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# **USAID KIZAZI HODARI (BRAVE GENERATION) NORTHEASTERN ZONE**

## ***FY24 ANNUAL NEWSLETTER***

This newsletter is made possible by the generous support of the American people through the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). The contents are the responsibility of ELCT-HQ and do not necessarily reflect the views of USAID or the United States Government.

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# FOREWORD

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As we reflect on another year of transformative impact, I am honored to present the annual newsletter of the USAID Kizazi Hodari (Brave Generation) Northeastern Zone project. Over the past year, we have witnessed remarkable progress in improving the health, safety, and well-being of orphaned and vulnerable children, adolescents, and their caregivers across nine regions of Tanzania. Our achievements are a testament to the dedication of our National Implementing Partners (NIPs), collaborations with Clinical Implementing partners, other OVC partners, community volunteers, and the unwavering support of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).

The project's comprehensive approach spanning pediatric HIV care, educational support, gender-based violence prevention and economic empowerment has continued to yield significant results. This year, we surpassed our target, reaching 164,031 beneficiaries with essential services. We've achieved a 96% viral suppression rate among children and adolescents living with HIV, to empowering over 1,052 new savings groups with economic skills, the project's multifaceted efforts have had a profound impact on the lives of those we serve.

None of these successes would have been possible without the close collaboration with the Government of Tanzania at different levels, our implementing partners, clinical implementing partners, the private sector and community structures. Together, we have enhanced and ensured that orphans and vulnerable children have access to health care, education, and resources they need to thrive.

Whether through school reintegration programs, violence response, vocational training for out-of-school youth, nutritional supply, or early HIV diagnosis and treatment, our collective efforts have contributed to building a more resilient and empowered brave generation.

As we move forward into the coming year, we remain committed to deepening our impact, scaling up our interventions, and fostering sustainable change in the communities we serve. I extend my deepest gratitude to all our partners, stakeholders, and project staff who continue to champion the health and protection of orphans and vulnerable children in Tanzania. Together, we are making lasting steps toward attaining the UNAIDS global goals '95-95-95'. an AIDS-free generation is possible if we work together!

**Thank you!**



**Godson Maro**  
**Chief of Party**

**#KizaziHodariTaifaEndelevu**



# USAID KIZAZI HODARI (BRAVE GENERATION)

## NORTHEASTERN ZONE

# ACHIEVEMENTS

October 2023- September 2024

TOTAL BENEFICIARIES

# 164,031

**115,389**  
children



SERVICES PROVIDED

**96,000**

children received comprehensive case management services

**48,642**  
caregivers



**11,531**

Adolescent Girls and Young Women (DREAMS services)



**7,858**

Adolescent Boys and Young Men (preventive services)

## ACHIEVEMENTS IN STRATEGIC AREAS

### Pediatric HIV Case Finding and Viral Suppression



**17,747**

Children with HIV supported for ART adherence to achieve viral suppression



**608**

Children linked to Enhanced Adherence Counseling (EAC)



**357**

High-viral-load cases managed through advanced home visits

### HIV Prevention and Violence Prevention



**48,553**

OVC Caregivers trained on positive parenting via Community Case Workers



**58**

Trained staff on Gender Equity and Social Inclusion (GESI)



**305**

GBV Cases identified and supported



**56,813**

Students reached with GBV/VAC prevention and response education

### Faith Community Engagement (FCE)



**141**

Faith leaders engaged HIV,GBV/VAC community awareness



**55**

Faith leaders trained on vulnerability assessment and resource mobilization



**57,671**

Community members reached by Faith Leaders



**50**

GBV cases identified by Faith leaders



**USD 2,675**

Resources mobilized through Faith Leaders

### Building Socio-Economic Resilience



**17,829**

OVC Caregivers, Adolescents trained on Income Generating Activities (IGA) through other stakeholders



**1,549**

Households accessed health services through improved Community Health Fund cards (iCHF)



**\$ 19,909.75**

Worth for Startup kits distributed to trained OVC Caregivers and Adolescents

### Education Support for OVC



**14,390**

Total OVC Supported



Support included :

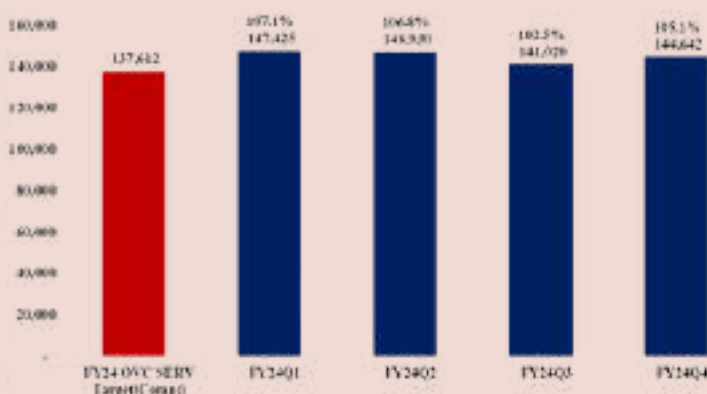


Cash



Sanitary kits

### Beneficiaries Received Services



Thanks to:



# Commemorating World AIDS Day 2023



*The USAID Kizazi Hodari (Brave Generation) Northeastern Zone staff, Adolescent Girls and Young Women & Adolescent Boys Young Men match during the World AIDS Day 2023 commemoration climax day in Morogoro*

In marking World AIDS Day (WAD) 2023, the USAID Kizazi Hodari Northeastern Zone project joined Tanzanians and the global community in commemorating World AIDS Day, under the theme "Let Communities Lead." The theme emphasized the critical role that local communities play in driving the response to HIV/AIDS and ensuring that prevention, treatment, and care reach those in need. The national event was held in Morogoro. The event brought together government officials, health practitioners, civil society organizations, and community members in a united call for community-driven action to end the HIV epidemic.

At the heart of our interventions is the goal to improve the lives of Orphans and Vulnerable Children (OVC), adolescents, and caregivers affected by HIV. The project has long recognized the power of community-led solutions. The project used the platform to showcase the results of its community-based

interventions, which have been key to addressing the ongoing challenges of HIV prevention, care, and support in Tanzania.

**'Community Case Workers are at the forefront in delivering comprehensive case management to OVC, youth and caregivers' - Vailet Mollel**

In line with the theme of community leadership, the project's Deputy Chief of Party Ms. Vailet Mollel emphasized the critical role of Community Case Workers (CCWs) and Volunteers who are at the forefront delivering comprehensive HIV services care and support. "Through community-led initiatives such as home-based care, peer support groups, and Faith Community Engagement, the project has been instrumental in ensuring that vulnerable populations have access to timely HIV services, from testing to treatment adherence support," She said.

**#KizaziHodariTaifaEndelevu**



# 16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM AGAINST GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE & WORLD AIDS DAY COMMEMORATIONS



School children holding signs calling for children protection during the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence in Singida



NAFGEM Case Management Officer Mr. James Kirima speaking to Kilimanjaro Regional Commissioner Hon. Nurdin Babu during the 16 days Activism Against Gender-Based Violence event held in Moshi MC



A group photo of the USAID Kizazi Hodari Northeastern Zone project staff who participated at the World AIDS Day national commemoration event in Morogoro Region.



PEPFAR representatives (in black t-shirts) visiting the USAID Kizazi Hodari Northeastern Zone exhibition booth during the marking of World AIDS Day national commemorations held in Morogoro Region.

# Rebuilding Hope and Health for an HIV Exposed Infant

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## The Uncertainties

At 14 months old, Alia (not her real name) couldn't make a step/crawl like babies of her age, weighing only 6kgs, severely malnourished, with frequent coughing, interrupted from treatment and abandoned by her mother (Living with HIV) without disclosing the status to the father. The situation was dire and her health was deteriorating.

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## Returned on ART

Now raised by her father, a community case worker identifies Alia. Referred her and her father to HIV Testing Services (HTS), where her HIV-positive status was confirmed. The USAID Kizazi Hodari Northeastern Zone project links the father with crucial support. This included psychosocial support for the father, nutritional support and supplements for Alia, and a community case worker for comprehensive care services. The community is also engaged where good Samaritans pay monthly milk bills for Alia.

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## Hopeful and Healthy Child

The PEPFAR support through USAID, and the community, has led improvement of Alia's Health. Now two years old, she continues to thrive under the care of her father. Running and walking held by her father. Her life is full of hope and good health.

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# Marking International Women's Day 2024



Guided by the theme 'Inspire Inclusion' The USAID Kizazi Hodari (Brave Generation) Northeastern Zone Project marked International Women's Day 2024 with activities focusing on raising awareness of gender equality, economic empowerment, and the prevention of Gender-Based Violence (GBV). Events were held across nine regions, engaging local communities, women's groups, and government officials.

Graced by the Regional Director East Africa at Trias Ms. Ritha Tarimo, the event included showcasing the success of the Hazina Yetu Savings and Lending groups,

which empower women and youth through income-generating activities to build financial freedom and support their families.

At the event, women and men also participated in GBV awareness with a walkathon, learning about prevention strategies and how to report cases. "Empowering women economically reduces their risk of HIV, and violence and improves their overall well-being," noted Ms. Tarimo the chief guest at the event.

○ #InspireInclusion



The International Women's Day Chief Guest Ms. Ritha Tarimo Regional Director East Africa at TRIAS receiving a gift from a Hazina Yetu youth group 'Rich before 40' during the commemoration activity held at the project's main offices in Arusha.

**#KizaziHodariTaifaEndelevu**



# JOINT SUPPORTIVE SUPERVISION

## ○ #Collaborations

The USAID Kizazi Hodari Northeastern Zone Team led by the Chief of Party Dr. Godson Maro (Second from left) during the DREAMS Joint Supportive Supervision visit with delegates from UNICEF, TACAIDS and USAID after paying a courtesy call at the Mwanza Regional Commissioner's Office.



Ms. Nkinda Shekhalage Principal Social Welfare Officer PO-RALG with Kalangala Ward officials during a Joint Supportive Supervision activity organized by the project Geita Region



Ms. Vailet Mollel, Deputy Chief of Party for the project with Ms. Zainab Kitembe Principal Social Welfare Officer PO-RALG during a Joint Supportive Supervision activity speaking to CTC in Charge for the Makongoro Health Center in Mwanza Region.

# Determined, Resilient, Empowered, AIDS-free, Mentored, and Safe - DREAMS

DREAMS (Determined, Resilient, Empowered, AIDS-free, Mentored, and Safe) is an initiative focused on reducing HIV infections among adolescent girls and young women. The USAID Kizazi Hodari (Brave Generation) Northeastern Zone project implements the project in Nyamagana Council in Mwanza Region. With funds from PEPFAR (the U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief) through the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) the project has reached over 11,572 AGYW in 73 schools.

The program in collaboration with the government provides a comprehensive package of services that includes HIV/AIDS awareness, menstrual hygiene, gender-based violence and response, financial literacy, and social protection. It engages communities, families, and the girls themselves to create a supportive environment for them to thrive and reduce their risk of HIV infection. The ultimate goal is to help adolescent girls and young women live healthier, more empowered lives free from HIV and other risks.





# USAID OVC TECHNICAL TEAM VISIT



The USAID Kizazi Hodari Northeastern Zone project hosted Ms. Sarah Dastur the USAID/Washington Orphans and Vulnerable Children Technical Lead in Arusha. Ms. Dastur engaged with the project staff, the Arusha Regional and Council Health Management Teams, and other USG partners. The team visited different project sites including OVC households, and 'Hazina Yetu' saving and lending group's activities. The team witnessed the positive impact of the USAID Kizazi Hodari Northeastern Zone project's collaboration with the government, Clinical partners, and faith communities in implementing its community-based interventions.





# Economic Empowerment Initiatives: Strengthening Household's Income & Reducing Vulnerability



Hazina Yetu savings and lending groups include the mandatory savings contributions, optional contributions, social contribution fund and OVC/children fund contributions. Through their weekly meetings, the group collects contributions, access their group's loans and make plans for their group.

In FY24 the project signed an MoU partnership with CRDB Bank Foundation through Imbeju program. Through financial institutions such as the CRDB Bank Foundation, Hazina Yetu' groups accessed loans worth **USD 74,359**.



Vocational training has played a pivotal role in empowering youth (**15-17** years of age) through the project. A total of **30 (16F, 14M)** out-of-school adolescent youth were enrolled in vocational education programs, gaining skills in areas such as welding, tailoring, and food production. After graduating, the youth were provided with business startup kits by the project to help them kick off the launch of their income-generating activities. Also, the project linked the youth with apprenticeship to continue master their skills.



The project's participation in various exhibitions offers a platform to link 'Hazina Yetu' savings and lending groups to showcase their products and provide market linkage role. Through government collaborations **649** Hazina Yetu groups received formal registration, collected **USD 42,246** through Child Welfare Funds and Community Resource Mobilization Teams (CRMT). The funds supported **4,440 OVC** with basic urgent needs including food, clothes, health insurance and medical care.

# FAITH COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

"Faith leaders have a unique ability to influence their congregations and promote positive behavior change. By integrating faith-based leadership into healthcare delivery, we are building a stronger, more cohesive response to HIV and other social issues. This collaboration has already proven successful in expanding our reach and deepening community engagement." - Dr. Godson Maro - Chief of Party USAID Kizazi Hodari Northeastern Zone



At the first International Primary Health Conference 2024 organised by PO-RALG the project hosted the Faith Community Engagement Forum. The forum, titled "The Contribution of Faith Community Engagement in Improving Primary Healthcare Services," brought together faith leaders, healthcare professionals, and stakeholders to discuss how faith communities can be a catalyst for improving access to healthcare at the grassroots level.

As part of the USAID Kizazi Hodari Northeastern Zone Project's goal to prevent GBV and Violence Against Children (VAC), faith leaders were trained to provide guidance and support to survivors, while also facilitating the reporting of GBV cases to the appropriate authorities.

**Faith in Action; Empowering Our Communities**





# MEDIA ENGAGEMENT



Media is not just a channel of communication, but a powerful tool for empowering communities, amplifying voices, and driving sustainable development. When used strategically, it becomes a catalyst for positive social change, bridging gaps in knowledge, access, and opportunity.



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# **Kizazi Hodari**

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