

# Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights for Youth



## Association “HERA XXI” for young people

Raising awareness of young people on sexual and reproductive health and rights, facilitating their engagement and empowerment and promoting youth activism is a strategic direction of the Association “HERA XXI” an NGO which supports volunteer involvement.

The Association promotes volunteer movement in the country, realization of sexual and reproductive health and rights, through advocacy, formal and informal education, youth-friendly services, for the purpose of equipping young people living in Georgia with comprehensive knowledge of sexual and reproductive health and rights, with the opportunity to make free and informed choices, which will ensure the well-being of the next generation and the formation of a progressive and healthy society.

## Why is sexual and reproductive health and rights important for young people?

- ✓ According to the National Youth Policy Document, it is important for young people to have access to information on sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) issues. This will help reduce the number of abortions and the incidence of sexually transmitted infections, including HIV, among young people, and will help prevent child marriage, teenage pregnancy and associated risks, and consequently, adverse effects on maternal and child health.
- ✓ The total number of abortions in the age group of 15-29 is 10,243, which make 45.9% of the total abortion rate.
- ✓ 89% of young people aged 15-29 report having heard about HIV/AIDS; however, only 17.4% of them have correct information about the HIV transmission.

## Achievements



1,350 volunteers are involved in the activities performed within the Organization.



About 234 activists are involved in activities planned by the organization.



650 young peer educators have been trained and 5,295 sessions were held.

### Target groups:

- Adolescents and young people;
- Students;
- Boys and girls living in rural areas;
- Young IDPs;
- Adolescents and young people in state care.
- Socially vulnerable young people

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## Youth Groups of the Association "HERA XXI"



The groups aim to build the environment to promote the comprehensive development of young people, enabling them to realize their full potential and facilitating their involvement and engagement in all aspects of society, as well as to promote issues and problems associated with sexual and reproductive health and rights, in order to enhance young people's participation in the decision-making and implementation processes, both at national and local levels.

In order to achieve the effectiveness of the National Youth Policy on issues related to SRHR, active participation of the State and support at national and local levels are essential.

To ensure effective implementation of the goals and objectives of the Youth Policy, youth-led advocacy at the local level is considered important, as they can better analyze the topical issues related to their generation and community and propose initiatives tailored to their own needs, for the purpose of introducing positive changes. **The task of youth groups is to ensure the voices of youth to be heard** at all levels, to encourage greater engagement of the youth at all levels, starting from identifying needs - to making final decision.

## Youth Groups

Four youth groups operate on the basis of the Association "HERA XXI" in: Tbilisi, Khobi, Kutaisi and Akhaltsikhe.

Young people are involved in the activities of the Association, in the planning and implementation of various types of information- educational & entertainment- cognitive activities.



Tbilisi



Khobi



Kutaisi



Akhaltsikhe

Association "Hera XXI" is a member of the Youth Policy Monitoring and Development Working Group of the Committee on Sports and Youth Affairs of the Parliament of Georgia.

## Activities of youth groups:

- ❖ About 100 campaigns were held;
- ❖ 85 informative educational meetings have been held;
- ❖ 7 mini quiz competitions have been held;
- ❖ 2 forum theaters;
- ❖ 1,446 young people have been registered as volunteers.

# Resources and Platforms for Young People offered by the Organization



## Youth Friendly Services

Online counseling with:

- a legal consultant
- a doctor-reproductologist



## “SELF” Camp

Become a volunteer and get the following:

- Professional growth
- Work experience
- Awareness
- Employment prospects
- The opportunity to share experiences with future generations.



## Non-formal education guide - “All in One Course”



## TOT – Training of future Peer Educators

## Online Learning Course for Peer Educators - “All in One Course”

### Networks and Platforms:

- A member of international youth networks: ASTRA Network; YSAFE, YOUACT, YPEER;
- A member of the National Council of Youth Organizations of Georgia (NCYOG)



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### Our values

Rights // Gender equality // Innovation // Transparency // Youth & Volunteer Engagement