Strengthening Operational Research and Monitoring and Evaluation at Mildmay Uganda

Maria Kwesiga

Host Institution: Mildmay Uganda
Host Mentors: Irene Kambonesa, Mary Odiit
Academic Mentor: Dr. Elizabeth Nabiwemba

Final Dissemination
Golf Course Hotel
4th May 2012
Presentation Outline

• Brief Description of Mildmay Uganda
• Terms of Reference
• Key Achievements and Activities
• Programmatic Activity
• Lessons Learned
• Acknowledgements
Mildmay Uganda’s Vision Statement:
“A world in which everyone with HIV can have life in all its fullness”
Terms of Reference

• Operations Research and Dissemination
• Monitoring and Evaluation
• Training
• Proposal Writing for Resource Mobilization
Key Achievements: Research

• Coordinated $40,000 Regional African Training Network Grant
  – Documenting Mildmay Uganda Training Models
    • Supervised project implementation
    • Managed and mentored three research consultants
  – Findings
    • All participants report major positive changes in their job status
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Research Topic</th>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Objective</th>
<th>Progress to Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><em>Knowledge and Attitudes of the HPV Vaccine</em></td>
<td>PI</td>
<td>To explore knowledge and attitudes of the HPV vaccine among HIV positive adolescent girls</td>
<td>• Data entry complete • 90 adolescents • 84 caretakers</td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Association between CD4 at Switch to 2(^{nd}) line and Outcomes</em></td>
<td>Co-PI</td>
<td>To explore if CD4 count at switch to second-line ART and subsequent clinical and immunological outcomes in children</td>
<td>• Data collection • 59 chart reviews complete</td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Factors Influencing Persistent Non-Adherence</em></td>
<td>Co-Inv</td>
<td>To explore the psychosocial factors influencing persistent poor adherence/ART self-termination among adolescents</td>
<td>• Data collection to begin mid-May</td>
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Key Achievements: Research

- Appointed member of Mildmay Uganda Research Ethics Committee (MUREC), Research Committee and Research Advisory Board (RAB)
  - Reviewed nearly 40 research proposals
  - Reviewed and updated MUREC and RAB SOPs
  - Contributed to creation of a new department, Grant and Business Development
Key Activities: Monitoring and Evaluation

- Reviewed and revised M&E system for Mildmay Uganda
- Developed a method for tracking families for the Family Based Approach
- Report writing
Key Achievements: Training

• Co-developed curriculum and facilitation of courses
  – Applied Research and Evaluation Methods module of Health Systems Approach to HIV/AIDS degree course
  – Manuscript Writing Workshop
• Staff Trainings
  – Literature Review and Search, Referencing and Abstract writing (80 staff members)
Proposal Writing

• 7 proposals written
  – Waiting feedback from 2
• ‘Be a Hero!’ - Support Mildmay Uganda’s Paediatric Inpatient Unit
  – Art Fair and auction Fundraiser
  – 10th June 2012!
Publications

• Abstracts- 4 Oral & 6 Poster Accepted
  – International AIDS Society Conference
    • Washington DC, July 2012
  – International Conference on AIDS and STIs in Africa
    • Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, December 2011
  – Uganda Pediatric Association Conference
    • Kampala, Aug 2011
  – East African Regional Physiotherapy Conference
    • Kampala, November 2011
  – National Quality Improvement Conference
    • Kampala, February 2012
Publications

• Print Media:
  – Makerere College of Health Sciences Quarterly Newsletters

• Manuscript:
  – Strengthening Pediatric HIV and OVC Service Delivery through Community-Based Service Provider Linkages
Programmatic Activity

Developing a Health Research Strategy For Mildmay Uganda
Developing a Health Research Strategy
For Mildmay Uganda

• Objective: To create the Mildmay Uganda Research Strategy
• Rationale: Next step in expansion of research
  – Wealth of information gathered, yet not used
  – Must become more strategically focused
• Methods:
  – Rapid appraisal including a SWOT analysis
  – Interviews and meetings
Developing a Health Research Strategy For Mildmay Uganda

- Research Strategy Outputs
  - Research past, present and future aspirations
  - More clearly defined Research Division
    - Mission, Vision and Core Principals
    - Goals, Objectives, Key actions
  - Research priorities
Developing a Health Research Strategy For Mildmay Uganda

• Recommendations:
  – Strategy should be used to guide future research endeavours
  – Research Strategy should be in MUg Strategic Plan
  – Need to further analyze routinely collected data
  – Staff training and sensitization/Need for collaborations

Research must remain a priority for Mildmay
Lessons Learned

• Research and writing take time!
• Be more proactive and assertive
• Teamwork is key
• Multi-tasking is essential
• Time management and priority setting
• PATIENCE
Acknowledgements

• Irene Kambonesa and Mary Odiit, Dr. Emmanuel Luyirika, Dr. Ekiria Kikule, and Joyce Achan - Host Mentors
• Dr. Elizabeth Nabiwemba- Academic Mentor
• MakSPH-CDC Fellowship Staff
• Mildmay Uganda Staff
• Fellow fellows
Thank You!