

# STOMACARE SUPPORT ZAMBIA UPDATE REPORT



Reporting period: 1<sup>st</sup> July 2019 – 31<sup>st</sup> July 2019

## Program updates

### 1.1. Update on Colostomy bags and Accessories

Stomacare Support Zambia received 9835 colostomy bags and estimated 533 accessories from Friends of Ostomates America on the 29<sup>th</sup> June 2019. The organization is worked with the Ministry of Health Zambia to ensure the intended beneficiaries access the Ostomy products at no cost.

It is important to note that the organization is working closely with the Ministry of Health through the Cancer Diseases Hospital and University Teaching Hospital in the capital city to compile a data base for Ostomy patient's country wide.

### 1.2. Sensitization through media engagement

Stomacare Support Zambia conducted a live radio interview with 5fm radio station on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2019. The main purpose was to sensitize the masses especially ostomate patients on the colostomy condition so as to help them understand the need to use quality products in order to live a normal life. This was also to ensure patients and their families knows where they can access quality products to support their lives.

The organization also conducted an interview with Sun Newspaper to explain on the objectives on the organization and the activities engaged in. the interview appeared in one of the biggest newspaper in the country. This has raised publicity to more Ostomates who now are calling to find out how they could be receiving these products from Stomacare Support Zambia.



### Challenges

1. A reasonable amount of the received accessories were expired and were destroyed as they will not be distributed to patients. This is to ensure we safe guide the lives of patients and comply with the countries regulations. Photos attached to this Email.
2. The organization is not receiving any financial support from any donors apart from a small amount contribution of enrolled member and Board Members contributions. This however, has not been sufficient to cater for the needed resources to manage the organization.
3. For the project to reach other Ostomy patients countrywide there is a need to engage local and international donors for financial support to Stomacare Support Zambia for its operational costs such as (logistics, Office rental, etc)

## PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR THE NEXT REPORTING PERIOD

1. Continue to enroll more ostomate patients and provide them with bags and accessories.
2. Engage local and international donors for financial support to Stomacare Support Zambia for its operational costs such as (logistics, Office rental, etc).
3. Currently there are only Two Trained Nurses in the whole country for Ostomy Patients. There is need to train Nurses, Patients, Caregivers and Community caregivers country wide in all the ten Provinces.
4. The organization plans to launch Stomacare Support Zambia on World Ostomy Day this year.