**3.2.B.1 Baseline interview transcript**

| **Respondent ID** | 3-GM-1-5 |
| --- | --- |
| **Respondent Group Number** | 5 |
| **Care Group Role** | Member |
| **Consent to participate** | (missing) |
| **Interview date** | 14/11/2022 |
| **Interview start time** | (missing) |
| **Interview end time** | (missing) |
| **Interview location** | Mlagsi |
| **Interview language** | (missing) |
| **Interview condition notes** | (missing) |
| **Enumerator ID** | (missing) |
| **Fully anonymized** | (missing) |
| **Resident community** | (missing) |
| **Gender** | Female |
| **Age** | 36 |

**Section 2: Group experience**

**1\_Are you a member of any groups now (Care Group or VSLA or others)? Have you been a member of any group in the past?**

*Yes I am part of the Care Group,and also part of the working together group known as Mthunziwethemba group.*

**2\_What is the purpose of these groups?**

*to ensure food self sufficiency for people living with HIV/AIDS (PWHAs)*

**3\_What made you decide to join the groups?**

*To reduce my household burden through income generating projects.*

1. **Probe - Can you please highlight some of the activities you do as a Care Group?**

*We teach each other on how to raise our families and take care of the household.*

1. **Probe - What benefits do or did you get from the group?**
2. **Probe - How often do you meet as a Care Group?**

*We meet once a month during the first week of the month.*

1. **Probe - As a Care group what are some of the challenges/successes you have experienced?**

*We gain knowledge on how to raise our families and take care of the household. In addition, working together enhances productivity as i can attest that since I joined the group 3 years ago I have experienced improved productivity. I also have income to support my family through selling vegetables from our care group garden*

1. **Probe - How have you solved these challenges?**

*Its been long since we last met as the group is made up of people from different villages (lines) hence it is difficult to schedule meetings. We however intend to breakdown our group into members of the same villages and we have planned to do it this Wednesday (16 November 2022). Another challenges is lack of time which comes with the rainy season as we now concentrate on the fields more than in our care groups.*

*Our group was successful indeed enabling access to vegetables which provided both food and income. The group is lacking as yet but we intend to revive it so that we develop our families.*

*We are working towards creating groups that are made up on members of one village and we have planned to do that this Wednesday 16 November 2022.*

1. **Probe - How often do you get home visits from your peer group members/Lead Mother?**

*There are no home visits from peer group members but lead mother visits us 3 times a month.*

1. **Probe - Do you have any challenges with joining and participating in the groups? Please explain.**

*There are no issues when one wants to join and participate in the group.*

**Section 3: Past care group experience (Amalima area only)**

**4\_Now I would like to learn from you about the Care Group.**

*It is the Care group that was established for PLWHAs to interact, produce vegetables and earn a living.*

**5\_What, in your opinion, was the main goal of the Care Group?**

*The main goal is to ensure production of nutritious food and provide income for PLWHAs.*

**6\_How were you invited to be a group member?**

*I was invited by the Clinic councillor.*

**7\_Did the group differ from other groups you have joined? How so? (*Probe for:* positive/advantages or challenges/disadvantages).**

*Yes it is different because it is only for PLWHAs while other groups do not chose members.*

***Membership:***

**8\_In the last Care Group you were a part of, who were other members?**

*It is made up of females and males who live with HIV and AIDS*

1. **(Probe: Differences from you in age, children, or situation?)**
2. **Probe - Did you know them before joining the group?**

*Yes I knew them before.*

**9\_Tell me the story of what I would experience if I had visited the group: what would happen from the time I arrived until the time I leave?**

*You would see us in the garden working in the garden at the same time discussing and providing solutions to our problems. You would rarely see us sitting because our main agenda is working.*

1. **Probe - Who scheduled meetings?**

*The chairperson who is a female is the one who schedules meetings.*

1. **Probe - Where would I have arrived? Who would have been there?**

*At the Chairperson’s home where you would find out all group members.*

1. **Probe - How long did it last?**

*Two hours.*

1. **Probe - Who talked?**

*We would be addressed by the chairperson but there is participation by all members.*

1. **Probe - Who led discussions/activities, who invited special guests, etc.)?**

*Chairperson*

1. **Probe - What did group members do during this time?**

*Listen and participate actively throughout the meeting.*

1. **Probe - Who planned the agenda/activities/information?**

*The Chairlady plans the agenda.*

1. **Probe - Were actions planned between meetings?**

*Yes actions were planned and everyone was part of the planning process.*

1. **Probe - Is this how others’ past care group experiences went? What was similar? What was different?**

*Our group is different from other groups as it concentrates on farming while other groups are for hygiene and nutrition.*

***Facilitation:***

**10\_What was your favorite session or topic covered in the last Care Group you were in? Why? (*Probe for:* facilitation, type of activity)**

*My favourite session was on the growing of vegetables because I love it a lot. Everytime we had discussions on the growing of vegetables I had to listen attentively. Even when the group is currently inactive I still continue with gardening in my home and I no longer lack in terms of nutritious food even income to support my family*.

**11\_Do you remember a session when you felt well supported by the facilitator or other members of the group? Please tell me about it. (*Probe for:* facilitation style, activity type)**

*No*

**12\_Do you remember a session when you spoke or shared a lot? And everyone else in the group? Please tell me about it. (*Probe for:* facilitation style, activity type)**

*No*

**13\_Recall a time the group discussed a challenge you also experience, and a good solution was raised. Can you share this discussion? (Probe for: Who shared? How did you participate?)**

***Focus:***

**14\_ What did you learn from the Care Group?**

*I learnt that proper childcare is very important in human development and that we must do all things possible to ensure the best for our families for example through farming.*

1. **Probe - If we accompanied you to your home and spent a day with your family, what change would you show us that has happened as a result of group sessions?**

*I now own my own vegetable garden which is my greatest income source and I have improved my harvest in my fields for the past 3 years.*

1. **Probe - Were there suggestions and changes in your home discussed with the group that you could not complete? Why not? What were they?**
2. **Probe - Did the group discuss dealing with challenges to making suggested changes in your home? Did the group discuss solutions to the challenges? Please describe.**

**15\_How did the care group go about making decisions as a group (e.g. topics for discussion, activities, delegation of tasks, etc.)?**

*Each person is given a platform to participate in decision making, giving their ideas and opinions until the decisions are accepted by the whole group.*

**16\_Please take me through your greatest memory in your past care group.**

*It was when we were given sweet potatoes which mature quickly though I can’t remember where we got these from. I still wish to grow these types of sweet potatoes but I don’t know where I can get them from.*

***Social support:***

**17\_ As care group members how do you support each other?**

*Yes,in the group we had discussed about supporting each other to achieve our aspirations. As a WIDOW my wish was to have a house of my own hence the group supported me to mould bricks but since we are now in the rainy season I cannnot proceed with building but I hope I will do so after the rainy season.*

*Yes. The group helped me to work towards building a house so I couldnt have done it alone but I appreciate the support from my group members.*

*We ask for help Yes we give each other great social support for example in funerals we make contributions as a group both in cash and kind to support our members in times of distress.*

**18\_Did relationships between members change over time? How did they change? (Probe: support? encouragement?)**

*Yes it changed a lot. The group members are now my relatives. I do not have any blood relations as I am from Mutare but in them I get all the love that only relatives can give.*

**19\_Did you give any support or encouragement to other members, or did others do for you? Please share examples.**

*Yes we support each other a lot for example when members have ceremonies we visit them and assist them with income generation to make their ceremonies a success.*

1. **Probe - Can you describe one conversation or support that was particularly memorable or meaningful to you?**

*We visited another care group and help them to raise funds and we are also planning to invite them so that they also help us fundraise as well.*

**20\_While the Care Group met, did you spend time with other group members outside of meetings?**

***Community integration:***

**21\_ Do you still meet or talk with the other group members? Has the group continued after Amalima? When? What do you discuss? (Probes: challenges in your community or households? Tips for child care?)**

*Currently we are not meeting as group members come from different areas which make it difficult to schedule and engage in meetings but we are working towards reviving the group as a line so that it will be easy for us to carry own with community development.*

**22\_What did other members of the community, who were not members of your care group, know about the care group? What did they think or say about it?**

*They know about the group and they wish to join even if they are not people living with HIV and AIDS.*

**23\_Was the group recognized by community leaders? Please explain.**

*Yes. Members report to the leadership at all times especially when there are ceremonies.*

1. **Probe - Could the community leaders or communities integrate or recognize such groups t**o support community efforts? Please explain

*Yes they should support such groups because they help the community in providing information that brings development in the area.*

**24\_Ask if the group can think of any other key, distinct elements of care groups they would like to add?**

*Income generation and working together.*

**25\_In order to have a successful care group what order should these cards be in? What should be prioritized?**

*We should capitalise on the benefits of the care group especially income generation.*

*-Benefits*

*-Working together*

*-Learning*

*-Friendship*

*-Fun*

*-Practice*

**Section 4: What constitutes care group “quality”**

**26\_What characteristics of a care group make it of high quality for you?**

*It is a group of people who are willing to learn and advise each other who are also humble enough to find out information they are not sure about.*

* 1. **Probe - How would you describe a high-quality care group?**
     1. **Probe - Who is in the group?**

*People living with HIV/AIDS of different ages and sexes.*

* + 1. **Probe - In your Care groups do you have any male/grandmother/young mothers members?**

*Yes there are are males, elderly women and young women.*

* + 1. **Probe - If yes, what has been their contribution towards your group’s activities?**

*Each member group has a role to play especially considering gender roles. Males assist greatly in labour demanding activities while young women keep the group vibrant and are able to travel long distances where other elders can’t hence it assist the group to acquire the knowledge even in distant areas.*

* + 1. **Probe - Who leads the group, and how?**

*The group is led by the chairlady who sets the agenda for the meetings, tells the organiser to call a meeting and facilitates the meetings giving a room for all members to express their own opinions.*

* + 1. **Probe - Participation: Who participates in a meeting? How are solutions identified?**

*All members have the right to participate in the meetings, engage in discussions and provide solutions to problems.*

* + 1. **Probe - Practicality of discussions to apply at home.**

*Yes the discussions are practicalised at home for example when we planned supporting one of our members in land clearance and now she is now farming in that field.*

* + 1. **Probe - Interactive activities.**

*Yes we do interact with other people and we invite other people to witness us as we do drama.*

* + 1. **Probe - Social support from members.**

*Social support is our core agenda in care groups as the responded exclaimed in the interview that; ‘Yikho esingakho’*

* + 1. **Probe - Recognition by community leaders or structures.**

*Yes, they recognise what we are doing as they sometimes attend our meetings and because we are more developmental now hence as women we are developing our area and village.*

* + 1. **Probe - Other**
  1. **Probe - Examples of each they mention as good from past experience?**

**27\_What (if anything) makes your experience in a group of other women like yourself good? (Probe for: what does good mean?)**

*Care groups enable us to comfort each other relieving stress and forgetting about our own problems. The good thing about care groups is that we have become developmental now and now we have become more clean and more informed.*

**28\_What (if anything) made your experience in a group not so good?**

*None*

**Section 5: Recommendations**

**29\_Do you have any recommendations for programs that support groups for women in your community?**

*I recommend that programs that support women must empower them in farming activities for example by introducing poultry projects with all inputs so that women are able to have economic freedom. Also seeing that they are eager to practice conservation agriculture they need to be assisted with seeds to promote food security.*

* 1. **Probe - What can be done better?**

*We need to have financial assistance to be able to run our group effectively.*

* 1. **Probe - How can groups be led or facilitated differently?**

*The leadership of the group is good so far I do not think there is any change needed.*

* 1. **Probe - How can Amalima Loko, health care workers, or community leaders support Care Groups better?**

*We want them to give us financial support for the day to day running of the group. For example it is difficult to do toilet projects without money. Though we can try to raise our own we need a back up. ‘Sifuna ukhala siphethe’*

**30\_Do you feel there are other topics or groups who could benefit from participating in a Care Group in your community?**

*I am not sure if there are other topics or groups that may benefit we will need to discuss that as a group.*

**Section 6: Conclusion and remaining thoughts**

**31\_Would you ever consider becoming a Lead Mother for a Care Group? Why or why not?**

*No. I would like to see young women leading as they still have a long future ahead of them.*

**32\_Is there anything else anyone would like to add?**

*No*