



Info Pack

Weekly Newsletter

Date: 16th December 2014 Issue 26

ACHIEVERS CORNER

Join us to thank Field Operations Department for their initiative and zeal to implement SFH activities in a more dynamic and proactive way to champion SFH vision and mission to attain healthier lives up to end of year 2014.

Take time to appreciate employees, they would reciprocate a thousand times.

EDITORIAL CORNER

Ethics through Self-Discipline

As we conclude our activities and coming to the end of this year, it is time to reflect on our theme: "Discipline and Commitment" during our vacation. Thus editorial team illuminates you about the 5Ws for you to build on during the holidays.

WHAT? "Discipline and Commitment" reflect on our self-discipline during our holidays to eliminate harmful habits and behaviors that reflect health and institution values wherever we are.

WHY THE NEED? A self-disciplined life makes the job or workplace ethics more attainable and you very well know that your elusive character traits parents, friends and teachers have tried to instill in you for as long as you can remember. You have sometimes attained it or other times you haven't. So, there is always need to keep trying one more time.

HOW TO LIVE BY IT? Just do it. Constantly decide that you really want to be someone who practices self-discipline in your attitude and ethics. Listen to others and act proactively by humbly clarifying what you will and will not do. Be honest, accountable and committed to what you do. Accept responsibility for your behavior and attitude and never blame others as scapegoat for your unfortunate actions and decisions. Taking responsibility shows honesty of character, which is a rare and valuable asset in every environment or work situation.

WHERE TO EXERCISE THIS? Definitely, if you tend to stretch the truth, cut it out no matter where you are; If you use company equipment, or facilities for personal use, stop it no matter who is watching; If you interpret company policies to meet your needs, don't do it anymore. Respect your leaders wherever you meet them, you don't need to be reminded to do so. These empower you and give you courage to try over and over again.

WHO TO COMPLY? Do what you say you will do no matter who you are. Everyone of us has to finish what we start. We all have to stay on a task and keep the discipline to accomplish what the organization expects of us. There may be no standard measure of your character than the evidence that you are exhibit (or are not), but the fact is you should be a man and woman who treasures institutional values and respects other people's opinions wherever we are, this is being noble. Merry Xmas.

NEWS OF THE WEEK



The ED's presentation was accompanied by the P&G demo: The audience is excited by the rocket science behind P&G.

In partnership with the Ministry of Local Government (MINALOC), SFH Rwanda delivered health messages during the women camp in Nkumba. This was Sunday December 14, 2014. This retreat took place from 5th to 16th December, and around 400 women from local and central government attended this retreat. The camp was organized in the occasion of celebrating the tenth anniversary of the National Women's Council.

During the opening ceremonies of this retreat, in his remarks Mr. Boniface RUCAGU the *Itorero* Chairman said that "a woman is the household's heart/ core; and that is why:

By supporting this slogan (*Ukurusha Umugore aba akurusha Urugo*) Minister of Gender and Family Promotion urged the retreat participants to become the catalysts for sustainable development.

She also emphasized that a woman is a foundation for national development: women have full responsibility to shape and mould their families.

On this occasion, SFH Rwanda was also given fifty minutes of presenting SFH programs and interventions, represented by Mr. Manasseh GIHANA WANDERA- the Executive Director provided an overview about SFH programs but also presented and highlighted the findings of the recent SFH research including P&G demonstration session to the audience.

The presentation was interactive and participatory plus a Q&A session.

After the presentations and the Q&A session about organization undertakings and specifically the rocket science behind P&G, the organizers through MINALOC requested the minister to always invite SFH Rwanda to support and deliver health messages so as to equip Rwandan women with advanced knowledge on HIV prevention, Family planning, nutrition and WASH.

In the Q&A session, all concerns and questions raised revolved around SFH products availability, and accessibility and the chemical composition of P&G of which Mr. Manasseh managed to respond to most of them and promised to renew the efforts in terms of products distribution and accessibility.

The audience also thanked SFH Rwanda for the work done so far with respect to HIV, Malaria prevention and other health areas, and committed to partner with SFH Rwanda in scaling up healthier lives for the Rwandan population.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S COLUMN



The holiday season has COME and probably is often the happiest time of the year for everyone of us. It's our time to spend with family, to give gifts to the people we love, and appreciate the many good things in our lives. and so forth. Please take some time to take stock of what God has helped you to achieve and learn.

However, we can also experience a lot of stress during the holiday season, especially at work most especially where we have pending activities and most things. Deadlines are often tight because of shifting schedules, customers and workloads can be more demanding, and there may be pressure to increase performance to meet end-of-year organizational goals. Family demands and travel to visit parent/friends in villages can also take a toll.

Put simply, people have more to do during the holidays than at any other time of year. This means that staff's focus, engagement, and productivity can diminish as the year's end approaches.

Based on this, I request that we only focus on key issues and put others that are really not urgent and important on the side so that we can take our holiday without a lot of stress. All the best in your holidays!!!

Finally, this being the last info pack for 2014, please join me to thank all the CCD team to have shown resilience and consistency to produce this informative piece all through!!!

Malaria deaths drop further

The number of people who die as a result of malaria reduced by more than half in Africa between 2000 and 2013, according to a new report published by the World Health Organization. The same report says mortality reduced by 5 percent between 2012 and last year, indicating that global and national efforts to combat the mainly tropical disease are effective.

About 198 million cases of malaria globally in 2013 and an estimated 584,000 deaths, and most of them occur among children living in Africa where a child dies every minute from the disease.

Malaria mortality rates among children in Africa have been reduced by an estimated 58 % since 2000. "Mortality globally, fell by 47 % between 2000 and 2013, a slight increase from 42 percent between 2000 and 2012," the report says.

According to Dr. Corine Karema, the head of malaria and other parasitic diseases at the Rwanda Biomedical Centre (RBC), efforts are under way to eliminate malaria by 2018. So far, around 83 % of Rwandan households have treated mosquito nets. The government targets at least one mosquito net per two people.

"The supply of mosquito nets used to be done once in three years but it will now be done every two years because we found out that in three years, a mosquito net has already lost its efficacy," she said.

Malaria transmission in Rwanda occurs year-round with two peaks from May to June and November to December. In 2013, around 900,000 cases of malaria were diagnosed. Of these, 409 died, with 30 percent of them being children under five.

Between 2005 to 2012, malaria incidence declined by 74 %, out-patient malaria cases by 71 %; and in in-patient malaria deaths declined by 68 %.

The malaria burden in Rwanda has transitioned from a nationwide distribution of the disease to a focal problem mostly in few high malaria burden districts along the border in the Eastern and Southern provinces.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Signing MoU between SFH & Kigali Today
- Christmas holidays

ONGOING EVENTS

- Plaisir road shows and Concerts;
- Hygiene Campaign in Eastern Region

DID YOU KNOW?

In Rwanda, 2014 concludes the second year of the HIV strategic plan 2013-2018. The evidence and findings which were presented during the 7th International HIV Conference provided an opportunity to ascertain the progress made towards attaining the overall goals of the strategic plan, namely:

- ✓ Lowering the new infection rate by two thirds from an estimated 6,000 per year currently to 2,000 ;
- ✓ Halving the number of HIV-related deaths from 5,000 to 2,500 per year ;
- ✓ Ensuring that people living with HIV (PLHIV) have the same opportunities as all others.

JOKES CORNER

Q: How do you count cows?
A: With a cowculator.

Q: What did the blanket say when it fell off the bed?
A: "Oh sheet!"

