

YouthRISE Nigeria

YOUNG PEOPLE LEADING THE HIV RESPONSE

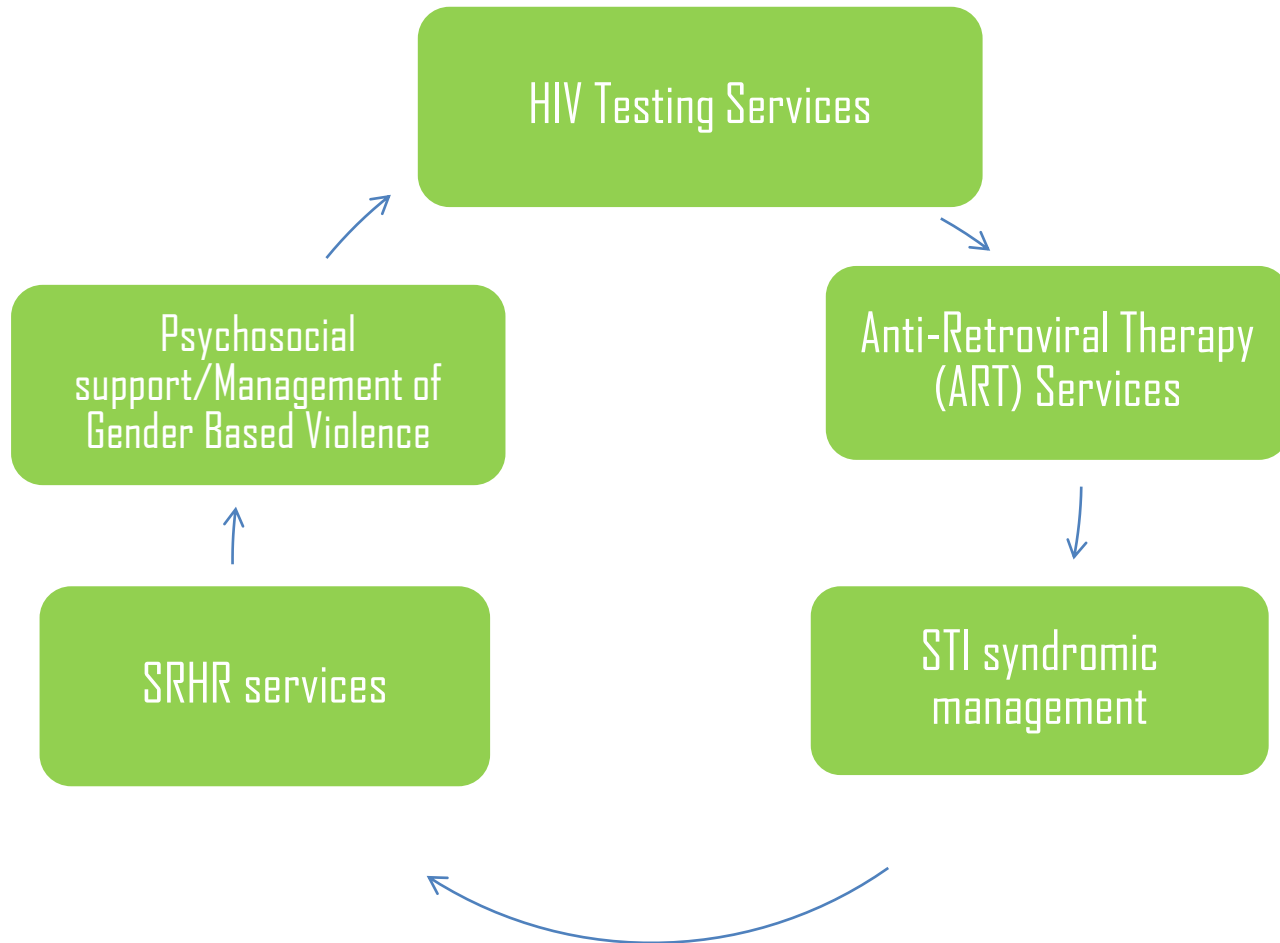
FISAYO ALAO
2ND HIV & ADOLESCENTS WORKSHOP
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YouthR.I.S.E Nigeria stands for Youth Initiative for Drug Research Information Support and Education in Nigeria.

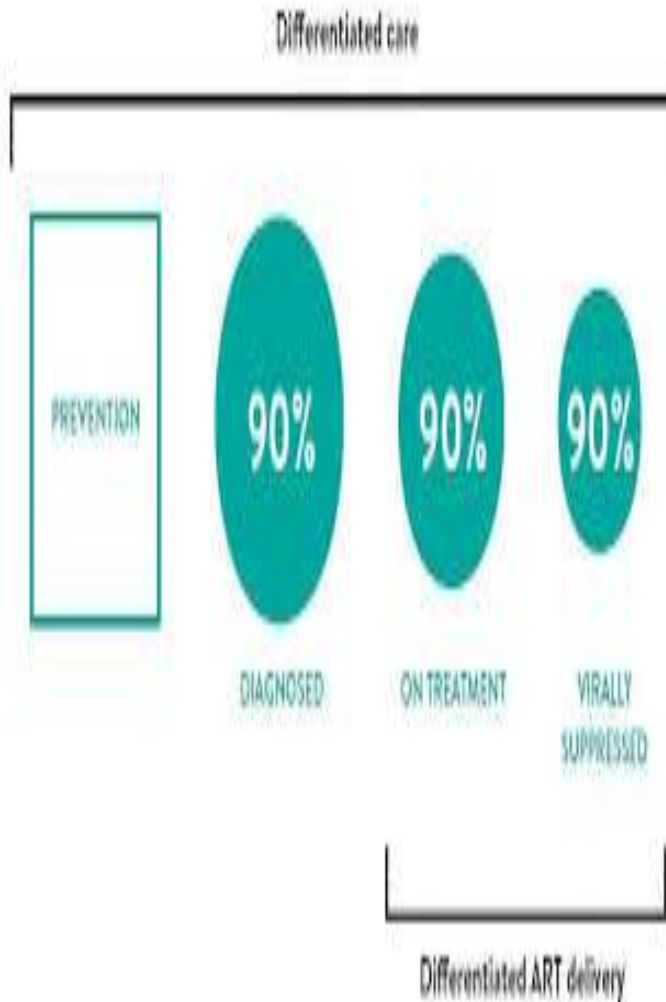
The organization is youth-led and primarily works with adolescent and young people who use drugs (both injecting and non-injecting drug use) .

We empowers them through community engagement for HIV prevention, treatment, care, and support

Key Interventions



OUR MODEL



Differentiated service delivery-

- Our strategy is client-centred taking into cognizance the peculiarities of YPUD
- We simplify and adapts our services to reflect the preferences and expectations of our clients in the following ways :

A) Prevention Strategy : Peer-led gender sensitive Cohort strategy

B) Enrolment Strategy:

- Assisted Referrals/ voluntary enrolment
- Mobile Enrolment

C) Treatment Retention Strategy:

- Home Based Care
- Mobile Refill
- Support group

CHALLENGES/LESSONS LEARNED

- Criminalization of people who use drugs
Meaningful engagement of law enforcement officers to create enabling environment
- High Mobility of YPUD
Adoption of peer-led approach has contributed to high rate in HIV Testing Services and ART enrollment
- Poor health seeking behavior
The establishment of HIV support group for this group has helped improve adherence to treatment & retention in care.
- Poor health outcomes due to economic challenges and lack of nutritional support
Integration of capacity building activities for business development/skill acquisition and training on how to maximise nutritional values of local and inexpensive food items.

Female Peer-led Cohort Session



Male Cohort Session



Key Recommendations

- Removal of legal barriers : punitive drug laws that criminalize people who use drugs restrict access to provision and uptake of comprehensive HIV services for YPUD.
- Address societal stigma and discrimination against young people living with HIV and those who use drugs. This should also focus on those who work in healthcare settings.
- Peer-led programming is key to achieving the 90-90-90 target among YPUD .
- HIV programming should take into consideration the economic vulnerability of youths living with HIV. This is important for adherence and retention in care, especially for the females.

THANK YOU

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