

Since 2015, Living Goods has worked closely with Kenya's Ministry of Health (MOH), county-level governments and their partners to strengthen community-based primary health care. We support and advocate for stronger community health programs through a variety of systemwide strengthening approaches that help accelerate attainment of universal health coverage (UHC).



The Problem

In Kenya, there is just one doctor for every 5,000 people. The capacity of public health facilities to meet service demand is limited and consequently, many families lack access to essential health services. Vulnerable populations like pregnant mothers and children under five years are often disproportionately affected given fewer than 62 percent of births are managed in a health facility and 52 out of every 1,000 children die before their fifth birthday.

While decentralization of the health system in Kenya is enabling greater access to health services with a growing focus on achieving UHC by 2030, each of the 47 counties face various challenges in designing and implementing robust and sustainable health systems that have adequate and effective health workforces.

The Solution

Community health provides a low-cost and high-impact solution to these challenges by leveraging community health workers, known in Kenya as community health volunteers (CHVs), to ensure that there is a continuum of care for vulnerable populations and that every household has access to a range of promotive, preventive, and curative health services.

At the national level, we provide technical, financial and operational assistance to MOH to support government's vision of delivering UHC by building strong, scalable and sustainable community health systems. Through our advocacy initiatives, we help influence government policy and action to prioritize community health investments and effectively support community health workforces.

2020 Impact



2,681
ACTIVE CHVs



25,721
PREGNANCIES REGISTERED



563,532
SICK CHILDREN UNDER 5 ASSESSED

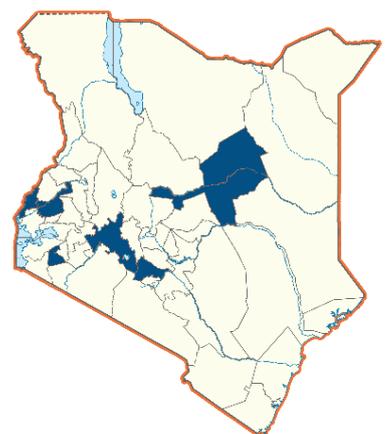


1,750,906
PEOPLE SERVED



99,358
SICK CHILDREN UNDER 1 ASSESSED

At the end of 2020, Living Goods-supported CHVs served over 1.7 million people in 6 Kenyan counties.



How We Work in Kenya

Living Good partners with governments to create strong community health programs and help them sustainably manage networks of digitally enabled, equipped, well trained and compensated community health volunteers.

Direct Program Implementation

We provide every CHV with a smartphone with a robust mHealth application. This ensures that patients receive a standardized quality of care. It supports effective management of community health workforces by setting clear targets, and providing supervisors with access to real-time data, which both helps them manage far-flung networks of CHVs and identify disease trends or outbreaks. In direct operations, Living Goods manages its own supply chain to ensure CHVs are equipped with essential medicines to treat children under 5 for malaria, diarrhoea and pneumonia, along with family planning commodities. We also provide motivating compensation to CHVs, which is tied to meeting key targets relating to health impact.

- We directly implement community health programs in Nakuru, Kiambu, Kisii, Busia and Kakamega counties working with nearly 1,700 CHVs who serve 1.3 million people across the five counties.

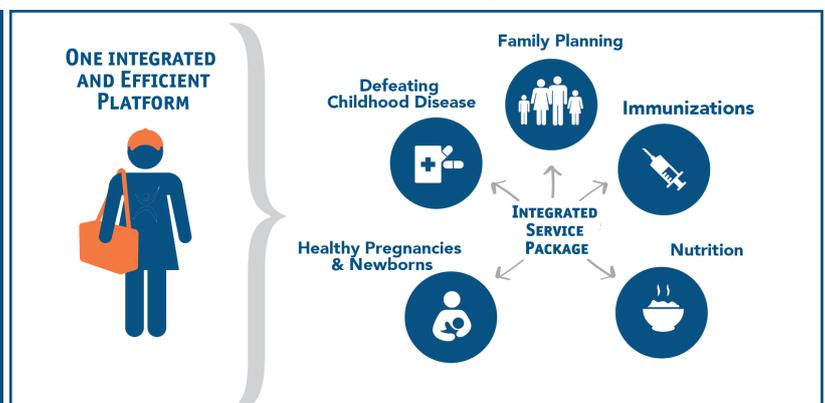
Technical Assistance to Government

In these areas, our focus is on helping government to implement community health programs more independently. They are managing their own supply chains and compensating CHVs, while we provide guidance on mHealth, performance management and other areas, to set these efforts up for longterm government-led sustainability.

- We provide technical assistance within a co-financed structure in Isiolo County working with nearly 700 CHVs serving more than 243,000 people. In 2020, we also forged a second cofinanced partnership with Kisumu County that will support all 3,162 CHVs to enhance health service delivery for the county's almost 1.2 million residents.
- We provide technical assistance in Bobasi Sub-county, Kisii to help the county sustainably manage its CHV program by supporting government CHEWS to directly supervise 379 CHVs serving over 189,000 people.

Our Integrated Platform

Rather than focus on just a single disease, the CHWs we support register every pregnant woman, conduct pre- and post-natal visits, treat sick children, provide family planning counseling, and track immunizations. This scope will expand and evolve as communities' needs do.



Supporting Kenya MOH on National eCHIS

The development of an electronic community health information system (eCHIS) is one of government's priorities as part of far-reaching health sector reforms to achieve UHC and enhance data use at all levels. To this end, MOH is working with technical, financial and implementing partners to develop, test and implement a robust eCHIS that is interoperable with other levels of the national health system. Having supported MOH to successfully pilot integration of community-level data into KHIS in 2019, Living Goods is working alongside government partners to support the development and implementation of a roadmap for building a strong eCHIS. Living Goods is the lead technical support partner on performance management, M&E, data use and wraparound services and has embedded technical experts at the MOH to guide the first phase of implementation, which resulted in the development of a digitization strategy for community health. Now in the prototyping phase, eCHIS will ultimately support improved health outcomes by leveraging about 100,000 digitally empowered CHVs to ensure the seamless flow of reliable and timely data from the community to the national level.

