



Saving lives by tackling childhood pneumonia in Zambia

World Vision is tackling pneumonia in Zambia through an integrated health project in Luwingu district in northern Zambia in collaboration with the Zambian Ministry of Health. The project was designed to improve childhood health outcomes, including **diagnosing and treating pneumonia**. World Vision strengthened the capacity of community health workers to identify, refer, and treat pneumonia cases. World Vision also supported distribution of medical supplies, including antibiotics, so that children with pneumonia could be treated in the community and at the health care facility. Early treatment and referral of pneumonia cases saves lives and reduces health expenditures.



“When you bring a child that is very sick they will do what is necessary to quickly treat the child. They treat us well.” - Parent in Luwingu district

Key metrics for pneumonia treatment in the community and in health facilities improved since 2019.

- **Increased care-seeking for pneumonia treatment:** The percentage of caregivers who sought treatment for their youngest children with a cough increased from **64% to 74%**
- **Increased trust in medical professionals:** the percentage of parents who sought treatment from a community health worker or health-care facility increased from **65% to 94%**.
- **Strengthened capacity to treat pneumonia:** The percentage of community health workers who had been trained on treating pneumonia increased from **0% to 55%**
- **Strengthened health facility capacity to treat pneumonia:** the percentage of health facility workers who had been trained on treating pneumonia and acute respiratory infections increased from **20% to 69%**.

Community health workers were provided with key medications, dramatically strengthening their capacity to treat pneumonia in children under 5.

