

April 9, 2019

We're delighted to share this update of the campaign's most recent achievements as well as related resources. In this edition, we welcome the more than 60 new members to the campaign, feature an interview with two campaign leaders by UHC2030, look at UHC2030's Key Asks leading up to the High-Level Meeting on Universal Health Coverage and talk about the [Africa Health Agenda International Conference](#) in Kigali, including the Africa launch of the World Health Organization guidelines.

## Welcome New Members

Communities at the Heart of UHC would like to welcome the more than 60 new members to the campaign. We are eager to engage with you as we move forward in putting communities at the heart of UHC! New members include Pathfinder International, the White Ribbon Alliance, Possible Health, Muso, Reach Out Cameroon, Community Health Impact Coalition, Community Working Group on Health and the Center for Health Sciences Training, Research and Development (CHESTRAD).

## Campaign Featured on UHC2030 Website

Communities at the Heart of UHC is proud to have been featured as a partner on the website of UHC2030. UHC2030 spoke with the campaign's Crystal Lander of Living Goods and Desta Lakew of Amref Health Africa about how the campaign came about, why community health for UHC matters and how the six-member coalition is conducting the campaign. Read what they had to say [here](#).

## UHC2030 Key Asks Aligned with Campaign Values

UHC2030 has released its final set of consolidated political "Key Asks" for the process leading up to and during the High-Level Meeting (HLM) on UHC in September 2019. Communities at the Heart of UHC was particularly excited to see that the key asks had a substantial focus on community health and that priorities were aligned with the campaign's goals.

One of the key asks, Leave No One Behind, for example, reflects the campaign's value of encouraging support for community health workers. "Extension of geographical coverage and reaching the most marginalized and hard-to-reach populations are essential to achieving positive health outcomes," UHC2030 said.

Another key ask, to Ensure Political Leadership Beyond Health, aligns with the campaign's main goal to generate high-level political will and commitment for including and prioritizing quality community health programs that are financially sustainable and integrated in national health systems as part of national and global UHC strategies. UHC2030 calls for prioritizing "UHC as a commitment at all levels of government and as a whole-of-government and whole-of-society action in order to provide equitable access to health services, irrespective of socio-economic and legal status, health condition, disease, religion, gender, age or any other factors."

You can access the full document [here](#). The key asks are listed below.

- Ensure Political Leadership Beyond Health
- Leave No One Behind
- Regulate and Legislate
- Uphold Quality of Care
- Invest More, Invest Better
- Move Together

We look forward to explicit recognition of the role gender plays in the delivery of and access to health in the political declaration at the HLM-UHC. Communities at the Heart of UHC would like to thank all those involved in the campaign for their great work in prioritizing and promoting community health and keeping up the drive that is helping put communities at the heart of UHC.

## Building Momentum for Universal Health Coverage



Last Mile Health photo

The session culminated in a call-to-action from Malawian community health worker (CHW) Moses Ngwira followed by a signing moment. Ngwira shared stories about his work and how he is putting communities at the heart of UHC in his country, tying on-the-ground reality to our global campaign.

Ngwira also held a meet and greet at the campaign table in the Kigali Convention Center where general campaign information and membership details were provided. Those who stopped by the table were able to sign up with the campaign, post a heart and wear a heart to show their commitment.

In addition to highlighting community health commitment and progress, government officials and partners at the session had the opportunity to workshop the idea of moving from commitment to advocacy in action and to identify actions the campaign can take to support ongoing advocacy at the national level.

"It is impossible to reach the majority of our population without prioritizing community health care," said Tanzanian Parliamentarian Catherine Ruge, noting that 80 percent of her country's 52 million people live in rural areas. "By prioritizing community health we are committing to an equity-based UHC agenda because community health prioritizes the poor and most vulnerable among us first."

## Africa Launch of World Health Organization Guidelines

Also at AHAIC, the World Health Organization (WHO) held its Africa launch of its [new guidelines](#) on health policy and system support to optimize CHW programs. The initial launch was in Astana, Kazakhstan, during the Global Conference on Primary Health Care. The guidelines align with the WHO workforce 2030 global strategy on human resources for health, which includes targets such as halving inequalities to health worker access.

The guidelines aim to assist national governments and their partners to improve the design, implementation, performance and evaluation of CHW programs. It lists 15 policy and effective workforce strategy recommendations, ranging from CHW selection, training, management and integration, to implementation and evaluation considerations at the community level. The guidelines are tools to help countries attain UHC and the Sustainable Development Goal health targets. The Africa launch was significant because it builds on the momentum of growing support for CHWs, especially in Africa where most such roles are still voluntary. The guidelines align with WHO's Workforce 2030 global strategy on human resources for health, which aims to improve access to health workers and training.

**[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.