

## Testimonial: Kiara



I am Kiara, I am a trans woman and I was born in Piura, Peru. I am a sex worker in downtown Lima and I am familiar with the situation of trans women deprived of their freedom, having been imprisoned for 5 years in the Lurigancho Prison in Lima.

This the first time I have attended a workshop like this.

In this workshop, as most participants were unfamiliar with the situation facing trans women living with HIV in prison, I was provided with an opportunity to educate them on this by sharing my own experience. Because of the experience I had in Lurigancho Prison, I want to help my friends who are still in jail by improving the treatment of trans women there.

*“There needs to be a specific HIV prevention and treatment program for trans women deprived of their freedom. These women have been forgotten.”*

These girls are not receiving HIV treatment - they do not receive HAART, as this is not given as the technical standard for treatment - and there are no HIV tests. Infected people do not receive their medication, which means reaching AIDS stage before gaining access to treatment.

There is also the issue of access to condoms, as the in-house health facility is the only place that has supplies of condom. The doctor in charge of the in-house health facility told us that there was a total corruption among the healthcare staff, so they are selling the condoms instead of giving them out for free.

We could raise awareness through Chaplaincy, as well as attempting to gain access to prisons through the Ombudsman Office, in order to distribute condoms directly to trans women in prisons. In Chimbote in the North, condoms have been distributed through Chaplaincy. We could also try to speak with the INPE director and ask to enter directly to speak to the trans women, with delegates of the prison and lawyers facilitating entry to the pavilion.

I learned more about how the Global Fund works, and how to make a proposal for Technical Assistance through CRG, which we drafted during the workshop and hope to submit soon.

DATE: 12 December 2018

ACTIVITY: 2-Day Session on “Building the capacity of trans communities to provide Monitoring and Oversight of Global Fund Processes in Peru”