



Global Health Institute
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

Quality Improvement Leadership Institute

“Quality is never an accident, it is always the result of intelligent effort.”
--John Ruskin

UW-Madison School of Nursing
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ENHANCED WELL CHILD CARE PROJECT (EWCCP)

BY: PATIENCE DONO FRANKLIN, MD, 2nd Year Pediatric Resident
Liberia College of Physicians and Surgeons

INTRODUCTION - EWCCP

- ❑ The EWCCP is a child health program which caters to the healthcare needs of teenage mothers and their infants
- ❑ Initiated four years ago, the program was initially funded by American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP)
- ❑ Current funding comes from: Rotary Club of Sinkor, Monrovia, Liberia; John F. Kennedy Medical Center, Liberia and pediatrician supporters in Liberia & US
- ❑ Teen parent peer counselors added to program 4/2015

1st class of Teen Parent Peer Counselors



FOCUS OF EWCCP

❑ Problem:

- ❑ According to the 2013 Liberia demographic survey:
 - ❑ 31% infants born to mothers under 20
 - ❑ Malnutrition and high health morbidity seen in infants of teen mothers

❑ EWCCP set up to:

- ❑ Provide healthcare services for children born to teenage mothers
- ❑ Help teen mothers to obtain effective family planning to prevent future pregnancies,
- ❑ Help to re-enroll these teenage mothers in school
- ❑ Provide a training setting for Liberian health personnel (Nurses, PAs, Medical Students, and Pediatric Residents)

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❑ Composition of Team:

- ❑ Medical Team (Pediatric faculty, Residents, Interns, and visiting US Pediatricians, an RN Nurse) – provide needed clinical care to enrollees
- ❑ Coordinator –oversees the work of the clinic; does data entry
- ❑ Teen Parent Peer Counselors – recruited from enrollees; outstanding parents

❑ Main Activities:

- ❑ Clinic Visits – about 12 visits in 24 months, with frequent visits in the first 6 months
- ❑ Home Visits - conducted by RN, TPPCs, and Coordinator; weekly visits to newly enrolled and high-risk groups
- ❑ Acute Clinical care, as and when the need arises

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Home visit to 16 year old mother (in pink) with good family support

- ❑ Current enrollment:
 - ❑ Families graduate after 2 yrs
 - ❑ As of 6/2017, 409 families
 - ❑ Ages of mothers range from 14 – 19 years;
 - ❑ with average age of 16.8
 - ❑ Average level of education is grade 7
 - ❑ Range from no education in 6 mothers to 1 who was enrolled in college.



OUTCOMES: After TPPCs started 4/1/15

- ❑ Exclusive breastfeeding for the first 6 months: 77% of infants compared to 33% of all Liberian infants*
- ❑ Reliable family planning (injections, implants, oral) : 38% of the mothers to 13% of all Liberian teen mothers
- ❑ Malnutrition (< -2 SD Z score) was found in 8% of the infants compared to 15% in Liberia
- ❑ Immunizations up to date for age after infants 6 months old: 82%
- ❑ Most of these successes are due to the pivotal role being played by the TPPCs, as they do health education in clinic and on home visits
- ❑ They allay fears of their peers and encourage them to take advantage of the services being offered by EWCCP.

* Liberia Demographic and Health Survey, 2013

Challenges are Retention in Program and Lack of Financial Support for Teen Mothers

- ▶ Retaining families is main challenge of program. Lives of teen parents very unstable
- ▶ Fewer families lost to F/U for 6 months or more if TPPC recruited:
 - ▶ 57% LFU for TPPC recruited
 - ▶ 78% LFU for hospital recruited
- ▶ Inflation has increased over 50% since the Ebola epidemic ended.
- ▶ More mothers are not receiving any support from family of the father

Typical pathway where families live



Local Liberian Rotary Partners to Support Teen Parent Peer Counselors

- ▶ Paying monthly \$25 honorarium
- ▶ Offering scholarships of \$200/yr
 - ▶ 4 of the 5 current TPPCs unable to continue school due to cost
- ▶ Pairing a TPPC with a Rotary member mentor
- ▶ Offering jobs to TPPCS during vacation times
- ▶ Hope to partner Liberia Rotary with a Rotary in the US to provide more support for teens



Pictorials

