehe	Special Treatment clinic - Casino
Langata	Mbagathi Hospital, St. Mary`s Mission Hospital
Makadara	Lunga Lunga Health Center, Makadara Health Center
Kasarani	Kasarani Health Centre, Mathare North Health Center

6. Reporting and Monitoring Process

- Develop and submit a comprehensive work plan, including detailed Gantt charts, and performance monitoring plan.
- Submit monthly update reports to *USAID FAHARI YA JAMII* on the current status of implementation activities.
 - Reports will include age disaggregation where possible.
- Submit a final report to *USAID 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

7. 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 following eligibility criteria.

- This call for applications is only open to locally registered for-profit companies and non-profit organizations who have a local presence in Nairobi County. We encourage applications from local organizations that have previously worked with USAID.
- Already been working on the intervention or a related area.
- Demonstrate innovative HIV Care and Treatment & PMTCT interventions approaches.
- Eligible to receive USAID funds: All apparently successful applicants will undergo a responsibility determination prior to award to ensure that they have the technical and organizational capacity to manage a USAID-funded award.

Apparently Successful Applicants must have a Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) number and registered in the System for Award Management (SAM).

8. Evaluation Criteria

The applicants who meet the eligibility criteria will be evaluated according to the extent to which they satisfy the merit review requirements below;

Evaluation Criteria	Points
1. Strategic Fit	30 points
2. Technical Approach	40 points
3. Organizational Capabilities	10 points
4. Cost Effectiveness	15 points
5. Other Considerations	5 points
	100 points

Strategic fit: These include the applicant's contributions toward Fahari Ya Jamii success indicators, proposals on the sustainability of project results, the anticipated benefits to the beneficiaries among others.

Technical approach: The requirements include a clearly defined problem Statement; clearly outlined goals, Potential obstacles and feasible solutions to address the problems, monitoring and evaluation proposal that monitor key results, an effective technical approach etc.

Organizational capabilities: Factors for consideration will include the applicants past performance on similar projects, Experience in the proposed geographic region, relevance of the applicant's staff skills to successfully implement the program and the capacity to adhere to the award terms and conditions, including the reporting requirements

Cost effectiveness: The proposed budget must be realistic for the work to be performed and consistent with the various elements of the applicants' technical proposal. The proposal must include a 10% cost share element or proposed leveraging by other Non-US Government funds that will complement the program activities.

Other Considerations: These will include minority groups considerations such as focus on youth, women, physically challenged and other disadvantaged persons. Other cross cutting considerations such Environmental issues in the activity's implementations etc.

9. Application and Submission Information.

To apply, please submit your application/proposal, clearly quoting the Ref. No.

RFA/UON/FYJ/CA-08V/08/2022. Scanned copies of the following documents must be attached and well arranged.

- a) Organization Registration Certificate
- b) Tax Compliance Certificate
- c) Audit Reports for the last two Financial Years (if not available, signed financial statements need to be shared)
- d) Organization Constitution.
- e) Contact Person and Address

So as to reach the address below not later than August 22nd by 5:00 PM.

The Vice Chancellor,
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