

Q2 2026 NEWSLETTER

Maximizing Efforts to Improve Health Outcomes and Strengthen Economic Resilience Across Harare Province

During the reporting quarter, Action for Youth Foundation Trust, through the Sexual Health & Reproductive Education for Youth in Tertiary Education and HIV/STI Hotspot Areas (SHARE4YTE) Project, reached 326 young people in tertiary education institutions, 71 young people selling sex, and a further 107 young people through community outreach programmes.

Through these interventions, participants accessed comprehensive HIV and STI prevention information, HIV testing services, and condoms, contributing to increased awareness, improved access to essential sexual and reproductive health services, and strengthened HIV prevention efforts among priority populations.

These achievements were made possible through the collaborative efforts and continued partnership with Harare City Health, the National AIDS Council of Zimbabwe, and Saving African Families Enterprise. Together, these partnerships continue to strengthen community-based HIV prevention initiatives and improve access to quality health services for young people across Harare Province.



Promoting Drug and Substance Abuse Prevention Awareness.

Our Harare Western Team conducted community-based awareness sessions that reached more than 200 participants with information on the dangers and consequences of drug and substance abuse. The sessions focused on increasing knowledge of the physical, mental, social, and economic impacts of substance use while encouraging participants to make informed decisions and adopt healthier lifestyles. ,

To reinforce these awareness efforts, the team distributed 400 The Truth About Drugs booklets, providing participants with educational materials they could use for continued learning and to share with their peers and families. These interventions contributed to strengthening community awareness, promoting positive behaviour change, and supporting the prevention of drug and substance abuse among young people.



[Read More on our website](#)

HIV Care & Support

During the reporting period, Action for Youth Foundation Trust reached 315 young people living with HIV through Group Safe Space Meetings conducted across Harare South Western and West South West Districts. 96 screened for TB and 87 referred for TB Preventative Therapy (TPT) and 9 were referred for further TB investigations. The sessions provided a supportive environment for peer learning, psychosocial support, and health education. Various topics were discussed, with a strong emphasis on addressing self-stigma and family stigma to promote positive living, improve self-esteem, and encourage treatment adherence.



Furthermore, Action for Youth Foundation Trust participated in the 2026 Zimbabwe International Trade Fair (ZITF) held in Bulawayo. Through the leadership of YETT, the team contributed to the development and submission of a youth-focused Financial Inclusion Position Paper titled "Closing the Gap on Economic Connectivity" to the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Youth Empowerment and Vocational Training. The position paper highlighted key barriers to financial inclusion affecting young people and proposed recommendations to strengthen youth economic participation.

Enhancing knowledge on Youth Advocacy & Empowerment

In addition, the team participated in the Youth Economic Empowerment Bootcamp conducted under the SAIC Project. The bootcamp provided a platform for learning, collaboration, and knowledge exchange on youth economic empowerment, entrepreneurship, and sustainable livelihood opportunities. Participation in these national initiatives strengthened the organization's advocacy efforts and enhanced its capacity to promote inclusive economic opportunities for young people in Zimbabwe.

The bootcamp further provided an opportunity for participants to engage with youth leaders, development practitioners, government representatives, and civil society organizations from across Zimbabwe. These interactions promoted knowledge sharing, peer learning, and collaboration on innovative approaches to addressing youth unemployment, financial inclusion, and sustainable economic development. The exchange of experiences and best practices enhanced the organization's understanding of emerging opportunities and challenges affecting young people.

Participation in these national platforms reinforced Action for Youth Foundation Trust's commitment to youth-led advocacy and evidence-based policy engagement. The knowledge and networks established through the ZITF and the Youth Economic Empowerment Bootcamp will strengthen the organization's future programming, enabling it to design more responsive interventions, amplify the voices of young people in policy dialogue, and contribute to inclusive and sustainable economic empowerment initiatives across Zimbabwe.

Youth2Youth Digital Health Model

Between April & June 2026, Action for Youth Foundation Trust, through its Youth2Youth Digital Health Model, successfully maintained two Youth2Youth Digital Health Platforms that provided young people from diverse backgrounds and countries with access to accurate, youth-friendly health and development information. The platforms facilitated 12 interactive discussion sessions and 3 structured training programmes, creating a safe and inclusive virtual space for learning, peer engagement, and knowledge sharing.

The digital platforms reached more than 2,500 participants through trainings on Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR), Climate Change, Menstrual Health, and Men's Mental Health Awareness. In addition to these structured trainings, participants engaged in discussions on a wide range of topics affecting young people, promoting dialogue, peer support, and informed decision-making.

The Youth2Youth Digital Health Model is coordinated by a dedicated Digital Health Platforms Coordinator, supported by Digital Health Platform Assistants and implementing partners. The collaborative approach ensures that information shared on the platforms is relevant, evidence-based, and responsive to the evolving needs of young people from diverse communities.

The continued success of the model demonstrates the effectiveness of digital platforms in expanding access to health information and strengthening youth engagement beyond geographical boundaries. By leveraging digital technology, the initiative continues to break barriers to information access, empower young people with knowledge, encourage positive behaviour change, and strengthen community participation in health and development initiatives.



The Uniqueness of the Youth2Youth Digital Health Model

One of the unique strengths of the Youth2Youth Digital Health Model is its inclusive and accessible approach to learning. The platform does not require a formal application or selection process, allowing any young person who is interested to participate regardless of their location, educational background, or socioeconomic status. This open-access model is designed to eliminate information barriers and ensure that young people have equal opportunities to access accurate, timely, and evidence-based health and development information.

The model leverages WhatsApp as its primary learning platform, recognizing that many young people cannot afford the higher data costs associated with video conferencing platforms such as Zoom, Microsoft Teams, or Google Meet. By utilizing affordable WhatsApp data bundles, participants can actively engage in discussions, access training materials, and interact with facilitators at a significantly lower cost. This approach has enabled the organization to reach a wider and more diverse audience while promoting equitable access to information.

To encourage active participation and recognize learning achievements, every participant who successfully completes a training session receives a Certificate of Participation. These certificates acknowledge participants' commitment to continuous learning and provide evidence of their engagement in capacity-building initiatives. Through its accessible, low-cost, and inclusive design, the Youth2Youth Digital Health Model continues to empower young people with knowledge and skills that enable them to make informed decisions and contribute positively to their communities.

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Staff Capacity Building & Trainings

During the reporting quarter, Action for Youth Foundation Trust conducted a Staff Capacity Building Training on Orphans and Vulnerable Children (OVC) Programming to strengthen the technical capacity of its programme team. The training enhanced staff understanding of Zimbabwe's child protection system, including the legal and policy framework, referral pathways, case management processes, and best practices for implementing OVC programmes. It also provided practical knowledge on safeguarding, child welfare, and the coordination of services for vulnerable children and their families.

The training equipped programme staff with the knowledge and practical skills required to design and implement quality child protection interventions in line with national standards and best practices. Upon successful completion of the training, all participants were awarded Certificates of Completion in recognition of their achievement. The enhanced capacity of the team will contribute to improved programme quality, stronger child protection outcomes, and more effective support for orphans and vulnerable children within the communities served by the organization.



Economic Strengthening Program for Young Positives ESP4Y+ Project Phase 2

Action for Youth Foundation Trust, with financial support from Saving African Families Enterprise (SAFE) and in partnership with Harare City Health and the National AIDS Council of Zimbabwe, successfully launched Phase 2 of the Economic Strengthening Program for Young Positives (ESP4Y+). The project aims to improve the economic resilience of out-of-school, unemployed young people living with HIV by equipping them with practical livelihood skills and strengthening community-based income-generating initiatives.

As part of the initial implementation, the project trained two beneficiary groups comprising 20 young people living with HIV from Mufakose Polyclinic and Glen Norah Satellite Clinic. Participants received hands-on training in the production of dishwasher liquid, pine gel, and foam bath, enabling them to manufacture marketable household cleaning products for income generation. The practical sessions enhanced participants' technical skills while promoting entrepreneurship and self-reliance.

In addition to vocational skills development, participants received training on business management, the establishment of governance structures, and the effective management of community-based joint ventures. The training emphasized leadership, accountability, financial management, teamwork, and decision-making to ensure that beneficiary groups are well-positioned to operate sustainable and resilient income-generating enterprises. These interventions will contribute to improved livelihoods, reduced economic vulnerability, and enhanced social and economic empowerment among young people living with HIV.

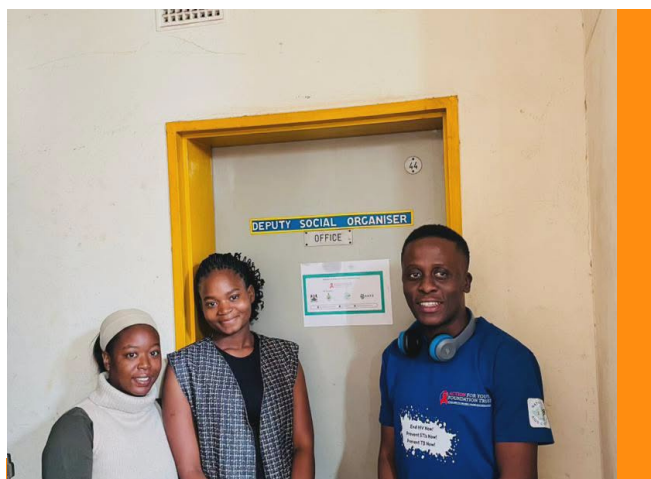


New Partnerships & Expansion of Services

Between April and June, Action for Youth Foundation Trust signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with CAREX to strengthen collaboration under the Sexual Health and Reproductive Health Education for Youth in Tertiary Education and HIV/STI Hotspot Areas (SHARE4YTE) Project. The partnership will enhance HIV and STI prevention by strengthening condom availability and supply chain systems, improving access to sexual and reproductive health information and prevention commodities, and promoting safer sexual practices among young people in tertiary institutions and HIV/STI hotspot areas across Harare Province.



New Districts, New Offices, Expanding the Services



We expanded our operations from one district to three districts across Harare Province and successfully secured an additional office space from Harare City Council to support the Harare Western Team. The establishment of the new office marks an important milestone in the organization's growth and reflects its commitment to strengthening community-based service delivery and increasing its presence in underserved communities.

The decentralization of operations will enhance the organization's capacity to reach more young people with integrated HIV prevention, tuberculosis (TB) prevention and treatment, psychosocial support, and economic strengthening services. It will also improve programme coordination, stakeholder engagement, and responsiveness to community needs while creating a stronger platform for collaboration with health facilities, local authorities, and other implementing partners across Harare Province.



During the period under review, Action for Youth Foundation Trust was formally introduced as a new implementing partner in both Harare West South West District and Harare Western District during stakeholder meetings convened by the National AIDS Council of Zimbabwe. These meetings provided an important platform to engage with government departments, health facilities, civil society organizations, and other key stakeholders working within the HIV response.

During the engagements, the organization presented its mandate, strategic priorities, and ongoing programmes, highlighting its commitment to strengthening HIV prevention, tuberculosis (TB) prevention and treatment, psychosocial support, and economic strengthening interventions for young people. The meetings also fostered collaboration, enhanced coordination with district stakeholders, and established a strong foundation for effective partnership and integrated service delivery across the two districts.

Our Thanks

As we conclude this reporting period, Action for Youth Foundation Trust extends its sincere appreciation to our dedicated staff members, volunteers, interns, and programme teams whose passion, professionalism, and commitment have made these achievements possible. Their unwavering efforts in delivering quality services, engaging communities, and supporting young people continue to drive the organization's mission and impact across Harare Province.

We also express our heartfelt gratitude to our strategic partners and stakeholders whose collaboration has been instrumental in the successful implementation of our programmes. We particularly acknowledge the Harare City Council Social Services Department, Harare City Health Department, Ministry of Health & Child Care and the National AIDS Council of Zimbabwe for their continued technical guidance, coordination, and support in strengthening youth-focused health and development interventions.

Our sincere appreciation also goes to St Peters Kubatana Industrial Technical College, Speciss College, Saving African Families Enterprise (SAFE), CAREX and Real Link Printers for their generous support and partnership. Their contributions have strengthened the implementation of our HIV prevention, psychosocial support, economic strengthening, and youth empowerment programmes, enabling us to reach more young people with quality services and meaningful opportunities.

Together, these partnerships demonstrate the power of collaboration in creating lasting change. Action for Youth Foundation Trust remains committed to working closely with government institutions, development partners, the private sector, and communities to build healthier, more resilient, and empowered young people. We look forward to strengthening these partnerships and achieving even greater impact in the years ahead.

Our Implementing & Technical Partners

