

## Fundamental Achievements 2014

### OVC Care and Support

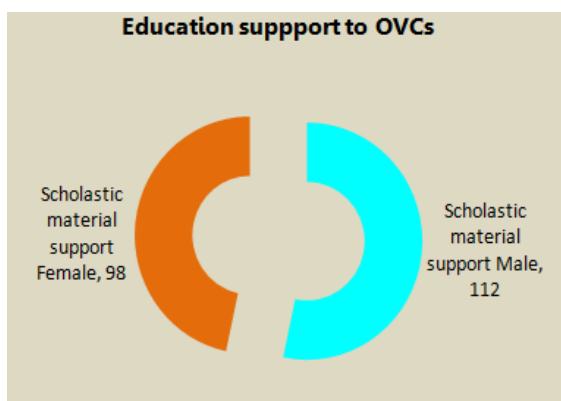
As part of our health promotion program, ACODEV is contributing to the improvement of the well-being of orphans and vulnerable children (OVC) in Uganda by integrating a number of fragmented OVC service delivery system, mobilizing community support for the plight of the OVCs, and raising awareness of their issues and needs through advocacy approaches. Our OVC programming has been linked with broader development efforts around education, food and nutrition and livelihood assistance.

In this regard, ACODEV's OVC care and support strategy is age-appropriate, situation-specific, and cognizant of the multitude of the needs among children and adolescent OVC in a family household or other situations.

In our recent implementation research findings, we found out that many families caring for OVCs are already impoverished and overextended. Children within these households often face great risk of malnutrition, disease, and limited access to education and health care.

This report highlights what and how ACODEV's interventions have been driven by the above finding where our OVC program is continuously assessing, monitoring, and addressing, as needed, the well-being of OVC within the following key areas: food and nutrition, protection, health, psychosocial support and education.

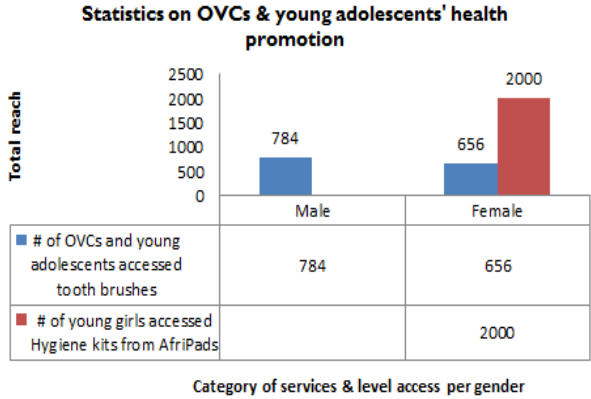
#### I. Education support to Orphans and Vulnerable Children



"Supporting quality education is one of the keys to success"

Our interventions have seen a change in direction where children increasingly been supported with scholarly materials helping in boosting their level of enrollement and performance. More boys than girls remained high on the education ladder, this is still attributed to most households giving priority to males when resources are minimal for educational. This is evident as per the chart above which showed a 53% (112) enrollement of OVC boys than 47% (98) enrollement for OVC girls from the sub counties of Bwera, Karambi and Nyakiyumbu where there were more of our education efforts.

**II. Strengthening health practices among OVCs and adolescents**



As one of the key areas which ACODEV promotes, most OVCs and young adolescents still struggle to meet their desired health standards in society, most challenges are seen in areas of oral hygiene and managing menstrual hygiene; the impact of this comes along when young girls can't participate in class work when they can't manage their menstrual hygiene, more so to the boys feel shy to talk in public when they know they did not brush their teeth for the last one week or more.

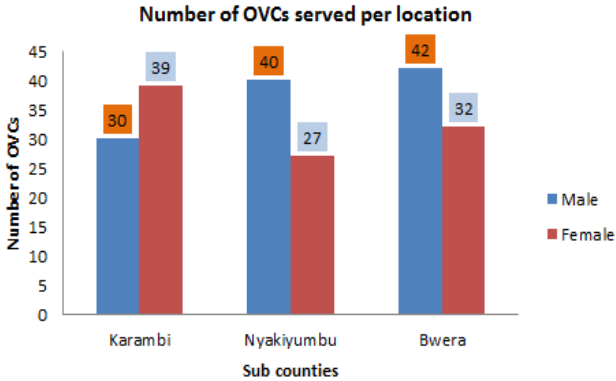
A CODEV to this effect, strengthened its efforts through Global Health Corps' fellows who strategically partnered with a US based charity organization "Synced Smiles" which for a long time has understood the great need to bring oral care and education to those less fortunate around the world. A total of 1440 brushes have been distributed to the OVCs and young adolescents in Kasese district.



In the same way, through the Indiegogo fundraising platform, ACODEV was able to procure and supply 2000 recyclable hygiene kits from the AfriPads to enhance the health standards of OVCs and young adolescent girls during their menstrual periods.

“Helping young girls meet their health needs is a pre-requisite to their development both socially and economically; what are you doing about it?”

### III. Approaches to Psychosocial support



“Not only engaging OVCs in classroom work will contribute to their social wellbeing, but also helping them discover what skills they have, will contribute to their future development”

Our engagements have banked on the strategy of using Psychosocial support to OVCs. This process facilitated a one-on-one monitoring of the physical, social and emotional growth of the children. Most of the children are able to share their future plans especially what and who they want to be such as doctors, nurses, pilots, drivers, engineers, teachers among others.