

JSI/UPHOLD will contribute to HIV/AIDS prevention efforts in Uganda through a comprehensive package of activities that includes abstinence promotion. The main focus will be primary school pupils to promote education by preventing unwanted pregnancies and enhancing life skills, good health and HIV/AIDS prevention. To abstain, adolescents need life skills such as values clarification, negotiation skills, critical thinking and decision-making to be able to make healthy choices. But, particularly related to abstinence, their environment is just as critical. Many adolescents, especially younger ones, are unable to practice knowledge and skills without a supportive environment as adults often make important decisions in their lives. Parents can derail abstinence choices by sending children to do errands after dark, allowing them to attend festivals or events without supervision, encouraging them to leave school and marry, and in the case of teachers, requesting a pupil to visit after school. Therefore, to effectively promote abstinence, UPHOLD will address abstinence through schools and homes.

JSI/UPHOLD will also support the USAID-funded National Strategic Framework for Youth as the campaign promotes HIV/AIDS prevention to older and out-of-school adolescents to implement activities in districts. Older and out-of-school adolescents in relationships need knowledge about ways to show love without sex and a common definition and a positive image of abstinence.

Ideal Behaviors			
Primary school pupils <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Avoid risky situations • Delay sexual debut • Commit to abstain until marriage 	Older & out of school adolescents <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Avoid risky situations • Commit to abstain until marriage • Show love without sex to partners 	Parents <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dialogue with children about values & expectations • Help children avoid risky situations 	Teachers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teach children about abstinence through • Protect pupils from defilement

JSI/UPHOLD will support SHN in 20 districts through central activities, grants to CSOs, and technical assistance to districts. Strategies to implement central activities include

Illustrative Activities from 2004-2005 Work Plan:

- Commitment ceremonies led by peer educators and/or religious leaders with commitment cards for individual adolescents to fill out, sign and keep as a reminder and statement.
- Parent-child communication guides to promote regular, one-on-one discussions about delaying sex and avoiding risky situations to improve communication channels and change parents' practices.
- Collaboration with Straight Talk Foundation to print and distribute Parent Talk and complementary radio programs to address defilement and parent-child communication on delaying sexual debut and avoiding risky situations
- Sampler lessons for teachers on teaching abstinence-related life skills
- Communication materials for school clubs to promote abstinence, gender socialization and life skills that complement PIASCY
- Role model awards to education managers and teachers who exemplify integrity related to addressing defilement
- Radio program series developed and produced by girls that promotes a positive image of abstinence through testimonials, role modeling and dialogue

