

# **FAWEK**

The Forum for African Women Educationalists – Kenya Chapter (FAWEK) is a Non-Governmental Organization registered in 1996 to support girls and women acquire education for development. FAWEK is a member of the FAWE network of 34 chapters in 33 countries in sub-Saharan Africa who work together to achieve equality and equity in education across the continent; contributing to the attainment of Education for All (EFA) and Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

FAWEK works to empower girls and women acquire education and training for development in all 47 counties of Kenya. We are a gateway to educating girls and women throughoutKenya.

## **Fawek Strategic Objectives:**

- Influencing policy formulation, planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation in favour of increasing access, improving retention and enhancing performance of girls.
- Building public awareness and consensus on the social and economic advantages of girls' education through advocacy.
- Demonstrative interventions on how to achieve improved access, retention and performance in education.
- Influencing replication and mainstreaming of best practices from the demonstration interventions into broader national education policy and practice.

#### **Our Mission**

"Supporting girls and women acquire education for development"

## **Our Vision**

"A society where gender parity and equality in education and training prevails"



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ADOLESCENT SEXUAL & REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH RIGHTS PROGRAMME

(ASRHR)



ADOLESCENT SEXUAL REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH RIGHTS (ASRHR)

I am a teenager,
I will stay in School,
I am empowered to manage my
reproductive health

Education | Gender Equality | Empowerment



#### WHAT IS ASRHR?

Adolescence is a transitional stage of physical and psychological change. During this period, young people often struggle with feelings of emptiness, confusion, tension, and anxiety.

Sexual and reproductive health rights are the legal, social, and ethical principles that entitle all children and adults to be free from sexual harassment, physical and mental harm, and serve to secure the rights of everyone to choose how they manage their sexual and reproductive practices.

#### WHY IS ASRHR IMPORTANT?

Kenya is among the many African countries where research has shown that school dropout rates are closely linked to reproductive health issues and to the consequences of corrupting the sexual integrity of adolescent girls:

- Unwanted pregnancies.
- •Complications arising from unsafe abortions & childbirth
- •Female genital mutilation (FGM)
- •Forced or early marriage.
- •Sexual violence, including rape and sexual Harassment
- HIV/AIDS and other STDs.

Lack of access to information and services that educate young girls and boys on safe sex practices, risks of sexual activity, and counseling services contribute to disempowerment in male-female relations.



YOUTH Friendly (SRHR) Services
It means alleviating barriers for young people to access the services at the health centers, community health workers and clinic officers, making services and information culturally competent, confidential and accurate.

#### Why youth friendly services?

For millions of young people around the world Kenya included, the onset of adolescence brings not only changes to their bodies but also new vulnerabilities to human rights abuses, particularly in the arenas of sexuality, marriage and childbearing. Providing access to comprehensive sexuality education; means empowering young people to know and exercise their rights - including the right to delay marriage and the right to refuse unwanted sexual advances.

## Components of Youth Friendly Services provided by CHWs and CHWEs

- \*Should include sexual and reproductive health counseling, contraception counseling, STI/HIV counseling, diagnosis and treatment, nutritional services, abuse counseling, prenatal and postpartum care and counseling.
- \* Referring youth to other locations for service, ensure that the referral agencies are youth-friendly and able to help.
- \* Provide detailed description to youth about their confidentiality.
- Ensure that you don't have staff discussing patient information aloud (on the phone or to each other).
- \*Make youth feel comfortable discussing Reproductive health issues by providing peer counselors or peer educators.
- \* Administer satisfaction surveys periodically and work to improve unsatisfactory services that are identified etc

### **Facility Characteristics:**

- 1) Health facilities Clinic should be warm, inviting and comfortable.
- 2) All posters, pamphlets and magazines are age, cultural, gender appropriate and are interesting to vouth.
- 3) Clinics should be open when young people can confidently attend, such as after school or work.
- 4) Flexible hours for adolescents- evenings and/or weekends for both appointments and walk-ins.
- 5) Make it easy for youth to schedule appointments by reducing the wait time/ hold time and ensuring that everyone that contacts the system receives a response.

#### **FAWEK Intervention**

- Promoting access to age appropriate information on right to healthy sexuality and reproduction.
- \* Provision of a comprehensive scholarship packages to girls at risk of teenage pregnancy & early marriages and facilitate re-entry of teenage mothers.
- \* Mentorship forum for girls under the comprehensive scholarship package.
- \* Peer education on sexual and reproductive health and Tuseme empowerment.
- \* Working with Community Health Workers (CHWs) to reach to out-of-school youth in their outreach programs with youth friendly SRH services.
- Creating awareness on ASRHR by producing and disseminating youth friendly IEC materialness
- Policy advocacy.

