From global to regional: Science, youth and community in the HIV response in East Africa

SCIENTIFIC SYMPOSIUM

Rwanda, 30 November 2019
Community Approaches to Ending HIV in Kenya
Case Study Ishtar MSM.
Jeffrey Walimbwa
Ishtar MSM, a community based organization that advances sexual health of men who have sex with men (MSM) in Nairobi, Kenya.

- **Coverage**: Nairobi County (Westlands, kasarani, Embakasi)
- **Hotspots**: 81
- **Duration**: 2014-2018
Strategies

- Support groups & Post test clubs
- Peer Educator initiated programs
- Outreaches
- Social media Campaigns
- Snowballing - clients mobilize their friends from their social circles
Current Reach

- Ishtar Reach 2017-2018: 4,638
- Tested: 2,109
- ART: 208
- PreP: 379
Success

• Strong partnerships with the ministry of Health
• Community designed and led Program
• A wellness centre and safe space for community
• The wellness centre being a model site
• A strong community Movement
Challenges

- The legal barriers to access to services for adolescents.
- Some of the approaches are costly and we have to look at the aspects of sustainability.
- Having friendly queer youth centers that are inclusive of LGBT youth.
Thank you!