

# Tools that transform

Improving primary healthcare, in sub-Saharan Africa

Millions of children in Africa are dying of preventable diseases and conditions because their health centers lack access to cost-effective and up-to-date medical knowledge and resources that could save their lives. LifeNet is dedicated to saving and improving lives in the region by improving healthcare at local faith-based facilities where some of the most underserved patients receive care.

## The problem

Vulnerable and underserved children in sub-Saharan Africa, face some of the most dire healthcare realities in the world. Their communities rely on local health clinics for all levels of healthcare—wound care, infectious disease treatments, vaccinations, non-communicable disease care, antenatal care, newborn deliveries, and so much more. Unfortunately, these health facilities often lack the knowledge and tools they need to deliver the high-quality care their patients need.

## The partner

LifeNet International exists to address this lack of knowledge and resources and is dedicated to saving lives by equipping local healthcare providers in Africa. LifeNet brings practical training, tools, and resources directly into the hands of the health workers who need them.

## The philanthropic solution

Through medical training, management training, equipment supply, pharmaceutical supply, supportive supervision, and ongoing quality assessments, LifeNet transforms existing health facilities in sub-Saharan Africa. These interventions are practical and effective—building the capacity of local health workers and putting the power to transform healthcare back into the hands of local women and men.

LifeNet primarily partners with faith-based health facilities, recognizing the innovative opportunity for transformation in a largely underserved sector of the healthcare market that provides 40-70% of all healthcare in the region. These facilities are also known to operate in hard-to-reach places, serve some of the poorest patients in the world, and provide a system for quick intervention scaling.

## The evidence

Since its launch in 2012, LifeNet has partnered with 383 local facilities and have transformed care for more than 25 million patient visits (cumulatively) in Burundi, the DRC, Uganda, Malawi, and Kenya. Last year alone, the lives of 1,612 newborns were saved through the use of infant CPR, which health workers learned from LifeNet and the lives of 1,177 mothers' were saved through treatment of postpartum hemorrhage.

## The impact

Equipped by the three year intensive training period with the interventions outlined above, health facilities are able to deliver high quality healthcare according to international standards of care. Following this three year period, quality improvements are driven by the healthcare facilities. LifeNet continues mentoring and quality assurance for health facilities which also continue to have access to LifeNet' digital curricula and tools. The focus in this phase of partnership is ensuring high quality healthcare at sustainable health facilities for years to come. This specific investment will allow LifeNet to continue scaling in Uganda, improving the quality of care in 15 additional facilities.

Location	Burundi, the DRC, Uganda, Malawi, Kenya, and Zambia
Target group	5,250,000
Partner(s)	Multiple
Co-sponsors	Multiple
Grant total	CHF 175,000
SDGs	3
Duration	36 months
Program ID	50529B

All programmatic data provided by LifeNet. The UBS Optimus Foundation is a grant-making foundation that offers UBS clients a platform to use their wealth to drive positive social and environmental change. The Foundation selects programs that improve children's health, education and protection, ones that have the potential to be transformative, scalable and sustainable as well as programs tackling environmental and climate issues.

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