Improve Youth-Friendly Health Services

When I went to the clinic, the staff told my parents! "Mayuge District, you are too young. I will not give you family planning."

SIX MONTHS LATER…

Without access to family planning, young women in Mayuge District are more likely to become pregnant. Girls who stay in school longer are less likely to become pregnant early. Health care providers who receive youth-friendly service training treat young people with respect and support their needs. Young people become more comfortable seeking services and more likely to access family planning.


**TODAY**

Teenage girls who have begun childbearing

No education: 35%
Primary school: 29%
Secondary school: 17%
More than secondary schooling: 11%

**SIX MONTHS LATER**

Teenage girls who have begun childbearing

No education: 25%
Primary school: 19%
Secondary school: 13%
More than secondary schooling: 7%
With greater access to family planning, more young women in Mayuge District will avoid unplanned pregnancies, stay in school longer, and contribute more to the economy as adults.

**DECISIONMAKERS SHOULD:**

Prioritize funding for public-sector health care providers' training on youth-friendly services in the 2020-2021 district budget.

Include youth-friendly training in health care providers’ existing refresher trainings.

Educate communities on the importance of making health facilities youth-friendly.

**SOURCES**


Uganda Bureau of Statistics (UBOS) and ICF, Uganda Demographic and Health Survey 2016 (Kampala, Uganda and Rockville, MD: UBOS and ICF, 2018).