

Maternal and Child Health Training for Midwives



CCIH  **2025**
CONFERENCE
CHANGE AGENTS FOR ALL

JUNE 9-11, 2025 • WASHINGTON, D.C.





Multi - Sector Engagement

Country Leadership

- Guidance and approval for the maternal and child health training conference was provided by the Sierra Leone Ministry of Health and Sanitation and the Nurses and Midwives Board of Sierra Leone. Sierra Leone does not have **amandate for Continuous Medical Education**

Collaborative Evaluations

- University of Makeni's Center for Excellence in Maternal and Child Health Training and Research provided researchers to assist with evaluating outcomes

Local health facilities

- Midwives, Nurses, and CHOs in the maternal and newborn health field who had not received formal midwifery training in 2 or more years were invited. These professionals represented local and regional health facilities such as hospitals, community health clinics, and schools of midwifery.

Coalition of small NGO and community-based partners

- Maximizing impact by partnering with a network of implementing partners, each with a strength and focus area: Embrace International, CHASL, CHAMPS, and Seed Global Health.



Critical Qualities for Engagement



- **Working collaboratively:** Actively engaging together, leveraging diverse strengths to achieve a unified goal.
- **Role clarity:** Clearly defined roles and responsibilities prevent overlap and gaps
- **Communication:** Open, honest, and frequent communication, ensuring everyone is informed and aligned.
- **Trust:** Fostering an environment where all partners feel secure and valued
- **Shared ownership:** Embrace shared responsibility for outcomes and celebrate achievements together.
- **Separating finances but sticking to commitments** Maintain distinct financial operations while rigorously honoring all agreed-upon financial contributions and resource allocations.

Why Invest in Midwifery Training?

- Skilled Midwives could **avert more than 80%** of all maternal deaths, stillbirths and neonatal deaths.
- Midwifery schools **face challenges with providing skills training opportunities for students** in the classroom and in their preceptorship sites
- Sierra Leone does not have a **mandate for Continuous Medical Education**
- Recent evidence indicates that **over half of deaths of newborns and half of maternal deaths** now result from **poor quality of care**.
- Providing access to professional development opportunities, training, and educational resources makes healthcare workers feel **more confident, engaged and motivated** thereby **reducing burnout**





Focus Areas

Evidencebased curriculum from Jhpiego and World Health Organization

- Trainees completed one of two curriculum tracks: Helping Mothers Survive Bleeding After Birth or Essential Newborn Care.
- Trainees engaged in hands-on training modules that build competencies for midwives and nurses providing life-saving care for women and babies.

Developing future trainers

- Rising trainers (high-performing trainees from the previous conference) received training in adult learning and best practices for clinical training
- All trainees received training in the low-dose high-frequency model and received resources and instructions for cascading training
- Low-dose high-frequency model overview: Short, focused training sessions delivered regularly at the point of care, emphasizing hands-on practice and team-based learning.

Supplemental curriculum

- Perinatal mental health
- Burnout prevention and self-care
- Respectful maternal care

Evaluating Impact

Process evaluation:

- Fidelity Assessments
- Trainer evaluations
- Postconference survey
- Attendance

Outcome evaluation

- Standardized knowledge assessments
- Confidence assessments
- Objective Structured Clinical Examination

Impact evaluation

- Reduction in mortality at targeted facilities
- Implementation of lowdose high frequency trainings
- Retention of knowledge and confidence
- Application of skills



Training Outcomes



Nurses and Midwives
Certified in Bo,
Kenema, Kailahun,
Kono and the
surrounding
communities

120

Rising Trainers
Prepared to
Teach in the
Communities

24

Nurses,
Midwives, and
Community
Health Officers
Trained

141

Creating change agents

- Biweekly, hands-on, facility-based training sessions are ongoing in nine facilities
- Shared examples of training and case studies of applications of training shared in a WhatsApp group with master trainers



From Learner to Leader:

Nurse Isatu – Champion for Maternal Health in Sierra Leone

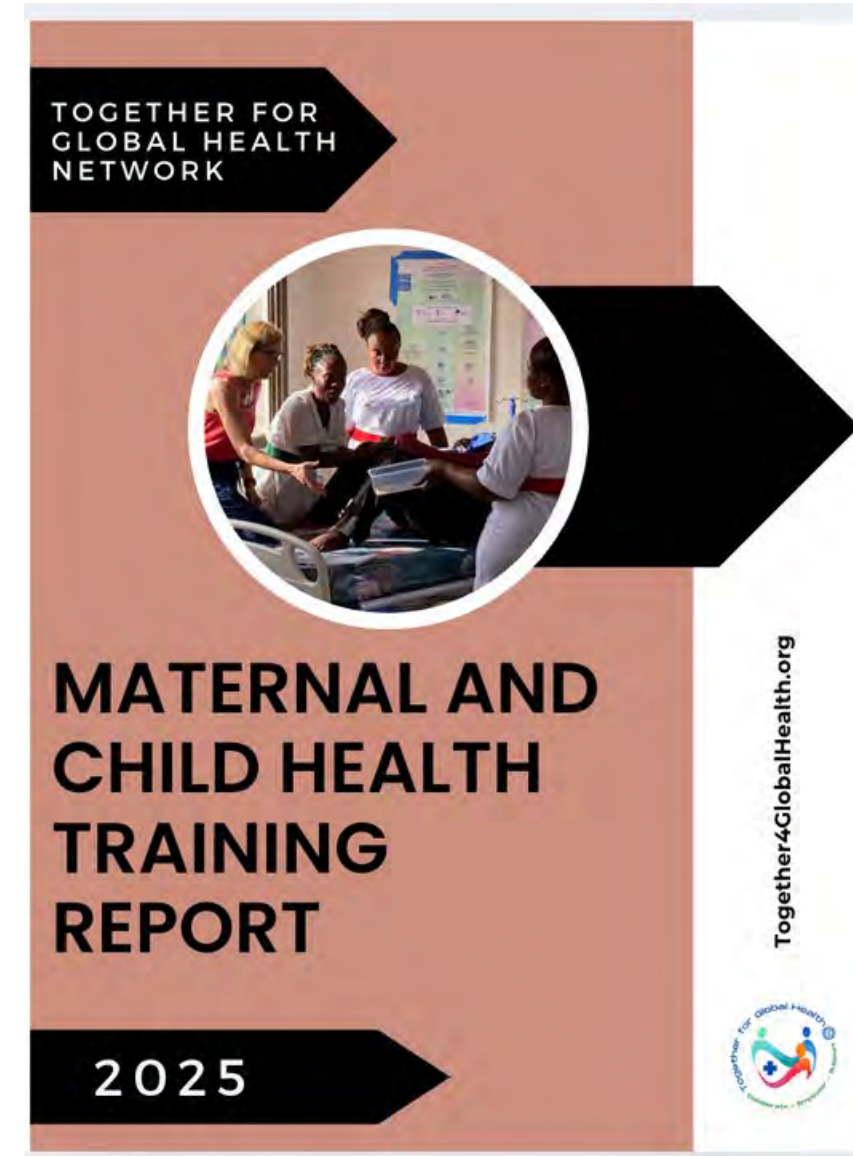


More Info

Comprehensive report on the
January 2025 Maternal and Child
Health Training Conference

2 Podcast Episodes on the
Training

Future trainings in Sierra Leone:
June 2025 and January 2026



Download Here!



Matron Mary Augusta Fullah, Chief Nursing and Midwifery Officer for Sierra Leone
Empowering Midwives: The Key to Saving Lives



Dr. Abdulai Jawo Bah
When Baby Blues Turns Deadly: Maternal Mental Health, Breaking the Silence & Sharing Prevention

Listen Here!



Thank you very much!



[Together4GlobalHealth.org](https://www.together4globalhealth.org)

