



# HIDDEN

#### SARAH NADURU

#### **#HIDDENHERO**

### **HEROES** CAN CHANGE THE FUTURE, TOGETHER.

Sarah is a social worker in part because her own mother abandoned her when she was only 18 months old.

"My own journey as a child helped me understand what millions of South Sudan's children go through. Now as a social worker and a mother, I often use my life as an example whenever I talk to parents about child care and child rights," she said.

Sarah works with children who have been abused or abandoned. "Their stories break my heart. No one can imagine a 14-year-old girl being discouraged from going to school and told to marry for the family to survive."

What makes a difference? Simply visiting her charges at home. Sarah goes door-to-door to give guidance to parents and hope to children. Seven-month-old Joseph lost his mother to HIV two weeks after he was born. His uncle rejected Joseph, but Sarah intervened and offered counseling. It took weeks, but the family finally took Joseph in.



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## 7,000 BABIES

UNDER ONE MONTH OLD WILL DIE TODAY. IT DOESN'T HAVE TO BE LIKE THIS.

# **PRENATAL AND POSTNATAL CARE** ·····



Mimi and her mom, Monmohini, are thriving, in part, because of some simple text messages Monmohini received during her pregnancy. Monmohini Roy and her husband—a day laborer in Bangladesh—are classified as "ultra poor." When Monmohini became pregnant with their first child, the couple didn't know how they would properly care for her.

That's why Nobo Jatra—a five-year development and food security program implemented by World Vision and funded by USAID—has a number of compassionate, innovative interventions that are changing everything for local mothers.

To start, Monmohini received helpful instructional text messages during and after her pregnancy with her daughter, Mimi, now 17 months. The messages offer tips on proper prenatal and postnatal care. Monmohini refers to them as messages from "her doctor sister."

"The messages that came, some of them may seem very simple, like washing your hands," she says. "But it's not something that is practiced. These are simple messages ... like recognizing times when your child is ill, when to go to the doctor."



IN 2019, THERE WERE 229 MILLION CASES OF MALARIA WITH 09,000 DEATHS



Insecticide-treated bed nets have been shown to reduce illness, severe disease, and death due to malaria. In community-wide trials in several African settings, bed nets reduced the number of deaths of children under 5 years from all causes by about 20%.

### **TWO OUT OF 3 PEOPLE WHO DIE FROM MALARIA** ARE CHILDREN UNDER AGE 5

Thandizo (pictured to the left) and her family always seemed to be ill.

Her mother Ellena said, "We used to fall sick so often, it was nearly simultaneous: Someone was sick and before they got well, someone else was sick. It was never more than two months before someone had malaria, especially the children."

Chimwemwe Mizaya, a World Vision staff worker for Ntchisi district in Malawi, gave Ellena three sets of soft, billowing, green mosquito nets treated with an insecticide that, while harmless to humans, will remain potent for a decade. These will serve her family for at least the next three years.

Four months after receiving the nets, no one in Ellena's family had gotten sick!

It's a simple solution to a potentially devastating problem.



## ABOUT MILLION HILDREN

UNDER THE AGE OF 5 DIE EACH YEAR FROM DIARRHEA AND PNEUMONIA.



Access to clean water and soap are helping Chantal and her younger sister stay safe from COVID-19.

Chantal Umutoni lives in Kigeme refugee camp in Rwanda with her husband and two sisters.

World

SOAP AND

WATER MAKE A HUGE HEALTH IMPACT

She appreciates World Vision for coming to their rescue by providing clean water, which had been a challenge to them.

Chantal's sister Elizabeth said, "World Vision has done great things for us. They taught us how to wash hands during this COVID-19 period. We did not give value to handwashing because we felt that washing hands at home was enough."

But it's more than just preventing the spread of COVID-19. Teaching people about handwashing:

- Reduces the number of people who get sick with diarrhea by 23-40%
- Reduces diarrheal illness in people with weakened immune systems by 58%
- Reduces respiratory illnesses, like colds, in the general population by 16-21%
- Reduces absenteeism due to gastrointestinal illness in schoolchildren by 29-57%

Big challenges can be minimized by simple solutions like handwashing.

## **PHOTO CREDITS**



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