



# 4th International Community Health Workers Symposium Program

**November 2025**



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## NOVEMBER 12TH, 2025

November 12th, 2025

10:00AM to 11:00AM (ICT)

### Co-Creating our Collective Call to Action

Be part of shaping the Bangkok Call to Action, this powerful statement will be read during the Closing Plenary, as a collective statement that will reflect the priorities and perspectives of participants of the 4th International CHW Symposium. Join this open session to review the draft, share your feedback, and contribute ideas. Your input will help ensure the final document captures the shared vision, commitments, and momentum of community health workers and the global community health movement.

November 12th, 2025

10:00AM to 11:00AM (ICT)

### B.01 - Interactive Workshop: Initiating Mental Health Conversations and Driving Workplace Well-Being by CHWs using the TRC Toolkit

*Moderated by: Shilpa Sadanand, The George Institute for Global Health*

#### Speakers:

**Shilpa Sadanand**, Program Manager, The George Institute for Global Health

**Varadharajan Srinivasan**, Program Manager, The George Institute for Global Health

The mental health and wellbeing of community health workers (CHWs) - who provide essential care to millions globally is often underprioritized. In this context, the Resilience Collaborative (TRC) serves as a global learning community committed to supporting HWs and institutions that advocate for their mental health and wellbeing. As part of TRC, we have developed a toolkit to help CHWs reflect on their mental health, identify work-related stressors, and explore solutions—both individual and collective levels. In this workshop, we will introduce the toolkit and explore its practical application for CHWs in their workplace.

**November 12th, 2025**

**11:00AM to 12:00AM (ICT)**

## **B.02 - Co-creating HEAL Hub: A Digital Capacity-Building Platform for CHWs in the Philippines**

*Moderated by: Dr. Feven Tassaw Mekuria CARE USA and Priyam Joshi, CARE USA*

### **Speakers:**

**Aimee Mateo**, Health Technical Coordinator, CARE Philippines

**Dr. Feven Tassaw Mekuria**, Senior Technical Advisor, CARE USA

**Erin Quinn**, Director, Dimagi

**Ana Avillanosa**, Executive Director, Southern Tagalog People's Response Center (STPRC)

**Lany Lacao**, Barangay Health Worker Champion, Quezon Provincial Health Office

**Dr. Nelson V. Lequin III**, Assistant Municipal Health Officer – Catnauan, Quezon Provincial Health Office

This session presents HEAL Hub, an open-source digital platform co-created with barangay health workers (BHWs) in Quezon province, a disaster-prone region of the Philippines. Part of CARE's She Heals the World initiative, HEAL Hub strengthens the predominantly female BHW workforce through competency-based learning, digital credentialing, peer networks, and offline functionality for low-resource contexts. Speakers will demonstrate the participatory co-creation process, showcase measurable impacts on CHW capacity and confidence, and illustrate how iterative feedback loops inform platform evolution. With over 1,000 barangay health workers trained and national scale-up planned for 2026, the session explores pathways for sustainable scaling, gender-transformative design, equitable financing, and adaptation across diverse settings.

**November 12th, 2025**

**12:00AM to 1:00PM (ICT)**

## **Poster Exhibition**

Join us in the Expo Hall to explore over 100 posters showcasing research, field innovations, and lived experiences from community health workers and community health programs from around the world. This virtual poster exhibition features posters across four sub-themes: Strengthening Community Health for Equitable Health Systems, CHWs in Crisis: First Responders in Affected Communities, CHWs Central to Advancing Primary Health Care, and Bridging the Gaps: Reaching Vulnerable Communities with CHWs. Browse at your own pace, connect ideas across regions, and use the chat feature to leave messages for presenters to exchange insights and feedback. All posters will be accessible in the Expo Hall for the duration of the event, a list of poster presentations can be found at the end of the program.

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## **Networking Space**

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November 12th, 2025

1:00PM to 2:30PM (ICT)

## The State of Play: Supporting CHWs in a World of Growing Crises and Diminishing Foreign Aid

### Speakers:

**Tom Traill**, Chief Strategy Officer, Community Partners International

**Wongsa Laohasiriwong**, Dean, School of Public Health, Khon Kaen University

**Si Thura**, Chief Executive Officer, Community Partners International

**Margaret Odera**, Community Health Worker, Kenya

**Madeleine Ballard**, CEO and Founder, Community Health Impact Coalition

**Natalie Mrak**, Associate Director, External Affairs, Global Health Equity, Johnson and Johnson

**Richard Landry**, Director of the Center for Primary Health Care, Africa CDC

In 2025, global health funding underwent dramatic shifts, with direct impacts on the most vulnerable communities and health workers. Our opening plenary acknowledges these challenges while framing them as questions of opportunity: What new possibilities have emerged? What resilience has been demonstrated? How can we do better moving forward?

**Join us in English, French, Spanish, Burmese or Thai.**

Cette session sera aussi disponible en français | Esta sesión también estará disponible en español |

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**November 12th, 2025**

**3:00 PM to 5:00 PM (ICT)**

## **A.01 - CHWs in Humanitarian and Fragile Contexts: Community-Based Strategies for Service Delivery and Psycho-Social Support**

*Moderated by: Eindra Htoo, Community Partners International*

- Bridging the Gap: Community Health Workers and Rural Access to Care in Eastern Ukraine  
*| Presented by Alessandro Lamberti-Castronuovo*
- Restoring Hope: CHWs Delivering Group Interpersonal Therapy in Landslide - Affected Communities of Bulambuli District  
*| Presented by Joel Omoding*
- Empowering Community Health Workers in Myanmar: Bridging Health Gaps  
*| Presented by Saw Morgan Soe Win*
- Grassroots Health Leadership in Conflict Settings: The Karenni Nurses Association's Three-Year Journey  
*| Presented by Emily Ruth*
- Community Health Workers in Humanitarian Crises: Frontline Actors Sustaining Essential Health Services during Emergencies  
*| Presented by Jasmin Khan*
- Understanding the Mental Health Impact of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) and Their Support Networks in Southeastern Myanmar Post-Military Coup: A Qualitative Study  
*| Presented by Hein Minn Tun*
- Strategy for Engaging Community Health Workers to Improve Vaccination Coverage in Insecure Areas: Experience from Douentza Health District, Mali, 2024  
*| Presented by Ibrahima Berthe*
- Strengthening Urban Health Systems in Post-Crisis African Settings through Community-Based Screening and Structured Escortment: Experience from Liberia's Community Health Promoter Program Supporting Patients with Chronic and Acute Conditions  
*| Presented by Dr. Lucia M. Mupara*

November 12th, 2025

3:00PM to 4:00PM (ICT)

### B.03 - Smarter Financing, Better Care: Improving Quality and Accountability in CHW Programs

*Moderated by: Karen Zamboni, The Global Fund*

#### Speakers:

**Dr. Richard Kabanda**, Commissioner for Health Promotion, Education, and Health Communication, Ministry of Health, Uganda; Chair for the Africa CDC Community Health Technical Working Group

**Amy Kakiza Rwakihembo**, Director Advocacy and Strategic Partnerships, Living Goods Uganda

**Jules Gaye**, Country Director, Living Goods Burkina Faso

**Caroline Njuguna**, Associate, Country Engagement & Health Financing, Africa Frontline First

Across Africa, community health systems are essential for delivering primary care in underserved areas. Yet in many countries, professional Community Health Workers (CHWs) are not fully integrated into national systems, limiting impact. The Building Integrated Readiness for Community Health (BIRCH) project—funded by the Global Fund with technical support from Africa Frontline First and Last Mile Health—supports countries to strengthen and sustain CHW programs. By co-creating with Ministries of Health, BIRCH aligns with national priorities and builds local ownership, providing technical assistance and systems-strengthening grants, including for pandemic preparedness. Living Goods leads implementation in Burkina Faso and Uganda.



November 12th, 2025

4:00PM to 5:00PM (ICT)

## B.04 - Success Stories from South and Southeast Asia: Organising as a tool to achieve Regularisation and Recognition

*Moderated by: Johanna Riha, United Nations University - International Institute for Global Health*

### Speakers:

**Banaani Deka**, Gender Equality Officer, Public Services International

**Sumedha Mane**, CHW, Mumbai Mahanagar Karmachari Mahasangh

**Raheela Tabassum**, CHW (General Secretary), National Lady Health Workers Federation, Pakistan

**Gita Thing**, CHW (President), Nepal Health Volunteers Association

**Basanti Maharjan**, CHW (President), Health Volunteers of Nepal Association, Nepal

**Robert Erandio**, CHW (President), Barangay Health Workers Federation, Philippines

**Johanna Riha**, Research Lead, Gender Equality and Intersectionality, United Nations University - International Institute for Global Health

**Sabeen Afzal**, Joint Executive Director, FGPC (PGMI), Ministry of National Health Services, Regulation and Coordination, Pakistan

Despite their crucial contributions to healthcare delivery, CHWs are not formally recognised as public health workers within health systems. However, they are increasingly collectivising, challenging gender-based power dynamics, and situating their workplace struggles within broader gender justice issues. Their efforts have earned them historic wins, particularly in South and Southeast Asia. This session provides a platform for CHWs to share and reflect on success stories of collectivisation efforts and an opportunity to hear from governments and other experts on what can be learnt from these experiences with the potential for these efforts to be replicated in other contexts.

November 12th, 2025

5:00PM to 6:00PM (ICT)

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November 12th, 2025

6:00PM to 8:00PM (ICT)

## Progress in Realising Commitments in the Monrovia Call to Action & Regional Coordination Mechanism to Advance the Community Health Agenda in Africa

*Moderated by: Dr. Richard Kabanda, Africa Center for Disease Control (Africa CDC)*

### Speakers:

**Dr. Richard Kabanda**, Chair, Africa Continental Community Health TWG, Africa Center for Disease Control (Africa CDC). Commissioner Health Promotion, Republic of Uganda.

**S. Olasford Wiah**, Director Community Health Services Division, Ministry of Health, Republic of Liberia

**Dr. Barnabas Kwame**, Community Health Specialist, Africa CDC

**Dr. Fatoumata Dibba**, CH Director the Republic of The Gambia

This session is in line with the sub-theme: Strengthening Community Health for Equitable Health Systems, the Monrovia Call to Action (MCA) 2023 and the role of the Regional Coordination Mechanism to advance the Community Health Agenda in Africa. The moderated panel will spotlight the progress in implementing the 2023 Monrovia Call to Action and highlight experiences from the Africa Region Continental Coordination Mechanism (CCM) for Community Health to bolster coordination and minimize fragmentation in community health interventions. Outcomes from the session will include progress in implementing the MCA, experiences from operationalizing the CCM and sharing recommendations to inform the Call to Action.

**Join us in English, French, or Spanish.**

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November 12th, 2025

8:00AM to 9:30AM (EST)

## Healers in Hostile Settings: The Power of Community Health Workers in Conflict Settings

*Moderated by: Tom Traill, Community Partners International*

### Speakers:

**Djourné Diakité**, Co-founder and Country Director for Mali, Muso

Community Health Worker, Mali

**Bram Wispelway**, Co-founder and Chief Strategist, Health for Palestine

Community Health Worker, Palestine

**Joanna Raven, Professor**, Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine

**Emily Ruth**, President, Karenni Nurses Association

**Mitzu**, Deputy Director, [organization name withheld]

Conflicts are intensifying and spreading, fracturing communities across the world. As systems are weakened by the impact of conflict, the role of CHWs often becomes even more critical. This session will examine how conflict transforms community health work, explore what CHWs can do in these challenging contexts and highlight the additional or specialized support that they need to continue delivering essential care in conflict-affected communities.

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November 12th, 2025

10:00AM to 12:00PM (EST)

## A.02 - Professionalizing the Community Health Workforce: Financing, Governance and Training to Strengthen Primary Health Care

*Moderated by: Alex Moodie, Community Partners International*

- Vertical or Horizontal? Trends in Government and Donor Funding for Community Health Worker (CHW) Programs in Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA)  
*| Presented by Shivani Shukla*
- Strengthening Local Governance for the Sustainability of Autonomous Community Health Platforms in Mali: The Keneyadugu Experience  
*| Presented by Aliou Mahamadou*
- Global CHW Recruitment Practices: A Rapid Global Scan of Community Health Worker (CHW) Recruitment Approaches and Implications for Equity  
*| Presented by Abolade Oyelere*
- Leading Towards Labor Rights for Nepal's Female Community Health Volunteers: The Role of Representative CHW Organizations  
*| Presented by Roosa Sofia Tikkanen*
- Strengthening Primary Health Care in Nigeria through a Blended Community-Based Health Worker Model: Lessons on Transitioning from Volunteerism to Professionalization  
*| Presented by Rogers Kanee*
- Evaluating the Impact of Accredited Training Program for Community Health Care Workers to Build a Resilient and Responsive Primary Health Care System: South Africa - Gauteng: Sedibeng District  
*| Presented by Thoko Mercy Maboe*
- Community Health Workers for Primary Healthcare Access (COMPASS), Integrating a Comprehensive CHW Intervention in Primary Healthcare in Belgium  
*| Presented by Fiona Blessed Namanya*
- Sentinel Community Health Workers: A Digital Strategy to Strengthen Community-Based Epidemiological Surveillance in Mali  
*| Presented by Sali Tounkara*

November 12th, 2025

10:00AM to 11:00AM (EST)

## B.05 - Designing for the Reality of CHWs' Time: A Hands-On Workshop to Reimagine How We Track and Optimize CHW Workload

Speakers and session details to be confirmed.

**November 12th, 2025**

**11:00AM to 12:00PM (EST)**

## **B.06 - The Power You Can(not) See: Negotiating for Equitable Community Health Programmes**

### **Speakers:**

**Anne Neumann**, Research Associate, Global Digital and Last Mile Health Lab, Charité Center for Global Health, Charité - University Medicine Berlin, Germany

**Marion Subah**, Executive Director, Sustainable Community Actions for Peace and Health

**Brogan Luke Geurts**, Social Scientist/Researcher, School of Public Health, University of Bielefeld, Bielefeld, Germany; Robert Koch Institute, Berlin, Germany

Community Health Workers (CHWs) are essential to strong health systems, yet nationally aligned policies that centre CHW's voices, dignity, and effectiveness remain rare. In this workshop, we will investigate the gap between global evidence and advocacy, and national political realities - asking: who holds what kinds of power in policy negotiations? How can we - CHWs, researchers, funders, national policymakers, and advocates - strategise our power? What leverage points can we utilise for the narrative, policy, and implementation shifts we want to see? Using case studies and concepts of power, we will surface challenges and opportunities to make professional CHW policies a reality.

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**12:00PM to 1:00PM (EST)**

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## The State of Play: Supporting CHWs in a World of Growing Crises and Diminishing Foreign Aid

*Moderated by: Tom Traill, Community Partners International*

### Speakers:

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**Madeleine Ballard**, CEO and Founder, Community Health Impact Coalition

**Natalie Mrak**, Associate Director, External Affairs, Global Health Equity, Johnson and Johnson

**Richard Landry**, Director of the Center for Primary Health Care, Africa CDC

Representative, World Bank

Representative, Global Fund

Representative, ASEAN Institute for Health and Development, Mahidol University

Missed our earlier session? Join us for a re-broadcasting of this dynamic conversation. In 2025, global health funding has undergone dramatic shifts, with direct impacts on the most vulnerable communities and health workers. Our opening plenary acknowledges these challenges while framing them as questions of opportunity: What new possibilities have emerged? What resilience has been demonstrated? How can we do better moving forward?

November 12th, 2025

3:00PM to 4:00PM (EST)

## A.03 - Advancing Health Equity by Transforming Community Health

*Moderated by: Zin Mar Win, Community Partners International*

- Adapting the Community Health Club model from Zimbabwe to Improve Health Equity in San Antonio, Texas United States  
*| Presented by Jason Rosenfeld*
- Transforming Community Health Through Data: Zambia's Georeferenced CBV Master List as a Strategic Tool for Equity and Workforce Planning  
*| Presented by Melody Kalombo*
- Developing Equitable CHW Employment; Building Consensus for an Essential Role  
*| Presented by Martín Cruz Rivarola*
- Transforming Community Primary Healthcare: Lessons Learned from Access to Health Zambia's decentralized Service Delivery Model in Mwandi, Zambia  
*| Presented by Emmanuel Nyundu*

November 12th, 2025

3:00PM to 4:00PM (EST)

## B.07 - Creating a New Table: Centering CHW Leadership in Research and Evaluation

Speakers and session details to be confirmed.

November 12th, 2025

4:00PM to 5:30PM (EST)

CHW Symposium Webinar Series Re-Broadcast

## The Role of Global Health Actors in Supporting Sustainable CHW Financing

*Moderated by: Maya Hayakawa, Financing Alliance for Health*

### Speakers:

**Resi Budiana**, Women's Advocate & Community Health Worker, North Lombok, Indonesia

**Dr. Grace Achungura**, Regional Advisor, World Health Organization AFRO

**Elizabeth Musa**, National CHW Coordinator, Ministry of Health, Sierra Leone

**Andrea Speranza**, Community Health Specialist, United Nations Development Program, Guinea Bissau

**Yann Tapsoba**, Health Financing Specialist, Africa Frontline First

Community health workers are the backbone of people-centered primary health care, delivering essential services where health systems are weakest. Yet, despite global recognition of their value, community health programs remain chronically underfunded. This rebroadcast from our CHW Symposium Webinar Series spotlights the dynamic conversation, bringing together government representatives, donors, technical experts and community voices to explore how to move beyond fragmented aid toward sustained, catalytic investment in community health workers and stronger primary healthcare systems.

This webinar was initially held on September 18th, 2025 as part of the CHW Symposium Webinar Series and was organized in partnership with Community Partners International and the Financing Alliance for Health with support from the Community Health Impact Coalition.

November 12th, 2025

4:00PM to 5:00PM (EST)

## B.08 - Amplifying Community Health Workers' Voices: The Power of Digital Storytelling

*Moderated by: Ada Wilkinson-Lee, The University of Arizona*

### Speakers:

**Ada Wilkinson-Lee**, Associate Professor, The University of Arizona

**Katie Stalker**, Associate Professor, University at Buffalo

**Floribella Redondo**, Arizona Community Health Workers Association, Inc.

This workshop will focus on digital storytelling as a tool to advance the dynamic work of Community Health Workers. Digital storytelling combines digital media with personal narratives, resulting in powerful and captivating stories. The goal of the workshop is to illustrate how digital storytelling can be used to: (1) advance policy and advocacy goals, (2) assess opportunities and assets within communities, and (3) engage with communities in storytelling about community healing and transformation. We will share how digital storytelling was used in the Community Health Workers for COVID Response and Resilient Communities (CCR) national project to understand how CHWs conceptualize and understand the concept of community resilience.

## NOVEMBER 13TH, 2025

November 13th, 2025

9:00AM to 10:30AM (ICT)

### Community Health: Lessons from the Rohingya Camps in Cox's Bazar

*Moderated by: Md. Abul Bashar, Community Partners International*

#### Speakers:

**Md Shamsud Douza**, Additional Refugee Relief and Repatriation Commissioner (Joint Secretary), Office of the Refugee Relief and Repatriation Commissioner, Cox's Bazar

**Dr. Kazi Nusmus Sakib**, Assistant Public Health Office, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, Cox's Bazar

**Dr. Ishat Nabila**, Program Manager - Technical, BRAC

**Mrs. Shomjida**, Sexual Reproductive Health Volunteer Focal, Community Partners International, Bangladesh

**Mohammed Yesope**, Community Health Volunteer Focal, Community Partners International, Bangladesh

This session offers an immersive look into one of the world's largest refugee settlements, where Community Health Workers are the backbone of essential health services. Through live discussions and field footage, participants will explore how CHWs, Govt, and leading Partners sustain care amid crisis, the challenges they face, and the lessons their resilience and innovation offer for humanitarian and health systems globally.

Join us in English, Burmese or Thai.

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November 13th, 2025

9:00AM to 10:30AM (ICT)

## A.04 - Digital Transformations and Human Dimensions: CHWs Strengthening Primary Health Care

*Moderated by: Hay Mar Wai, Community Partners International*

- Scoping Review of the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) by Community Health Workers (CHWs) to support Primary Health Care delivery (PHC)  
*| Presented by Dr. Jade Kua*
- From Data to Action: Enhancing Maternal Care Completion through Community Health Worker Integration and Automated Digital Reminders in Lombok, Indonesia  
*| Presented by Puan Nurul Ramadhani*
- Bridging the Gap of Community Health Workers' Digital Competencies  
*| Presented by Rachmi*
- Promoting Gender Responsive Policies and Programmes for Community Health Workers in Bangladesh: Stakeholder and Policy Perspectives  
*| Presented by Nahitun Naher*
- Strengthening Primary Health Care by Exploring the Mental Well-Being of Community Health Workers (CHWs) in Bangladesh: Using Photovoice to Illuminate Lived Experiences, Stressors, and Sources of Motivation  
*| Presented by Obaida Karim*

November 13th, 2025

10:30AM to 12:00PM (ICT)

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**Bram Wispelway**, Co-founder and Chief Strategist, Health for Palestine  
Community Health Worker, Palestine

**Joanna Raven**, Professor, Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine

**Emily Ruth**, President, Karenni Nurses Association

**Mitzu**, Deputy Director, [organization name withheld]

In case you missed it, join us for this re-broadcasting of an important conversation. Conflicts are intensifying and spreading, fracturing communities across the world. As systems are weakened by the impact of conflict, the role of CHWs often becomes even more critical. This session will examine how conflict transforms community health work, explore what CHWs can do in these challenging contexts and highlight the additional or specialized support that they need to continue delivering essential care in conflict-affected communities.

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**1:00PM to 3:00PM (ICT)**

## **A.05 - The Essential Role of Community Health Workers: Supporting Nutrition, Advancing HIV Care and More**

*Moderated by: Aye Nyein Ei, Community Partners International*

- An Innovative Program: CHWs Support Nutrition Assessments in School Feeding Program in WV Malawi Area Programs  
*| Presented by Wezi Kalumbu*
- Role of CHWs Improving Nutrition in Hard to Reach Communities in Papua New Guinea: World Vision International's 'Better and Enhanced Agriculture for Nutrition's Project  
*| Presented by Ainda Piako Kepon*
- Integrating Village Health Teams in the Agri-Food System: A Case Study for Improving Nutrition Outcomes in Kyaka II Refugee Settlement, Uganda  
*| Presented by Sylvia Turyamuhebwa*
- Enhancing Maternal and Newborn Nutrition Through Animated Digital Films  
*| Presented by Phanice Akinyi*
- Using Data-Driven Approaches to Rethink CHW Packages in Fragile Settings  
*| Presented by Muna Abdirizak Jama*
- Mapping the Landscape of Partner Support for Community Health Programs in Madagascar  
*| Presented by Ando H. G. Randrianandrasana*
- Co-Creating the PROFESS Framework with Community Health Workers: Strengthening the TB and HIV Response in Madagascar  
*| Presented by Haingotiana Razafimanantsoa*
- Enhancing KP-Led HIV Services in Myanmar: Rapid Assessment of Capacity Building Trainings provided by Myanmar Positive Group for PLHIV Peer Counsellors  
*| Presented by Dr. Myat Thet Nwe*

November 13th, 2025

1:00PM to 2:00PM (ICT)

### B.09 - Role of Digital Health in Managing Chronic Diseases by Community Health Workers at Home

*Moderated by: Joost van Engen, Healthy Entrepreneurs*

#### Speakers:

**Dr Gregory Ganda**, County Minister of Health, Kisumu County

**Rose Apondi**, Community Health Worker, Kisumu County

**Adima Mesa**, Project Manager, Healthy Entrepreneurs

This session explores how digital health empowers community health workers (CHWs) to manage chronic diseases like hypertension and diabetes in low-resource settings. Drawing on experiences from Kisumu County and Healthy Entrepreneurs, the panel will discuss digital workflows for patient identification, remote consultations, and ePrescriptions, which have led to significant reductions in stroke incidents, DALYs, and healthcare costs. The session will highlight policy enablers, user-centered innovation, and strategies for scaling digital health, with perspectives from government, CHWs, and implementers. Participants will also consider the potential for expanding these approaches to other chronic diseases such as HIV/AIDS and TB.

November 13th, 2025

2:00PM to 3:00PM (ICT)

### B.10 - Acceptability of Community Health Worker-Delivered MNH Services in Somalia and South Sudan: Understanding and Responding to Community and Provider Perspectives

*Moderated by: Muna Jama, International Rescue Committee*

#### Speakers:

**Muna Jama**, Research Project Coordinator, International Rescue Committee

**Lual Agok Luka**, Research Manager, International Rescue Committee

**Teresia Macharia**, Research Coordinator, International Rescue Committee

**Asia Mohamed**, Senior Researcher, Somali Research and Development Institute

In Somalia and South Sudan, insecurity often limits access to facility-based maternal and newborn health (MNH) services. To address this, the IRC is implementing Community-Based MNH programs that train community health workers (CHWs) to deliver essential care directly to households. This panel presents recent research on the acceptability and implementation of CHW-led MNH services, exploring how women, families, and decision-makers perceive their relevance and effectiveness. It also highlights CHWs' experiences, challenges, and adaptations in fragile contexts. Together, these findings offer practical lessons for designing, sustaining, and scaling community-based MNH interventions in humanitarian and conflict-affected settings.

November 13th, 2025

3:00PM to 5:00PM (ICT)

## A.06 - Strengthening Community Health Systems through Capacity Building, Integration, and Governance

*Moderated by: Tara Russell, Community Partners International*

- Participants and Facilitators Perceptions of Training as part of the New Community Health Workers Strategy in Mozambique  
*| Presented by Vanda dos Muchangos*
- Maturity and Readiness of Community Health Workforce System: Insights from Community Health Assessment in Nasarawa State, Nigeria  
*| Presented by Luke Alade*
- Retention Level and Associated Factors Among Community Health Workers in Mbarara, Rubirizi and Rwampara Districts: A 15-20 Year Follow Up Study  
*| Presented by Byamugisha Edison*
- Early Learnings of Deploying Professionalized CHWs under Municipal Governance: A Pilot Community Health Program Launched by Government of Nepal  
*| Presented by Hira Kumari Niroula*
- Role Of Community Health Committees In Facilitating Community Health Worker Effectiveness In Maternal And Newborn Health Programs: A Case Of South Sudan  
*| Presented by Mamothera Carol Mothup*
- Empowered yet Constrained: The Paradox of Agency Among Community Health Workers in Kenya, in the Context of Primary Health Care Systems Reforms Towards Universal Health Coverage  
*| Presented by Faith Munyao*
- Addressing Gender Inequalities among Community Health Workers in Senegal: Towards Inclusive and Effective Health Systems  
*| Presented by Thenjiwe Sisimayi*
- The Kaduna PHC Management Strengthening Project: An Action Learning Implementation Approach to Management Capacity Building of Primary Healthcare Facility Managers in Kaduna State, Nigeria  
*| Presented by Abolade Oyeler*

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**November 13th, 2025**

**3:00PM to 4:00PM**

**B.11 - Unlocking Community Health Worker Potential: Strategies to Expand Immunization Coverage in Under-Reached Communities**

Speakers and session details to be confirmed.

**November 13th, 2025**

**4:00PM to 5:00PM (ICT)**

**B.12 - Making The (Business) Case for Country Investment in CHW Programs**

**Speakers:**

**Paul Booth**, Health Financing Consultant, Independent / HEERO

This session showcases a CHW Business Case analysis framework and decision guide designed to support Ministry of Health officials develop a compelling business case for investing in national CHW programmes. Using the ten program components of the widely adopted CHW-AIM framework this practical resource provides a standardised and structured approach through which to examine, quantify and then cost the ten program components demonstrated through research and practitioner expertise to be highly correlated with CHW program success. Discover how to use this tool to win the policy and budget changes necessary to ensure CHWs are adequately salaried, skilled, supervised, and supplied.

**November 13th, 2025**

**5:00PM to 6:00PM (ICT)**

**Poster Exhibition**

Join us in the Expo Hall to explore over 100 posters showcasing research, field innovations, and lived experiences from community health workers and community health programs from around the world. This virtual poster exhibition features posters across four sub-themes: Strengthening Community Health for Equitable Health Systems, CHWs in Crisis: First Responders in Affected Communities, CHWs Central to Advancing Primary Health Care and Bridging the Gaps: Reaching Vulnerable Communities with CHWs. Browse at your own pace, connect ideas across regions, and use the chat feature to leave messages for presenters to exchange insights and feedback. All posters will be accessible in the Expo Hall for the duration of the event, a list of poster presentations can be found at the end of the program.

**November 13th, 2025**

**5:00PM to 6:00PM (ICT)**

### **Networking Space**

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**November 13th, 2025**

**6:00PM to 7:00PM (ICT)**

### **Co-Creating our Collective Call to Action**

Be part of shaping the Bangkok Call to Action, this powerful statement will be read during the Closing Plenary, as a collective statement that will reflect the priorities and perspectives of participants of the 4th International CHW Symposium. Join this open session to review the draft, share your feedback, and contribute ideas. Your input will help ensure the final document captures the shared vision, commitments, and momentum of community health workers and the global community health movement.

**November 13th, 2025**

**6:00PM to 7:00PM (ICT)**

### **B.13 - Workshop: Strengthening CHW Policies Through a Gender Responsive Tool**

*Moderated by: Johanna Riha, United Nations University - International Institute for Global Health*

#### **Speakers:**

**Johanna Riha**, Research Lead, United Nations University - International Institute for Global Health

**Anuradha Nair**, Regional Gender Advisor, UNICEF, ROSA

**Susan Albone**, Gender and Health Consultant, UNICEF, ROSA

**Sapna Mishra**, Policy Research Associate, United Nations University - International Institute for Global Health

While there is a large evidence base documenting how gender inequalities affect CHWs, few steps have been taken to create more robust policies to address these inequalities. The proposed tool was developed with diverse stakeholders to identify gaps and opportunities in CHW policies to tackle gender inequalities in the workforce and help with planning on how to strengthen these policies. The session provides a platform to introduce the policy analysis tool to a range of stakeholders, including CHWs, and to engage in a collaborative discussion about its relevance and feasibility of implementing it in different contexts.



November 13th, 2025

7:00PM to 8:00PM (ICT)

## B.27 - No Stuff, No Service: Improving Resilience to Supply, Equip and Protect CHWs in Turbulent Times

*Moderated by: Rachel Deussom, Senior Strategic Advisor to Chemonics International*

### Speakers:

**Grace Adeya**, Malaria Task Order Director - Global Health Supply Chain Program, Chemonics International

**Vince Blaser**, Advocacy Communications and Program Director (Interim), Gavi CSO Constituency

**Fredrick Obondi**, Community Health Promoter, Kisumu County, Ministry of Health, Kenya

**Dr. Adamu Sambo**, Executive Chairman, Bauchi State Agency for the Control of AIDS, TB and Malaria

Community health workers deliver health at the last mile. Effective supply chains are critical to empower them. We will build on conversations on the community supply chain from the 3rd CHW Symposium. Considering major shifts in global health financing and health supply chain volatility in light of conflict, migration, and the last mile, panelists and participants will engage on key questions:

1. What approaches build supply chain system resilience to supply and equip CHWs effectively?
2. What is needed to improve health supply chain resilience and reach all communities?

November 13th, 2025

8:00AM to 9:30AM (EST)

## Alliance Building: Making Systems Change for CHWs a Reality

*Moderated by: Dan Palazuelos*

### Speakers:

**Dr. Richard Kabanda**

**Carmen Vilela Vagaras**

**Margaret Odera**

**Denise Smith**

To transform systems, community health workers and advocates must build power collectively. Alliances at national, regional and global levels have effectively demonstrated that together, CHWs can demand the dignity they deserve enabling the effective delivery of health services to their communities. This plenary will highlight the successes, challenges and on-going needs in power-building efforts led by community health associations.

**Join us in English, French, or Spanish.**

Cette session sera aussi disponible en français | Esta sesión también estará disponible en español

November 13th, 2025

10:00AM to 12:00PM (EST)

## A.07 - Digital Training and Innovation: Expanding Capacity for Community Health Services

*Moderated by: Anam Ali, Community Partners International*

- Human-centered Design to Co-create Digital Training on Common Childhood Illnesses for Community Health Workers: Insights from Participatory Design and Testing  
*| Presented by Jamie Johnston*
- Digital Lifelines: Transforming Maternal and Newborn Health Outcomes through Integrating Telehealth and Community Service Delivery in Kenya  
*| Presented by Edna Anab*
- Strengthening CHW Delivery of Health, Nutrition and Early Childhood Development Services: The Role of Digital Tools, Supervision, and Wider Systems Support  
*| Presented by Deo Medardi*
- Data-Driven Capacity Strengthening of Community Health Workers: Longitudinal Knowledge Assessments and Digital Training in Rural Sindh, Pakistan  
*| Presented by Farwa Shahid*
- Closing the Data-to-Action Loop: Empowering Community Health Worker Programs in Uganda Through an Automated National Reporting System  
*| Presented by Rutayisire Meddy*
- Strengthening CHWs' Capacity on Non-Communicable Diseases and Major Communicable Diseases through Digital Blended Learning in Ethiopia  
*| Presented by Kidist Mulugeta Tekle*
- Bridging the Chronic Disease Treatment Gap for Immigrants: A Pilot Study on the Effectiveness of Community Health Workers and Technology in New York City  
*| Presented by Emmanuel d'Harcourt*
- Advancing One Health Community Event Based Surveillance: Integrating Community-Based Digital Systems for Enhanced Early Warning and Timely Response for Effective Pandemic Preparedness, A Collaboration in Busia- Kenya  
*| Presented by Arinda Arthur*

November 13th, 2025

10:00AM to 11:00AM (EST)

### **B.15 - CHW Care Models to Control Hypertension and Reduce CVD Risk: Randomized Trial Evidence from Rural South Africa and Conflict-affected Villages in Myanmar**

*Moderated by: Nan Ei Mon Myint, Community Partners International*

#### **Speakers:**

**Adam Richards**, Senior Affiliate, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health; Adjunct Professor, Mahidol University

**Nan Ei Mon Myint**, Research Manager, Community Partners International

**Zin Mar Win**, Quantitative Research Specialist, Community Partners International

**Saw Kyaw Myint**, Senior Research Coordinator, Karen Department of Health and Welfare

**Nombulelo Magula**, Head of Department of Internal Medicine, Nelson R Mandela School of Medicine University of KwaZulu-Natal

Cardiovascular disease (CVD) is the leading cause of death in South Africa and Myanmar, yet access to evidence-based treatments to prevent heart attacks and strokes remains low. This session presents results from two randomized trials showing how community health workers (CHWs) can improve hypertension treatment and reduce CVD risk in distinct populations in rural- and conflict-affected areas of two countries. The two care models rely on CHW-led household visits to monitor therapy and deliver medications, and effectively lower blood pressure and prevent CVD events. A facilitated discussion will explore adaptation of the care models to other populations and emergencies.

November 13th, 2025

11:00AM to 12:00PM (EST)

### **B.16 - Strengthening CHW Roles to Deliver the Hepatitis B Birth Dose and Advance Community-Centered PHC**

Speakers and session details to be confirmed.

November 13th, 2025

12:00PM to 1:00PM (EST)

### **Poster Exhibition**

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November 13th, 2025

12:00PM to 1:00PM (EST)

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November 13th, 2025

1:00PM to 2:30PM (EST)

Re-Broadcasting:

## Community Health: Lessons from the Rohingya Camps in Cox's Bazar

*Moderated by: Md. Abul Bashar, Community Partners International*

### Speakers:

**Md Shamsud Douza**, Additional Refugee Relief and Repatriation Commissioner (Joint Secretary), Office of the Refugee Relief and Repatriation Commissioner, Cox's Bazar

**Dr. Kazi Nusmus Sakib**, Assistant Public Health Office, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, Cox's Bazar

**Dr. Ishat Nabila**, Program Manager - Technical, BRAC

**Mrs. Shomjida**, Sexual Reproductive Health Volunteer Focal, Community Partners International, Bangladesh

**Mohammed Yesope**, Community Health Volunteer Focal, Community Partners International, Bangladesh

Missed our earlier session? Join us for a re-broadcasting of this dynamic conversation. This session offers an immersive look into one of the world's largest refugee settlements, where Community Health Workers are the backbone of essential health services. Through live discussions and field footage, participants will explore how CHWs, Govt, and leading Partners sustain care amid crisis, the challenges they face, and the lessons their resilience and innovation offer for humanitarian and health systems globally.

November 13th, 2025

1:00PM to 2:00PM (EST)

## A.08 - Community Health Workers in Crisis Contexts: Leadership, Autonomy and Ethical Engagement

*Moderated by: Alex Moodie, Community Partners International*

- "The Clinic is Ours?!": CHWs, Essential Care, and Disputes over Health Autonomy in a Context of Crisis and Multiple Violences in Chiapas, México

*| Presented by María Cristina Alarcón Rebollar*

- Balancing Response and Responsibility: Ethical Engagement with CHWs in Crisis Conditions in India

*| Presented by Baldeep K. Dhaliwal*

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**November 13th, 2025**

**1:00PM to 2:00PM (EST)**

**B.17 - Empowering Community Health Workers Through Digital Innovation: Zambia's Community Health Information Platform (CHiP) Experience**

Speakers and session details to be confirmed.

**November 13th, 2025**

**3:00PM to 4:00PM (ICT)**

**Co-Creating our Collective Call to Action**

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**November 13th, 2025**

**3:00PM to 4:00PM (EST)**

**B.18 - This Bridge Called My Back: CHWs as Architects of Health Impact and Sustainability**

Speakers and session details to be confirmed.

November 13th, 2025

4:00PM to 5:00PM (EST)

## CHW Symposium Webinar Series Re-Broadcast

### Voices from the Frontlines: CHWs in Conflict-Affected Communities

*Moderated by: Kyu Kyu Than, Burnet Institute Myanmar*

#### Speakers:

**Malak, Syrian** Close-to-Community Health Worker, Lebanon

**Joanna Khalil**, Research Fellow, American University Beirut

**Paolo Malerba**, Doctor, EMERGENCY

**Alessandro Lamberti**, Doctor EMERGENCY

**Amuda Baba**, Director General at Institut Panafricain de Santé Communautaire et Médecine Tropicale  
University College, Ituri District, Democratic Republic of the Congo

**Mejd Azzeh**, Director, 1for3 Palestine

Community Health Workers play a vital yet often overlooked role in some of the world's most fragile and conflict-affected settings. From ongoing humanitarian crises to sudden-onset emergencies, they are frequently the only accessible source of care for communities caught in instability and violence. Working amid insecurity, displacement, and limited resources, CHWs continue to deliver essential services, sustain trust, and provide a lifeline of continuity in the face of chaos. This rebroadcast from our CHW Symposium Webinar Series spotlights panelists from Ukraine, Palestine, Lebanon and the Democratic Republic of the Congo, as they explore the practical, emotional, and ethical realities of community health work in crisis zones and highlight strategies to strengthen support, protection, and recognition for community health workers. Join us to hear powerful reflections from the field and insights on how to build more resilient and responsive community health systems in fragile contexts.

This webinar was initially held on October 22nd, 2025 as part of the CHW Symposium Webinar Series and was organized in partnership with Community Partners International and the ReBUILD for Resilience Consortium.

November 13th, 2025

4:00PM to 5:00PM (EST)

### B.19 - Integrating Perinatal Mental Health into Antenatal Care in Telangana: A Community-Based Systems Approach through Auxiliary Nurse Midwives

Speakers and session details to be confirmed.

## NOVEMBER 14TH, 2025

November 14th, 2025

9:00AM to 10:30AM (ICT)

### Community Health Workers on the Frontlines of Health Services on the Thailand-Myanmar Border

Join this virtual site visit to explore how community health workers are keeping primary health care alive amid conflict, displacement, and political upheaval in Myanmar and along the Thailand border. Hear from ethnic health organizations, practitioners, civil society and community health workers on the frontline of innovations, cross-border support, and strategies that empower CHWs to deliver lifesaving care to marginalized and displaced communities impacted by conflict.

Join us in English, Burmese or Thai.

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November 14th, 2025

9:00AM to 10:30AM (ICT)

### A.09 - Community-Based Approaches to Strengthening Maternal and Child Health

*Moderated by: Eindra Htoo, Community Partners International*

- Community Health Workers (CHW) as Catalysts for Improving Anemia Treatment Adherence in Pregnancy: A Case Study from Shravasti District, Uttar Pradesh, India  
*| Presented by Arpita Pal*
- What Drives Antenatal Care Quality: Midwives' Competencies or Puskesmas Standards?  
*| Presented by Miftahul Jannah*
- Mobilizing Community Health Workers for Equitable Maternal and Neonatal Health Services: Findings from a Rapid Review and Mapping in Nepal  
*| Presented by Deepak Paudel*
- Nurse-Led and Community-Driven Expansion of Immunization Services for Zero-Dose Children in Conflict-Affected Myanmar  
*| Presented By Hein Thura Aung*
- Community Health Worker Convergence for Last-Mile Maternal and Child Health Delivery: Evidence from the AAA Platform in India  
*| Presented by Keshav Sahani*
- Enhancing Childcare Outcomes by Integrating Grandmothers Through Community Health Workers  
*| Presented by Sambo Lay*



November 14th, 2025

10:30AM to 12:00PM (ICT)

Re-Broadcast:

## Alliance Building: Making Systems Change for CHWs a Reality

*Moderated by: Dan Palazuelos*

### Speakers:

**Dr. Richard Kabanda**

**Carmen Vilela Vagaras**

**Margaret Odera**

**Denise Smith**

To transform systems, community health workers and advocates must build power collectively. Alliances at national, regional and global levels have effectively demonstrated that together, CHWs can demand the dignity they deserve enabling the effective delivery of health services to their communities. This plenary will highlight the successes, challenges and on-going needs in power-building efforts led by community health associations.

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November 14th, 2025

12:00PM to 1:00PM (ICT)

## Poster Exhibition

Join us in the Expo Hall to explore over 100 posters showcasing research, field innovations, and lived experiences from community health workers and community health programs from around the world. This virtual poster exhibition features posters across four sub-themes: Strengthening Community Health for Equitable Health Systems, CHWs in Crisis: First Responders in Affected Communities, CHWs Central to Advancing Primary Health Care and Bridging the Gaps: Reaching Vulnerable Communities with CHWs. Browse at your own pace, connect ideas across regions, and use the chat feature to leave messages for presenters to exchange insights and feedback. All posters will be accessible in the Expo Hall for the duration of the event, a list of poster presentations can be found at the end of the program.

November 14th, 2025

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## Networking Space

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November 14th, 2025

1:00PM to 3:00PM (ICT)

## A.10 - Integrating Mental Health into Community Health Systems: Resilience, Workforce Wellness and Empowerment

*Moderated by: Rachel Whelan, Community Partners International*

- Caring for The Carers: Policy Agenda-Setting for Mental Health and Wellbeing for Community Health Workers in Kenya Through Community-Based Participatory Research

*| Presented by Stephen Mulupi*

- Empowering Health Care Workers (HCWs) to Champion Mental Health in Primary Health Care System

*| Presented by Rebecca Nabirabwa*

- Mental Well-being and Resilience Among Community Health Workers: Lessons for Strengthening Primary Health Care (PHC) Service Delivery in Rural Bangladesh

*| Presented by Ranjan Koiri*

- Caring for the Care Providers: Co-designing Mental Well-being Interventions for Community Health Workers (CHWs) of Bangladesh

*| Presented by Nazia Islam*

- Empowering Community Health Workers to Deliver Integrated Behavioral Interventions for Mental Health and Non-Communicable Diseases (BECOME): A Type II Hybrid Implementation–Effectiveness Trial in Nepal

*| Presented by Jyoti Nepal*

- Community Health Promoters and Youth Psychosocial Wellbeing in Nairobi's Informal Settlements: A Community-Based Participatory Study in Korogocho, Kenya

*| Presented by Clement Oduor*

- Empowering Community Health Workers Through Improved Mental Well-being: Insights from Body Mapping and Narrative Timelines in Bangladesh

*| Presented by Semonty Jahan*

- Body Mapping the Intersecting Axes of Motivations and Stressors Community Health Workers (CHWs) Experience and the Implication for their Mental Well-being in Rural and Urban Informal Settlements in Kenya

*| Presented by Maheeshi Nilupul Janapriya*

November 14th, 2025

1:00PM to 2:00PM (ICT)

## B.20 - Digitally Enabling Community Health Workers in Indonesia for Life-Course Primary Health Care (PHC)

### Speakers:

**Dr. Katherine Shelley**, Deputy Director, Primary Health Care, PATH

**Irma Tasya**, Project Coordinator, PATH

**Nisa Nurkhotami**, National Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning Specialist, PATH

**Danarastri Setyawati**, National Program Officer, PATH

Representative from the Ministry of Health of Indonesia

Representative from SomiaCx

The Government of Indonesia (GOI) is undertaking an exciting transformation of their health system, shifting from a verticalized structure to an integrated life-course PHC approach—integrasi layanan primer (ILP). Community health workers (kaders) play a critical role in ILP, delivering essential PHC within communities and facilitating linkages to follow-up care at facilities. Yet kader mastery of key ILP competencies and service provision has been uneven, necessitating new approaches for kader learning and support. The session highlights digitally-driven strategies undertaken by GOI and PATH in Indonesia to nurture life-course competent kaders and support to strengthen the community-facility PHC continuum.

November 14th, 2025

3:00PM to 4:00PM (ICT)

### CHW Symposium Webinar Series Re-Broadcast:

## Nothing About Us Without Us: Centering CHWs in Health Research

*Moderated by: Cleo Baskin and Linnea Stansert-Latzen, Community Health Impact Coalition*

### Speakers:

**Mary Naliaka Juma**, Community Health Worker, Matisi Dispensary in Bungoma, Kenya.

**Jane Wamae**, Senior Research Analyst, Lwala Community Alliance

**Dr. Karen Finnegan**, Managing Director, Pivot Science, Pivot Madagascar

**Dr. Noelle Wiggins**, Co-Principal Investigator / Co-Executive Director, CHW Center for Research and Evaluation

**Victoria Adewumi**, Co-Principal Investigator / Co-Executive Director, CHW Center for Research and Evaluation

Community health workers are often subjects of research, but are rarely recognized as equal partners in the research process. This imbalance reinforces extractive practices and limits the relevance and impact of findings for those working on the front lines. This rebroadcast from the CHW Symposium Webinar Series explores practical models of CHW-led and co-designed research, offering insights into how inclusive research approaches can shift power, strengthen ethical integrity, and generate knowledge that truly reflects community realities. Join us to hear from researchers, practitioners and community health workers who are redefining what equitable research collaboration can look like from design and data collection to analysis, interpretation, and dissemination.

This webinar was initially held on August 19th, 2025 as part of the CHW Symposium Webinar Series and was organized in partnership with Community Partners International and the Community Health Impact Coalition.

**November 14th, 2025**

**3:00PM to 4:30PM (ICT)**

**CHW Symposium Webinar Series Re-Broadcast:**

## **Gender Transformative Programming: CHWs as Agents of Social Change**

*Moderated by: Dr. Joanna Raven, Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine*

### **Speakers:**

**Prossie Muyingo**, Community Health Worker, Mityana District, Uganda,

**Dr. Sabina F. Rashid**, Professor, BRAC University

**Dr. Wesam Mansour**, Lecturer, Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine

**Abriti Arjyal**, Research Manager, HERD International

Although community health workers, predominantly women, are essential to health systems worldwide, the gendered dynamics that shape their work are often unrecognized. This rebroadcast of the CHW Symposium Webinar Series explores how gender-transformative approaches can reposition CHWs not just as instruments of gender equity, but as skilled, professional health workers who deserve meaningful investment, recognition, and leadership opportunities. Drawing on field-based experiences, community-led models, and emerging research, this webinar highlights strategies to make community health systems more inclusive, equitable, and effective. Join us to hear from practitioners and advocates who are redefining CHWs as agents of change in their communities and for health systems.

This webinar was initially held on July 29th, 2025 as part of the CHW Symposium Webinar Series and was organized in partnership with Community Partners International and the ReBUILD for Resilience Consortium, with support from the Community Health Impact Coalition.

**November 14th, 2025**

**5:00PM to 6:00PM (ICT)**

## **Poster Exhibition**

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**November 14th, 2025**

**5:00PM to 6:00PM (ICT)**

## **Networking Space**

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**November 14th, 2025**

**6:00PM to 7:00PM (ICT)**

## **B.21 - Rethinking How We Address Gendered Workplace Violence (WPV): Perspectives from CHWs**

*Moderated by: Sally Mtenga, Ifakara Health Institute and Johanna Riha, United Nations University - International Institute for Global Health*

### **Speakers:**

**Asha George**, Professor and SARCHI Chair, University of Western Cape

**Sally Mtenga, Head**, Health Systems Department, Ifakara Health Institute

**Angel Dilip**, Director of Programs and Operations, Apotheker

**Yonela Mentese**, Principal Environmental Health Practitioner, City of Cape Town Municipality

**Mahamadi Tassemedo**, Community Health Director, Ministry of Health, Burkina Faso

**Herve Hien**, Director General, Institut National de Santé Publique (National Institute of Public Health), Burkina Faso

**Johanna Riha**, Research Lead, Gender Equality and Intersectionality, United Nations University - International Institute for Global Health

Deep-rooted gender and power inequalities, replicated in health systems, make CHWs vulnerable to gendered workplace violence (GWPV). Many CHWs are not regularized; their place of work is primarily within communities, and their roles and responsibilities vary greatly between and within countries. These factors shape distinct risks and forms of GWPV experienced by CHWs, and the levels of protection and support they receive. This session provides a platform for research teams to present methodological designs, share preliminary insights, and refine the study's premises through collaborative exchanges. These discussions will inform dissemination and advocacy strategies, and explore possible mechanisms for addressing GWPV.

November 14th, 2025

6:00PM to 7:00PM (ICT)

## B.26 - Strengthening Community Health Systems: WAHO's Regional Approach for the ECOWAS Region

*Moderated by: Dr Virgil Lokossou, West Africa Health Organization and Dr Félix Agbla, West Africa Health Organization*

### Speakers:

**Dr Melchior Athanase J.C. Aïssi**, Director General, West Africa Health Organization

**Dr Namoudou Keita**, Consultant, West Africa Health Organization

**Dr Lionel Sogbossi**, Professional for PHC & NCDs, West Africa Health Organization

WAHO is a specialized Institution of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS). Strengthening Community Health Interventions is one of the priority programmes recommended by the ECOWAS Assembly of Health Ministers (AHM). The WAHO's regional experience will be presented in a panel format, including an overview of the regional situation analysis on the implementation of national community health policies; and brief presentations on the main regional strategy documents harmonized and adopted by the AHM. The next steps in this regional process, and its implications for member countries and technical and financial partners will close this session with a Q&A session.

November 14th, 2025

7:00PM to 8:00PM (ICT)

## B.22 - Integrating Eye Health into National CHW Programs for Stronger NCD Response and PHC

*Moderated by: Maggie Savage Dawson, EYEliance*

### Speakers:

**S. Olasford Wiah**, Director, National Community Health Program, Ministry of Health Liberia

**Dr. Ochorin Jimmy Luthar**, Senior Medical Officer, Ministry of Health Uganda

**Kadjo Gamael Koizan**, Directeur Coordonnateur, Programme National de Santé Oculaire, Côte d'Ivoire

**Dr Isaac Okiring**, Senior Associate, Clinton Health Access Initiative Uganda

Eye health is closely tied to NCDs: conditions like refractive error and cataract are NCDs, while NCDs such as diabetes can cause or worsen eye disease. Governments in Liberia, Ethiopia, Uganda, Côte d'Ivoire, and India are integrating eye health into CHW programs. Evidence shows eye health is not a burdensome add-on but a catalyst for integrated NCD care--enhancing lives and livelihoods, motivating CHWs, building community trust, and increasing service uptake. This panel will share lessons, highlight feasibility and impact, and explore strategies governments and partners use to scale integrated NCD and eye health service delivery. This session will be available in English and French.

**Interpretation in French will be available for this session.**

November 14th, 2025

1:00PM to 2:00PM (EST)

## A.11 - From Data to Delivery: Community Health Workers Advancing Maternal and Child Health, Immunizations and Disease

*Moderated by: Catherine Lee, Community Partners International*

- Strengthening Primary Health Care Through Community Health Workers: Lessons from the First 1000 Days Project in Remote Laos  
*| Presented by Adweeti Nepal*
- Improving Access to Equitable Health Services for Children Under Five and Women in Conflict Affected Communities of South Sudan  
*| Presented by Jamshed Khan*
- Collaborative Capacity Building to Enhance CHWs' Role in Maternal, Newborn, and Child Health Service Delivery  
*| Presented by Thabisa Bobo*
- Community-Based Delivery of Life-saving Maternal and Newborn Health Interventions in Vulnerable Ethiopian Communities: Lessons from Implementation Research  
*| Presented by Gizachew Tadele Tiruneh*
- Community-Based Epidemiological Surveillance: A Community Health Workers-Led Strategy to Strengthen Primary Health Care in Sikasso, Mali between March and December 2024  
*| Presented by Birahim Yaguemar Gueye*
- Leveraging Predictive Analytics to Identify Zero-Dose and Missed Children Through Community Health Workers (CHWs) in Uganda  
*| Presented by Pearl Eunias Musana*
- CHWs have Maximized the Vaccination Coverage in the Cox's Bazar Rohingya Camps, Bangladesh  
*| Presented by Md Abul Bashar*
- Enhancing capacity of Community Health Workers on Antimicrobial Stewardship in Wakiso District, Uganda  
*| Presented by Filimin Niyongabo*



November 14th, 2025

8:00AM to 9:00AM (EST)

### B.23 - Using the Health Systems Assessment and Improvement Matrix (S-AIM) in Uganda and Kenya for CHW Program Optimization

#### Speakers:

**Brenda Nakanwagi**, Senior Program Officer, Ministry of Health, Uganda

**Fredrick Kitaka**, Director, Community Health, Machakos County, Kenya

**Michele Gaudrault**, Technical Director Health and Nutrition, World Vision International

The Ministry of Health Uganda and the Machakos County Community Health Directorate in Kenya partnered with World Vision International to use the Health Systems Assessment and Improvement Matrix (S-AIM) for reviews of the CHW programs in those two countries. This session will describe the objectives of those analyses, the methodology used, and the resulting action plans, with updates from country representatives as to the current status of those action plans. Audience discussion will explore the possibilities and value-add of replication in other contexts.

November 14th, 2025

9:00AM to 10:00AM (EST)

### B.24 - Learning with the Frontlines in Crisis: Participatory Leadership and Evidence-Based Mental Health Support for CHWs — The TRC Case

Speakers and session details to be confirmed.

November 14th, 2025

9:00AM to 10:30AM (ICT)

#### Re-Broadcast:

### Community Health Workers on the Frontlines of Health Services on the Thailand-Myanmar Border

*Moderated by: Dr. Joanna Raven, Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine*

Join this virtual site visit to explore how community health workers are keeping primary health care alive amid conflict, displacement, and political upheaval in Myanmar and along the Thailand border. Hear from ethnic health organizations, practitioners, civil society and community health workers on the frontline of innovations, cross-border support, and strategies that empower CHWs to deliver lifesaving care to marginalized and displaced communities impacted by conflict.

Join us in English, Burmese or Thai.

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**November 14th, 2025**

**10:30AM to 12:00PM (EST)**

**CHW Symposium Webinar Series Re-Broadcast:**

## **Frontline Resilience: How CHWs Are Responding to the Health Impacts of Climate Change**

*Moderated by: Muskaan Khepla, SingHealth Duke-NUS Global Health Institute*

As the health impacts of climate change intensify, from rising heat stress and flooding to malnutrition and disease outbreaks, community health workers are emerging as essential first responders in communities most affected. Trusted and deeply embedded in the populations they serve, CHWs are uniquely positioned to monitor, mitigate, and respond to climate-related health threats. Yet, despite their growing contributions, community health workers remain largely unrecognized in national climate adaptation and health resilience strategies. This rebroadcast of the CHW Symposium Webinar Series shines a spotlight on the evolving role of community health workers at the intersection of climate and health, exploring lived experiences from the field, key policy gaps, and opportunities to better equip and support CHWs for climate-responsive care.

### **Speakers:**

**Lyka Castillo**, Barangay Health Worker, Municipality of Jomalig, Quezon Province, Philippines

**Renzo R. Guinto**, Associate Professor and Lead, Planetary Health, SingHealth Duke-NUS Global Health Institute, Singapore

**Wendo Sahar**, Executive Director/Founder, Dandelion Africa

**I. Nyoman Sutarsa**, Senior Lecturer in Population Health, Australian National University

**Crispus Mwemaho**, Community Health Advocate and Youth Leader, Abayuuti Climate Action Network, Uganda

**Shobhana Nagraj**, Assistant Professor in Primary & Community Care, University of Cambridge

**Faraz Khalid**, Research & Innovation Officer, Special Programme on Primary Health Care, World Health Organization

This webinar was initially held on September 24th, 2025 as part of the CHW Symposium Webinar Series and was organized in partnership with Community Partners International and SingHealth Duke-NUS Global Health Institute.

**November 14th, 2025**

**10:00AM to 11:00AM (EST)**

## **B.25 - Workload Analysis of Rural Health Motivators, a CHW Cadre in Eswatini: A Discussion of Need, Methodology and Outcomes**

*Moderated by: John Myeni, Community Based Health Services*

### **Speakers:**

**John Myeni**, Program Manager, Community Based Health Services

**Thabile Luhlanga**, Program officer, Community Based Health Services

**Michele Gaudrault**, Technical Director Health and Nutrition, World Vision International

In August 2025, the Ministry of Health in Eswatini with support from World Vision International conducted a comprehensive CHW workload analysis. The study triangulated data from expert time estimates, CHW interviews and time-motion observations. Findings revealed excessive CHW workloads and informed scenario modeling to explore program adjustment options. This session will highlight the importance of CHW workload quantification as part of CHW integration into primary health care systems; describe the methodology, results and programmatic implications of the Eswatini workload analysis; and discuss relevance and replicability for CHW programs elsewhere.

**November 14th, 2025**

**12:00PM to 1:00PM (EST)**

## **Poster Exhibition**

Join us in the Expo Hall to explore over 100 posters showcasing research, field innovations, and lived experiences from community health workers and community health programs from around the world. This virtual poster exhibition features posters across four sub-themes: Strengthening Community Health for Equitable Health Systems, CHWs in Crisis: First Responders in Affected Communities, CHWs Central to Advancing Primary Health Care and Bridging the Gaps: Reaching Vulnerable Communities with CHWs. Browse at your own pace, connect ideas across regions, and use the chat feature to leave messages for presenters to exchange insights and feedback. All posters will be accessible in the Expo Hall for the duration of the event, a list of poster presentations can be found at the end of the program.

**November 14th, 2025**

**12:00PM to 1:00PM (EST)**

## **Networking Space**

This is an open space and designated time for all participants to connect, share, and build relationships with fellow participants from around the world. We welcome you to drop-in to exchange ideas, find collaborators, or simply meet others passionate about community health.

**November 14th, 2025**

**1:00PM to 2:00PM (EST)**

## **From Insights to Action: Changing the Future with CHWs**

*Moderated by: Lennie Bazira, Community Health Impact Coalition*

In the culmination of three days of dialogue, learning and shared experiences, we'll reflect on the key themes that emerged across the 4th International CHW Symposium. Join us in the closing plenary to engage in a collective call to action, exploring how we can turn insights into a shared path forward. This session invites reflection on the moment we face and inspire ideas for moving forward together to strengthen health systems with community health workers.

**Join us in English, French, or Spanish.**

Cette session sera aussi disponible en français | Esta sesión también estará disponible en español