

Profile



www.koalafrica.or.tz

Table of Contents

Introduction	2.
Mission & Vision	3.
Core Values	4.
Focus Area	5.
Our Approach	8.
Current Initiatives	9.
Our Partner	12.
Join Us	13.

Introduction

KOALA AFRICA is a non-profit organization that is focused primarily on public health, education and research in Tanzania. Along with its collaborators, the organization works to address communicable and non-communicable diseases affecting marginalized communities, as well as sexual and reproductive health (SRH).

With a primary focus on addressing cervical cancer and sexual and reproductive health challenges, KOALA AFRICA works to eliminate health disparities and create sustainable solutions for underserved populations.



**Empowering
Communities
through Health
and Equity.**

Our Vision



Equity in sexual and reproductive health, fostering empowerment across African communities.

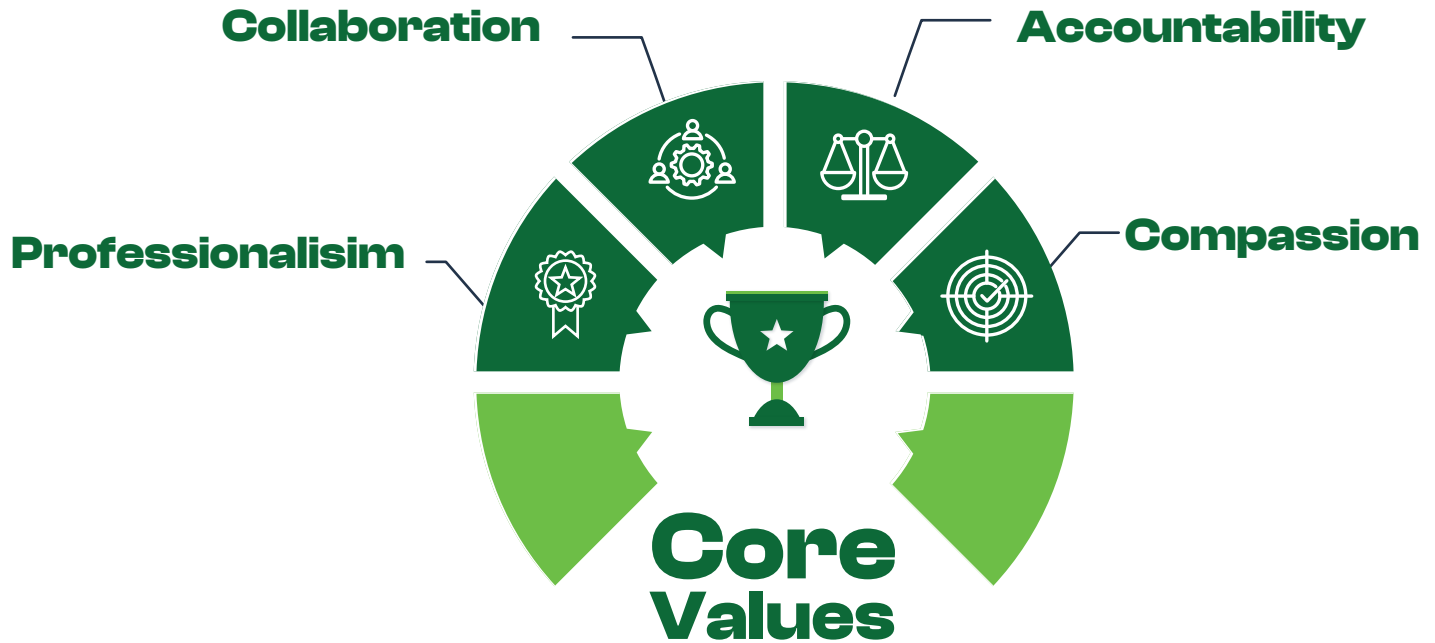


Our Mission



To ensure that individuals, regardless of their socioeconomic status, geographic location, or cultural background, have access to comprehensive, compassionate, and high-quality health services, with a particular focus on cervical cancer prevention, early detection, and sexual and reproductive health care.

Core Values



Focus Areas



Cervical Cancer Prevention and Care.

Cervical cancer is a significant public health problem in Tanzania and the most prevalent cause of cancer related mortality and morbidity. Despite cervical cancer being preventable by vaccination against Human papillomavirus and curable if detected early, Tanzania's healthcare system faces several challenges. These include limited access to early detection methods, and a lack of widespread knowledge on the importance of prevention with and early diagnosis and treatment of precancer. As a result, most are unaware of the risks and do not seek timely medical care, exacerbating the impact of the disease.



Addressing this issue is critical to improving public health outcomes in Tanzania, as early detection and prevention measures can significantly reduce mortality rates and improve the quality of life for affected women.

Sexual and Reproductive Health.

Sexual and reproductive health (SRH) encompasses a broad range of issues related to the well-being of individuals in their sexual and reproductive lives. It includes access to services, education, and information about contraception, family planning, maternal health, and prevention of sexually transmitted infections (STIs). SRH also covers the rights of individuals to make informed decisions about their sexual and reproductive health, free from discrimination or coercion. In Africa, where many countries face high rates of maternal mortality, early sexual debut, and limited access to quality healthcare, SRH remains a critical area for improving health outcomes and empowering individuals, particularly women and adolescents.

In Tanzania, the challenges related to SRH are marked by several concerning statistics. Around 40% of women have an unmet need for family planning, often due to misconceptions, stigma, or limited decision-making power. Early sexual debut is common, and a significant number of individuals, particularly adolescents, face the consequences of unprotected sexual activity.

Additionally, data shows that three out of four adults who had sex with a non-marital, non-cohabitating partner in the past year did not use a condom, which increases the risk of unintended pregnancies and STIs. [THS 2022] These issues, combined with ongoing misconceptions and gender inequality, highlight the urgent need for increased awareness, education, and access to comprehensive SRH services in Tanzania.

Health Systems Strengthening:

KOALA AFRICA, in collaboration with the Tanzanian government and other stakeholders, will focus on strengthening health systems through effective policy making, planning, and budgeting to deliver quality health services and drive lasting change in SRH in Tanzania.

Community Empowerment:

KOALA Africa believes that health begins with awareness, and empowering communities through informed decision-making is key to driving positive change. By supporting initiatives that improve health outcomes and access to care, we aim to address the unique needs of each community, ensuring that even marginalized and disadvantaged populations are included in the process.

Mobilizing local leaders to champion important causes like cervical cancer awareness and sexual health campaigns is essential for securing community buy-in and fostering collective action across all aspects of health. To create lasting impact, it's crucial that the community, including its most vulnerable members, is actively engaged and invested in their health, ensuring sustainable improvements for the long term.

Our Approach



KOALA AFRICA adopts a community-driven and client-centered approach to health service delivery, focusing on creating lasting, impactful solutions for underserved populations. By working closely with local stakeholders, governments, and global partners, we design tailored interventions that directly address the unique challenges faced by each community.

Our approach emphasizes collaboration at every level, ensuring that health initiatives are integrated seamlessly into existing health systems for sustainability. We prioritize empowerment through health education, raising awareness about critical issues such as cervical cancer prevention and sexual and reproductive health, ensuring that communities are not only recipients of care but active participants in their health journey. This approach ensures that interventions are effective, adaptable, and capable of driving long-term change.



Current Initiatives



1. Reproductive Health Awareness Programs.

In 2024, KOALA AFRICA, in partnership with the Government of Tanzania (GoT), the Revolutionary Government of Zanzibar (RGZ), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), and SEMA, launched a comprehensive Social and Behaviour Change Communication (SBCC) campaign aimed at improving sexual and reproductive health (SRH) among adolescents and youth across Tanzania and Zanzibar. The campaign seeks to raise awareness about key SRH issues, such as contraception, sexually transmitted infections (STIs), and healthy sexual behaviours, while also addressing common misconceptions that often prevent young people from making informed choices.

The initiative emphasizes the importance of condom use as a key method for preventing both STIs and unintended pregnancies, aiming to promote safer sexual practices among adolescents and youth. The campaign delivers clear, targeted messages that resonate with the unique needs and cultural contexts of young people. By empowering them with accurate information, the campaign encourages young individuals to take control and make responsible decisions on their sexual and reproductive health.

2. Palliative Care Project in Dar es salaam.

KOALA AFRICA is seeking collaborators for a palliative care project in Dar which is focused on addressing the critical gap in palliative care for cervical cancer patients in Tanzania, particularly among women living with HIV (WLHIV). Cervical cancer is often detected late with more than 80% of clients in late stage where a cure is not achievable and require palliative care. There is a large unmet need for palliative care services. The project aims to improve the quality of life for these patients through comprehensive palliative care services, which include pain relief, emotional support, and end-of-life care. This initiative aligns with Tanzania's efforts to eliminate cervical cancer as a public health threat and aims to strengthen healthcare systems while ensuring equitable access to care for all affected individuals.

3. Cervical Cancer Awareness Campaigns.

In recognition of Cervical Cancer Awareness Month this January 2025, KOALA AFRICA is launching a comprehensive campaign aimed at raising awareness about cervical cancer and improving access to HPV vaccination for girls aged 9-14, cervical cancer screening for women aged 30-50, and treatment for precancerous lesions. This initiative focuses on educating the public about cervical cancer, addressing common misconceptions, and emphasizing the importance of HPV vaccination for young girls, early detection through screening for women, and available treatment options for precancerous conditions.

KOALA AFRICA is actively seeking collaboration with government agencies, non-governmental organizations, and community leaders to expand the campaign's reach and impact. By joining forces, the goal is to significantly reduce cervical cancer incidence and mortality rates and ensure that every individual, regardless of location or socioeconomic status, has access to life-saving services. Through these strategic partnerships and community engagement, KOALA AFRICA aims to create lasting change and improve health outcomes across Tanzania.



"Investing in knowledge to save lives - healthcare providers at the forefront of cervical cancer battle.
#CervicalCancerPrevention
#HealthcareEducation"

Our Partners



1.



Ministry of Health (MoH)

2.



PO-RALG

3.



RGZ (Revolutionary
Government of Zanzibar)

4.



C-Sema

5.



UNFPA

6.



NASHCoP

Join Us



Join us in empowering communities and transforming health outcomes across Tanzania.

KOALA AFRICA is committed to addressing health disparities and creating lasting solutions in cervical cancer prevention, sexual and reproductive health, and palliative care. We invite individuals, organizations, and stakeholders to collaborate with us in advancing our mission of equitable, accessible healthcare for all.

By supporting our initiatives and joining our efforts, you can help provide critical health services, raise awareness, and ensure that marginalized populations have access to the care they deserve. Together, we can drive lasting change and improve lives across Tanzanian communities.

For more information, partnerships, or to support our initiatives, please contact us at:



info@koalaafrika.or.tz



www.koalaafrika.or.tz

