

Enhanced Well Child Care For Teen Parents and Infants in Liberia

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Why Needed?

- 1/3rd of Liberian teens become pregnant
- Teens at high risk for birth complications
- Malnutrition is higher in their infants
- Mother's education level is directly related to health of child & of society. Many teen mothers drop out of school
- Health worker trainees learn about *normal* infant and teen health care



History of EWCC for Teens and Their Infants

- Started JFKMC in 2014
 - Moms & Babies after birth until age 2
- Post Ebola, added Teen Parent Peer Counselors (TPPCs)
- Expanded to Redemption in 2017
 - Program starts when teens are pregnant
- Support from small grants from US children's doctors & local Rotary

WELL TEEN MOTHER AND BABY CLINIC AT REDEMPTION HOSPITAL every Tuesday in the morning. For more information contact: 0886441060, 0886345044, 0777035766, 0770306618

GOOD NEWS!!!! The Well Teen mothers and Baby Clinic is now here at the Redemption Hospital to help you.

This is good news for all the small small children from 11 to 16 years old who get belly, you can come to this special clinic at Redemption Hospital Tuesday mornings for, check-ups, and learn how to keep you and your baby healthy.

We want you to be healthy and strong, to deliver healthy and safe, so you can born a healthy baby. Then we will also see you, and your baby until the baby reaches 2 years old.



Services Provided

- Frequent clinic visits
- Close monitoring of pregnancy and infant growth and development
- Phone contact with clients
- Home visits to high risk families
- Intensive health education
- Intervention for social issues



TPPCs Recruit and Give Health Ed

- Teen parents who did well
- Work in clinic and their communities
- Recruit new teens & make home visits
- One month training & then “on the job” training
- Coordinator and RN supervise them
- Paid monthly in rice, phone card and small honorarium (\$20-30 per month)



TPPCs Have Peer Power!

- Exclusive Breast Feeding initially a challenge with teen mothers
- Overall 33% of Liberian mothers do EBF X 6 mos
- After 1 year EBF rate was 49%
- After adding TPPCs, rate was 77%



First Group of TPPC's received Certificates following training

Program Outcomes

Outcome Measure	EWCC Program Mothers and Infants	Mothers and Infants in Liberia overall
Exclusive Breast Feeding for 1 st 6 months	77%	33%
Infant Malnutrition Rate	8%	15%
Mother using effective Family Planning Method	38%	13%
Re-enrollment in School within 1 year of birth of child	29%	No comparative data

This outcome evaluation was done 11/16 on families enrolled for at least 6 months beginning with the start of work by TPPCs 4/15. Comparative data for the entire country is from Liberia Demographic and Health Survey (LDHS) 2013

Essential Staff & Space

- Midwife – 1 day/wk
- 2 Nurses –each 2 days/wk
- MD or PA Consult
- Clinic space and equipment for both pregnant teens and also their infants
- Secure space for supplies & medical records
- Transportation for home visits



Space often limited in Liberian hospitals and more than one patient must be seen at the same time in a small room

Cost & Commitments by Host Institution and JFKMC EWCC Program

Host Institution Pays For:

- Space and supplies for clinic and medical record system
- Staff salaries paid by host institution and EWCC is part of their regular work duties
- Transportation for home visits
- Phone cards for staff and TPPCs
- Honoraria & rice for TPPCs
- Total Cost: \$8000/year
- Can serve about 200-300 teen families each year

JFKMC EWCC Program Provides:

- Evaluate site for space, equipment and supplies
- Initial training of staff
- Return to help train TPPCs
- Help monitor outcomes via cell phone data entry system & report back to host (6 mos)
- Help with finding community partners such as Rotary

Challenges

- Malnutrition in infants and toddlers
- Economic & social insecurity of teen families
- Domestic violence
- Affordable family planning for teen mothers
- Teen mothers need financial opportunities to go to school



May Liberia's beautiful people and
land develop and prosper

**May we have healthy mothers,
smart babies and a bright
future!**

