

Working with Community Health Volunteers/Workers and Village Health Teams to Promote Family Planning

Community Health Volunteers/Workers and Village Health Teams (CHVs/CHWs/VHTs) promote family planning (FP) demand generation and service delivery at the community level. They do this through community mobilization, community-based distribution, and referrals for commodities beyond their scope.

Key Outcomes of Using CHVs/CHWs/VHTs

- Increased uptake of family planning methods
- Decreased myths and misconceptions in the community
- Better client engagement and direction on family planning/AYSRH services



Steps

1

Identify, train, and equip CHVs/CHWs/VHTs

to provide contraceptive methods and mobilize community members for contraceptive use through counseling and referrals. Ensure CHVs/CHWs/VHTs have the relevant tools, IEC materials, and commodities that they need and confirm their link with a nearby health facility.

2

Define CHVs/CHWs/VHTs' roles

Sensitize the reproductive health coordinators, community health assistants/community health-based service coordinators on the country community strategy so that they can support CHVs/CHWs/VHTs to promote FP at the community level.

3

Support and motivate CHVs/CHWs/VHTs

by providing routine supervision and holding monthly meetings to review their data and activities to ensure quality service provision and account for commodities distributed. Conduct regular updates to dispel myths encountered during community mobilization. Recognize the best performing CHVs/CHWs/VHTs during meetings and community fora.

4

Monitor the work of CHVs/CHWs/VHTs

Use data from a variety of sources (e.g., routine supervision, field visits), and address performance issues. Compile supervision reports and submit to MOH through HMIS tools.

Useful Tips

- Recruit men as CHVs/CHWs/VHTs to increase the potential of reaching men with FP services.
- Engage CHVs/CHWs/VHTs during mobilization for outreaches, in-reaches, and community dialogues.
- Create community demand for FP services and ensure availability of commodities and supplies.
- Provide branded materials to the CHVs/CHWs/VHTs to make them stand out in the community.
- Strengthen data capture and reporting by CHVs/CHWs/VHTs.
- Introduce selected and trained CHVs/CHWs/VHTs to community leaders for recognition.



"With support from Nairobi's Governor, the county has allocated Ksh.100 million for CHWs' stipend. This is a plus to our county because data and service delivery at the community level will improve," Dr. Koyio – Nairobi County Director of Health

Some resources to consider:

- Stipend for CHWs and VHTs
- Consistent supply of commodities and clinical supplies
- Job aids and IEC materials

To learn more, visit TCI's online tool collection | [tciurbanhealth.org](https://tciurbanhealth.org/courses/east-africa-demand-generation/lessons/working-with-community-health-workers-to-promote-family-planning/)
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