

Copperbelt Health Education Project

A brief History

The Copperbelt Health Education Project (CHEP), currently a non-governmental organisation with company limited by guarantee status, was established in 1988 as an integrated development project in response to emergent health issues.

Its primary mandate is to contribute to national efforts and strategies aimed at reducing the rapid spread of HIV/AIDS and mitigating its effect in Zambia, in general, and the Copperbelt Province, in particular.

The Four Phases of CHEP

The last 17 years that CHEP has existed can be viewed in four phases as follows.

“AIDS Kills” Phase - Public sensitisation. The main focus was mass rallies utilising public address systems. Fear induction was the main strategy.

“We Spread Knowledge not Fear” Phase. CHEP realised that using scary messages was not the right way so information dissemination became the main focus. CHEP trained leaders and trainers who could continue disseminating correct information to the general public. Peer approaches and participatory learning techniques were extensively used.

“Behaviour Change and Behaviour Formation” Phase: CHEP realised that to prevent HIV/AIDS, information alone is not enough. Therefore it adopted an integrated programme that focused on life skills, stepping stones, and reproductive health issues in order to encourage behaviour change and behaviour formation. In this phase CHEP initiated a number of CBOs at community level to carry out activities close to the people.



“Accelerating Communities’ response to HIV/AIDS” phase: This is the current phase in which CHEP is operating. The main focus is on ensuring that CBOs, NGOs and other Institutions (private sector and Government) are strengthened in order that they come up with their own programmes that are consistent and relevant to their communities.

Our Mission:

*CHEP collaborates with other sectors of the community to help develop **knowledge, values and life skills** that enable **creativity, responsibility and healthy life styles.***

CHEP's Goal

To contribute to the prevention of the further spread of HIV/AIDS and to the mitigation of its impact on individuals and communities on the Copperbelt province of Zambia and create opportunities for shared learning at national and regional levels.

Organisational Objectives

- To facilitate an expanded community response to HIV/AIDS and poverty alleviation through the provision of IEC strategies and technical support.
- To strengthen Copperbelt Health Education Project’s management and quality service delivery to partners.

How we are organised

Board of Directors

We have a Board of Directors comprising of Eight members. The members of the Board come from different walks of life and are responsible for Organizational Policy Development and appointment of the Directorate members.

The Directorate

The directorate is a team of four people comprising of an Executive Director, a Programmes Manager, a Finance and Administration Manager, and a Training Centre Manager. The Directorate is in charge of day to day running of the organization as a whole.

Programme Department:

Community Support Unit

The unit is responsible for programmes aimed at mobilising and initiating Community Based, Faith Based and Non-governmental Organisations in various communities on the Copperbelt.

HIV/AIDS Policies Unit

The unit is responsible for programmes aimed at ensuring that workplaces, CBOs and NGOs evolve HIV/AIDS policies that would contribute significantly to Prevention, Care and Support systems.

Advocacy and Gender Unit

This Unit is in charge of looking at all programmes relating to children, youth and women’s programmes. They provide technical support to community based organisations, schools and NGOs in relation to gender and advocacy training mentoring and awareness raising.



Process and Special Projects unit

The unit is charge of ensuring that all implemented programmes have a project implementation plan and that all activities are monitored, evaluated and documented.

Support Units

The Accounts Unit:

This unit has five qualified personnel who ensure that CHEP’s property and finances are well accounted for but they also provide technical support on financial matters to CBOs and NGOs.

Administrative Unit

In charge of ensuring that offices are clean and all office stationery and other resources are in place on time for all programmes to run efficiently.

Training & Research Centre unit

The Training centre provides a venue for CHEP training, but is also available to hire as a venue for conferences, meetings and other functions.

Information Technology Support Unit

This unit will focus on ensuring that all the information technology needs in CHEP are well organised and properly maintained. The IT staff also provides technical support to partners on information management systems.



CHEP's Core Activities:

Capacity development: our training

- CHEP provides training and mentoring to partners in :
- Health education: like Basic Health & Hygiene, Home Based Care, OVC Care, HIV/AIDS treatment literacy and Basic Counselling
- Capacity Development: like Organisational and Financial Management, Monitoring & Evaluation and Strategic Planning.
- Specialised Skills such as Stepping Stones trainings,

- Life skills and Peer Education.
- Workplace programmes like Peer education, HIV/Awareness and HIV/AIDS Policy development
- Other training like Resource Mobilisation, Documentation, Advocacy and Facilitation skills
- Basic Research techniques (*provided through out sourcing*)
- Information Educational and Communication materials development

Sub-granting

To enhance our technical Support to communities we have also included sub-granting. With sub grants, the organisations can implement their own activities in the local communities.

IEC Materials Development

CHEP develops appropriate IEC materials that are distributed to communities verbal information disseminated in the training programme . CHP also distributes materials developed by partner institutions around the world .



Radio and TV Programmes

In order to reach a wider community CHP runs radio programmes both on community radio and the national radio. Occasionally a TV programme is sponsored. Most of the radio programmes are aimed at informing people on various HIV/AIDS issues ranging form Positive Living, HIV treatment to sex and sexuality issues.

Mentoring

After people are trained, they have to utilize their learned skills. With our mentoring services this process can be faster. It helps organisation to convert the learned skills into practical implementation in their organisation for example to help with developing new M&E or financial systems or a Strategic Plan.

Networking

- CHEP is affiliated to strategic network bodies nationally and internationally such :
- Zambia National AIDS Network (ZNAN),
 - Southern Africa Network of AIDS Service Organisation (SANASO),
 - Zambian People Living with HIV/AIDS Network (NZP+),
 - Children in Need (CHIN) so on.



For more information you can contact us on the following

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Accelerating Community's Responses to HIV/AIDS

Remember to;
 Choose Life!
 Prevent HIV/AIDS
 Avoid Stigma and Discrimination



CHEP Believes that sustainable development is about people's own creativity, engagement and agency in what they consider to be good life for them. People themselves must design, develop and implement programmes that are consistent with their capacities, skills and abilities to meet their own needs.



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