

2026 1ST QUARTER



SHARE4YTE Project



NEWSLETTER

District: Harare South Western

Tertiary Institutions: Speciss College & St Peter's Kubatana Industrial Technical College

Reporting Period: 1 January-31 March 2026

Health Facilities: Rutsanana Polyclinic & Western Triangle Satellite Clinic

SHARE4YTE Project

The Sexual Health & Reproductive Education for Youth in Tertiary Education and HIV/STI Hot-spot Areas (SHARE4YTE) Project is a flagship initiative implemented by Action for Youth Foundation Trust (AYFT), aimed at empowering young people with comprehensive, accurate, and youth-friendly sexual and reproductive health (SRH) information and services.

The project primarily targets students in tertiary institutions and young people living in high-risk communities, particularly HIV/STI hot-spot areas. Recognizing the growing vulnerability of youth to HIV infections, sexually transmitted infections, unintended pregnancies, and harmful health behaviors, SHARE4YTE is designed to bridge knowledge gaps and promote informed decision-making among young people.



Project Insights

Through a combination of peer education, capacity-building trainings, community engagement, and strategic partnerships with the Ministry of Health & Child Care and the National AIDS Council of Zimbabwe, and support from Saving African Families Enterprise (SAFE) the project reached 850 Young People in Tertiary Education since September 2025 with HIV Prevention, Treatment and Care services bridging the gap of information among youths in underserved communities.

From January-March 2026, the project reached 278 young people in Tertiary Education with HIV testing services, prevention information, referrals, treatment and care services.



HIV Testing & Linkage Services

With support from Saving African Families Enterprises (SAFE), Action for Youth Foundation Trust (AYFT), in partnership with the Ministry of Health and Child Care, successfully provided HIV self-testing services to 278 young people during the reporting quarter. Of these, 25 individuals returned reactive results and were promptly referred to Rutsanana Polyclinic and Western Triangle Satellite Clinic for confirmatory testing.

Following confirmatory diagnosis, 11 young people tested positive and 7 were successfully initiated on Antiretroviral Therapy (ART). These clients were further linked to Community Adolescent Treatment Supporters (CATS) for ongoing psychosocial support, adherence counseling, and continued engagement through structured Group Safe Spaces.

In collaboration with the health care workers, we are still tracking the remaining so that we link them with ART therapy.

Knowledge Exchange by participants

Condom Distribution & Other Post-test services

During every session conducted, participants received comprehensive demonstrations on the consistent and correct use of condoms, equipping young people with practical knowledge and skills to prevent HIV transmission. Throughout the reporting period, a total of 6,000 male condoms were distributed to support safer sexual practices among youth.

In addition, 68 young people who identified themselves as being at higher risk of acquiring HIV were referred to their nearest health facilities for Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) and family planning services. This intervention aimed to reduce new HIV infections while also addressing the rising cases of unintended pregnancies and unsafe abortions among young people.

Challenges faced

Limited availability of female condoms in the Harare South Western District continues to pose a significant challenge to comprehensive HIV prevention efforts. During the reporting period, the shortage was so critical that the project team had to rely on expired female condoms strictly for demonstration purposes, as no usable stock was accessible.

This gap restricts the promotion of female-controlled prevention methods, which are essential in empowering young women to take charge of their sexual and reproductive health. When used consistently and correctly, female condoms are estimated to be about 95% effective in preventing HIV and other sexually transmitted infections, while male condoms are approximately 98% effective under perfect use conditions. However, both methods remain highly effective and complementary when used appropriately.

Our thanks to Saving African Families Enterprise (SAFE) for providing HIV testing kits and condoms.

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