

## **INVEST IN HELPING COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKERS SAVE LIVES**

#### THE NEED

New effort to eliminate malaria and other top causes of child deaths:

A child dies every two minutes in sub-Saharan Africa from malaria. Because malaria strikes rapidly and progresses quickly, a 24-hour delay in obtaining effective treatment— especially in children younger than 5—can mean the difference between life and death. Children younger than 5 and pregnant women, whose immune systems are weak, are at highest risk for severe malaria infections.

Three global humanitarian leaders, World Vision, Rotary International, and the Gates Foundation have partnered with the Zambian government and others in an ambitious effort to eliminate malaria from Zambia as well as DR Congo and Mozambique. The bedrock of this effort is the training and equipping of community health workers so they can diagnose and treat malaria as well as diagnose and treat pneumonia, diarrhea, and malnutrition. These are among the top causes of death of children in sub-Saharan Africa.

#### WHAT WE'RE DOING

**Local Solution:** 

Community health workers live in the communities in which they work, with established trust among their neighbors. They are present, making regular visits during which they can spot the early signs of illness, malnutrition, or pregnancy complications, and families know where to find them when needed. Community health workers fill the oftdeadly gaps created in a healthcare system that has too few clinics and hospitals to serve families that typically have no means to travel long distances to the nearest facility. Each community health worker serves an average of 300-500 people in their community. World Vision is a global leader in training community health workers having trained 184,000 worldwide.

### **LEADING IN HEALTH**

As evidence of the effectiveness of our approach, 89% of severely malnourished children we treat make a full recovery, and over the last dozen years we have successfully treated over 2 million children suffering from malnutrition, saving over 100,000 lives.

### **HEALTH HEROES**

Through World Vision's health work, community health workers are trained to provide community- and home-based management of common illnesses. They are trained in community health centers as part of World Vision's work to upgrade health clinics. These health heroes diagnose and treat prevalent illnesses that can lead to long-term complications and death if ignored or not properly addressed. The community health workers also counsel pregnant women about good prenatal care and the importance of having their babies in a health facility, under the care of trained medical staff. They refer a patient to a clinic or hospital when necessary.



# **SEE YOUR IMPACT**

An investment of \$25,000 will enable us to train and equip 10 community health workers who will diagnose, test, and treat disease among an average total of 5,000 people in their community. In addition, Rotary International and the Gates Foundation will give \$50,000 to multiply the impact of your gift.

You will receive a 1–2-page report with GPS coordinates of a specific health clinic your gift helped fund where community health workers are trained and equipped as well as pictures of the workers. Please join us to save lives.



For more information, contact your World Vision representative.

World Vision is a Christian humanitarian organization dedicated to working with children, families, and their communities worldwide to reach their full potential by tackling the causes of poverty and injustice. Motivated by our faith in Jesus Christ, we serve alongside the poor and oppressed as a demonstration of God's unconditional love for all people. World Vision serves all people, regardless of religion, race, ethnicity, or gender.