

TOGETHER WOMEN RISE
Interim Report August 2024

Organization Name: Village Health Partnership

Project Title: Nurse Midwife Skill Check, Training and Mentorship Program and Basic Emergency Maternal Obstetric and Newborn Care (BEMONC) Training

Grant Amount: \$40,800

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Project Outcomes Recap:

The project was designed to implement education and training programs for nurse midwives on the front lines of healthcare in southwestern Ethiopia.

Current Challenges and Approaches:

Challenges:

a) Geographical barriers: Travel to remote health facilities is challenging, especially during the rainy season. Some health centers are periodically cut off, requiring trainers to walk long distances.

b) Skill deficits: A significant skill deficit has been identified at health facilities in the rural areas and at the Mizan Tepi University Teaching Hospital (MTUTH), particularly in neonatal care and resuscitation.

c) High mortality rates: Of the 1,200 babies admitted to the MTUTH neonatal intensive care unit, 50% died of asphyxia or sepsis.

d) Gender imbalance: There is a need to increase the representation of women in training programs and as trainers.

Approaches:

a) Persistent outreach: Despite geographical challenges, the program continues to send trainers to remote areas, demonstrating commitment to reaching all targeted facilities.

b) Targeted training: The program is addressing skill deficits through specialized training, such as the planned neonatal resuscitation and care training in October.

c) Equipment provision: To address the high maternal and neonatal mortality rates, the program is supplying critical equipment to rural health facilities and resuscitation equipment from Laerdal Global Health to the MTUTH.

d) Promoting gender equality: The program is actively working to empower women by ensuring that one of the trainers traveling to rural areas is a woman, and by setting targets for women's participation in training programs (50% of trainers and at least 60% of students in the October training).

e) Data-driven approach: The use of the SafeClinicToolKit app to record and analyze test scores demonstrates a commitment to measuring progress and identifying areas for improvement.

Progress Towards Objectives:

Since the last report in January 2024, the following has been accomplished:

- Two nurse midwives from the Mizan Tepi University Teaching Hospital (MTUTH) have continued to travel to rural areas to skill check, train, and mentor nurse midwives. They have skill checked 2 nurse midwives in each of 10 health facilities (1 regional hospital, 3 district hospitals, and 6 health centers) in February and May.
- Test scores are being recorded in the SafeClinicToolKit app developed in collaboration with Water Engineers for the Americas and Africa (WEFTA). Data will be analyzed at the end of the year and shared with Together Women Rise.
- In February, a 3-week intensive training using the JHPIGO Basic Emergency Maternal Obstetric and Neonatal Care (BEMONC) curriculum was hosted at MTUTH for 20 nurse midwives identified as needing extra training and support.
- The Skill Check, Training and Mentorship Program identified a large skill deficit at MTUTH. The hospital facilitated 4,600 deliveries last year, but infants with breathing difficulties at birth were not resuscitated. Of the 1,200 babies admitted to the hospital neonatal intensive care unit, 50% died of asphyxia or sepsis.
- In October, a training in neonatal resuscitation and neonatal care will be hosted for 6 trainers and 72 medical providers at the hospital using WHO curriculum. Labor and delivery, the operating room, and the neonatal intensive care unit will be supplied with resuscitation equipment from Laerdal Global Health.
- The project is working to empower women through the training programs. One of the trainers traveling to rural areas is a woman. The majority of nurse midwives trained in the field and at MTUTH are women. The project is insisting that 50% of the trainers and at least 60% of the students participating in the October training are women.

Anticipated Difficulties in Project Completion:

No anticipated difficulties in project completion

Revised Objectives:

None

Funding Changes:

No changes since last report

Organization/Project Situation Changes:

No changes since last report

Beneficiary Changes:

No changes since last report

Expense List:

1. Skill Check, Training and Mentorship Program With Additional Infection Prevention Training (2 Nurse midwife trainers to travel to each of 10 healthcare facilities including 1 regional hospital, 3 district hospitals and 6 health centers to skill check and train 2 nurse midwives in each facility, test scores are to be recorded in the SafeClinicToolKit App, four times in 2024. This was accomplished in February and May of 2024 and is scheduled again in October and December of 2024.)
\$15,360 (\$9,600 of this amount is from Together Women Rise)
SEE BUDGET ATTACHED
2. Basic Emergency Maternal Obstetric and Neonatal Care (Intensive three week training for 20 of the nurse midwives identified in the field as needing extra support and training, this was accomplished in February of 2024)
\$18,891 (\$10,000 of this amount is from Together Women Rise)
SEE BUDGET ATTACHED
3. October Training in neonatal resuscitation at the MTUTH.
\$9,459 + Equipment \$2,836
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Total expenses \$46,546 (\$19,600 from Together Women Rise)