



## GLOBAL SERVICE CORPS TANZANIA COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECTS

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### Youth HIV/AIDS and Health Education

HIV/AIDS and health education provide essential awareness for youth to be equipped with the skills and knowledge necessary to prevent HIV/AIDS. Young men and women are the future of Tanzania; therefore, it is imperative that their health and well-being be preserved. Surveys make it clear that programs are needed that move youth from awareness and knowledge to actual behavior change. In response to the need for training in life skills such as communication, relationships, decision-making, and goal setting in order to help translate knowledge into behavior change, Global Service Corps conducts an annual two-week long HIV/AIDS Prevention, Health and Life Skills Day camp for approximately 300 secondary school students. After camp, students are trained to be peer educators so they can continue to educate their fellow students. GSC staff provides support and follow up to ensure the success of health clubs. This program provides:

- ❖ Peer educator training workshops for student leaders and teachers in primary and secondary schools
- ❖ Follow-up of health club activities in schools including providing supplemental educational materials
- ❖ Students chance to attend day camps for two weeks
- ❖ Voluntary counseling and testing for students
- ❖ Peer education support activities, talent competitions



### Gardens for families affected by HIV/AIDS

A garden is a sustainable way to provide a family affected by HIV/AIDS access to proper nutrition including green vegetables. A sack garden is a type of urban garden that is used for people with limited living space and/or for people with limited physical strength to take care of a traditional garden. In this regard, a sack garden is ideal for a person living with HIV/AIDS since it takes minimal effort to care for. A garden will alleviate the problems many people with HIV have in obtaining nutritious foods. This program provides:

- ❖ Seeds and materials for gardens
- ❖ Training to families in composting and gardening
- ❖ Developing gardens with and for HIV positive support groups
- ❖ Developing gardens for vulnerable homesteads
- ❖ Promoting food security committees in villages
- ❖ Promoting conservation tillage



#### **Gardens for orphanages and school demonstration**

A home garden is a way for orphanages to become more self-reliant. Many orphanages in Tanzania live hand to mouth counting on small, sporadic donations in order to cover costs of housing, food, clothing, and education for their children. Establishing an organic home garden for an orphanage will not only provide children with the proper nutrition they need but will also serve to train those old enough with gardening skills they can carry with them throughout life. This program provides:

- ❖ Seeds for gardens
- ❖ Wheelbarrows watering cans shovels, & hoes for gardens
- ❖ Developing gardens with and for orphanages and schools as demonstrations
- ❖ Fruit tree nursery promotion in communities



#### **Hafirs - Rainwater collection tanks for home garden irrigation**

A hafir creates a home water source to reduce the need for women and children to haul water long distances. This 12 m<sup>3</sup> trench is lined and covered with plastic to decrease evaporation and filtration. Surrounded by a natural jatropha tree or acacia thorn fence to keep animals and small children out, a hafir can hold 12,000 liters of water and only costs 1/50th of other conventional options! During the rains, the tank collects and stores rainwater that can then be used for various tasks during the dry season, such as watering home gardens. This program provides:

- ❖ Subsidizing costs of hafirs for families
- ❖ Training of farmer motivators to promote ways for families to purify the water for kitchen use and help neighbors to build their own hafirs
- ❖ Training to minimize water needs



#### **Improved storage in rural homesteads to reduce 40%+ grain losses from improper storage**

Grain Storage Training helps rural communities to alter their traditional grain storage and to reduce the current average losses which exceed 40% from field to mouth. Training includes how to modify traditional stores, reduce mold through improved selection and drying techniques prior to storage, implement the use of biodegradable pest management, such as ashes and Neem tree leaves, and how to reduce access to the grain by rats. Trainings also entail working with neighbors to help them build their own stores, which will lower the training costs over time as improved grain stores increase in usage. This program provides:

- ❖ Training on causes of grain losses and prevention
- ❖ Improving and sharing indigenous knowledge
- ❖ Prototype grain “stores” for improved storage
- ❖ Training of village technicians to help neighbors build their own stores



### **Improved fruit and vegetable drying to reduce 50% losses**

Food Drying Trainings help rural communities to work together to dry their excess fruits and green garden products for later use in the dry season, or for sale to augment incomes. Typical on-farm losses from field to mouth exceed 50% due to the lack of food preservation knowledge and methods. Furthermore, these on-farm losses contribute to the significant and common vitamin A deficiencies found in mothers' and children's diets, especially during the dry season. GSC's training package includes alternative low-cost drying structures, education about appropriate drying methods, and information sessions on how to reconstitute the dried foods for preparation and use in cooking. The program provides:

- ❖ Modified home food dryers for individual use
- ❖ Community trainings on drying techniques and methods
- ❖ Training to reconstitute and utilize dried vegetables and fruits
- ❖ Training on improved nutrition especially for vulnerable groups, pregnant and nursing mothers and under-5s



### **Chicken vaccination project**

Vaccinating chickens against Newcastle Disease provides families with increased nutrition and sources of income. Each year Newcastle Disease kills 70% of the chicken population in Tanzania. Since chickens are the livestock of the poor and vulnerable including children, this disease has a major impact on the lives and well-being of a large portion of the population. In 2009, GSC launched a project called "Catch that Chicken" which focused on training and mobilizing community vaccinators who generate an income from vaccinating chickens against this disease. Vaccination allows chickens to live longer thereby producing more eggs and growing to a larger size for consumption. The goal of this project is to ultimately increase the nutrition and income of the most vulnerable whose livelihoods come from chickens. This program provides:

- ❖ Training of Community Vaccinators to vaccinate chickens village-wide
- ❖ Bicycles for community vaccinators
- ❖ Community training workshops on nutrition, health, and Newcastle Disease
- ❖ Initial support to accompany campaigns to vaccinate chickens in entire villages



### **Cattle immunization project against East Coast Fever**

Immunizing the Maasai cattle against East Coast Fever will help to combat this tick-borne disease which kills 40% of pastoralists' annual calf crop in Tanzania. The goal of this project is to ultimately increase the nutrition and income of the Maasai by protecting their assets and livelihoods which depend upon cattle, sheep and goats. GSC-TZ is mobilizing Maasai communities to immunize their animals by private veterinarians; over 40 calves must be done at the same locale and time to make it cost-effective, and this means meetings to coordinate and assurance from both stakeholders that a minimum number of calves will be brought together, and that the treatment costs can be met through cost-recovery. This program provides:

- ❖ Video showing in pastoralist communities to prevent this disease which kills 50% of calves annually
- ❖ Community training workshop on the importance of immunizing against East Coast Fever
- ❖ Linking veterinarian service providers and coordinating the first Immunizations of local herds with cost-recovery