

## **PUBLIC ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH**

The department aims to increase awareness and bring about change regarding public health issues focusing on Water and Sanitation, Environmental Health, Food Safety, Nutrition, Mental Health, HIV/AIDS, Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights as well as issues regarding Child Protection. TSURO seeks to improve the health of the people of Chimanimani and reduce the incidence of communicable and non-communicable diseases through community education and health promotion. The department seeks to achieve universal access to clean water, basic sanitation, SRHR, healthy foods and mental health issues. The department has 4 projects with different partners and works closely with Ministry of Health and Child Care, National AIDS Council, Department of Social Welfare, DDF, and Ministry of Women Affairs.

### **Community Health and Hygiene.**

The department is implementing a project which seeks to “Mitigate Climate Change through Social and Economic Empowerment of Chimanimani small holder farmers”. The project is funded by Bread for the World. Under this project the department has spearheaded the prevention of key health threats promotes health, hygiene, advocates to improve access to clean, safe and affordable water. It is through this project that TSURO has managed to:

- a) Enhance community health and hygiene by strengthening the capacity of Health Professionals, Community Health Clubs (CHCs), Psychosocial Support Groups (PSSGs), Youth Clubs (YCs), Farmer Action Learning Groups (FALGs) & TSURO Village Groups (TVGs) to;
  - Promote good nutrition – increase knowledge about healthy foods; how to prepare them; promoting production of small grains;
  - Prevent key health threats – increase knowledge about key health threats, how to prevent them & how to manage them;
  - Promote Food Safety;
- b) Increase household access to safe portable water and sanitation through community mobilization and mapping;
- c) Protecting vulnerable populations – support orphans and other vulnerable children (OVC), the elderly, people living with disability, people with mental illnesses through an emergency fund for legal and or medical aid; and
- d) Promote young people’s sexual and reproductive health rights (integrated in economic activities – marketing value chains for agricultural produce by youths).

### **Mental Health**

The department is also partnering with COMIC Relief to implement the project entitled “Promoting mental health, well-being and resilient livelihoods in Chimanimani”. The project seeks to enable 15,000 people with mental illnesses in Chimanimani district, Zimbabwe, to lead healthy

and productive lives, by supporting them to access appropriate community mental health services, participate in support groups, improve their livelihoods, tackle stigma and discrimination, and advocate for improved policy implementation. The project seeks to ensure that:

1. People with mental health conditions are accessing appropriate and effective community-oriented mental health services;
2. People with mental health conditions are participating in community-based groups and support networks;
3. People with mental health conditions and their families have improved livelihoods, food security and nutrition;
4. Stigma and discrimination against people with mental illness are reduced; and
5. National legislation and policies on mental health are influenced by the project's activities.

### **Support to health services in Chimanimani**

TSURO is implementing a project funded by MDM Swiss which seeks to “Support the recovery of health services in Chimanimani district”. The project aims to contribute to the recovery of people's health in Chimanimani district, post cyclone Idai. The project has the following outcomes:

1. SRH services in four public health facilities are recovered and improved (Muchadziya, Mutsvangwa, Nyabamba and Ngorima)
2. The impact of the cyclone and its aftermath on people's psychological well-being is mitigated through access to appropriate mental health services.

### **Resilience from Cyclone Idai Disaster.**

TSURO being a resident organization in Chimanimani district was highly active in the work relief and recovery work through implementation of Post Cyclone Idai Resilience for early recovery project. This was made possible through partnership with REPSSI in 9 wards of Chimanimani district (10, 11, 12, 13, 15, 16, 22, 21, and 23.) The Project aims to enhance the outcomes of post Idai reconstruction through building resilience with an emphasis on adolescents in Chimanimani and has the following strategic outcomes:

1. Enhanced capacity of local service providers in Psycho Social Support (PSS) , including responding to grief and working as a community for reconstruction;
2. Supportive and responsive health and education service provision with an emphasis on adolescent boys and girls and adolescent parents.
3. Enhanced national support for PSS provision, including national PSS guidelines,
4. Response by others nationally and regionally influenced by sharing of experience