



AFRICAN NUTRITION AGENCY (AFNA)

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Base: GULU

Project: End Sickle Cell Disease and Hunger (ESCDAH).

Sector: Food security and livelihoods, Nutrition & Health

From: Ms. Acayo Immaculate

Position: MEAL Officer

To: Ms. Atim Gloria

Position: Executive Director

About us

AFNA is a humanitarian, not for profit and non-government organization operating in a systematic and highly dignified manner to identify world problems, analyze and provide long lasting sustainable solutions for best quality of life.

Mission

To promote food security, nutrition and health by connecting people, ideas, research and resources through equality.

Vision

Losing no sight of a healthy and resourceful livelihood.

About the report

This report covers a period of between 18th of January 18th and 31st of June. It elucidates the projects and partnerships of the organization in realization of United Nations sustainable development goals for a better world.

Key achievements

[Sickle cell and nutrition programs](#)

-Six (06) outreaches to provide psychosocial therapy and create awareness about sickle cell disease using

mobile health intervention model.

-Six (06) sickle cell disease and nutrition modules rolled out.

-Two care (02) groups have been created.

-Five (5) follow ups and home visits have been made.

-Five hundred (500) beneficiaries received samples of homemade supplementary foods to boost their nutrition status. They are being trained on how to make them at home.

-Three (03) WASH trainings (clean water chain, hygiene campaigns and open defecation session).

Enhanced food production and household resilience

AFNA has set up a demonstration center (research center) for home farming, field farming and environmental sustainability to realize food security, proper nutrition, income generating activities and better livelihood. These projects include;

- Vermiculture.
- Maggot farming.
- A rope pump aquaponic system.
- Anthill Technology.
- Soil pasteurization, solarization and testing.
- Kitchen gardens.
- Grafting technology.
- Integrated postharvest handling of produce.
- Water harvesting and irrigation system.
- Animal feed production.
- Agri-ecology
- Value addition of foods involving quality control and assurance

While care groups are tasked to tackle health and nutrition, farmer groups have been set up for sustainable agriculture, food security and livelihoods.

As a result, two farmer groups have been formed and are currently being trained on enhanced food production and household resilience.

Improved purchasing power for quality and nutritious food

The groups are being trained and assisted in strengthening village savings and loan schemes and financial literacy to enable appropriate financial inclusion to provide flexibility in purchasing nutritious foods and important items for better livelihoods.

Two Cash For Work (CFW) activities have been carried out. This assists in providing ready cash for beneficiaries to take care of their needs.

Gender mainstreaming

-One (01) training on SGBV pathway for beneficiaries.

-One (01) capacity building women and youth training to increase control, access and use of natural resources for better household livelihood.



General achievement remarks

Generally, there has been a tremendous improvement in nutrition status and psychosocial behaviors of beneficiaries due to our agile and result oriented approaches.

Some parents have testified about the interventions of the organization because it has stabilized their homes since their spouses have understood that sickle cell is a disease and not a curse.

Beneficiaries are impressed by CFW and it is encouraging men to get on board and work together with women. This is changing the attitude of men towards work making them more supportive at homes and in a long run, domestic violence will surely be eradicated.

Challenges

- Despite of the trainings and achievements of AFNA, there are insufficient funds to implement household resilience in the communities. This is making it hard for sickle cell communities who are so much food insecure to appropriately manage their conditions.
- There is a challenge of transport since the organization currently has no vehicle which has made it hard for community activities like creating awareness, making follow ups, visiting other hospitals for sickle cell and nutrition cases, implementing CMAM, supervising group leaders during trainings among others.

Solutions

- Financial and in-kind support will solve these problems and more beneficiaries will be reached.

A big thank you

AFNA would like to appreciate the government of Uganda through Gulu Regional Referral Hospital for the great support they have given towards improving the lives of malnourished children and those living with sickle cell disease in Northern Uganda (Acholi sub-region). We also appreciate bless a child foundation for their generous support towards our cause.

Finally, special thanks go to AFNA volunteers/staffs who give more than eight hours of their time each week day and even some weekends to make sure that the lives of our beneficiaries are constantly and consistently improved. We greatly celebrate you because a team of innovative, patriotic and highly productive eight people is working like 30 people to meet various targets.



[Photos](#)

For photos, kindly refer to our website gallery

Stories

1. Success story of Eric



Meet Eric who is 18 years who was psychologically tortured because of home environment and was weighing 26Kg (Left). During intervention, we visited their home and supported his guardians. From henceforth, their attitudes changed towards him. Now they know how to manage his situation, how he should eat and how he should live. He is happy and his weight greatly improving (Right).

2. Joel

Joel is 15 years old but only weighs 9Kg. His mother wished him death because she was tired of his situation which she did not know how to manage. So Joel had no clothes, vexed and very malnourished. This was because Joel stays miles away from the hospital and hospitals around don't manage sickle cell cases leading to such conditions. There are so many children living with sickle cell who cannot access medical care and supporting them will highly change their situation.

