

## **Community Entry and Community engagement ideas**

Community work is a large part of what we do, and what we value about our work.

The following are some ideas to use when thinking of ways to get better interaction between us and the communities we work in.

### **Stakeholders in each area:**

Chief/headman/sub-headman

Schools

Clinics, clinic committees (made up of people from the community)

Health practitioners: private doctors, Sangoma's, Nyanga's

Shop owners (a good source of passing on public information)

Etc

### **Community meetings (arrange with the Chief)**

Telling case studies seems a successful way of getting messages across at meetings, and ensure that you leave lots of times for discussion and questions (which could be varied, but are almost always valuable)

### **Group meetings (some ideas to use)**

**Ice breakers** can build a sense of unity and set a positive mood

Agreed **rules** for the group are useful

Hearing **each person's story** is usually valuable.

Discussion can be generated around **photographs, pictures, movies.**

Try to elicit the thing that makes people talk a lot – you will know when you have hit on a winner!

**Group support** is really valuable, and also the way to generate momentum towards action.

**Problem or solution trees** are also a way of getting the idea of consequences and also understanding of the complexities

**Community mapping** is a good way to put ideas onto a page

Getting people to **divide into smaller groups** can help the quiet ones participate

**Time-lines** can be interesting and revealing

Talking about **dreams** or "if you had one wish"

When have they felt **most proud** to be a .... / or do a ....

**Drawing** a representation of their situation can also show up some details. Get the participants to relate what they drew.

Getting people to **act** out a situation or scenario can lead to lots of discussion

Start or end with something **positive** about the topic or the group meeting.