



**Interim Progress Report
January – June 2016
Prepared for Dining For Women**

1. Program information

Organization Name	Hope Through Health (HTH)
Program Title	Empowering Female Community Health Workers (CHWs) to Provide Maternal and Child Healthcare in Northern Togo, West Africa
Grant Amount	\$50,000
Contact Person	Jennifer Schechter
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2. Intended Outcomes

HTH's Maternal and Child Health (MCH) program was designed to increase access to, timeliness of and quality of healthcare services for pregnant and postpartum women and children under 5 in the Kozah District of northern Togo. The program's ultimate aim is to decrease rates of maternal and child morbidity and mortality over the long term.

The grant received by Dining for Women has empowered 25 female Community Health Workers (CHWs) to provide maternal and child healthcare to pregnant women and children under 5 in the Kozah District of northern Togo. Over this reporting period of January through June 2016, CHWs conducted 26,834 home visits to a total of 939 unique, direct beneficiaries (127 women and 812 children under five). An additional 1,682 unique, direct beneficiaries received improved care directly in public clinics as part of the MCH program. This total of 2,621 direct beneficiaries exceeds the expected six-month target of 1,750 direct beneficiaries.

Finally 25 new CHWs are now employed full-time and receive a life-changing salary of approximately \$75 per month. This source of employment is having a dramatic impact on improving the lives of women and their families from rural areas. Women report that given this source of income they are now able to pay for their children's education, purchase food and clothing for their families, and put money into savings. Many women report being treated better by their husbands, including being asked for their input on family matters, now that they are able to contribute financially to the household.

3. Source of Funding

The funding provided by Dining for Women covered essential expenses for year one of this

three-year program. HTH has received additional support to cover ongoing expenses over years two and three of the program from partners including the Segal Family Foundation, Vitol Foundation, One Day's Wages, Child Relief International and the T&J Meyer Family Foundation.

4. Organization and Program Situation

HTH's organization and program situation have not changed from what was presented in the approved proposal. The only staffing changes include the creation of a new Chief Partnership Officer position in Togo's capital Lomé to support collaboration with the national level Ministry of Health and the creation of a new Deputy Director position in the US to assist the Executive Director of HTH with development, administration and program oversight.

5. Challenges

HTH is facing no major challenges moving forward with the project. The MCH program has been an overwhelming success by all accounts. In spite of this success, significant learning has occurred over the months since the program launched and HTH is continuing to think about how to improve our impact.

One small challenge is that the uptake of family planning services has been slightly lower than anticipated. There is some adversity in rural communities to family planning because of deeply held misconceptions about side effects and pervasive stigma associated with contraception use. To address this challenge HTH is training CHWs to dispel rumors and emphasize the benefits of family planning during community education sessions and home visits. HTH hopes that the provision of more targeted education will increase demand for family planning services leading to increased uptake of family planning services.

6. Original Objectives

The three original objectives for this project are as follows:

1. Increase access to care, by bringing care into the home
2. Improve the timeliness of care, by active CHW case finding, immediate provision of basic care and creating a rapid referral network for care requiring clinic-based services
3. Ensure the quality of care, by effectively training, equipping and supervising CHWs and public health center support staff

HTH has not revised the original objectives since the project began.

7. Progress

Hope Through Health has achieved significant progress on the program's objectives.

1. HTH has increased access to care from 30% at baseline to a 97% coverage rate for pregnant and postpartum women and children under 5 treated in home by CHWs or at local clinics. This surpasses the initial goal of an 85% coverage rate.
2. HTH has improved timeliness of care, with 78% of cases treated within 72 hours of symptom onset in June. Over the next six months, HTH aims to continue to improve this indicator to ensure that 85% of cases are treated within 72 hours.
3. HTH has trained, equipped and supported 25 CHWs to deliver home-based, high quality care to women and children. CHWs have consistently demonstrated high performance

with a rate of 96% adherence to clinical protocols. This surpasses the goal of 85% adherence to protocols.

HTH is proud to share these details on the growth and improved quality of the MCH program. These results would not have been possible without the generous funding provided by Dining For Women. Your support has allowed HTH to empower 25 new CHWs to provide comprehensive, high quality services to even more women and children under 5 within our catchment area. Building on this success, we aim to work in close partnership with the Togolese Ministry of Health to scale this approach.

8. Anticipated Difficulties

HTH does not anticipate any difficulties in completing this project in the timeframe outlined in the proposal. HTH plans to continue the program over the following two years. HTH has been working with the Togolese Ministry of Health to develop a plan to scale the MCH program nationally.

9. Message to Dining For Women Membership and Donors

With the support of Dining For Women, Hope Through Health's Maternal and Child Health program has achieved remarkable success. Focusing on empowering female Community Health Workers, HTH has provided essential services to a population of over 37,000 in northern Togo. This collaboration has allowed HTH to improve access to, timeliness of and quality of healthcare services for women and children under 5, which will decrease maternal and child morbidity and mortality over the long term. This is a catalytic time of growth for HTH as the MCH program continues to expand, and Dining For Women's support contributes greatly to the success of this program. Hope Through Health would like to express gratitude for the support provided by Dining For Women for the women and children of Togo.

10. Budget

For a list of all expenses incurred by HTH during the reporting period, see attached expense report.

11. Photos

Hope Through Health grants Dining For Women permission to use the attached photos. HTH has obtained consent from subjects to share their image.