

LifeRise Responds to the Covid Crisis

The covid virus is causing much fear and suffering worldwide. This is especially true among those who *LifeRise* serves — people living with HIV in poor countries. We have responded by setting up covid emergency relief services to bring the compassion of Christ.

People living with HIV (PLWH) are more at risk for covid than the general population, since the HIV virus weakens their immune system to fight infection. Already struggling with one deadly virus, they are now faced with a second one — covid.

Thanks to you, our generous donors, *LifeRise* has given grants to grass roots partners for six new projects to respond to covid challenges. These ministries are focused on delivering HIV medicines; food; masks; covid education; and prayer to PLWH.

Even though covid limits the time delivery workers can spend with PLWH, we trust that the Lord will move mightily in these encounters.

Delivery of HIV medicines

People living with HIV (PLWH) who are on lifesaving HIV treatment cannot miss taking any of their pills. If they do, the



Family receiving LifeRise covid services

medicine may stop working. It is essential that PLWH get their medicine refills from the clinics on time. But the clinics are overwhelmed with covid patients, and the risk of exposure to covid is high there.

Therefore, project staff are bringing HIV medicines which have been pre-packed by the clinic to PLWH through home visits. Or, staff are delivering to a central place in the community where people can come individually to pick up the refills.

Food

Covid is disrupting the food supply in poor communities. Many PLWH have lost their jobs, so they are not able to buy food. They need food to take their HIV medicines.

The *LifeRise* projects are providing food staples such as rice, maize, porridge flour (a mix of grains), cooking oil, and salt to help PLWH and their children survive the pandemic.

Face coverings

Church members, apprentices in vocational programs, and local tailors are making masks for PLWH and their family members. One grass roots partner is also making masks for clinic staff.

Covid education

Project staff are teaching people how to protect themselves from covid. In one project, people are learning how to make a hand-washing stand from local materials.

Prayer

Delivery workers are ministering God's comfort and hope through prayer and encouragement.

Please pray that these projects will have an eternal impact through this temporal relief.

Food Assistance in *LifeRise* Covid Projects //////////////

Nigeria //////////////

Our grass roots ministry partner in Nigeria, Assemblies of God Care (AGCare), had been busy with HIV prevention and testing in village outreaches in a project funded by a grant from *LifeRise*. Then covid arrived. We worked with them to shift their focus to a covid response.

In Nigeria, all Christian ministries that want to help people

living with HIV (PLWH) need to work with the State government HIV agency. AGCare had a meeting with the agency to explore how they could assist PLWH during the covid crisis.

The State agency was already delivering HIV medicines to patients, but they begged AGCare for help with food and other necessities. AGCare was given a list of almost 3,000 PLWH, divided into 50 local groups.

AGCare is traveling to the groups to supply rice, cooking oil, salt, and face masks.

We pray that this emergency effort will open doors for AGCare to serve PLWH in more sustained

ways after covid, such as working with some of the 50 groups to set up adherence clubs, a special type of support groups which *LifeRise* is promoting as the best way to care for PLWH.

Kenya //////////////

Full Gospel Churches of Kenya (FGCK) is running a covid project with funds from a *LifeRise* grant, delivering HIV medicines, porridge flour, and masks. Working in an urban slum, they are serving mostly women and children.

When the local FGCK church heard about the *LifeRise* covid response project, they wanted to participate. The church combined funds from their congregation with the *LifeRise* grant so that they could provide additional food to 40 of the most vulnerable and needy families.

What a beautiful response from church members, multiplying the effect of the *LifeRise* grant with their own giving.

AG Nigeria Cares! 
LIFERISE Gives Hope!
Covid-19 Palliatives

Stay Safe, Jesus Loves You!
John 3:16.
For Prayers, Pls Call: +234 803 745 7586.

Sticky labels for bags of rice which AGCare is giving away

MINISTRY NEWS



LifeRise AIDS Resources brings the compassion, healing, and transformation of Christ in ministry to people suffering because of HIV/AIDS in poor communities worldwide.

In this newsletter, we are pleased to share what God is doing through *LifeRise*. Thank you for joining with us to meet the desperate need through your gifts and prayers.

Dr. Cynthia Calla
Executive Director

www.liferise.org