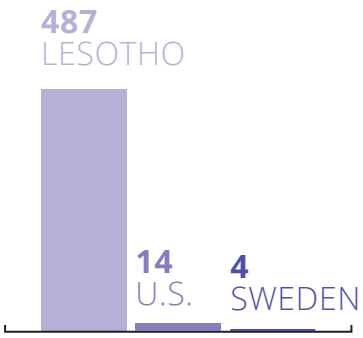
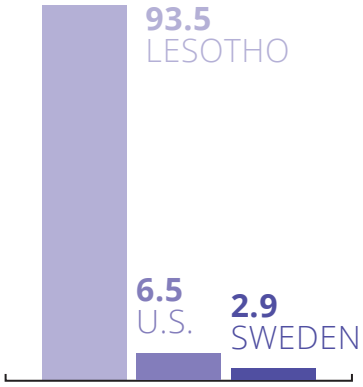
m2m **Lesotho**

KEY COUNTRY DATA

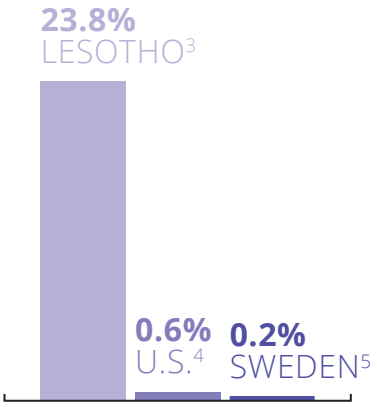
MATERNAL MORTALITY[1]
(per 100,000 live births)



CHILD MORTALITY[2]
(per 1,000 live births)



PREVALENCE OF HIV AMONG ADULTS



OUR WORK IN LESOTHO

Date Started:
2007

Locations:
56
(incl. clinics and nearby communities)

New Clients Enrolled (2017):
93,726

Mentor Mothers (2017):
314

Country Director:
Frida Kabaso

PROGRAMME SNAPSHOT

Lesotho may be one of the smallest countries in Africa, yet large distances between communities and health centres and lack of transport can deter women and their families from accessing essential medical care. To help overcome this, mothers2mothers (m2m) provides integrated services in both health centres and communities in five districts of Lesotho with high burdens of HIV/AIDS—Maseru, Mafeteng, Leribe, Mohale's Hoek, and Berea. m2m Mentor Mothers conduct door-to-door visits to help identify women and families who have not received medical services or dropped out of care. They link them to Mentor Mothers at health centres, who support them to access care and stay on treatment. Furthermore, Mentor Mothers work closely with health facility staff on monthly outreach programmes that bring medical services to people living in remote areas.

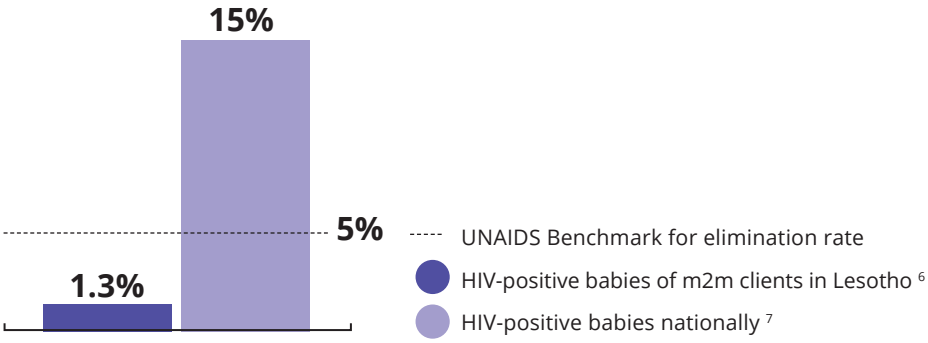
m2m Lesotho is the first country programme to be digital at all of our locations. Our mHealth client management tools have not only streamlined client tracking at both the health facility and in the community, but have also made it easier for community-based Mentor Mothers to access important health information on every household they visit.

"mothers2mothers has been a partner and friend and we greatly appreciate the value they are adding to controlling the HIV epidemic in Lesotho."

Matsitso Mohoanyane, Paediatric HIV and AIDS Manager, Ministry of Health Lesotho

OUR IMPACT IN LESOTHO

Virtual elimination of mother-to-child transmission of HIV among m2m's enrolled clients, according to UNAIDS guidelines:



96%
of HIV-positive women enrolled at m2m were initiated on antiretroviral therapy (ART) for life.

96%
of HIV-exposed infants of enrolled m2m clients were given nevirapine to protect them from infection.

76%
of these HIV-exposed infants were tested for HIV at 6-8 weeks.

SUCCESS STORY

Liako Serobanyane, a Community Mentor Mother in Lesotho, tested HIV-positive when she was four months pregnant with her second child.

The nurses gave me medicine. It was up to me whether I took it or not. I decided to take the medication—not for me, because I was convinced I would die, but for my baby. I was over the moon when her test came back negative. My first week working as a Mentor Mother was both exciting and frightening. When I stood in front of a group of women telling them about my experiences with HIV, it felt like my heart would kick right out of my chest. But then I saw how much they valued having me there and I realised I could give support and hope to women who would have otherwise lived in fear. I often wish I had access to a Mentor Mother when I was pregnant because I would have gotten support, not just from my family but from people who really understood what I was going through. I now work in the community, reaching women and families who face various challenges in accessing essential medical care and linking them to the health centre. I know that I, along with the other Mentor Mothers, play a very important role in my country in ensuring that babies are born free of HIV and that mothers and their families stay healthy to raise them.

THANKS
TO OUR PARTNERS AND SUPPORTERS

Stephen Lewis Foundation

United States Agency for International Development (USAID)

1 *data.worldbank.org/indicator/SH.STA.MMRT*
2 *data.worldbank.org/indicator/SH.DYN.MORT*
3 *www.unaids.org/en/regionscountries/countries/lesotho/*
4 *UNAIDS Global Report, 2012, last available data*
5 *UNAIDS, How AIDS Changed Everything, 2015, last available data*
6 *m2m 2017 Annual Evaluation*
7 *UNAIDS Progress Report, 2017*

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