



GLOBAL LEADERS COUNCIL  
FOR REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH  
ASPEN GLOBAL HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENT  
AT THE ASPEN INSTITUTE

## RESOLVE AWARD INNOVATION PROFILE

The **Global Leaders Council for Reproductive Health**  
*Presents the 2014 Resolve Award for Service Delivery to:*

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# TANZANIA

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Photo by Restless Development Tanzania

Through successful collaborations with community groups, national and district level leaders, and NGOs, two innovative programs in Tanzania are employing innovative approaches to reach underserved populations, particularly women in rural areas and adolescent girls.

## ENGENDERHEALTH

### Challenges

Most rural health facilities in Tanzania have inadequate skilled staff, training opportunities, equipment and supplies to offer women a full range of family planning methods. Structural and socio-cultural barriers make it difficult to access reproductive health services, especially for women and girls living in underserved and hard to reach areas.

### Policy Innovations

EngenderHealth collaborated with the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare to increase availability of reproductive health and family planning services for vulnerable, hard-to-reach populations through the ACQUIRE Tanzania project. The project:

- Created outreach teams consisting of a surgeon, an IUD provider and a family planning counselor to serve in lower-level health facilities
- Integrated HIV counseling, child immunization, and other maternal and child health services
- Ensured facilitative supervision, on-the-job training, and trainee follow-up in outreach initiatives

### Results

Through its innovative outreach model, the ACQUIRE Tanzania project achieved remarkable results over the five years of the project (2007/8 to 2012/3).

Achievements include:

- Districts with lowest FP uptake: Long acting reversible contraceptives/permanent methods (LARC/PM) use increased by 79%
- Districts with medium FP uptake: LARC/PM use increased by 30%
- Districts with highest UP uptake: LARC/PM use increased by 57%
- Overall number of LARC/PM users increased by 50%

## RESTLESS DEVELOPMENT TANZANIA

### Challenges

Few programs existed to holistically address the reproductive and sexual health of adolescent girls, who are at high risk of HIV and pregnancy. Previous co-ed sexual and reproductive health peer education programs were ineffective, and young girls needed a safe space to discuss and achieve their ambitions.

### Policy Innovations

A 2012 study led by the Tanzania AIDS Commission, Restless Development Tanzania and UNICEF revealed that teenage girls weren't getting the full benefits of peer education in coed environments and needed a safe space to discuss. As a result, a program was launched called Mabinti Tushike Hatamu! (Girls Let's be Leaders), a girl-led program designed to strengthen girls' capacity for making choices that ensure their safety, reproductive health and rights, and economic and social well-being. The program:

- Employs youth female Volunteer Development Professionals (VDPs) to work in communities and provide out of school girls with sexual and reproductive health education in informal and confidential environments
- Runs information resource centers that serve as safe spaces for girls to find resources about sexual health

### Results

The model touches on all aspects of youth reproductive health, including safety, safe spaces, gender-based violence, dropout rates, and the complete needs of adolescent girls. By its 2015 end date, Mabinti Tushike Hatamu! will:

- Help sensitize communities to gender-based violence, teen girl drop-out rates, and sexual and reproductive health needs of adolescents, particularly girls
- Provide girls with safe spaces to receive reliable health services and information
- Directly reach 7,101 people, and indirectly reach 40,933



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