

May 20, 2019

In this edition of our newsletter we look at what Communities at the Heart of UHC is doing at the World Health Assembly and how community health workers feature on the gathering's agenda. We also give details on the campaign's participation in the multi-stakeholder hearing for the High-Level Meeting on Universal Health Coverage.

Welcome New Members

Pathfinder International, Rural AID Foundation LTD, Universal Health Development Foundation, Women's Health Foundation-Uganda, Red Cross-Kenya, Wezesha Health Service, Lwala Community Alliance

Click [here](#) to see more of our members!

Campaign Hosts Events at the World Health Assembly

Next week, country delegations, global health experts and advocates will gather in Geneva for the 72nd World Health Assembly (WHA). The Communities at the Heart of UHC Campaign will be at #WHA72, co-hosting three events to put community health in the spotlight.

How Communities Can Deliver UHC for Women and Adolescents



Living Goods photo

Co-hosted with Pathfinder International and the What to Expect Project, this panel discussion will focus on how countries, implementing partners, the private sector, multilateral organizations and civil society can, and should, work together to fulfill the commitment of quality primary health care via community health workers (CHWs) in a way that meets the needs of women and adolescents to fulfill the promise of health for all.

Wednesday, May 22

8 a.m. – 10 a.m.

Geneva Press Club

[RSVP here](#)

[This event will be livestreamed.](#)

Community Health Worker Rita Nakakande will be speaking at the event.

Speakers include:

- **Temesgen Ayehu Bele**, Director Primary Health Care, Ministry of Health, Ethiopia
- **Roopa Dhatt**, Executive Director, Women in Global Health
- **Albertha Freeman**, Community Health Services Supervisor, Ministry of Health, Liberia
- **Anuradha Gupta**, Deputy CEO, Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance
- **Hon. Dr. Wilhelmina Jallah**, Minister of Health, Liberia
- **Rita Nakakande**, Community Health Worker, Ministry of Health, Uganda
- **Lois Quam**, President, Pathfinder International
- **Dr. Princess Nothemba (Nono) Simelela**, Assistant Director-General, Special Advisor on Key Programmatic Priorities, World Health Organization
- **Annie G. Toro**, President and Executive Director, What to Expect Project

Financing Sustainable Community Health for All: The Importance of Women Leaders

Also at WHA, the Center for Global Health and Diplomacy, Communities at the Heart of UHC and the What to Expect Project will host an informal, interactive cocktail and networking reception on the role of CHWs and mechanisms to finance sustainable health systems in low- and middle-income countries.

Monday, May 20
6 p.m. – 9 p.m.
Hotel Intercontinental
[RSVP here](#)

Speakers include:

- **Hon. Minister Jane Aceng**, Minister of Health, Uganda
- **Dr. Tedros Adhanom**, Director-General, World Health Organization (TBC)
- **Albertha Freeman**, Community Health Services Supervisor, Ministry of Health, Liberia
- **Honorable Min. Wilhelmina Jallah**, Minister of Health, Liberia
- **Joanne Manrique**, President, Center for Global Health and Development
- **Rita Nakakande**, Community Health Worker, Ministry of Health, Uganda
- **Marie-Ange Saraka-Yao**, Managing Director, Resource Mobilization, Private Sector Partnerships and Innovative Finance, Gavi
- **Geetha Tharmaratnam**, Partner-Africa and Head of Impact Investing, LGT Impact
- **Annie G. Toro**, President and Executive Director, What to Expect Project
- **Nelly Wakaba**, Country Engagement and Support Director, Financing Alliance for Health

Building Resilience and Strengthening Global Health Security in Crisis-affected Settings through Investing in Community Health Workers

As the world grapples with the second worst Ebola outbreak in history in the Democratic Republic of Congo, it is essential that strategies for building resilience to health crises are elevated within global health priorities. The International Rescue Committee, Amref Health Africa and the Communities at the Heart of UHC Campaign are hosting an event which will explore the potential offered by investing in robust primary health care systems and supported CHWs for building resilience in fragile and crisis-affected contexts.

Monday, May 27
6 p.m. – 7 p.m.
Palais de Nations
[RSVP here](#)

Speakers include:

- **Dr. Mohamed Berthé**, Technical Advisor for Public Health, Ministry of Public Health, Mali
- **Dr. Magnus Conteh**, Executive Director of the Community Health Academy, Last Mile Health
- **Dr. Michelle Gayer**, Director of Emergency Health, International Rescue Committee
- **Dr. Stefan Peterson**, Chief of Health, UNICEF
- **Dr. Elizabeth Wala**, Program Director of Health Systems Strengthening, Amref Health Africa

Community Health Workers on the Agenda

In January, the World Health Organization Executive Board adopted a resolution, "Community health workers delivering primary health care: opportunities and challenges," introduced by the Governments of Ethiopia and Ecuador. The resolution underscores the value of CHWs as a vital health system component in providing primary health care services. The resolution incorporates the [WHO Guideline on health policy and system support to optimize community health worker programmes](#) (CHW Guideline), which consolidates evidence on the effectiveness and cost-effectiveness of CHWs. The CHW Guideline recommendations relate to opportunities and challenges for the successful education, remuneration, deployment and supervision of CHWs, adapted to national context and health needs.



Living Goods photo

The resolution will be discussed for approval at WHA during agenda item [A72/13 Universal health coverage: Community health workers delivering primary health care: opportunities and challenges](#). With partners, Communities at the Heart of UHC has contributed a statement supporting the resolution's approval.

Prioritizing Community Health at the High-Level Meeting on Universal Health Coverage Hearing

On April 29, members of the Communities at the Heart of UHC campaign attended the multi-stakeholder hearing for the High-Level Meeting on Universal Health Coverage (HLM-UHC) convened by the President of the UN General Assembly. More than 600 delegates representing Member States attended, including UN entities, civil society organizations, and representatives of the private sector and broader communities. They discussed priorities and input needed for the political declaration on UHC that will come out of the HLM-UHC in September 2019 at the UN General Assembly.

At the hearing, a statement submitted by the campaign in partnership with the Frontline Health Workers Coalition and the Community Health Impact Coalition was selected to be read on the floor. It stated, "We believe that only by prioritizing quality community health delivery in building stronger health systems for UHC can the global community ensure we Leave No One Behind." Looking to the September HLM-UHC and the resulting political declaration, the campaign is continuing to generate high-level political will and commitment for prioritizing quality community health programs that are financially sustainable and integrated in national health systems as part of national and global UHC strategies.

Read the full statement [here](#) from the Communities at the Heart UHC campaign, the Frontline Health Workers Coalition and the Community Health Impact Coalition.

[Join the campaign and share with others!](#)

About Us

We are a coalition of six organizations—Amref Health Africa, Aspen Management Partnership for Health, Financing Alliance for Health, the International Rescue Committee, Last Mile Health and Living Goods—leading this effort but working with many other organizations to elevate the visibility of community health within the UHC space. We are a part of the larger movement of key organizations, including UHC2030, donors and country leaders working to increase the dialogue on community health programs globally and advocate for funding through domestic resources and foreign assistance.

