

## New CEO; New Team; New Energy



"Hello and welcome to our 2017 annual summary; I am Mikey Rosato, the new CEO of Women and Children First.

"In my previous position as Director of Programmes, I was fortunate to work closely with Ros Davies, our former

CEO for the last 10 years. The charity's outstanding achievement in **saving over 6,000 lives of mothers and babies** is thanks to Ros's tireless commitment.

"I am now privileged to be working alongside a dynamic new team, that I am confident will lead Women and Children First successfully into the future.

"A future where we remain committed to ensuring that all women, children and young girls have the chance to survive and thrive. One where we remain passionate in our belief that local communities hold the key to achieving this vision – and your continued support is vital.

"By 2022 we aim to empower 10,000 local communities to save the lives of 10,000 women, children and young girls and enable 250,000 more to achieve their potential. Please join us.

I hope you will enjoy reading this annual summary that provides a glimpse of some of the great work we are proud to have delivered in 2017."

Mikey Rosato, CEO



# Teddy's story

Malaria kills thousands of women, babies and young children in Uganda every year. With the right information and support, it can be prevented and treated.

Women and Children First helps by setting up groups. Here, people learn about health problems in their community, come up with answers and take action.

#### Teddy, with her three-week old son Martin, tells her story:

"Before I joined the women's group I did not know much about taking good care of myself and my unborn baby. I wasn't sleeping under a mosquito net. I wasn't eating a balanced diet. I didn't take antenatal care seriously.

"When I joined the group, I learned about the danger signs of unborn babies." The group raised awareness of malaria. This information was crucial for Teddy, when she was unwell during her pregnancy.

"I felt sick. I did not know what was wrong, but thought it could be malaria. I knew the signs and symptoms from the group. I went to the health facility and they diagnosed me. I was given treatment and I recovered."

"The advice I received from the women's group was very useful. I was given treatment that saved my life and that of my baby."

Such support can reduce a woman's chance of dying in pregnancy and childbirth by up to 50%. More newborn babies live too – the risk of death reduced by 33%. To date, over 6,000 lives have been saved – and counting.

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## Helping them survive and thrive

#### Key impacts and achievements in 2017 include:

Collaborating on 6 large grants with local partners, focusing on improving maternal and newborn survival. This includes encouraging home-care practices, increasing uptake and quality of services, policy implementation and effective allocation of resources.

Launching a new **3-year project** in the Oyam district of Uganda, funded by Comic Relief and Vitol Foundation.

Providing technical support to 6 established partners on methods of engaging communities to successfully develop local solutions to global health challenges facing women, children and young girls.

Training **30** staff members of partners to design, deliver and monitor methods of community engagement.

Through these programmes, encouraging 54,596 people from 1,843 rural communities to create local solutions to the health challenges facing women, children and young girls in Africa, Asia and Latin America.

Through these solutions, reaching over **1,600,000** people most at risk of maternal and newborn mortality.

Increasing the abilities of 2,267 health workers who are providing services to women and children.

Succeeding in saving the lives of over **100 women** and **320 newborns** in 2017—and over 6,000 lives in total.

Thank you to all our donors, funders and partners for their invaluable support.

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# Key Facts and Figures 2002-2017:

**13 countries worked in:** Bangladesh, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Guatemala, Honduras, India, Malawi, Myanmar, Nepal, Nicaragua, Sierra Leone, Uganda, UK



**Delivered over 40** international projects, **established** 5,000 community groups with 115,000 members, and **trained** 5,000 health workers. We have **reached** over 12,000,000 people and **saved** over 6,000 lives of both women and children to date.

This is not short term aid; it's a long-term solution.

### Finance 2017

Still just £1,400 cost per life saved

Project costs: £930,990 Fundraising costs: £54,964

Governance costs: £5.440 Reserves at 31/12: £494.412

Full accounts are available upon request

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