BUILDING WHOLE CHILD RESILIENCE FOR CHILDREN AFFECTED BY HIV & AIDS

Florence Anam, Advocacy Manager, ICW

On behalf of:

www.childrenandHIV.org

September 2017
AICC, Arusha - Tanzania
PARTNERS & CO-HOSTS
We have no conflicts of interest to declare
COALITION FOR CHILDREN AFFECTED BY AIDS

- A unique group of 24 thought-leaders from within global donors, UN agencies, NGOs, and academic institutions

- Seeking to enable all children affected by HIV & AIDS to survive & thrive at home, school & in their communities

- Sharing lessons from latest scientific evidence & conduct joint advocacy - together with people living with HIV - in order to call for better funding, programming, policy & research.

www.childrenandhiv.org
HIV IS HOLDING BACK A GENERATION

- AIDS is second leading cause of death among adolescents globally & the leading cause of death among adolescents in sub-Saharan Africa

- More than 100 adolescents died of AIDS every day in 2015

- Children 0-4 living with HIV face highest risk of AIDS-related death

- Children affected by HIV often have lower school attendance & performance

- Of 1.8 million children under 15 years of age living with HIV only half are on treatment

- Only half of HIV-exposed babies are tested for HIV by time they are 2 months old
EQUITY FOR CHILDREN AFFECTED BY AIDS

• It is largely poorest, most excluded children & families who remain out of reach of HIV & broader development interventions

• Achieving equity for children affected by HIV & AIDS is vital for reaching global development goals
Meeting global HIV targets (*Start Free Stay Free AIDS Free Framework, 909090*) means tackling social & economic barriers preventing excluded groups from accessing & benefiting from HIV services.

HIV suffocates progress towards most, if not all SDGs - it is a multi-sectoral priority.

Funding for HIV is decreasing

- We must look elsewhere for how to meet needs of people affected by HIV & AIDS.
STRENGTHEN THE WHOLE CHILD

- Children affected by HIV & AIDS need integrated, holistic support, combining biomedical, economic & social interventions

- Children need combination of support to address physical, mental, social & emotional needs & to realise their full potential
CHILDREN NEED PSS AS PART OF AN INTEGRATED PACKAGE

- PSS is not just essential for children & their caregivers - it is a defining trigger for enabling the hardest-to-reach children affected by HIV to access & benefit other services

- Integrating PSS within broader, holistic package is key for achieving biomedical, economic & social development targets. For example:
  - For prospective/new mothers & infants, it improves early childhood development outcomes
  - When combined with cash transfers & educational interventions, it leads to far higher HIV prevention & adherence to treatment in adolescents
  - PSS support to parents living with HIV on disclosing their status to their children, leads to better outcomes for children overall.
5 WAYS TO SUPPORT THE WHOLE CHILD

- Provide tailored combination package of biomedical, social & economic support
- Strengthen families & communities
- Help children of all ages & stages
- Reach children of adults in key population groups
- Listen to children & their parents/carers
CALL TO ACTION #1

- HIV sector should:
  - Increase resources for poorest & most excluded children
  - Provide them with integrated & holistic support, combining economic, social & biomedical interventions, including combination social protection and early childhood development
  - Starting point: International AIDS Society should make this key feature AIDS 2018 conference
CALL TO ACTION #2

- Broader social & economic development sectors should measure success by extent to which they improve outcomes for children affected by HIV & AIDS

- Starting point: this should be included as standard indicator in programme planning & evaluation across multiple development sectors
CALL TO ACTION #3

- HIV & broader development sectors should work together to deliver integrated, holistic support for children affected by HIV & AIDS. Governments & donors should support them to do so.

- Starting point: governments should support side event on early childhood development & HIV at World Health Assembly 2018.
PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT FORUM
2017

FOR MORE INFORMATION
CONTACT CORINNA CSAKY
CORINNA.CSAKY@CCABA.ORG
WWW.CHILDRENANDHIV.ORG

The Coalition for Children Affected by AIDS