m2m Malawi

**Key Country Data**

**Maternal Mortality**
(per 100,000 live births)

- Malawi: 634
- U.S.: 14
- Sweden: 4

**Child Mortality**
(per 1,000 live births)

- Malawi: 55.1
- U.S.: 6.5
- Sweden: 2.9

**Prevalence of HIV Among Adults**

- Malawi: 9.6%
- U.S.: 0.6%
- Sweden: 0.2%

**Programme Snapshot**

- **Date Started:** 2008
- **Locations:** 120 (incl. clinics and nearby communities)
- **New Clients Enrolled (2017):** 353,565
- **Mentor Mothers (2017):** 410
- **Country Director:** Chileshe Chilangwa

**Our Work in Malawi**

Mothers2mothers (m2m) Malawi is our largest country programme. We provide our full range of family-centred services spanning pregnancy, birth, childhood, and adolescence in the country. This includes prevention of mother-to-child transmission of HIV (PMTCT), reproductive, maternal, newborn, child, and adolescent health (RMNCAH), early childhood development (ECD), and paediatric care and support.

In direct response to the government’s strategy to reach everyone with HIV testing and treatment services, m2m Malawi is the first country that recruits and employs HIV-positive men as Expert Clients as part of our family-centred approach. Currently, 272 Expert Clients are working in 98 clinics to support other men in their community to access health services in order to stay healthy and reduce their partner’s risk of infection. m2m Malawi is also the birthplace of our Community Mentor Mother (CMM) programme, in which Mentor Mothers work door-to-door in local communities, linking women and families to nearby health centres for medical care. The programme was created to enhance the need for retention and adherence support after Malawi became the first country to recommend all HIV-positive pregnant women and new mothers be placed on antiretrovirals (ARVs) for life.

“m2m’s community programme is good because it caters to the whole family. Many of our women do not go for treatment or access services at the hospital. The Community Mentor Mothers encourage them to go for services. I’d love for it to be extended so that other communities can benefit the same way my people are benefitting.”

*Stevenson H. Tsoyo*, Group Village Headman, Chiswe, Malawi.
SUCCESS STORY

Femia Mangani, a Community Mentor Mother in Bvumbwe, Malawi, was three months pregnant when she tested HIV-positive—she wasn’t even 20 years old.

When I was three months pregnant, I was visited by an m2m Mentor Mother. I told her I had not started antenatal care yet and she explained to me the benefits of going for an HIV test. I tested HIV-positive. I accepted my status with difficulties. The Mentor Mother explained some things to me and I started to feel free. I tested my son Blessings when he was six weeks old and he tested HIV-negative. Now he is just learning to stand. I applied for this job as a Mentor Mother because of what I went through. I tested positive before I was 20 years old so I saw that a lot of young people are going astray because they don’t have any guidance. Through my work, I help people in my community access the medical care they need, including adolescent girls and young mothers, HIV-positive and -exposed children, and other members of a family. Everything in my life has changed. My health has improved, even the way I think has changed. I see my future to be bright.

OUR IMPACT IN MALAWI

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

- 97% of HIV-positive women enrolled at m2m were initiated on antiretroviral therapy (ART) for life.
- 97% of HIV-exposed infants of enrolled m2m clients were given nevirapine to protect them from infection.
- 85% of these HIV-exposed infants were tested for HIV at 6-8 weeks.

UNAIDS Benchmark for elimination rate

- 1.8% HIV-positive babies of m2m clients in Malawi
- 5% HIV-positive babies nationally
- 8% UNAIDS Global Report, 2012, last available data
- 5% UNAIDS, How AIDS Changed Everything, 2015, last available data
- 1.8% m2m 2017 Annual Evaluation
- 5% UNAIDS Progress Report, 2017

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1 data.worldbank.org/indicator/SH.STA.MMRT
2 data.worldbank.org/indicator/SH.DYN.MORT
3 www.unaids.org/en/regionscountries/countries/malawi/
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