

# **INTEGRATE HEALTH'S**

#### FY24 TO FY28 STRATEGIC PLAN IS OUT!

Integrate Health has launched a new five-year strategic plan, Accelerating Impact: scaling community-led innovation to achieve Universal Health Coverage across West Africa. The new strategy aims to leverage community-led implementation and accompany governments to take innovations to national scale, all in service to our mission to ensure quality primary healthcare for all, beginning across West Africa.

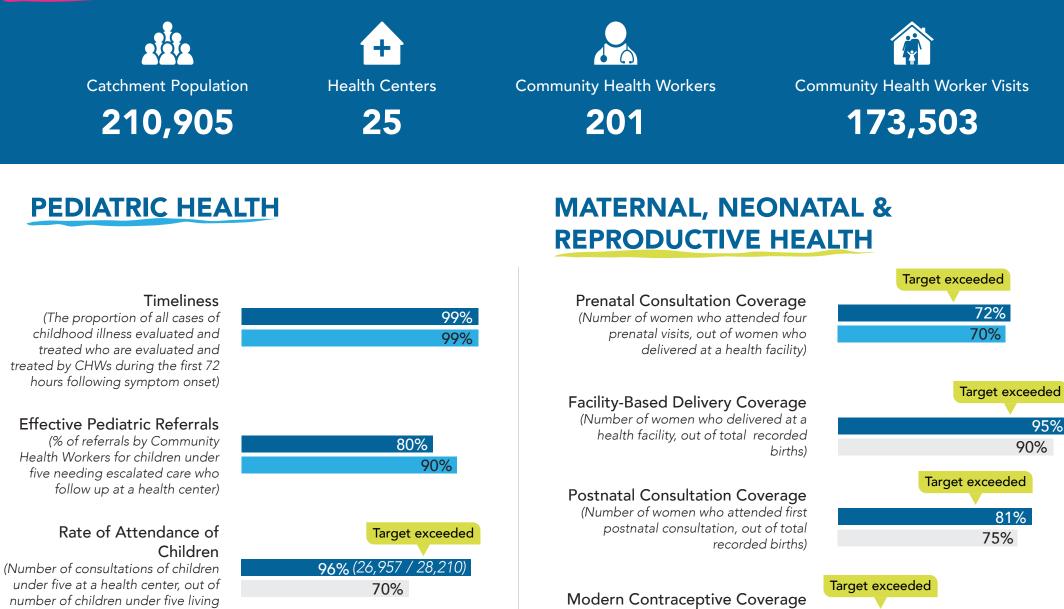
For the first time, Integrate Health employed an inclusive approach to strategy development that centered on contributions from staff, community members, government partners, and experts in the field. This participatory process resulted in a robust, ambitious, and innovative strategic plan that was launched on July 26th through an online webinar with over 70 participants. Speakers included a Community Health Worker (CHW), World Health Organization representatives, members of global institutions, and Ministry of Health (MOH) partners, demonstrating our value of collaboration and commitment to building the winning coalition needed to achieve Universal Health Coverage (UHC).

Learn more about the strategy here and watch highlights from the launch event here.





# DELIVERY



National FY24 target

(Number of women effectively protected by a modern family planning method, out of eligible women)

\*Guinea programmatic data will be incorporated into the Q2 report following program launch in December 2023

IH FY24 Targets

in the catchment area)

FY24-O1 Actuals

35%

31.5%



# **PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS**

#### Successes

Task-Shifting Ultrasound Program: In August, the Integrate Health team in Togo supported the Kara regional MOH to train 18 midwives in ultrasound screening for pregnant women. This brings the total number of midwives trained to 38, up from 20 trained in early 2022. The six-day training was a significant advancement in the task-shifting program that will result in greater access to ultrasound screening in remote areas. Since 2022, nearly 7,000 women have received an obstetric ultrasound through the portable ultrasound program. Of these, 149 women were referred to hospitals for additional follow up and care. Prior to the launch of the program, pregnant women in Kara lacked access to obstetric screening ultrasounds, leaving potentially dangerous complications undetected. Learn more about the ultrasound program in our FY23 Q3 report here.

#### **Clinton Global Initiative Commitment to Action:**

During the United Nations General Assembly in September, Integrate Health and Last Mile Health launched a joint Commitment to Action at the Clinton Global Initiative. The commitment articulates plans to work with African MOHs to strengthen and sustain gender-responsive CHW programs across four countries, as well as to develop and disseminate lessons learned to accelerate similar efforts across the continent. Read more here. Please contact us for partnership inquiries on this important initiative.



Dr Hubertha Welbeck, Integrate Health's Pharmacist checking the pharmacy supply at the Warengo health center, Kéran district

#### Challenges

**Government-Led Implementation in Kozah:** Transfer of ownership of the Integrated Primary Care Program in the Kozah district is going well with 100% of program activities being routinely implemented by the district health team. As of September 2023, Integrate Health and the MOH jointly perform quarterly audits of the transfer process to verify compliance with the district health team's annual operating plan. The audits document programmatic and financial progress and challenges. Upon initial analysis, programmatic indicators appear to have remained stable through the transfer (for example, facility-based deliveries, medicine availability rates, and number of child consultations). One challenge identified in the September audit is that the new activity-based financial reimbursement process has been slow, resulting in health centers facing longer turnaround times than expected between submitting reports and receiving funds. Integrate Health will continue to work with district health officials to improve the process and address these issues.



GRAMME DE RENFORCEMMENT DU SYSTEME DE SANTE À BASE COMMUNAUTAIRE (RSS-BC)

SANTÉ

# LANCEMENT OFFICIEL DU PROGRAMME ENT DU SYSTÈME DE SANTÉ À BASE COMMUNAUTAIRE (RS-I À KOUROUSSA

pensons que les soins de santé primaires doivent être Launch event of the Integrated Primary Care Program in Guinea

## **EXPANSION HIGHLIGHTS**

#### Successes

Program Launch in Kouroussa, Guinea: In July, Integrate Health held an official commencement event announcing the Integrated Primary Care Program in the Kouroussa district of the Kankan region. The event was attended by 300 people, including representatives from the national and local government, civil society organizations, community leaders, health workers, and other NGOs. The goal of the event was to communicate the objectives and priorities of the program and ensure key stakeholders were engaged. Between July and August, a number of trainings focused on topics including integrated management of childhood illnesses, maternal health, and pharmacy management were held for 34 health providers (doctors, nurses, clinical mentors, and midwives) from five Integrate Health-supported health centers, and for 130 CHWs and 13 CHW supervisors.

Informing Digital Solutions Nationally: In August, Integrate Health participated in an MOH and stakeholder workshop to discuss national digitization strategies for community health in Guinea. By bringing over 20 stakeholders together, the government in Guinea is hoping to ensure harmonization and compatibility across partners using digital tools at the community level. Participants at the workshop reviewed existing community health and vaccination data, current plans for digitization, and gaps in current data systems, and agreed on a list of priority indicators for digitization. Integrate Health will continue to accompany the Guinean government in their digital transformation efforts as the Integrated Primary Care Program is rolled out.



<u>during a home visit in Nabidjabou, Dankpen district</u>

# **ORGANIZATIONAL HIGHLIGHTS**

#### Successes

**Global Managing Director Recruitment:** Integrate Health recently launched the search for a Global Managing Director (GMD). The GMD role is part of efforts to restructure Integrate Health's global support and leadership model in order to advance equity and bring our support team closer to our countries of operation. Part of Integrate Health's commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion is to center those closest to the problems we aim to solve. This also applies to the leadership structure of the organization. With closer proximity to the beneficiaries we serve, solutions will be better contextualized and will enhance the effectiveness of our programs and the accountability of the organization.

The GMD will take the lead in executing our new five-year strategy, will be based in West Africa, and will serve as a peer to the CEO and Country Directors. To learn more about the rationale for the GMD position, read CEO Jenny Schechter's statement on our website. Also, please share the job description widely within your networks.

#### Challenges

**UNGA Political Declarations Advocacy:** Leading up to the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA), Integrate Health participated in the public consultation phase of the drafting of the Universal Health Coverage and Pandemic Prevention and Response political declarations, advocating for the inclusion of language around professional CHWs and gender equity. Both political declarations were adopted by UN member states during the respective high-level meetings at UNGA. Integrate Health and coalition partners successfully advocated for the inclusion of five out of eight professional CHW best practices in the UHC declaration, as well as gender equity language in both declarations. Though we saw some wins, the declarations contained weak language on CHW integration into broader health systems, systematic supply for CHWs, and sexual and reproductive health commitments. Integrate Health will work closely with Togo and Guinea government counterparts to put these political declarations into practice.

### **FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS**

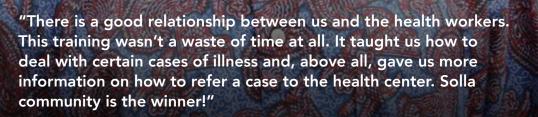
- This quarter, Integrate Health received generous renewal funding from four partners. We remain grateful for your continued support and are excited to be able to continue providing lifesaving primary care to communities in need in Togo and Guinea.
- In July, a member of Integrate Health's US-based audit firm traveled to Togo for the first time as part of the annual audit process. The primary objective of this trip was to ensure that the finance teams in Togo and Guinea had processes and documents in place in order to be audit-compliant. This was also an opportunity for the auditor to review and understand the work around the two of the largest line items in the budget: clinic renovations and medications. After meeting with multiple team members and participating in a number of site visits, the auditor made recommendations to the team, including suggestions for increased data protection. This visit was in addition to the annual national audit that is conducted in Togo each year by a France- and Togo-based audit firm.

### **FUNDING SNAPSHOT**

Metric	Result	Notes
Five-Year Funding Need	\$80M	Fiscal Years '24 to '28
FY24 Projected Expenses	\$11.5M	



Community Health Worker Kossia Makouya in Bandjéli, Bassar district



### Traditional Healer Spotlight

Bilissouè Pafaliki is a traditional healer based in Solla, a village in the district of Binah. Bilissouè learned traditional herbal medicine from his father and has been practicing for over 30 years. He specializes in the treatment of childhood illnesses, an expertise that has enabled him to carve out a good reputation in the community.

In Togo, traditional healers and herbalists are often the first source of healthcare for rural populations, and this contribution to primary healthcare coverage is an important one. The WHO estimates that 50% of the Togolese population count on traditional medicine. This is particularly true in areas without access to clinics and where financial constraints prevent people from accessing care. However, without proper training and regulation, some traditional healers can cause more harm than good.

Bilissouè admits that he does not treat all illnesses. He recalls the case of a little boy, Tchao, who was brought to him with a fever and convulsions and who was having difficulty breathing. Bilissouè recognized the symptoms as those of acute malaria and advised the boy's mother to go immediately to the health center. He followed up with the health center and was happy to find out that the mother took his advice and that Tchao received the treatment he needed in a timely manner.

Bilissouè is one of 420 traditional healers trained by Integrate Health and district health authorities in October 2021, three months after the launch of the Integrated Primary Care Program in Binah. The training emphasized the importance of collaborating with health centers. Traditional healers were taught how to recognize the danger signs associated with childhood diseases and high-risk pregnancies. They also learned about the referral protocol, how to contact the health center, and about free services available to patients at the health center. As a result, Bilissouè and his fellow traditional healers are now invaluable members of the community's rapid referral network.

Bilissouè says that he and his traditional healer peers do not hesitate to recognize their limitations. For him, modern and traditional medicine must work "hand in hand" against the common enemy: disease.



# INTEGRATE HEALTH

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