

DAREECHA MALE HEALTH SOCIETY PAKISTAN

2018

ANNUAL REPORT



PROJECT DIRECTOR

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Reducing the Impact of HIV Among Transgenders & key Populations Through Mobile Testing and Prevention Services “Reaching the Unreached Key Population”

1.1 Organizational Information:

Dareecha Male Health Society, an organization solely working on health conditions, health restoration and social welfare of Transgender and Key Populations of Rawalpindi, Pakistan. Dareecha Male Health Society (DMHS) was founded in 2012 with a vision of promoting and imparting better health facilities, awareness of Human rights and well-being of Transgender/Key Populations and their associated companions.

Therefore, DMHS is one of its own kind which has been successfully providing awareness platforms to the Transgender community members to have a better and healthy lifestyle. Dareecha Male Health Society has its secretariat office functional in Satellite town, Rawalpindi, Pakistan. DMHS has been working majorly in liaison with National Aids Control Program of Pakistan in order to achieve HIV/AIDS prevention objectives and targets. Various International and Local organizations have assisted DMHS ever since it has been founded. Moreover, DMHS aims to work on having a wholesome, well aware and socially inclusive Transgender community in Rawalpindi region.



Figure 1 Team Dareecha along Clients at PIMS

1.2 Our Vision:

Dareecha envisions a world, an Asia, a Pakistan and a Rawalpindi, where individuals are able to exercise their fundamental human rights for the achievement of personal and professional excellence, regardless of their sexual orientation, sexual behavior, and gender identity.



Figure 2 Team Dareecha along community at Pakistan Day

1.3 Our Mission:

We strive for the advancement of the social and health rights of Transgenders & Key Populations by strengthening community systems and developing community led interventions to focus on addressing discrimination and stigma. We also work on creating an enabling environment by advocating for equity, justice, safety, health and wellbeing of TG/KP communities and individuals.

1.4 Goal statement:

Dareecha Male Health Society's goal is to achieve a healthy and conducive social and legal environment in Rawalpindi for the betterment of Transgenders & Key Populations.



Figure 3 Observing World AIDS Day at Dareecha with University Students

1.5 Strategic Objectives:

The specific objectives to be fulfilled for the successful realization of DMHS's goal are:

1. To reduce the rate of new HIV infections among TG/KP in Rawalpindi
2. To enhance the personal and professional development of TG/KP in Rawalpindi
3. To increase advocacy with stakeholders for the betterment of TG/KP in Rawalpindi

Primary work Areas:

Dareecha has an experience of working with the KP/TG community since February 2012 to till date. Dareecha got registered in June 2015 and started working as an independent CBO in January, 2016. Since January 2016 Dareecha worked with UNDP till December 2016 under the MSA Global Fund Program. Dareecha started working with Save the Children Nepal since January 2017 till February 2018. Dareecha now started working with National AIDS Control Program from March 01, 2018.

Dareecha has been implementing MSA Global fund HIV program for the KP/TG community in Rawalpindi that includes;

- HIV testing and counselling services that involve behavior change communication along with pre and post-test counselling.
- Service delivery involving all four components such as Distribution of lubes/condoms, IEC material for awareness and education, Pre-test and post-test counselling, BCC- (Behavior change communication) and sexually transmitted infection's diagnosis & treatment.
- To avoid dropping out in treatment cascade, Dareecha has been providing care and support to clients by referring and registering them to government facilities.
- In the past, Dareecha had experience of conducting trainings and producing continuous reports on the impact of those trainings for NMHA.
- Advocacy with stakeholders and liaison with National Aids Control Program in Islamabad and Punjab Aids Control Program.
- Networking with KP/TG community, INGOs & NGO's.
- Facilitated several research projects for students and organizations along with awareness and sensitization.

This is the main highlight of the experience Dareecha had in implementing KP/TG focused HIV program.



Figure 4 Volunteer Testing & Treatments

1.6 Achievements:

Referring to program's key indicators and services, SR's main focus throughout since 2012 was mainly achievement of the targets and reach to maximum key affected populations. All the indicators have been achieved more than 100%.

Targets achieved in the year 2018:

BCC(New + Repeat)	2088
VCT (New)	986
STI	332
PLHIV's	47
Condom/Lubes	47280

Except the key indicators, targets, services; SR's throughout the working years have been conducting sessions for the community at their drop in center where community counsellor & STI specialist has been facilitating different health related topics.

In terms of activities, all the major activities planned were carried out such as IDAHOT event, World Aids Day, community mobilization event where treatment cascade and HIV, STI related issues were discussed.

Mobile VCT was conducted in order to reach maximum clients and to accomplish maximum targets. It also helped us in reaching the key populations.

International day against homophobia & transphobia was organized to gather up the community and to provide awareness regarding how to avoid and tackle the stigma and discrimination from the society.

Awareness regarding Yogyakarta principles was provided to community in different awareness sessions at CBO's.

Human rights violation cases has been discussed during different Community Mobilization Events.

Community Mobilization Event- Importance of Treatment Cascade held at Dareecha.

Accelerated response to HIV through effective prevention, treatment, care and support interventions for key populations in Pakistan through National AIDS Control Program

Project Title & Name	Accelerated response to HIV through effective prevention, treatment, care and support interventions for key populations in Pakistan
Country / Location/ City within the country	Rawalpindi, Pakistan
Name of the Donor	Global Fund program for key populations
Start Date (Month /Year)	March 2018
Completion Date (Month / Year)	December 2018
Value of the Contract	PKR 2482486
Target group / beneficiaries	Transgenders/Key Population
No. of Direct beneficiaries	1 NACP
No. of Indirect beneficiaries	1 DMHS
Duration of the Assignment	01 Year
Address of Donor / Implementing Partner	National AIDS Control Program National Institute of Health Chak Shahzad, Islamabad Dr. Baseer Khan Achakzai Contact: Email: achakzaibk@gmail.com
Value of the services provided by your firm under the contract in PKR`s (Program Cost)	Total Program Cost PKR (20,939,973) From March 2018 – June 2021
No. of professional staff under the program	05
Name of the senior staff member of the CBO involved and functions performed	Mr. Muhammad Usman , Program Manager Dareecha Male Health Society Contact: usmanmalikmo@gmail.com Tel: +92-331-5309899
Narrative description of the project	Key Interventions under the Grant: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drop in Center facility (for repeat BCC/ Psycho social support & Counseling) • TG/KP reached through community based HIV prevention outreach program in Pakistan. • TG/KP who received an HIV test through project CBOs and who know their results in Pakistan. • Sexually transmitted infections treated through project CBOs amongst TG/KP in Pakistan. • Referral Support to PLHIV`s with strong follow up

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Mobilization Events. • Civil society allies. • Service Delivery through Mobile VCT & DIC • Career Counseling and family counseling in DIC
<p>Description of actual services provided by your staff within the assignment</p>	<p>Outreach Department: Outreach workers usually contact the clients during their site visits, Dara’s and hotspots where clients meet easily, ORW used to counsel them by BCC and register them on the field and also refer them for VCT and other follow ups.</p> <p>Paramedic: After the registration, a client is here for the Pre and Post Counseling, Lab tests & for STI Medicines by the Paramedic during Mobile VCT’s or VCT in DIC.</p> <p>Site Manager: The site manager is responsible for Program, Monitoring & Evaluation, Finance & Administration, Technical support to staff, Stock Maintenance & overall supervision of CBO.</p>

1.7 Management of the grant

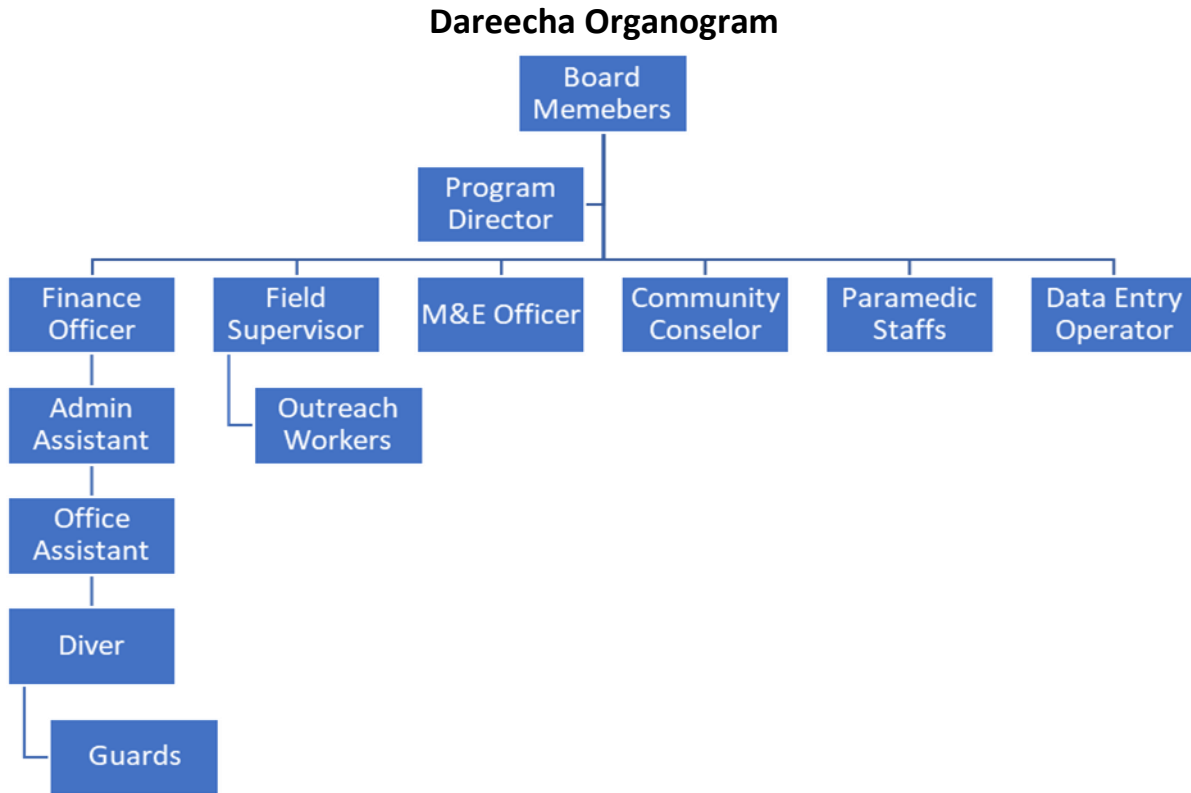
The overall management of the grant specifically in terms of reaching the targets has been splendid considering the amount of time. On the other hand performance in terms of utilizing more budget to its maximum level could be improved if external factors would have been spared.



Figure 5 Meeting on HIV /AIDS with Govt Stake Holders

Monitoring by the management staff was designed in a way that M&E officer who was responsible for overall monitoring & evaluation of the project/ grant had divided his time based on the tasks in every department. Data was analyzed at the end of every month from each and every department i.e. DIC, Outreach, community counselor, lab, and STI specialist. The main purpose of this was to gather the data, analyze/ evaluate it and after matching it to physical count report it further to the PR. After this whole process the strategies were devised for the next period. Regular field visits by M&E helped to monitor the work of field department and to make sure that the key population has been reached.

On the other hand program manager has been responsible for the overall management of the grant which has been further verified by the board of directors of Dareecha. All the documents including budget sheets, day to day expenses, strategies for new targets, city mapping, program cost, designed activities, networking, reporting, trainings and so on has always been verified, planned, strategized by program manager. Please refer to the organogram below to understand the structure of staff and executive board.



1.8 Deliverables For:

1) Media sensitization / advocacy through consultation and training sessions on transgender community issues in Rawalpindi, Islamabad Pakistan.

Dareecha conducted 03 advocacy sessions with media and civil society in Rawalpindi and Islamabad on Transgender Protection of Rights Bill passed in 2018 and sensitization on the behaviors, taboo and discrimination attached to the transgender community and key population in Pakistan. For this, a transgender consultant has been hired in January 2019. 3 sessions were organized in Islamabad with civil

society and media separately on 27 February (35 participants) with Civil Society, 28 February with Media (27 participants) and 3rd on 27 June, 2019 jointly with Civil Society and Media (31 participants). Dareecha invited individuals and professionals from civil society and media who are directly and indirectly linked with the community. The idea of inviting these individuals from different walks of life was to play a role of bridging gaps between society and community.

Briefly, in training session the following topics were covered:

- Group work on labeling of transgender community
- Trans Right Movement in Pakistan
- Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Act-2018
- How to narrate a story in gender perspective & drafting of success stories by a media professional
- Motivational talk & discussions: Identifying key issue(s) and discussion on drafting success stories of the community members
- Discussion on transgender community Situation in Province

Outputs:

Awareness raising through these sessions helped in creating a coalition and bonding between media personnels and transgender community members within Islamabad and Rawalpindi. This coalition will help community members who are victims of bullying and harassment or any other human rights violation and can reach out to the media for support and raise their voices against any violation of approved law and its implementation,

Sensitization of general community, policy makers and media through writing of gender sensitive press releases, articles and success stories etc. to be published in newspapers, approximately 80 participants were sensitized through these 3 sessions in an interactive way. There is a good coverage done by newspapers (web and print) in Islamabad/Rawalpindi that has a national level coverage,

2) A Comprehensive study of bullying of transgender community and key population in Pakistan.

After the Pakistan's parliament passed a landmark bill the Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Act 2018 in May 2018, the legal framework of Pakistan for the protection of transgender community becomes one of the strongest legal frameworks in the world. The constitutional rights as a citizen mentioned in Part II of Constitution of Islamic Republic of Pakistan Article 8-28 of "Fundamental Rights and Principles of policies," also guarantee equality and safeguard against discrimination.

The Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Act 2018 gives the country's transgender citizens fundamental rights. The Act allows people to choose their gender and to have that identity recognized on official documents, including national IDs, passports and driver's licenses. The bill prohibits discrimination in schools, at work, on public modes of transit and while receiving medical care.

The Act also says that transgender people cannot be deprived of the right to vote or run for office. It lays out their rights to inheritance, in accordance with their chosen gender and obligates the government to establish "Protection Centers and Safe Houses" — along with separate prisons, jails or places of confinement.

Following this verdict, the Supreme Court directed federal and provincial governments to formulate policies for the welfare of the transgender community. In response, the Punjab Social Protection Authority of Punjab drafted a policy and Education Department of Punjab issued notifications to all district education authorities in August 2018 to ensure fair and equal treatment of transgender children in schools. Besides legislation and policy making, there were gestures of inclusion and special attention by the government institutions. On December 5, 2018, NADRA announced to issue free of cost Computerized National Identity Cards (CNIC) to transgender Community. 13 transgender persons contested elections across Pakistan in General Elections 2018. On December 1, 2018, a special ward was inaugurated for transgender community in Pakistan Institute of Medical Sciences (PIMS).

Despite having one of the most progressive laws for the protection of transgender community and increasing recognition of their rights, live their lives in fear and silence due to cultural, traditional and social challenges and poor implementation. To understand the in-depth situation of the community suffering from bullying and harassment this study was conducted with community members.

This is the first National level study conducted on this subject in Pakistan. The study was a sincere effort to measure the prevalence of bullying and harassment against transgender community and key population in Pakistan, its perpetrators, and impacts.

The study also focuses on online bullying and harassment and its psychological, economic and physical impacts. Most importantly, the study provides a sound knowledge for policy makers, CSOs, media and academia working for the social sector. Physical and verbal abuse is generally faced by transgender community from their family members, clients, and the general public. . These abuses cause severe emotional distress and mental agony for many, sometimes leading to substance abuse and self-harm in many cases.

Budget: 12,000 Euros

Duration: November 2018 to June 2019

Number of deliverables: 2

Outputs:

First national level study on the bullying and harassment of transgender community and key population, Special attention was given to mental health and well-being of community members, A stepping stone for future studies and raising awareness on the needs and issues for policy makers, ministry of human rights, national and provincial commissions on human rights, Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) and academia.

1.9 Positive quotes/Kudos



Figure 6 Initiative by the community organization to upfront community for the communities working on the grass root level.

Dareecha has always received positive feedback whether it be community or stakeholders. Community has always been concerned regarding the continuation of the grant and their participation has been very helpful in terms of referring other clients, creating awareness among their friends or working with Dareecha as peer educators. Most of the clients in their own language has admired Dareecha saying, “We did not know anything regarding our health issues before Dareecha. Dareecha has opened up our minds. Other have said, “We do not get fooled by our clients during sex work- we know that our health is more important than their money”. Now since the grant is ending, they are concerned about where will they go in the future as they don’t feel comfortable going anywhere else.

Similarly, CCM’s visit to Dareecha in December was very motivating since it was the first visit in the while year and they complimented Dareecha’s effort. Dr. Momoudu from UN-AIDS said, “You guys are doing a great work and not everyone can commit to the work that you are doing. Keep it up and we are very thankful for the part you are playing in fighting HIV-AIDS among key populations.

Our meetings with stakeholders, embassies and other foreign missions has bagged us lot of motivation and praise throughout our work.