



PEPFAR

U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief

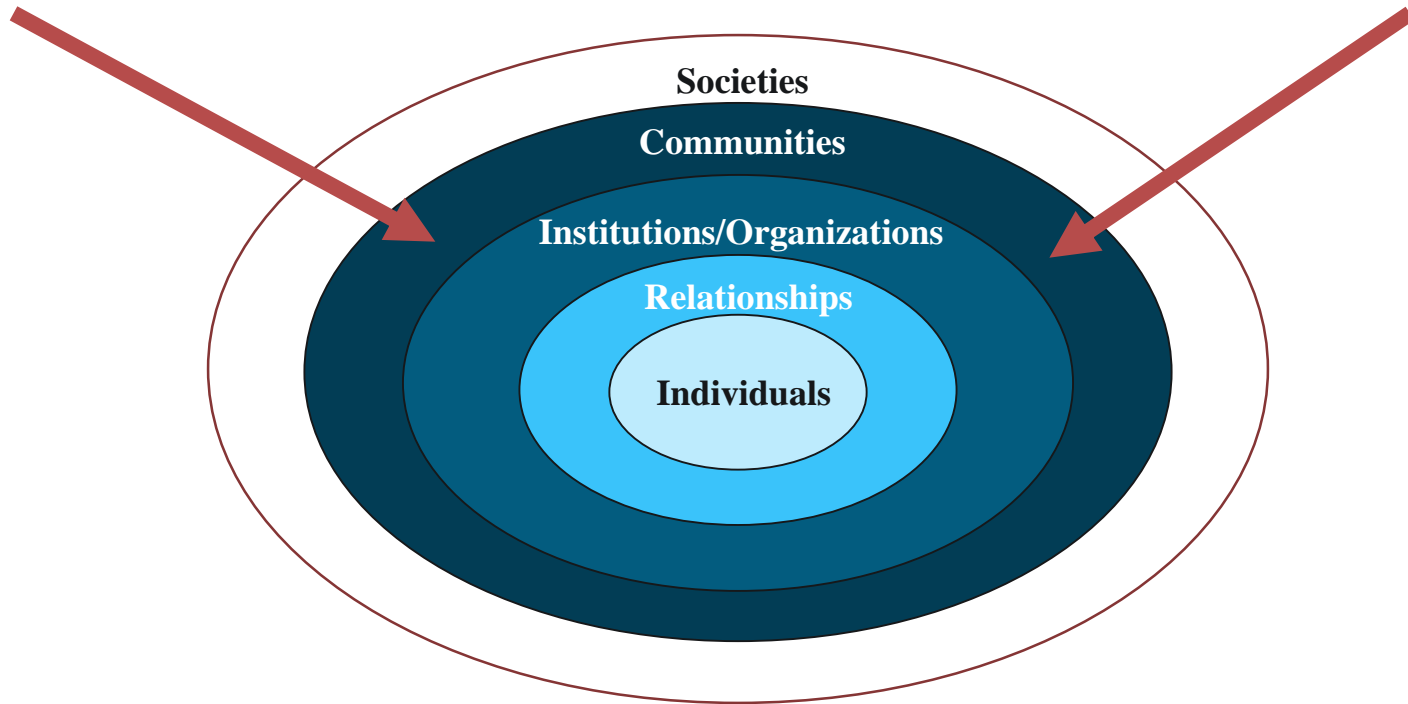
Community Level Approaches to Preventing Violence Against Children

Janet Saul, PhD
May 29th, 2019

15 YEARS OF SAVING LIVES THROUGH AMERICAN GENEROSITY AND PARTNERSHIPS

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Circles of Protection – Levels of the Social Ecology



Community Level – Leaders

What are these interventions attempting to change? -- Factors in the broader community relationships that put youth at risk for or protect them from violence

- Increase knowledge, change harmful norms, dispel myths among community leaders
- Build commitment of community leaders to engage in solutions

Are they relevant to the contexts in which we work?

- Some programs implemented widely in Africa (e.g., SASA!)
- Fairly new adaptations for faith and traditional leaders with swift uptake



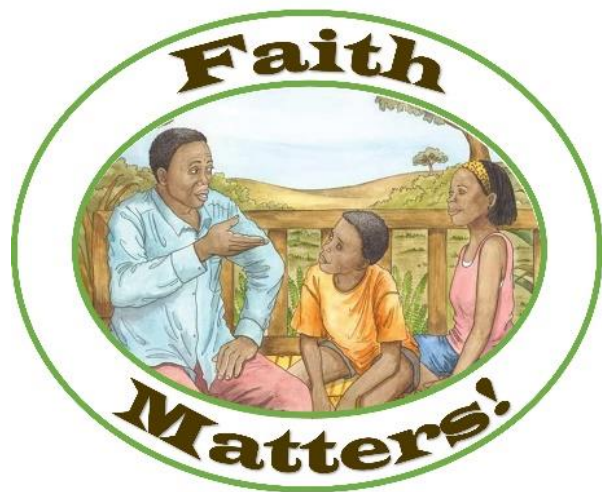
PEPFAR's Faith & Community Initiative

Ensuring Justice for Children

Justice for Children – Activities

1. **Educate faith leaders, traditional leaders, other community leaders, & parents about sexual violence against children in order that they can support prevention & response efforts in their organizations, families and the broader community**
 - Content to include magnitude of the problem, consequences for survivors and families, who the perpetrators are, relevant local laws, dispelling myths, and addressing victim blaming
2. **Engage faith and traditional structures to implement evidence-based strategies**
 - Heavy focus on community mobilization and norms change interventions
3. Require PEPFAR implementing partners (both Primes & Subs) who provide programs or services under this priority to have child safeguarding policies and procedures in place
4. Engage justice sector systems

Faith Matters! Program

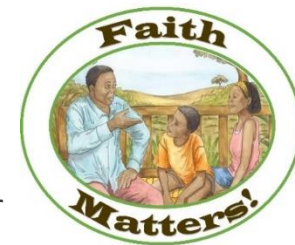


Faith Matters! Program

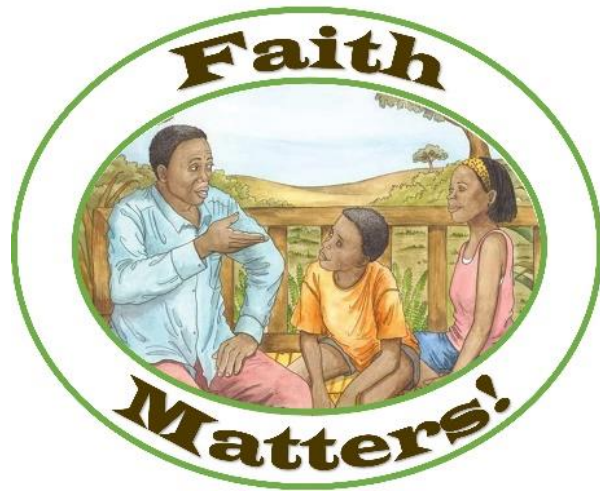
- Adaptation of evidenced-based **Families Matter! program (FMP!)**, which is geared towards parents of 9-19yr beneficiaries of DREAMS/OVC programming. FMP! builds strong parent-child relationships, positive parenting practices and effective communication between parents and children about sex, HIV and child sexual abuse.
- **Faith Matters! is a 2 Day workshop** developed specifically for Faith Leaders and delivered by FMP! Master Trainers
- Faith Leaders receive training in groups of 16-18 individuals
- Build capacity of faith leaders to address HIV prevention, treatment and care among adolescents and people living with HIV, and child sexual abuse.

Faith Matters! Program Session Overview

- Session #1: Overview of Faith Matters and Pressures Adolescents Face
 - **Goal:** To increase religious leaders' awareness of the physical, emotional, and social changes adolescents face; to increase religious leaders' awareness of the situations adolescents face that may put them at risk.
- Session #2: Information about STIs, HIV and AIDS and other HIV related Topics
 - **Goal:** To provide religious leaders information on sexually transmitted infections (STIs) including HIV, AIDS, and their prevention; to provide religious leaders with direct linkages to community health resources; to increase religious leaders comfort and skills in discussing difficult HIV and sex-related issues with adolescents.
- Session #3: Understanding Child sexual Abuse
 - **Goal:** To increase religious leaders' awareness about child sexual abuse; to increase religious leaders' understanding of their role in preventing child sexual abuse; to increase religious leaders' awareness of their role in guiding and supporting adolescents when responding to child sexual abuse.
- Session #4: Guiding and Supporting Adolescents living with HIV (ALHIV)
 - **Goal:** To make religious leaders more aware of the unique role they have in terms of supporting adolescents living with HIV (ALHIV); to increase religious leaders understanding of the challenges ALHIV face including those related to stigma, disclosure, adherence, and healthy relationships; to help religious leaders strengthen their skills to provide guidance and support to ALHIV around issues of stigma, disclosure, adherence, and healthy relationships; To provide religious leaders with information about living with HIV, antiretroviral therapy (ART), and resources in their community to help adolescents living with HIV.

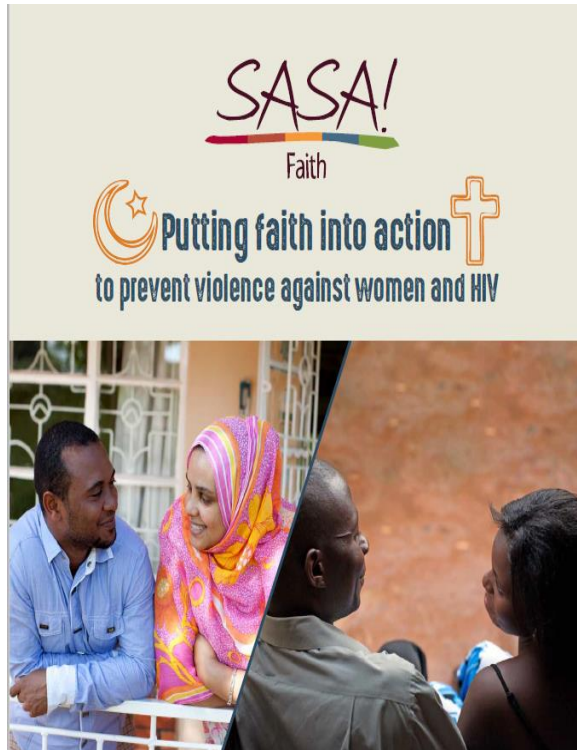


Faith Matters! Program: Implementation Example



- Zambia Initial Implementation since August 2018
 - Expanded Church Response trained over **1,043 faith leaders** in Faith Matters! within church facilities
 - 8/10 provinces in Zambia
 - Full evaluation of Faith Matters! program is set to commence in **October/November 2019**

SASA! Faith Program



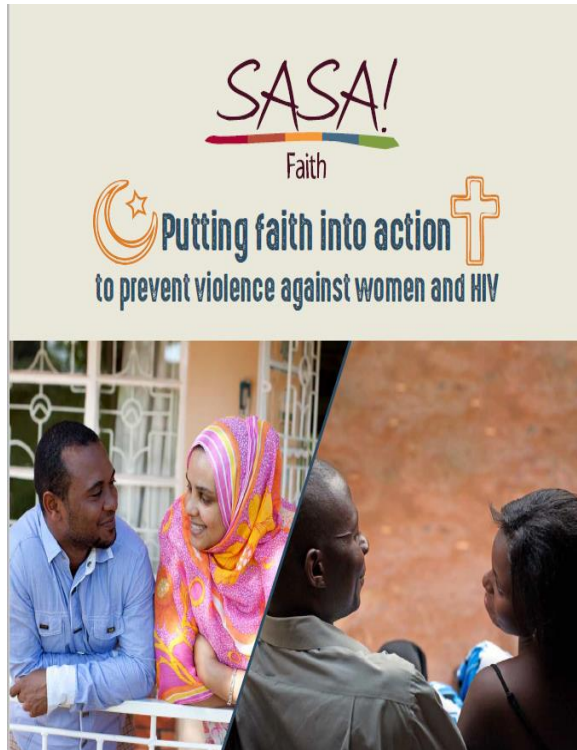
SASA! Faith

- Adaptation of *SASA! An Activist Kit for Preventing Violence against Women and HIV* for Christian and Muslim leaders.
- Community mobilization approach for primary prevention of violence against women and girls, and HIV, which engages the community in living in faith-based values of *justice, peace, and dignity*.
- Train and engage faith community leaders to catalyze changes in norms and behaviors that perpetuate gender inequality, violence and increased HIV vulnerability.

SASA! Faith: Session Overview

- Phase 1: **START**
 - Acknowledge there is a problem
 - SASA! Faith team addresses connection between violence against women and HIV
- Phase 2: **AWARENESS**
 - SASA! Faith Team & broader network engages faith community to become aware of connections between power inequities, violence against women and girls, and HIV
- Phase 3: **SUPPORT**
 - Help people consider alternatives while receiving support and encouragement from each other
- Phase 4: **ACTION**
 - SASA! Faith Team and Network engages the faith community to take action
 - Action takes the form of personal and institutional changes

SASA! Faith: Implementation



• Malawi Implementation in Salima

- MIAA (Malawi Interfaith AIDS Alliance) trained Muslim, Christian, and Traditional Leaders
- Goal is to reduce HIV and GBV among children
- Community Action Groups trained to lead sessions and discuss individual family issues
- Tie in related challenges: child marriage, harmful cultural practices, keeping girls in school
- Address power differentials between men and women
- All issues are discussed in context of religious teachings
- Anecdotal results: girls back in school, traditional leaders have incorporated bylaws on GBV, harmful practices have ceased



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THANK YOU!

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