

MOTHER and CHILD **HEALTH**

ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT

October 2021 – September 2022 | Mother and Child Health Fund

SUMMARY

Your faithful support of Mother and Child Health programming is saving lives and improving the well-being of pregnant women and newborns in some of the most challenging places we work. We originally planned to provide physical upgrades to 33 clinics and one hospital during this phase of the project. But additional support enabled us to increase our target, to now bring vital water, sanitation, and hygiene improvements to 43 facilities throughout this phase. As we plan for the next campaign, your support has encouraged us to boldly aim to bring clean water to every clinic where we work in Niger and Zambia. That's 275 sites serving an estimated 2.4 million people.

This project has planted seeds that will produce improved health for children and their families for years to come. Our work is paying impressive dividends in Luwingu, Zambia, as the Every Last One evaluation survey (2019-2022) reveals.

That evaluation shows an 11% increase since 2019 in the number of women delivering their babies at a health facility in our project communities. The percentage of pregnant women who attended four or more prenatal care clinics grew by 9%. And when children were diagnosed with potentially deadly malaria, the percentage of those taken to a healthcare provider grew by 71%.

In Niger, trained community health workers treated 53,615 cases of malaria, pneumonia, and diarrhea in fiscal year 2022, helping children right in their own communities. They also recognized that 3,775 children were seriously malnourished and referred them to the nearest health center.



After losing three babies to poor prenatal care and inadequate facilities, Catherine and Richard are thrilled with the new maternity wing built by this project in Laurent Chita, Zambia. Catherine had home visits from a local health volunteer, a private bed, a shower, and clean surroundings, making for a safe, joyous delivery. "Thank you, World Vision ... May God bless you," she said.

GLOBAL UPDATE & PROGRESS ON CORE ACTIVITIES

- **1,684,358** PREGNANT WOMEN, NEWBORNS, AND CHILDREN UNDER 5* have received essential healthcare, nutrition support, and treatment since October 2015, including 650,304 in FY22.
 - 8,294 community health workers and volunteers were trained to provide health information and basic care to their neighbors.
- **928**

178

nurses and midwives in health facilities received training to improve the quality of care they provide. clinics received support, such as water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) facilities; staff training; and

equipment, to improve mother and child healthcare.

faith leaders were trained to advocate for the use of mother and child healthcare services.

*These numbers reflect our active work, completed projects in Somalia, Uganda, and Zambia, and projects in Kenya, Uganda, Zambia, and Zimbabwe funded by foundation donors, some of which led to exceptional expansion and reach in Zambia in FY22. The number of direct participants include people who might have received more than one service (e.g., women who delivered babies in a health facility also received prenatal care).

ZAMBIA

SUMMARY

Most of the work taking place in the second half of FY22 involved wrapping up the first phase of the project, completing evaluations, and preparing to scale up this work in more locations in the next phase. Still, project activities provided healthcare and education to 18,542 women and children in Luwingu district in FY22. Here's what that looked like:

Throughout Luwingu, 145 specially trained community health workers diagnosed and treated 8,907 cases of common illnesses in young children, such as malaria, pneumonia, and diarrhea. Another 2,956 children were assessed for malnutrition and referred for nutritional services where warranted.

Parents and caregivers also learned to properly feed and care for their young children, thanks to visits from community health workers and volunteers. These lessons also included how to care for women throughout their pregnancy and after. This valuable knowledge will be passed down from generation to generation, creating healthier families for the long term.

Vast improvements were made during this phase of the project at 18 clinics and one district hospital in Luwingu. All benefited from remodeling and upgrades, and two also gained new maternity wards. Improvements at all facilities included mechanized water systems; water taps for community use; taps at health facility staff and teacher housing, as well as in schools; sinks in delivery and exam rooms; latrines with sex-separated stalls serving people with mobility issues and meeting menstrual hygiene needs; showers in the maternity ward or in new latrine buildings; and sinks or handwashing stations at latrines and other areas of the clinics.

Local residents also learned how they can best advocate with government entities to maintain and improve health services in the future, ensuring families will continue to get the care they need.



Community health worker James Munkonge tests a young boy and his sister for malaria near their home in Laurent Chita. James is trained and equipped to treat illnesses such as malaria, pneumonia, and diarrhea, and to refer children to a health facility if they need more extensive care.

PROGRESS ON CORE ACTIVITIES

57 project-trained nurses and midwives in health facilities were providing improved quality of care to their patients.

11 clinics completed comprehensive WASH upgrades that began in FY22 to enhance mother and child healthcare services.

161 faith leaders were actively teaching their communities about mother and child healthcare and preventing harmful practices.

784 community health workers and volunteers were actively delivering health information and basic care to their neighbors.

These numbers are unchanged from the semiannual reporting period, as second-half activities focused on project close-out activities.



NIGER

SUMMARY

A baseline survey conducted last year in our Niger project areas showed just why our work there is so badly needed. Only 6% of facilities had handwashing stations near toilets or latrines, and none of the 24 facilities surveyed had sanitation and hygiene protocols in place for employees. But our work in the Dosso and Maradi regions already is showing exciting results that are keeping children and their families safer and healthier.

In FY22, our interventions provided improved healthcare and education to 65,327 women and children through a number of initiatives. The efforts of 372 community health workers and 106 community groups trained by this project since its inception provided 59,733 people with education on essential family healthcare practices. A survey of these community health workers showed that an impressive 97% demonstrated strong knowledge of recognizing and providing either treatment or referral to a health facility when necessary. Another 28 of these life-saving workers will be trained in early FY23.

We also completed upgrades at 21 clinics across both districts, with construction continuing at three others. Most of these facilities gained improved maternity wings, and all are benefiting from mechanized, solarpowered water systems with largecapacity storage tanks; water taps on site for community use and taps in surrounding villages; sinks in delivery and exam rooms; latrines that have sex-separated stalls and spaces for menstrual hygiene management, and are accessible by people with mobility issues; and sinks or handwashing stations at latrines and toilets.

At least one—and as many as four—committees comprising local stakeholders were established at each health facility site to ensure improvements are maintained and sustainable for the long term.



Before this project brought clean water to Tiguey Integrated Health Center, families electing to have their babies here were required to bring 60 to 80 liters of water to clean the delivery room. This was an obstacle for many. Today, there is water on site, and the number of families choosing to deliver at the center is climbing, with 46 in September 2022 alone, up from a monthly average of 22.

PROGRESS ON CORE ACTIVITIES

82 nurses and midwives in health facilities were providing improved quality of care to their patients.

11 clinics completed comprehensive WASH upgrades that began in FY22 to enhance mother and child healthcare services.

29 faith leaders were trained to advocate for the use of mother and child healthcare services.

372 community health workers and volunteers were actively delivering health information and basic care to their neighbors.



FINANCIALS

Mother and Child Health Fund (October 2015 through September 2022)

\$9,652,581 program-to-date funding

\$9,162,134 spending to date *

95%

*The full spending to improve WASH services in healthcare facilities is not reflected here, as some payments to contractors are pending completion of construction.

THANK YOU

Thanks to your faithful support of Mother and Child Health projects in Niger and Zambia, the promise of Isaiah 65:20 is being borne out with encouraging frequency: Never again will there be ... an infant who lives but a few days.

You are helping to provide families and health workers with knowledge and tools needed to protect the lives of pregnant women, deliver babies safely, and give infants and young children a strong start in life.

Thank you for coming alongside this work and bringing life-saving changes that will make a difference for this generation, and for generations to come.

Children are a heritage from the Lord, offspring a reward from Him. -Psalm 127:3 (NIV)



A health volunteer in the village of Gangara, in Maradi, Niger, interviews a mother on childhood vaccinations and the handling of feces in the home. Information gathered will be used to develop and implement educational activities to help families adopt habits to keep their children healthy.



A solar-powered, mechanized water system provides clean water to Nsanja Health Post in Luwingu, Zambia.



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