
Plot 16, Tufnell Drive, Kamwokya
PO Box 6770
Kampala, Uganda



Terms of Reference for the review, development and design of a mental health module for the Violence Against Children Prevention Department, Raising Voices, Uganda.

Background

Raising Voices (www.raisingvoices.org) is a Uganda-based NGO that works to prevent violence against women (VAW) and violence against children (VAC). Our flagship VAC prevention program – The Good School Toolkit (GST) – is an evidence based, whole-school approach shown to be effective at reducing VAC in schools. The GST is currently being implemented in more than 1,000 schools in Uganda and Raising Voices plans to scale this further to 5,000 schools over the next 5 years, working with the Ministry of Education & Sports to package the Good School methodology for national rollout. The Toolkit is currently being developed into a lighter and scalable Toolkit version that will be complimented by different modules on key GST concepts.

While preventing violence against children in schools, we have learnt that there exists a robust two-way relationship between violence and mental health that requires holistic intervention to address. The relationship is such that some children who experience violence develop mental health problems which makes them prone to more violence. This leads to a vicious cycle of violence and mental health problems, which, if not addressed, can escalate into a mental health crisis.

Aim

Based on what we have learnt, we will be developing a mental health module to provide teachers and learners with basic skills and knowledge for dealing with common mental health problems in schools. The module will suggest ideas and information to enable teachers and learners to recognize, prioritize and maintain positive mental health. The module, however, will not address clinical mental health illnesses.

Scope of Work

1. Review the mental health content developed by Raising Voices to date, including the Mental Health Cartoon booklet, leadership sessions, and activities in the Good School Toolkit for secondary schools.
2. Advise on age-appropriate mental health language and framing to ensure materials are engaging and useful for the context of Ugandan schools for children and teachers in both primary and secondary schools.
3. Provide creativity and innovation to the mental health module to make it appealing and usable by schools in Uganda.
4. Work with the Raising Voices staff to arrange all content in a logical and easy-to-use manner that will encourage uptake of these materials.
5. Collaborate with Raising Voices staff to review and finalize the draft module including collaborations on the design and other illustrations.

Time frame

The consultancy will cover a period of 10 working days and is expected to be completed by 28th February 2023.

Qualification

Raising Voices requires the services of a dynamic, creative and experienced consultant to work closely with our Good Schools Team to review, develop and design a mental health module using an existing draft developed by Raising Voices. The consultant must be creative ‘word-smith’ with experience in (i) bringing content and/or curricula to life for use in schools and (ii) developing creative content on mental health for schools that can appeal to a Ugandan audience.

Raising Voices is a values-driven organization (<https://raisingvoices.org/about-us/raising-voices-story-values/>) and we work with partners who share those values. We believe in positive framing in our written and visual materials to communicate experiences of resilience and hope (e.g., we do not use visual depictions of violence in materials developed). We value transparency, clear communication and willingness to constructively respond to feedback.

Application process

Qualified consultants are invited to submit (i) an expression of interest indicating their availability, (ii) detailed Curriculum Vitae (CV) including 3 professional referees, (iii) a cost proposal indicating the anticipated timelines and costs to deliver the assignment, and (iv) Examples of relevant completed works or publications done in the past if any – this could also be links to where the work can be found on any website.

Interested consultants are invited to submit their complete applications to jobs@raisingvoices.org with the subject line **“Consultant – VAC Mental Health Module”**. The deadline for receiving applications is 1700hrs, Tuesday, 27th December 2022.

Only shortlisted consultants will be contacted, not later than Tuesday, 10th January 2023.