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Title: Beyond peer education: a pathway led to HIV prevention among youth in Jiangsu Province.

Background:

Until the end of 2017, there is a cumulative number of 4660 HIV/AIDS reported aged under 24 in Jiangsu, China. To encourage a variety of resources participating in HIV prevention among youth, especially youth themselves, we started this programme in 2015.

Description:

1. Management: department of education, department of health, Jiangsu provincial red cross, Jiangsu CDC, association of colleges' health care together with local NGO established a joint mechanism in charge of this programme.
2. Design: The effective participation of youth The Peer educator competition was adopted to expand information delivery and enable supportive social environment, the campaign of getting HIV testing common were designed to further empower youth and generate comments and advocacy in HIV related services.
3. Operation: The competition among peer educator in Jiangsu have been launched, 129 educators' teams from 110 colleges participated. Volunteers from colleges, especially among freshmen and sophomores, were encouraged to get HIV testing in any organization that they can imagine, for instance, CDC, hospital or NGO. During the two-year operation, more than 2000 youths participated in this campaign, and 64% of them received HIV testing, 85% shared their experience with their youth friends. In order to enhance quality of service, the experiences from youth receiving HIV related services had been noted by Jiangsu Provincial CDC and shared among health system.

Lessons learned:

1. We need youth's full participation in any programme or project towards youth.
2. The peer educator competition greatly empowering youth and successfully created supportive environment among multiple stakeholders.
3. Through the campaign of getting HIV testing common, volunteers and other youths got close to HIV services, no longer feared of testing. The feedback on HIV services from community perspective valued a lot in enabling youth friendly HIV services.
4. New media development in the new media age challenged the standard of traditional KAP model. Youth tend to receive useful information from internet, including sexual health.

Conclusions/Next steps:

Youth are at increased risk for HIV due to a number of factors in Jiangsu, China. Insufficient participation of youth and limited access to sexual education may exacerbate vulnerability. Programs must be developed to address the unique needs of them.