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POSTER

EFFECT OF MULTI-SECTORAL INTERVENTION ON CHILD AND ADOLESCENT GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE SURVIVORS

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Background: Gender-based violence (GBV) impacts deeply on the psychosocial and mental health conditions of survivors. The situation is even worst in the case of child and adolescent survivors as there is a lack of multi-sectoral services for the proper reintegration of such survivors.

Methods: Ministry of Health has established a one-stop crisis management center (OCMC) in most of the district hospitals with inadequate staff and services. GBV prevention and response (GBVPR) project has developed a multi-stake stakeholder response mechanism in 13 districts of four provinces. Community psychosocial workers (CPSW) and FCHV have been actively involved in case identification and referring to OCMC where multi-sectoral services (psychosocial counseling, medical and mental health treatment, legal support, and protection/shelter support) are punctuated and coordinated through case managers and psychosocial counselors. Service documentation information was collected from OCMC maintaining the confidentiality of case identity.

Results: The CPSWs identified 542 (Female-414 and Male 128) child/adolescent GBV survivors in the community and were referred to OCMC for required services. Anxiety and depression symptoms were frequently reported complaints of the survivors. The qualitative result showed improved psychosocial condition and functional levels of children and adolescent survivors with 91% service satisfaction. Survivors felt an increased level of confidence to take care of themselves and their children and experienced to have been emotionally stable. Caretakers reflected that they felt relief with OCMC services as they knew how to support survivors in the future, and learned self-stress-reducing skills for better care.

Conclusions: The multi-sectoral service approach to GBV survivors through the OCMC was perceived to be effective for better recovery and community reintegration.

Keywords: Gender-based Violence (GBV), Child and Adolescent, OCMC

