WHAT ARE WE HEARING FROM PEOPLE LIVING WITH HIV?

UGANDA
“People living with HIV are affected by poverty and lack of food thus failing on drugs. The other issue is that some people especially the female sex workers, and some young people who feel stigmatized when someone comes to deliver their drugs.”

ESWATINI
“People are afraid of going to facilities to get their medication since the police will give them a hard time.”

ARGENTINA
“I am concerned that under quarantine, many young people living with HIV have lost their (sometimes clandestine) means of coping with depression.”

MOZAMBIQUE
“Many teenagers and their families have no food and some survive from selling sweets on the street.”

INDONESIA
“We are really concerned that COVID-19 has intensified the problem around ensuring supplies of ARVs for people living with HIV.”

“Young people like myself have strongly continued to participate in drug delivery processes using bicycles and moving on foot.” - Michael Senyonga, UNYPA
YA-ALL, Manipur, India are working with mental health professionals to provide correct information and psychosocial support for young transgender people during these difficult times.

ZY+, Zimbabwe worked quickly with their government to ensure that young people living with HIV had access to 3 month’s supply of ARVs before the lockdown and are using a range of communication channels (from radio to WhatsApp) to provide correct information on COVID-19 as well as adherence support and counselling.

NYP+, Tanzania and ENYP+, Eswatini representatives are on national committees helping their Ministry of Health to develop messages and materials on how to prevent COVID-19.

Globally organisations like Y+ and Youth LEAD (Asia Pacific) are gathering live information from countries, supporting national chapters with information and raising their issues with UN partners and donors.

In Latin America & Caribbean, J+ LAC are advocating for public health policies and responses to COVID-19, that support adolescents and young people to access essential nutrition, HIV and health services, including for their mental health.

Fill out the GNP+, ICW, and Y+ Global survey this week to share how you are adapting to Life in the time of COVID-19.

Visit our COVID-19 webpage to find the survey, past editions of the newsletter and other resources.