

**ASSESSMENT OF CHRISTIAN-BASED PROGRAMMES ON HUMAN IMMUNO
DEFICIENCY VIRUS AND AIDS CARE AND SUPPORT IN KENYA: A CASE OF
KOSIRAI DISTRICT CHURCH COUNCIL,
NANDI COUNTY, KENYA**

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ABSTRACT

HIV and AIDS represent one of the greatest health challenges confronting the world. The pandemic has evolved to become one of the greatest hindrances to national health of most countries in the developing world. Responding to these challenges, different organisations have mounted exceptional responses that have drawn on the commitment and wisdom of people from all walks of life. The purpose of the study was to evaluate the influence and social responsibility of Christian-based programmes in addressing issues that affect society, examine ways in which Christian-based programmes have contributed towards the campaign against the HIV and AIDS pandemic in Kosirai District Church Council. The objectives of the study was to; investigate the effect of Christian seminars, food aid programme, monetary aid and role of church counseling services on HIV and AIDS care and support in Kosirai District Church Council. The Ecological Systems Theory (Bronfenbrenner, 1979) guided the study. The study adopted cross-sectional survey research design. The target population was all the 30 beneficiaries affected by HIV and Aids and currently under Kosirai District Church Council Christian based programme. Census was adopted since the target population was small. The questionnaires were used to collect data. Data was analyzed using descriptive statistics which included the use of frequencies and percentages as well as inferential statistics, the chi square, and presented by using tables and charts. The care and support services included food aid and care, mainly from friends and church attendance. The clients of Kosirai DCC were satisfied with care and support provided by the Christian based programmes and had their lives changed by the services provided. The Christian based programme promotes education on prevention of maternal-to-child transmission and encourages disclosure of HIV status. The Christian seminars influence HIV and AIDS care and support at Kosirai DCC. Christian based programme provides nutritional support, treated mosquito nets, food supplement for malnourished and peer support groups for those found with HIV positive. The food aid programme influenced HIV and AIDS care and support at Kosirai DCC. The Christian based programme provides bursary award to the affected, transport to clinics and finance for food and clothing. It promoted income generating activities and encourages and supports those who have accepted their status. There was significant influence of monetary aid on HIV and AIDS care and support. The HIV counseling led to behavioural change, programme undertakes HIV counseling, it undertakes public education programs, HIV/AIDS follow up counseling activities, information on the ABC approach was provided to the public and programme undertakes mental health counseling. There was significant influence of church counseling services on HIV and AIDS care and support. There is need to address the various needs and appreciate the various contributions made by christian based programmes in the same way they do address and appreciate the needs and contributions of secular organisations respectively in the field of HIV/AIDS.