

DAREECHA MALE HEALTH SOCIETY PAKISTAN

2019

# ANNUAL REPORT

ٹرانس جینڈر (خواجہ سرا) افراد  
اس معاشرے کا حصہ ہیں  
انہیں اپنائیں

Transgender People are  
part of society  
Accept them



PROJECT DIRECTOR

MUHAMMAD USMAN

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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 About Dareecha:

Dareecha Male Health Society is a non-profit Organization dedicated to improving the health, well-being, and social well-being of Rawalpindi's transgender and key population. Dareecha Male Health Society (DMHS) was created in 2012 with the goal of improving health care, raising awareness of human rights, and improving the well-being of transgender/key population people and their families. As a result, DMHS is one of a kind, having effectively provided Transgender community members with awareness platforms to help them live a better and healthier lifestyle. The administrative office of the Dareecha Male Health Society is located in Satellite town, Rawalpindi, Pakistan. In order to promote HIV/AIDS prevention, DMHS has been working closely with Pakistan's National Aids Control Program. Moreover, Various International and Local organizations have assisted DMHS ever since it has been founded. Lastly , DMHS aims to work on having a wholesome, well aware and socially inclusive Transgender community in Rawalpindi region.



Figure 2 Awareness message for the society

## 1.2 Diverse Spectrum:

We understand that to achieve full, lived equality for the Transgender people, regardless of sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, race, religion, ethnicity, national origin, immigration status, age, socio-economic backgrounds, levels of physical and mental ability, HIV status, veteran status or genetic information, we have to achieve full, lived equality for the diverse spectrum of communities to which we belong. 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 4 Awareness Session at Dareecha on Transgender Issues and Transgender Person Act 2018

### 1.3 Our Mission for the Communities:

The Dareecha is a national Transgender organization devoted to ending discrimination and violence against transgender people through education and advocacy on national issues of importance to transgender people. By empowering transgender people and our allies to educate and influence policymakers and others, Dareecha facilitates a strong and clear voice for transgender equality and control HIV in our nation's capital and around the country.

### 1.4 Future Goals:

Looking towards the next year and beyond, we plan to focus on strengthening and formalizing the Trans community so that we are positioned for the next round of discussions, create a Federal Policy Agenda for Transgender in Pakistan to influence the agenda of the new Administration, continue to educate TGs/KP about HIV, and engage policy decision makers, initiate a transgender policy conference for grassroots leaders around the country, continue our annual reception Moving Forward Together to honor our allies, and improve our internal operations to handle our continued growth. Finally, to help fund all this, we are launching a major fundraising initiative around our five-year. Moreover, 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.



*During counselling at CBO RWP*

## 1.5 Main Objectives:

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

1. To control new HIV infections among TG/KP in Rawalpindi
2. To conduct Mental Health and personal and professional development sessions for TG/KP in Rawalpindi
3. To conduct training and awareness session about safe sex for TG/KP in Rawalpindi

## 1.6 Our Areas of focus:

There are a number of HIV programs that Dareecha has been doing for the KP/TG population in Rawalpindi;

- Counseling services that include behavior changes in communication and pre- and post-test counselling.
- IEC material for awareness and education; Distribution of lubes/condoms; IEC training; Assisting TGs/KP with their sexually transmitted infection's diagnosis and treatment before and after their test. Due to a lack of treatment options, Dareecha has been assisting clients by referring and registering with government hospitals.
- As a former trainer for NMHA, Dareecha was well-versed in the process of delivering trainings and creating assessments on the effectiveness of those trainings.
- Assertiveness with stakeholders and cooperation with the National Aids Control Program in Islamabad as well as the Punjab Aids Control Program.
- KP/TG community, INGOs & NGO's network.
- Assisting students and organisations with research projects and raising awareness.

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

## 1.7 Achievements:

We were proud to work hard to help make that day happen. We helped to suggest potential witnesses for the committee, collect and provide information to the committee, help to prepare the witnesses and worked with many allied organizations to have their written testimony submitted. Now that we have completed thousands of HIV test with transgender and gender nonconforming people, we can begin to analyze the results and release the findings. The results of this work will provide a foundation for several years of fact-based advocacy and can support advancements from health care funding to family support policies to job training programs. Moreover, 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%.



Figure 5

**Targets achieved 2019 for TG/KP:**

<b>BCC (New + Repeat)</b>	<b>1524</b>
<b>VCT (New)</b>	<b>268</b>
<b>STI</b>	<b>217</b>
<b>PLHIV`s</b>	<b>33</b>
<b>Condom/Lubes</b>	<b>64-239</b>

In addition to key indicators, targets, and services, SRs have conducted sessions for the community at their drop-in Centre where a community counsellor and STI specialist have been facilitating diverse health-related themes during their working years.

All key events held, including IDAHOT, World Aids Day, and a community mobilization event where treatment cascade and HIV and STI related topics were discussed. It was decided to perform mobile VCT in order to reach the highest number of clients and achieve the maximum number of goals. Therefore, we were also able to reach out to important communities because of it. Additionally, Organizers of the International Day Against Homophobia and Transphobia wanted to bring the community together and raise awareness about how to deal with stigma and prejudice in the workplace. Various CBOs held awareness sessions on Yogyakarta principles for the community and during various Community Mobilization Events, human rights violations have been mentioned and Dareecha hosted a Community Mobilization Events on the Importance of Treatment Cascade.

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

<b>Project Title &amp; Name</b>	Accelerated response to HIV through effective prevention, treatment, care and support interventions for key populations in Pakistan
<b>Country / Location/ City within the country</b>	Rawalpindi, Pakistan
<b>Name of the Donor</b>	Global Fund program for key populations
<b>Start Date (Month /Year)</b>	January 2019
<b>Completion Date (Month / Year)</b>	December 2019
<b>Value of the Contract</b>	PKR 55,79020
<b>Target group / beneficiaries</b>	TG
<b>No. of Direct beneficiaries</b>	NACP through GSM
<b>No. of Indirect beneficiaries</b>	1 DMHS
<b>Duration of the Assignment</b>	01 Year
<b>Address of Donor / Implementing Partner</b>	National AIDS Control Program National Institute of Health Chak Shahzad, Islamabad Dr. Baseer Khan Achakzai Contact: Email: <a href="mailto:achakzaibk@gmail.com">achakzaibk@gmail.com</a>
<b>Value of the services provided by your firm under the contract in PKR`s (Program Cost)</b>	Total Program Cost PKR (55,79020) For the year 2019
<b>No. of professional staff under the program</b>	5

<p><b>Name of the senior staff member of the CBO involved and functions performed</b></p>	<p>Mr. Muhammad Usman , Program Manager Dareecha Male Health Society Contact: <a href="mailto:usmanmalikmo@gmail.com">usmanmalikmo@gmail.com</a> Tel: +92-331-5309899</p>
<p><b>Narrative description of the project</b></p>	<p><b>Key Interventions under the Grant:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Drop in Center facility (for repeat BCC/ Psycho social support &amp; Counseling)</li> <li>• TG/KP reached through community-based HIV prevention outreach program in Pakistan.</li> <li>• TG/KP who received an HIV test through project CBOs and who know their results in Pakistan.</li> <li>• Sexually transmitted infections treated through project CBOs amongst TG/KP in Pakistan.</li> <li>• Referral Support to PLHIV's with strong follow up</li> <li>• Community Mobilization Events.</li> <li>• Civil society allies.</li> <li>• Service Delivery through Mobile VCT &amp; DIC</li> <li>• Career Counseling and family counseling in DIC</li> </ul>
<p><b>Description of actual services provided by your staff within the assignment</b></p>	<p><b>Outreach Department:</b></p> <p>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><b>Paramedic:</b></p> <p>After the registration, a client is here for the Pre and Post Counseling, Lab tests &amp; for STI Medicines by the Paramedic during Mobile VCT's or VCT in DIC.</p> <p><b>Site Manager:</b></p> <p>The site manager is responsible for Program, Monitoring &amp; Evaluation, Finance &amp; Administration, Technical support to staff, Stock Maintenance &amp; overall supervision of CBO.</p>

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## 1.8 Management of the Grant:

Grant management, specifically in terms of achieving goals, has been excellent considering how much time has passed. The performance in terms of budget utilization may have been enhanced if external influences had been avoided.

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.

## 1.9 Deliverables For:

### **1) Two Web TV talk shows with transgender community, academia, researchers and media personnel's**

Dareecha already involved the media in awareness raising sessions on transgender community issues. Dareecha conducted these talk shows with trans woman (Khwaja-sira) leaders, civil society, media and researchers to sensitize masses and portray role models for the transgender community. In talk shows like Khabarzar etc. the trans community is projected as a fun part and the host usually humiliates them.

To overcome the need and show progressive side of the community. Dareecha portrays and projects role models from transgender community who were working successfully in different walks of life. Issues persisting regarding the implementation of existing laws, health services, education, inheritance, employment and property rights etc. were discussed, As majority of general community are unaware with bullying and harassment issues, so by web show we made an effort to sensitize general public on transgender population needs and issues.

**Outputs:**

- Sensitization of media professionals, general society and policy makers on transgender community issues and this will lead to portray the positive image of community
- Linkages with media through coordination and community involvement
- Role models from community portrayed

**2) Formation of mental health and well-being forum to overcome mental health and well-being needs and issues**

This initiative was suggested by the transgender community members as there were no forums available where the community members can sit and talk about their issues with general public and sensitized psychologists. Dareecha provided a platform through this initiative and it was one of the great successes as the transgender people sit and discussed their issues, professional psychological support gave them a confidence that they are also a part of society. They discussed the taboo and stigma attached with them and how people treat them in public spaces. Special attention was given to community health and well-being through psycho socio support.

**Outputs:**

- Psycho-socio support to transgender community without discrimination
- A formal forum to discuss the needs and issues of community
- Capacity building of community members that how to interact with general public
- Bridging the gap between society and community through joint discussions

**3) Formal launch of a comprehensive study of bullying of Transgender community and key population in Pakistan with Civil society, Academia, Media and stakeholders.**

In Pakistan, no comprehensive study was ever done on bullying and harassment of transgender community and key population in Pakistan. Dareecha has successfully completed a comprehensive study and the findings of this study were shared with CSOs, media, relevant

government departments and stake holders e.g. academia for the welfare of community in Lahore, Karachi and Islamabad. This study generated evidence to lobby with government, human rights commission of Pakistan and civil society to highlight issues on national and provincial level.

**Budget: 13,000 Euros**

**Duration: August 2019-February 2020**

**Number of deliverables: 3**

**Outputs:**

- Study findings shared with all relevant stakeholders i.e., National Commissions and Provincial Commissions on Human Rights, CSOs, media, academia and researchers working on education, youth, gender and HIV on national and provincial level
- Major case stories of respondents that depict the picture of transgender bullying, the psycho-social impact of bullying, and situations where affirmative action solved the issues are discussed
- Awareness raising on transgender issues increased through formal launch on provincial and national level.