



World Vision



MOTHER
and
CHILD
HEALTH

SOMALIA, UGANDA and ZAMBIA

» PROGRESS REPORT: October 2017 through March 2018

Prepared July 2018

MOTHER AND CHILD HEALTH

GLOBAL SUMMARY

Your support of World Vision's mother and child health initiatives has helped bring improved health and well-being to families in Somalia, Uganda, and Zambia.

Because of your faithful and generous partnership, pregnant and nursing women and young children are being cured of malnutrition and learning how to find and prepare healthy, nutritious food.

Women of childbearing age and young children are receiving preventive healthcare through immunizations, growth monitoring, and health education campaigns. Expecting mothers and their families are learning the importance of prenatal and postnatal care, and delivering their babies in a health facility. Because of you, pregnancy and

motherhood are becoming less of a deadly threat in campaign program areas.

Volunteers are equipped with the training and tools (such as smart phones, illustrated manuals, and bikes) they need to keep children from dying needlessly due to common illnesses like malaria or diarrhea. Health facilities are better equipped, too, with staff training and donations of medical supplies and equipment.

More families are now able to reach the potential that God intends for them. They are living life in the fullness promised to us in John 10:10. May you



A community health worker in Zambia provides counseling to a mother on nutrition and maternal and child health issues.

be richly blessed for bringing this help and hope to families.

GLOBAL UPDATE

253,493 WOMEN AND YOUNG CHILDREN* were provided with access to maternal and child health and nutrition services, which included 167,987 children younger than 5 during fiscal year 2018. Since these projects began in FY16, 582,162 women and young children have benefited from your support.

*These global beneficiary numbers include people who might have received more than one service. For example, women who delivered their babies in a health facility often also received prenatal care services. These numbers also include beneficiaries from projects supported by our corporate and foundation partners.

71,059 children under 5 were screened for malnutrition and received appropriate treatment and care as needed.



21,068 pregnant women attended prenatal care clinics, most for the prescribed four times.



14,506 women delivered babies in a health facility with trained medical staff.



PROJECT SPENDING

\$7,570,009 spent



SOMALIA

Thanks to your support, community health workers are reaching thousands of families in underserved areas of Somaliland and Puntland. In areas where men have long believed that caring for women and children is the sole responsibility of mothers, more than 50 percent of women who received health counseling from volunteers had their husbands present. Lives can be saved when fathers and husbands understand the need to prepare for the birth of a baby through prenatal care, nutrition, and making sure expecting mothers have a way to get to the nearest health facility when it's time to deliver.

In just the first half of fiscal year 2018, 1,434 women had a meeting with

a health volunteer during their first trimester, to learn about mother and child health. Only 241 women had done so in all of FY17.

Staffers report a 50 percent increase in women attending prenatal care clinics in March 2018, when compared with the same month a year prior. Deliveries in health facilities with trained medical personnel are up by 25 percent as well.

These exciting changes are happening thanks to volunteers who are dedicated to their communities, and your dedication to seeing they receive the training and tools needed to deliver this life-saving information and care.



Volunteer community health workers practice using a rapid diagnostic test kit that detects malaria. They are trained to teach their neighbors about mother and child health issues and nutrition and provide basic healthcare.

7,640 severely and moderately malnourished children were successfully treated.



2,347 children younger than 5 have received all recommended vaccinations.



2,284 women gave birth in a health facility with trained staff attending.



Other achievements and activities from FY18 included:

- 30,009 children younger than 5 were screened for malnutrition, and those who were found to be malnourished were referred to appropriate treatment programs.
- 2,078 pregnant women in Somaliland and 8,989 in Puntland attended prenatal care clinics during the first half of the fiscal year. This is a tremendous improvement, as only 103 women in Somaliland attended at least four prenatal care clinics in all of FY17.
- 7,920 households learned about hygiene during visits by community health workers. Good hygiene practices can prevent many common illnesses.
- 1,850 women reported they were exclusively breast-feeding their young infants, which is best for babies.
- LifeStraw high-volume water purifier systems were installed at health centers, schools, and mosques in 10 villages, and six latrine buildings were constructed in two villages.
- 276 health education events reached 11,040 people (60 percent female and 40 percent male) in Puntland.

PROJECT SPENDING

\$2,000,833 spent



UGANDA



A health volunteer holds two tools of her trade, a mobile phone with an app that prompts important messages and is used to collect data, and an illustrated book that helps families understand health messages.

Your support of our work in the Hoima district is making a real difference for women and children. Project-trained health workers are making home visits and leading women's support groups, teaching families important health lessons that save lives.

A transportation voucher program active in 15 health facilities, plus an ambulance in Kikube, have transported 400 women to a facility to deliver their babies—in just the second quarter of this year alone.

More than 300 children who were found to be malnourished during growth monitoring events were enrolled in home-based nutrition programs and

successfully recovered. Their mothers are learning how to make the most of affordable, locally available foods to provide them with the nutrition needed for growth and development.

Campaigns to promote good sanitation and hygiene practices are showing positive results, too. In one area alone, selected villages showed 94 percent of homes now have latrines, up from 68 percent.

Working with our partners, we are providing health facilities with a wide variety of pharmaceuticals, medical supplies, and hospital equipment, improving the quality of healthcare available to families in Hoima.

95,732 children under 5 received deworming medication to prevent parasitic infestations.



8,497 women delivered their babies at a health facility with skilled nurses and midwives.



17,807 women were visited and registered into the health system by a community health worker in their first 16 weeks of pregnancy.



Other accomplishments included:

- 17,096 families have adopted healthy feeding habits for infants and young children following health volunteer visits and mother support group meetings.
- Trained health volunteers visited 13,696 households to provide basic healthcare and educate families on sound health practices for pregnant and nursing women and young children. 11,424 children were checked for malnutrition at growth monitoring events.
- Throughout the project area, district health data show

that 93 percent of pregnant women have had their first prenatal care visit, and 96 percent have been tested for HIV. In addition, 65 percent of women delivered their babies at a health facility.

- 21,085 women reported using modern family planning methods, and 11,428 youth had access to family planning services.
- The project helped build a maternity ward at Kapai Health Center and developed plans to improve the delivery/surgical theaters in Kigoroby and Kikube health centers.

PROJECT SPENDING

\$2,824,653 spent



ZAMBIA

Your support is enabling trained health volunteers to share information that is helping families make better choices for pregnant women. In one community, only 64 expectant mothers attended prenatal care sessions at their health facility in their first trimester last fall. But after visits from local health volunteers, that doubled, rising to 128 in the following months.

Men are becoming more involved in taking better care of their partners during pregnancy, as they learn about danger signs and necessary steps for a healthy mom and baby.

Training provided by U.S. health professionals last year in Moyo and Hamaundu in the Southern province continues to save lives. The project

also continues to provide training for health facility staff members, so they can provide better care to patients and ongoing training and education for health volunteers.

More parents are heeding lessons from these volunteers on things like the importance of vaccinations for babies and young children, and the best way to feed them as their bodies and minds grow and develop.

More women are getting prenatal care earlier in their pregnancies, and making certain they deliver in a medical facility with trained staff. This helps ensure they receive life-saving care should complications arise, and proper care following birth.

You are making a difference. Thank you.



Parents bring their children to a growth monitoring event, where they can learn if they are hitting growth and development targets. Malnourished children are referred to outpatient or inpatient nutrition programs.

9,637 mothers report they are exclusively breast-feeding their babies from birth to 6 months.



227 churches are engaged in local development and improving the health of mothers and children.



4,618 children under 5 received a full regimen of vaccinations.



Other achievements from FY18 included:

- In Rufunsa district, which has 23 health facilities, only three of those facilities reached 100 percent for prenatal care bookings among pregnant women. All three facilities were in this project's service area, a clear sign our programs are making an impact.
- 25,185 women of childbearing age and 19,273 pregnant or nursing women received home visits from community health volunteers who provide health education and basic healthcare.
- In Katete, Kapululwe, Chongwe East, and Chongwe South, health staff members trained on essential newborn care successfully resuscitated 24 of 35 babies born with breathing challenges, with 11 referred to hospitals for further care. In Pemba district, 45 babies born with breathing difficulties were successfully resuscitated.
- 43 nutrition groups were formed to show caregivers the best ways to feed infants and young children with affordable and locally available foods.

PROJECT SPENDING

\$2,744,523 spent



VOUCHER SYSTEM ENSURES MOTHERS GET PROPER CARE

Apio and Achen were delivered safely into the world thanks to a piece of paper.

In most isolated communities in Uganda, healthcare services can be hours away on foot. For a woman going into labor, that's not a journey she wants to make. Too often, complications during labor at home or along the way to a health center cause the death of mother and child.

Thanks to a transportation voucher program supported by this project, mothers like Francine Onyera are enjoying happy endings to their pregnancy and delivery stories.

When World Vision-trained community health workers visit pregnant women, they encourage them to get prenatal care at least four times before giving birth. At health facilities like the one in Francine's village of Kina, midwives give women transportation vouchers on their fourth visit. These vouchers vary in value, depending on the distance to necessary services. Community members who have cars or motorcycles—like John Asaba—are recruited to make themselves available to carry pregnant women to facilities that provide the services they need to give birth safely.

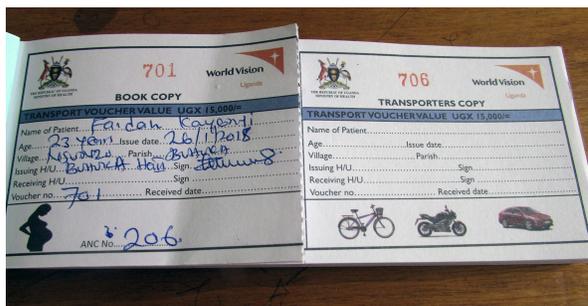
For Francine, everything worked as designed. "I got to know about the [voucher system] from a village health worker who encouraged me to go for antenatal visits. It is also at the health center that I got John's contact," she said.

Because Francine was carrying twins, her local facility in Kina referred her to Kyangwali Health Center. Once there, she was referred again—this time by ambulance—to Hoima Referral Hospital, which has the operating rooms and surgeons needed to perform a C-section on Francine. There, Francine's twin daughters were safely delivered. All three trips were covered by vouchers.

Health facility staff are thrilled with the voucher program. "I welcome the system with two hands ... because it helps save both a mother's and child's life. It enables us to do quick referrals as soon as we identify cases," said Dr. Innocent Ahaisibwe, who works at Buhuuka Health Center.



Above, Francine and husband Maurice Oketa hold their baby girls, Apio and Achen. At left is John Asaba, who provided transportation for Francine. Below are the vouchers that provide mothers like Francine with life-saving transportation to facilities that can safely handle deliveries.



Never again will there be ... an infant who lives but a few days.

—Isaiah 65:20 (NIV)



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.

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