



Community Covid – 19 Response: First Round for Minoritised underprivileged communities in Sheffield

UWA received covid-19 response first round support funds from Sheffield city council to reach out deprived families with covid-19 educational awareness encouraging good practices, testing and emotional support. The project was for restricted funds aim to address three outcomes for five months (Nov 2020 to 31st March 2021)

Three outcomes

1. Preventing the spread of Covid-19
2. Outbreak control and encouraging testing
3. Supporting people to Isolate

The early period of covid-19 pandemic was extremely hard to cope and proceed with normal activities and the work of supporting minoritized underprivileged women and their family. Especially when government rules and regulations were changing every day. UWA observed struggle and frustrations of minoritized deprived women and their children struggling up and down looking for information that were on the internet. These women had no computer facilities and are not digital savvy. Early morning, we could find women standing on the UWA office asking what do I need to do? What the government want me to do? I am worried and anxious because I don't want to do wrong thing and I can't understand the TV, although I can hear but I can't understand. Please help me to understand I speak Swahili.

Summary of activities that we conducted to contribute to the actualization of the outcome were:

- Outreach services to provide covid pandemic educational awareness promotions using Swahili, Rwandese, and Lingala languages
- Provided Covid-19 tailored information materials, translated and disseminated to the families and individuals accordingly to the language. These includes audios and health clips.
- Door to door testing support by providing transport, educating why to test and good practise while self-isolate.
- Follow up the self-isolation families and supporting them with basic needs, which minimised breaking the rules to self-isolate.
- Provided emotional wellbeing support-through daily chats, outdoor support as the rules permitted and distancing visit to promote wellbeing for elderly.

- Provided series of awareness training and meeting including face to face for those who had no access to computer or limited to digital skills.

Impact

- Increased confidence by 90%
- Build resilience and trust for 73% of service users
- Reached out with support and help 703 people
- Alleviated myth and increased understanding

Analysis Report

People Reached	Comments	Languages
58	People reached through direct referral native language connection and are UWA service users	Lingala Congolese Rwandese Swahili English
189	Phone calls-reduces anxiety & Loneliness	
321	People reached through outreach services- Public health promotion, education, and awareness and covid testing and Leaflets	Garages, African corner shops, bereavement houses
9	Families supported to isolate	
15	Doorstep's medication and basic items drop Support	
28	Education sessions, training and meetings	
9	Direct transport support to covid-19 testing point	
10	Champions educated	
12	Filling in forms for covid-19 testing	
15	People vaccinated through UWA	
321	Messages distributed in other native languages: Lingala, Congolese, Rwandese, and Swahili.	
90% of People reached were Black Africa, and mixed-race community		