

# MAYANJA MEMORIAL HOSPITAL FOUNDATION

## ***SUCCESS STORY IN THE CSF PROJECT UNDER OBJECTIVE 2***

### ***“A COUPLE PEER EDUCATOR TURNED OUT TO BE A HOSPITAL HEALTH EDUCATOR”***

The intervention of HIV/AIDS prevention activities in the communities has caused a great change in the livelihood of people. A grant of Civil Society Fund from Uganda AIDS Commission given to Mayanja Memorial Hospital Foundation and its implementing partners has helped MMHF to register a number of successes in the area of HIV Prevention.

With the help of Assistant Community Development Officers at the Sub County level people who are married and or in long term relationship were identified and trained as Couple Peer Educators to carryout peer to peer education.

A couple peer educator( Mr & Mrs Ahimbisibwe Rutaagi) from Kenshunga Sub County – Kiruhura District, using the skills acquired in the peer to peer counseling training, has enabled them to excel in mobilizing, sensitizing and delivering the messages of Be faithful in the struggle to fight HIV/AIDS among the married and or those in long term relationships.

The peer to peer education given by the above couple was received by many and a number of referrals were made to the nearest offering service centres among which included Rushere Community Hospital and consequently the Joint Clinical Research Centre which has its activities in the hospital became interested and eventually requested the couple to be part and Parcel of their activities at the hospital in providing Health Education to clients for HIV Counselling and Testing, anti natal and post natal care, and other routine care and support services. In fact the couple peer educator turned out to be the health educator in the Rushere Hospital and this has increased his reputation in the entire community.

During the support supervision the couple expressed its appreciation to Mayanja Memorial Hospital Foundation for equipping them with the skills and at one point, they were heard saying, “*aba Mayanja mwebare kutwegyesa okutwakubasa kwegyesa abandi*”

meaning that were thankful to MMHF for equipping them with skills of couple peer to peer education.

And they added that “*obwahati turi bakanywanisa nganda*” meaning were able to bring members in the family together despite the HIV/AIDS menace.



*The couple peer educator giving the testimony on how the project has benefited the community members and setting to sensitize people in Rushere Town .The photo was taken during the support supervision of the peer to peer activities in the community.*