

SUPPORTING YOUR PEERS WITH DISABILITY

The role of CATS in supporting CAYP living with HIV and disability is to:

- Identify those at risk using the **CATS-disability identification tool**
- Refer clients in need of assessment and additional support to access the services they need
- Follow up to make sure they got the services they wanted and were referred to
- Give information on health, rehabilitation and educational services available
- Support pregnant and breastfeeding CAYP with disability
- Support caregivers and clinic staff to talk to clients about HIV, treatment and care
- Share their own experience and the experiences of other CAYP living with HIV and disability
- Accompany those who need extra support to attend services
- Advocate and raise awareness on HIV and disability and clients' right to be provided with services and be involved in their health care decisions
- Work with other clinic staff to plan and help with their ongoing care and support



Identification And Referral For Impairment And Disability



Where:

Clinic
Home
Support Group



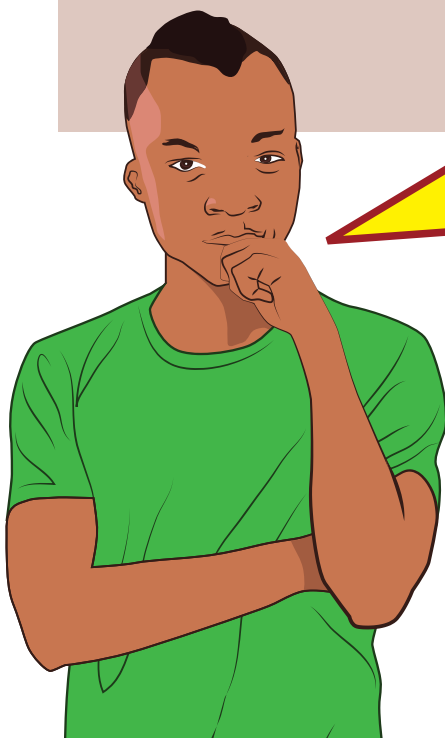
When:

On joining Zvandiri
Six Monthly



What topics to cover

- Introduce disability
- **Disability Identification Tool**



We want all CAYP to be able to take part fully in their schools, homes and societies including those with disabilities and impairments. These questions help us to know who may need more support.

Supporting Your Peers With Impairment And Disability



Where:

Clinic,
Home
Support Group



When:

Monthly



What topics to cover

- Basic information about impairment and disability
- Their feelings about their condition and how it affects them
- **Mental Health Check-In** (See Mental Health Section)
- The benefits of understanding the services available for those living with HIV and disability
- The benefits of knowing their HIV status and treatment
- Support system and finding someone that they can trust and communicate with
- **Social Protection Check-In** (See Social Protection Section)
- Your own story and the experiences of other CAYP living with HIV and disability
- Any barriers to attending services
- Their rights to health and support services
- Importance of support services – e.g. CATS, support groups
- Any questions or worries

Additional points to cover with caregivers

- Importance of finding ways to communicate with the child about HIV and disability
- The role that caregivers play in supporting their child and making sure they access services
- Benefits of peer support services
- Available services for the caregiver

Disability Identification Tool	Yes	No
1. Do you have difficulty seeing, even if wearing glasses? Or are you blind?		
2. Do you have difficulty hearing, even if using a hearing aid? Or are you deaf?		
3. Do you have difficulty walking, running or climbing steps?		
4. Do you have difficulty remembering or concentrating? Or learning?		
5. Do you have difficulty with using your hands or self-care (such as washing, dressing, toileting or feeding/eating on your own)?		
6. Using your usual (customary) language, do you have difficulty communicating or talking (for example understanding or being understood by others)?		
7. Do you have fits / seizures?		
8. Do you have another type of disability?		
9. Are you in the correct grade for your age? What grade are you at school?		
10. Has your disability been given a name? (E.g. Cerebral palsy, epilepsy, developmental delay, deaf, blind, dumb)? Please specify:		



RED FLAG

Any client who:

- Is identified to be at risk of having an impairment or disability
- Has an impairment or disability but is not engaged in services
- Does not have a caregiver or support system
- Has an impairment or disability and is pregnant or breastfeeding
- Is at risk of neglect or abuse
- Answers yes to 1 or more of the **Social Protection Check-In** questions
- Is identified as 'high risk' for a mental health condition using the **Zvandiri Mental Health Screening Tool** (See Mental Health Section)

Caregivers who:

- Do not want their child to access services
- Need help with communicating about HIV and treatment, including disclosure
- Are not coping with their child's HIV status and/or disability
- Face barriers to supporting their child to attend services



Urgent

- If you feel your client is in danger, **it is not for you to fix this.**
- Contact social protection services and your ZM by phone. If you cannot get hold of them, contact other community workers or the clinic.

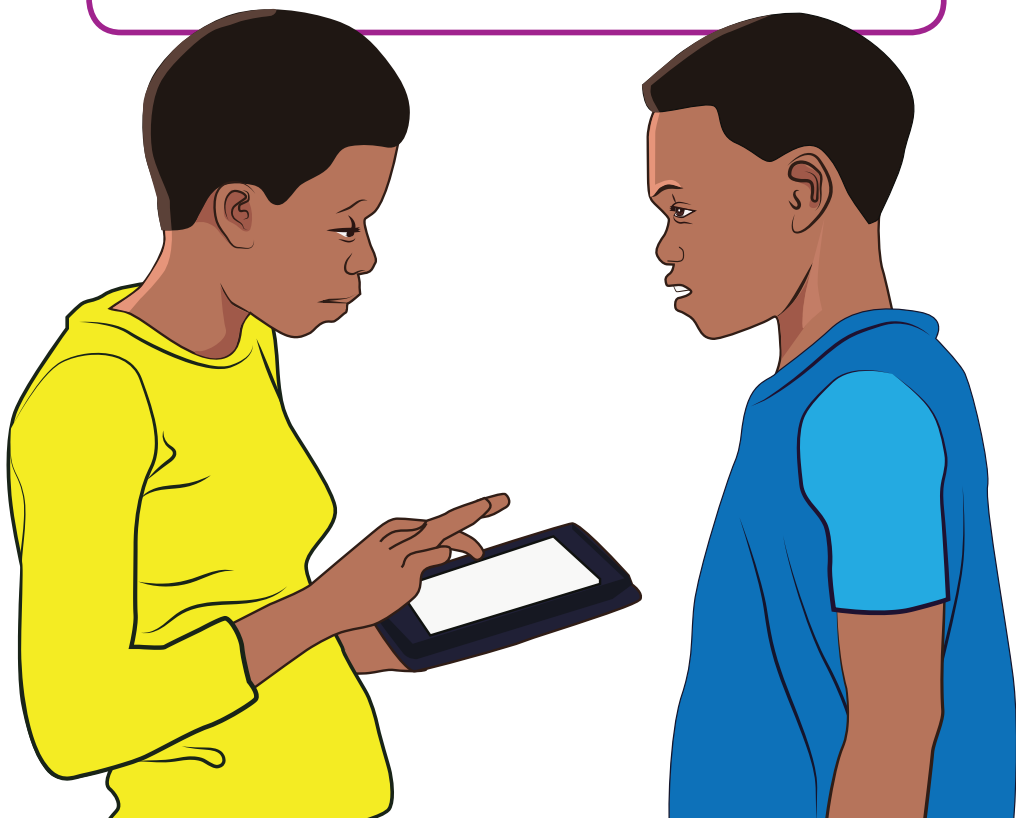
Communication And Referrals



Reminder

CAYP with disability commonly face many difficulties in accessing the information and counselling they need. Your clients may have a wide range of complex challenges in communicating. As CATS, you can help your clients to access the information and counselling they need in a way that they can understand and cope with, by utilising different modes of communication such as picture cards, audio clips and sign language, but also by linking them with other services. The type of referral depends on the needs of the client and could include:

- Rehab services
- Visual screening
- Ear, Nose and throat assessment
- Schools Psychological Assessment and placement in appropriate schools
- Treatment and Care Services e.g. ART, PMTCT and Opportunistic infection
- Support services e.g. CATS standard and enhanced care, disability services, and support groups
- Social protection services



Enhanced Support For Disability

- Work with your client, caregiver, clinic, rehab services and your ZM to make an enhanced support plan.
 - Rehab services, your clinic and ZM are responsible for this plan
 - As part of this plan, CATS provide a supportive role to the client and may include more frequent home visits and support when accessing other services



Common Types Of Impairment And Disability

