

ALUMNI INITIATIVE BEYOND MPHL



MOTHERS HEART UGANDA MUTOTO MBALE

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23rd - February- 2018

Sheraton Hotel-Kampala

Background: MPHL research

- My MPHL research was on the utilization of maternal health care services among women of the reproductive age in Bungokho Mutoto sub-county, Mbale District.
- Results showed high levels of Illiteracy, poverty, long distances to the health facility and steep terrain which hindered utilization of maternal health care services.
- Upon graduating, I engaged the community in discussing my findings and established that access to health and education facilities were a priority at the time.

The Intervention: Mothers Heart (U)

- Founded Mothers Heart Uganda
- A non-profit in Mutoto sub-county, Mbale District
- We advocate for:
 - Safe motherhood,
 - Formal education and
 - Create awareness on the HIV/AIDS epidemic.
- We engage communities and address existing challenges with evidence based and sustainable solutions

Our Community Projects

- **EDUCATION:** Opened a private nursery and primary school
 - Located in the heart of the community
 - Charging very affordable fees
- **HEALTH:** Starting construction of a health center land donated by locals
 - Linked pregnant women to health facilities and easy access to ambulance services for emergency cases
 - Counselling services for the pregnant women
 - Construction of pit latrines at house hold level
- **HEALTH FINANCING:** A health funding scheme aimed at saving for health with 2 women groups so far.

Engaging Communities

- We hold community sensitisation campaigns aimed at promoting the four Pillars of safe motherhood; Safe and clean delivery, Family Planning, Antenatal Care and Emergency obstetric care.
- Birth preparedness campaigns
- HIV/AIDS awareness



Engaging Communities

We have community health programmes for children and adults



Lessons

- The success of community initiatives necessitates a lot of community mobilization and involvement
- Partnership and networking- especially those partners with related programs
- Community transformation requires continuous resource mobilization

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**Thanks for listening
Friends of Safe Motherhood!**



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