

## Age appropriate sexuality education from a Muslim perspective and more



Kenya Muslim Youth Development Organization (KMYDO) runs health programmes to improve the health of Muslim youth, women and families. Since its founding in 2014, KMYDO's advocacy and provision of family planning services and information has greatly contributed in increasing access to family planning services in Kenya. For example, on KMYDO's intervention sites, family planning uptake has improved from 57% to 75% in Malindi and from 69% to 75% in Kilifi North, between 2015 and 2017 (DHIS2 data). As a member of Faith to Action Network, KMYDO has benefitted from capacity building in advocacy among other skills. KMYDO's advocacy strategy successfully leverages Muslim scholars' social and political influence, whose voices amplify its advocacy events and meetings: Its newly formed Islamic Family Planning Advocacy Network helps mobilize, organize and build the capacity of 175 Muslim scholars in family planning.

### KMYDO's impact

Its engagement with district decision makers has led to

- the development and launch of six family planning costed implementation plans for Wajir, Kilifi, Mombasa, Nakuru, Lamu and Kwale counties, and
- contributed to the introduction or increase of specific FP/RH budget lines.
- In Kilifi, Mombasa and Wajir counties, it has made sure that costed implementation plans pay attention to the sexual and reproductive health needs of adolescents.



Dialogue on child spacing among Muslims, 6th December 2016 Nairobi

## Increasing women's access to reproductive health and family planning services

In order to increase women's access to reproductive health and family planning services and information, KMYDO has developed a family planning toolkit, posters and media kit from a Muslim perspective. It has trained 982 Muslim women family planning champions in advocacy, using the SMART methodology and works with 152 Muslim women as community health volunteers to distribute contraceptives. Its AMINA network with more than 2000 Muslim women and 30 Muslim women grassroot organizations cascades information to communities.



AMINA network annual FP Iftaar (Ramadhan dinner) gathering in Mombasa

## Age-appropriate sexuality education in madrassas

KMYDO pioneers age appropriate comprehensive sexuality education in Muslim schools. It has developed a toolkit entitled AMINA ALI toolkit, formed family planning and reproductive health clubs in 72 madrassas and trained 1,670 peer educators to engage their peers with information. Most importantly, it has integrated and implemented its age appropriate comprehensive sexuality education toolkit from a Muslim perspective into the curriculum of 35 madrassas. This Amina Ali toolkit encourages open discussion about sexuality and reproductive health in the context of Muslim religious life. It clarifies Islamic values around reproductive health, while providing accurate technical information on these topics. The initiative includes Qur'anic texts and hadith as a way to frame discussions in language more familiar to Muslims and to help adolescent, youth and adults reflect on the challenging issues related to sexuality.



Facility-based FP/RH session held in Kilifi



Community health volunteer during her routine visits in Nakuru

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