Because of You...

SCALING UP FAMILY PLANNING

Bringing Reproductive Health Services to 2.3 Million Tanzanians

As you read this newsletter, a team of government agencies and non-governmental partners is working to improve access to high-quality family planning and other reproductive health services in Tanzania, as part of the Scaling up Family Planning Program (SuFP). This program will impact millions of Tanzanians, now and for years to come.

As a supporter of EngenderHealth, we want you to know that this work, and many other programs like it, would not be possible without you.

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As I See It

As a donor to EngenderHealth, your impact on programs like Scaling up Family Planning (SuFP) begins even before the program launches.

By the time a program officially starts, EngenderHealth has already made a substantial investment of staff time and money. We invest time in assessing needs, forging local partnerships, designing the program, identifying staff, and developing tools.

Your vital, unrestricted contributions help us at the frontlines of change, where flexibility in funding is most needed. Your gift funds this critical background and preparatory work that ultimately makes our programs successful.

Your impact also continues long after a program officially ends. We design programs so that their impact is sustained over time. This sustainability comes through strengthened clinical training programs and health system management; trained healthcare providers sharing their skills and expertise with their peers; clients sharing their experience with their family and friends and supporting each other’s use of reproductive health services; and community leaders taking active roles in supporting health, rights, and equality.

We do this at scale. In just one year, from July 2020 to June 2021, EngenderHealth programs supported training of more than 14,600 clinical providers (doctors, nurses, midwives, etc.) and community health workers, across 15 programs. We reached almost 300,000 people directly with messages about sexual and reproductive health information and services. We reached millions more through mass media activities. Each person we reach — each doctor, each community health worker, each adolescent in school — contributes to spreading a culture of commitment to health and rights. The impact is enormous. They thank you. As do I.

SuFP Recognizes Needs of People with Disabilities

Like other marginalized groups, people with disabilities often face significant challenges in accessing sexual and reproductive health information and services. Those challenges can include physical and attitudinal barriers, as well as stigma.

“We have to put people with disabilities at the center of the discussion,” says Fredrick Msigallah, disability inclusion advisor for SuFP and advocacy officer for partner organization Comprehensive Community-Based Rehabilitation in Tanzania (CCBRT). CCBRT is a Tanzanian organization that works to prevent disabilities, while caring for and empowering people who have disabilities.

Fredrick continues. “People with disabilities know their needs and the challenges they face; someone should not be deciding on their behalf.” That is why EngenderHealth proactively involves persons with disabilities in program planning, to ensure their needs are fully recognized and met.

“People with disabilities know the barriers to information, barriers to participation, and barriers to program development,” he says. “We need to address the barriers.”
Five-Year Program Helps 2.3 Million Tanzanians
(Continued from page 1)

Scaling up Family Planning (SuFP) enhances the capacity of national health systems to deliver inclusive contraception services to 2.3 million Tanzanians. At the same time, the program strengthens the health system’s capacity to provide integrated sexual and reproductive health services that include contraception, postabortion care, and services for survivors of gender-based violence. EngenderHealth launched SuFP in September 2019 and the program will continue through August 2024. SuFP incorporates a gender, youth, and social inclusion approach to reach un- and underserved groups, including young people and persons with disabilities. Because of this work:

- 2.3 million Tanzanians will have improved access to contraception, especially in remote areas where healthcare facilities are limited, and awareness of contraception is low.
- Comprehensive postabortion care services will expand, protecting women’s health and saving their lives.
- Gender-based violence prevention initiatives, as well as care for survivors, will increase and improve.

As you read this newsletter, hundreds of community health workers have already received training to build skills in supporting sexual and reproductive health services. Adolescents and persons with disabilities are contributing their unique perspectives about how health services can better meet their needs. And survivors of gender-based violence are being linked to appropriate legal services, healthcare, and counseling.

A program of this scope requires specialized expertise and dedicated resources. EngenderHealth partners closely with the Tanzanian government and leads a team of international and local partners to implement this program. The UK’s Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office provides funding.

Your donations support the research and planning required for programs like Scaling up Family Planning, as well as the expertise EngenderHealth provides partners and governments well beyond specific programs. We are grateful for your continued support.

Donor Planning Giving Profile: Gidding Estate

We are pleased to share the news of a recent bequest from Mrs. Lee (Atherlie) Gidding, a former EngenderHealth board member who supported the organization for several decades before her death in 2020. Meetings with women’s empowerment groups during her extensive travels in Africa, Asia, and Latin America strengthened Mrs. Gidding’s longtime dedication to women’s rights. In honor of that commitment, her gift will be used to launch an initiative in Francophone West Africa to address sexual and gender-based violence. We are delighted that her lifelong passion for women’s rights and health will be recognized through this initiative. We are very grateful for her generous legacy gift.
Attracted by EngenderHealth’s Approach to Maternal Health Care, This Physician Couple Donates Monthly

Shelley Roth and Jed Weissberg, both physicians, approach giving with the scientist’s regard for research and facts. And that, they say, is how they became long-time monthly donors to EngenderHealth.

“I was attracted by EngenderHealth’s focus on maternal health,” said Shelley. And Jed agrees. Being professionally involved in health care management and policy, he is strongly influenced by evidence. “The evidence shows that investment in maternal and child health care shows excellent long-term benefits.”

The fact that EngenderHealth’s efforts are international in scope is also appealing to both Jed and Shelley.

The couple are particularly interested in EngenderHealth’s programs in Africa, in countries where health care resources are often lacking and need substantial reinforcement. But, Shelley said, they would be happy to see more programs within the United States, as well. (Note: A U.S.-based program was recently completed.)

“When Shelley retired in 2005, she took charge of our giving,” says Jed, and she spent a good deal of time on research, looking at potential recipients’ missions and fiscal responsibility.

“We liked what we saw, when we looked into EngenderHealth. When you look at their website, you can see how professionally they approach their work.” They were also impressed by the favorable ratings of leading charity monitoring groups. Those ratings are evidence, they say, that their gifts are being used well.

Jed and Shelley are now monthly donors to EngenderHealth, authorizing regular grants through a donor-advised fund. Asked why they favored monthly gifts, Shelley said, “We don’t want anything to lapse or slip.” She continues, “This is an easy way to go about giving.”

They have also included EngenderHealth in their estate plans, but Jed said, “We didn’t want to wait to give.” Their approach offers them the satisfaction of making an impact on reproductive health now, with the assurance that their support for reproductive health and family planning will extend far into the future.

Our Vision
A gender-equal world where all people achieve their sexual and reproductive rights.

Our Mission
To implement high-quality, gender-equitable programs that advance sexual and reproductive health and rights.

Our Promise to You
We will use your gift in the best possible way: prudently, thoughtfully, and where it does the most good.

EngenderHealth
505 9th St. NW, Suite 601
Washington, DC 20004
EngenderHealth.org

Can’t find a stamp? Visit EngenderHealth.org or text EngenderHealth to 80888 to receive a secure giving link to your phone.

EngenderHealth is a tax-exempt 501(c)(3) organization, and your gift is tax-deductible to the fullest extent of the law.
YOUR GIFTS ARE MAKING GREAT THINGS HAPPEN

In One Year, 7/2020 Through 6/2021, Donors Helped EngenderHealth …

Provide Contraceptive Services to …

2,919,139 individuals

Prevent …

5,000 maternal deaths
and
74,200 child deaths
918,600 unsafe abortions

Save …

$326,914,800 in direct health care costs
NEEMA THANKS YOU: One of the people you’ve helped is a young woman named Neema. When her last child was born, Neema and her husband decided their family was large enough. Unfortunately, Neema had little access to family planning information and resources in her small community. One day while shopping, she happened to hear an ad for an SuFP family planning week in her village. She decided to visit the health facility mentioned in the ad. Now, as a contraceptive user, Neema and her husband no longer worry about unintended pregnancies.

She’s the Guardian of the Budget

Relief Mtenga takes her job as financial manager for the SuFP program very seriously. How well she does her work affects the program’s impact, and perhaps even its duration. She is dedicated to ensuring that EngenderHealth is a responsible, effective steward of donors’ funds, and that every investment yields the highest possible impact. Relief says, “My support to SuFP has been to ensure that we keep afloat with the funds available while reaching our milestones without disruptions.”

EngenderHealth’s commitment to achieving the highest possible value for money gives donors, large or small, confidence that their gifts will lead to better sexual and reproductive health wherever they are used.