**CONCEPT PAPER FOR A RELIEF RESPONSE TOWARDS COVID-19 PANDEMIC**

**DATE: 15TH APRIL 2020**

**1.0 INTRODUCTION:**

The world is currently faced by a healthy emergency due to COVID-19 pandemic. The disease was first reported from the Chinese province of Wuhan in January and to date the prevalence of the disease has been confirmed in 210 countries and territories around the world. A total of 1,903,616 cases have been confirmed globally, the number of recovered persons stood at 439,072 globally and total deaths at 118,374 persons dead at the time of writing this concept. That is according to world health Organization.

The total number of confirmed COVID-19 cases by 13th April 2020 in Africa according to World Health Organization stood at 14,573 cases, recovered 2,823, deaths 790.

In Uganda according to the Ministry of Health, the confirmed cases were 54 cases, recovered 7 and no deaths. This situation of COVID-19 pandemic prompted issuing of guidelines by the government of Uganda and latter a country lock down for 14 days that started on 31st March 2020. It has since been extended for 21days starting on 14th March 2020

**2.0 The modes of transmission of Corona Virus disease (CIVID-19):**

The Corona Virus Disease is transmitted from person to person through the following ways:

1. Aerosols, inhalation of respiratory droplets produced through sneezing, cough, interaction with each other in close proximity (usually distance of less than 1metre).
2. Fomites, contact with surfaces contaminated with the virus and then touch yourself with contaminated hands in the nose, eye or mouth.

**3.0 Goal: To participate in the prevention of the spread of COVID-19 worldwide.**

**4.0 Objectives:**

1. To prevent transmission of COVID-19 among community by facilitating access to hand washing facilities.
2. To provide Personal Protective equipment to health facilities and vulnerable community.
3. Provide relief in terms of food to reduce hunger in vulnerable community affected due to country lockdown.

**5.0 PROBLEM STATEMENT AND JUSTIFICATION**

The spread of Corona virus disease is rising globally. This has prompted various countries to close their borders, issue restrictions on movement, social distancing and eventually country lockdown in some countries to prevent further spreading of the disease. However, these measures have resulted into crippling of businesses leading to contraction of economy and increased unemployment. This situation has left many families vulnerable in terms of food shortage and lack of disposable income to meet basic needs. In Uganda the health system is overwhelmed with the need to test, quarantine, treat and trace contacts for the identified patients and contacts of the contacts. There is need to mobilize resources to support the health workers who are on the front line in fighting the disease and the community to prevent further spread of the disease to relieve pressure exerted on the health systems as well as giving relief to the affected families due to country lockdown. It is therefore against this background the Caritas Kampala in the Archdiocese of Kampala seeks for the grant fund our Development partners to support the identified vulnerable communities and health facilities.

**6.0 Target Beneficiaries:**

The grant fund requested will benefit 2000 families in the community of Nsambya Ggogonya II and Kamwanyi villages in the civil parish of Nsambya Central in Makindye Division Kampala District. These community will be provided with food, soap, sanitizers, sugar, cooking oil and pedal-operated hand washing facilities.

Two health facilities, that is St. Francis Nsambya Hospital and Rubaga Hospital will be provided with Personal Protective Equipment to help medical workers carry out their duties while they are protected from contracting COVID-19 from suspected patients.

**Conclusion:**

The pandemic is spreading and the ways through which it is spreading is known. It requires change in our behaviors and following of the government guidelines put in place. However, as we face the health emergency at the same time we are facing an economic emergency that has crippled businesses and left many people jobless and helpless. There is need to help such people restore their dignity by supporting them to meet basic needs of life.

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