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 CHWs
- 25,721 PREGNANCIES REGISTERED
- 563,532 SICK CHILDREN UNDER 5 ASSESSED
- 99,358 SICK CHILDREN UNDER 1 ASSESSED
- 1,750,906 PEOPLE SERVED

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