



Interim Report for Together Women Rise

Grant Period: March 1, 2024 - March 1, 2026

Reporting Period: March 1, 2024 - January 31, 2025

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Summary of our grant purpose:

This project expands the Simulation-Based Mentorship program for maternal and newborn healthcare (MNH) providers to the district of Mahottari. It will support the training of at least 10 Master Trainers, who will subsequently provide ongoing training and mentorship to at least 70 rural MNH providers, improving clinical capacity and competency to deliver high quality MNH care for 80% of Mahottari's 35,090 pregnant women and newborns served annually in underserved areas.

Program Implementation Progress

Since the start of the grant period, we have made the following progress towards outlined targets:

Activity	Grant Target	Progress To Date	Notes
Master Trainers trained	10	5	
Skilled Birth Attendants / Skilled Healthcare Professionals trained	70	61	
Onsite pre-/post-intervention assessments conducted to inform program evaluation and improvement	20	9	A cumulative 74 healthcare service providers participated in Phase 1 and Phase 2 of the pre-assessment. A total of 39 service providers participated in the post-assessment.

Monthly sessions for ongoing skills review conducted at hub sites	25	10	So far, 111 MNH service providers have participated in these monthly sessions (some individuals may be counted multiple times if they participated in multiple sessions).
Virtual training sessions for skills review	6	5	A total of 417 individuals from multiple birthing centers and other health facilities participated (some individuals may be counted multiple times if they participated in multiple sessions).
Weekly/biweekly drills held to reinforce trainees' skills	100	20	
Program planning meeting with Mahottari district officials and stakeholders to orient them on the program and discuss mutual priorities and goals.	(not specified)	1 meeting held	
Number of new simulation training rooms established at local health facilities	(not specified)	3	
Annual number of pregnant women and newborns in Mahottari who will have improved access to well-trained healthcare professionals	35,090	28,105	We consider our project to be 80% deployed in Mahottari, so the number of women and infants here represents 80% of the total number of pregnant women and expected live births in Mahottari each year. (Note: Following the release of new census data in 2024, the new total number of pregnant women and newborns in Mahottari each year is 34,931, so this will be our new target.)

In addition to the above progress, we also wanted to inform you that we have set up training corners on neonatal resuscitation and essential newborn care at five smaller “spoke” health facilities. We conducted an orientation on this program for birthing center staff and municipal officials to teach them about its importance that reached 59 individuals, after which we conducted five simulation-based onsite coaching and mentoring events for birthing center staff on these skills that reached 63 individuals. Following our onsite sessions, spoke site staff have completed six weekly/bimonthly drills.

Quotes from the Field

“This simulation-based onsite coaching and mentorship program was extremely beneficial for me. It reflects realistic scenarios to understand and improve my ability to identify fetal presentation during abdominal examinations, as well as updated protocols for MNH services. I am grateful to Rautali Youth Club [OHW’s partner NGO in Mahottari] and OHW for offering me this valuable opportunity to enhance my clinical skills and knowledge through simulation based onsite coaching and mentoring.” - Subhadra B., Auxiliary Nurse Midwife at Khaiyarmara Health Post, Bardibas

“The SBMP is very effective as it built up confidence and refreshed knowledge and skills through monthly sessions and weekly drills for both SBA [skilled birth attendant] and non-SBA-trained staff. They have also improved their decision-making for timely management of complicated cases. Now the nursing staff do not need assistance and support from seniors as they have enhanced their knowledge and skill through the SBMP program.” - Dr. Sudip Thakur, Medical Superintendent of Bardibas Hospital

“I really did not know much about the management of eclampsia cases. I had only studied them during my Auxiliary Nurse Midwife training. But after doing the SBMP at Gaushala Primary Healthcare Center, I have complete knowledge about eclampsia and pre-eclampsia management. A patient with eclampsia arrived at the Healthcare Center while I was on duty, and I alone successfully managed that case, which I had experience with thanks to the SBMP program.” - Rakhi S., Auxiliary Nurse Midwife at Gaushala Primary Healthcare Center

“I have also refreshed my knowledge and skill through the SBMP. I had forgotten a lot of my knowledge and skills after a long term gap when I was studying and raising my child. I have also received several warnings related to how I was conducting deliveries. This SBMP program built my confidence and skill and also enhanced my skills to deliver babies. I have not received SBA training but can perform better than some SBA trained staff.” - Babita K., Staff Nurse, Bardibas Hospital

[Photos from the Field](#)