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therapeutic food and once improved, are supported to prepare small home gardens to grow dark green leafy vegetables to supplement their diet and boost their health and immunity.

*“Moses would have died, if we had not reached him in time,” Doreen said. “Our aim is to ensure that he adheres to treatment and is virally suppressed.”*

The Taso Jinja team visits client homes several times to deliver medication and assess their overall health until clients can travel to the clinic on their own to pick up their medications.

### **Achieving Viral Suppression Goals**

Patient referrals have helped the Taso Jinja team to identify many HIV-positive individuals. Between February 2018 and April 2019, the team identified an average of 15 new clients per week and provided psychosocial support to them. Over this same time, the Center has begun HIV treatment for 1,400 new HIV-positive individuals, achieving a general viral suppression rate of 94.8 percent and a rate of 96.9 percent for adults aged 25 years and above.

With the help of Doreen and her colleagues at the TASO Jinja Center, Moses and others in his community can live active and productive lives.

### **HIV-Positive Peer Referrals**

For effective community-based HIV case identification and initiation of individuals, HIV-positive clients (referred to as “expert clients”) are identified as HIV-positive peer leaders. These peer leaders mobilize individuals at risk of HIV for HIV testing at satellite locations, homes, or places that these individuals consider convenient. They then screen these clients for HIV testing based on their risk profile and subsequently refer eligible individuals for HIV testing by trained health care workers. The peer leaders then link (and most often physically escort) those who are found to be HIV-positive to their most-preferred health care facilities, where they receive support, care, and treatment to achieve viral load suppression.

