



**DRIVEN BY PURPOSE. NIMBLE IN ACTION.
DECISIVE IN IMPACT.**

mothers2mothers Quarterly Report

2026 Quarter 1
Released: 30 April 2026

Dear Friends

Three Words That Make a Difference

Dear Friends,

There was a real sense of determination across mothers2mothers (m2m) during the first quarter of 2026. It was visible in the way colleagues showed up, embraced change, and stayed focused on the people who matter most: the women, children, adolescents, and families we serve.

At a time when the global health sector is facing significant uncertainty, our mission feels more urgent than ever. Across many parts of Africa, funding cuts and shifting donor priorities are having real consequences for communities that already face too many barriers to care. For many families, these changes are not abstract. They can mean fewer services, longer waits, interrupted treatment, or less support during some of life's most vulnerable moments. That reality has only strengthened our resolve.

With a new country operations structure in place, updates to the Global Support Hub's (formerly Head Office) departmental frameworks, and several important fundraising wins, we entered 2026 focused on how to serve clients better, work smarter, and position m2m for the future.

The spirit I have seen across the organisation can be summed up in three words: **Driven, Nimble, Decisive.**

Driven in our commitment to mission and impact. We know why m2m exists, and we remain focused on delivering trusted, high-quality, community-based healthcare services to those who need them most.

Nimble in how we respond to a fast-changing environment. We are learning to move faster, adapt where needed, and remain practical and solutions-focused in the face of uncertainty.

Decisive in how we lead and operate. We are pushing decision-making closer to where the work happens, trusting our teams, backing expertise, and enabling quicker action in service of clients.

Change management takes time, but I'm seeing colleagues apply these three words in ways big and small every day. Even if team members

conscientiously deploy just one of these three approaches to their specific tasks, we will better optimise working methodologies so that m2m is a more agile, accountable, and high-performing organisation...and that's one of our core priorities for 2026.

Delivering client impact results has always been an m2m priority. In the first quarter of this year, m2m reached 86,667 new clients across seven countries, with particularly strong performances in Nigeria (22,806 clients) and Zambia (30,988 clients). Behind that figure are mothers supported to stay healthy, babies given a stronger start in life, young people connected to services, and families receiving care from trusted community health workers in their communities.

Notably, m2m's determination is not tinted by rose-coloured glasses. We're realistic about the challenges, changes, and deep uncertainties present in African health sector spaces.

Indeed, as I write this letter, I'm digesting a report showing that official development assistance, or ODA, from the 34 countries represented in the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development's Development Assistance Committee fell by nearly 25% last year, exceeding worst-case scenario projections by upwards of 8%. United States aid volumes alone dropped by 57%, or \$38 billion, which is the largest single-year reduction by any donor on record.

ODA projections aren't any rosier for 2026, with a further 5.8% contraction predicted.

For m2m, this means we must think, strategise, plan, deliver, monitor, and evaluate differently. And we must be driven, nimble, and decisive while we do it.

Here are three other words that also make a difference: **Support, partnership, trust.**

Because when you commit all three to m2m, it makes us even more driven to achieve our mission. For that, we are deeply grateful.

Chad Rathner

President and Chief Executive Officer

WHO WE REACHED THIS QUARTER

In the first quarter of 2026, m2m continued to deliver essential health services in a changing and constrained operating environment, reaching **86,667** new clients across our seven countries of operation. Each of these clients had one or more direct engagements with an m2m community health worker (CHW), often marking an important first step in accessing trusted, life-changing care and support.

Behind this number are women, children, adolescents, and families who accessed trusted care and support closer to home. For many, that first engagement with an m2m CHW can mark the beginning of a healthier and more hopeful journey.

Results varied across countries, shaped by programme transitions, project closeouts, and targeted scale-up efforts. Zambia recorded the highest enrolment at 30,988 new clients, followed by Nigeria with 22,806, where expanded site coverage and more efficient service delivery models contributed to strong momentum.

Following the significant disruptions of 2025, country teams remained focused on maintaining continuity of care and supporting those most in need, particularly women, children, adolescents, and underserved families. Across several settings, m2m increasingly prioritised retention-focused, community-based models designed to keep people engaged in services and improve long-term outcomes.

At the centre of this work are m2m's CHWs, positioned in both communities and health facilities to remove barriers to care and support clients throughout their journey. Because they come from the same communities they serve, they bring trust, lived experience, and credibility—helping to advance our mission of creating healthier families and stronger communities.

NUMBER OF CLIENTS NEWLY ENROLLED THIS QUARTER

Client Group	Q4 Number Reached	Q1 Number Reached	Cumulative - YTD	Annual Target	% Target Reached
Children (0-2)	11,158	13,384	13,384	60,797	22%
Children (3-9)	7,604	3,172	3,172	42,831	7%
Adolescents (10-19)	34,225	24,612	24,612	136,491	18%
Young Adults (20-24)	23,520	12,382	12,382	101,816	12%
Adults (25+)	39,033	33,117	33,117	224,963	15%
Total	115,540	86,667	86,667	566,898	15%

CLIENTS BY HIV STATUS NEWLY ENROLLED THIS QUARTER

Client Group	Q4 Number Reached	Q1 Number Reached	Cumulative - YTD	Annual Target	% Target Reached
People Living with HIV	20,614	13,570	13,570	124,717	11%
People Not Living with HIV, Or Unknown Status	94,926	73,097	73,097	442,181	17%



HOW WE REACHED OUR CLIENTS THIS QUARTER

Following the significant disruptions of 2025, the first quarter of 2026 marked a deliberate shift towards stabilising operations, grounded in a clear sense of purpose and a more focused approach to delivery. Across our countries of operation, teams remained adaptable and responsive, ensuring continuity of essential services while adjusting to a rapidly changing funding and programme environment.

By the end of March 2026, m2m operated across 597 community- and facility-based geolocations, up from 542 in Q4 2025. This expanded footprint strengthened our ability to deliver services through both community and facility platforms, while maintaining proximity to the populations we serve.

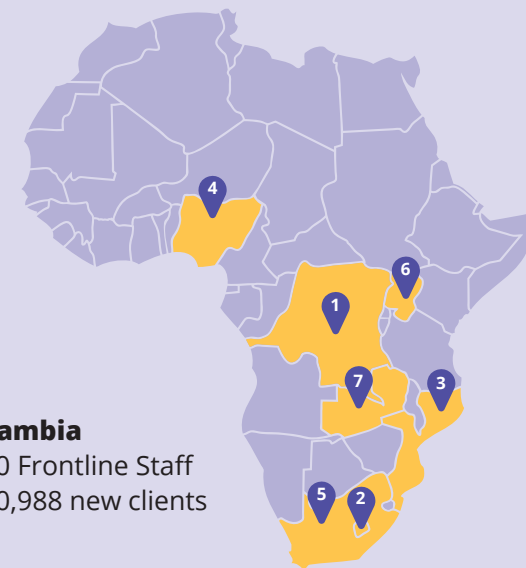
During the quarter, m2m employed 991 community health workers across seven countries, compared with 1,175 in the previous quarter. This leaner workforce reflects strategic adjustments made in 2025, with a stronger emphasis on sustainability, efficiency, and alignment to programme priorities.

The lessons of 2025 have strengthened how we deploy, support, and optimise our teams, enabling faster responses to changing contexts without losing focus on quality service delivery. As a result, m2m is better positioned to deliver resilient, high-impact services at scale, grounded in community trust and a clear path toward long-term sustainability.

**m2m implements a technical assistance programme only in the DRC and does not provide direct service delivery.*

FRONTLINE STAFF EMPLOYED AND NEW CLIENTS ENROLLED THIS QUARTER:

<p>1 Democratic Republic of Congo* N/A Frontline Staff N/A new clients</p>	<p>5 South Africa 133 Frontline Staff 7,169 new clients</p>
<p>2 Lesotho 394 Frontline Staff 8,666 new clients</p>	<p>6 Uganda 27 Frontline Staff 10,206 new clients</p>
<p>3 Mozambique 277 Frontline Staff 6,832 new clients</p>	<p>7 Zambia 80 Frontline Staff 30,988 new clients</p>
<p>4 Nigeria 80 Frontline Staff 22,806 new clients</p>	



Nigeria: Meet Ruth

"I am healthy and all three of my children are HIV free! There was a time when I never thought I would say these words.

In 2016, while pregnant, I found out I was living with HIV. I was overwhelmed with fear, and after losing that baby, I felt my life was over.

Everything changed when I became pregnant again and met an m2m Mentor Mother at my local clinic in Giri, Abuja, Nigeria. She listened without judgment, shared her own story, and helped me believe that life will get better.

With her support, I took my treatment every day and always kept my clinic appointments. Slowly, I became stronger, healthier, and more confident. Today, I'm raising healthy children, caring for myself, and looking ahead with hope.

Because of the support I received, I know that with the right care and encouragement, women like me can build a better future for our families."

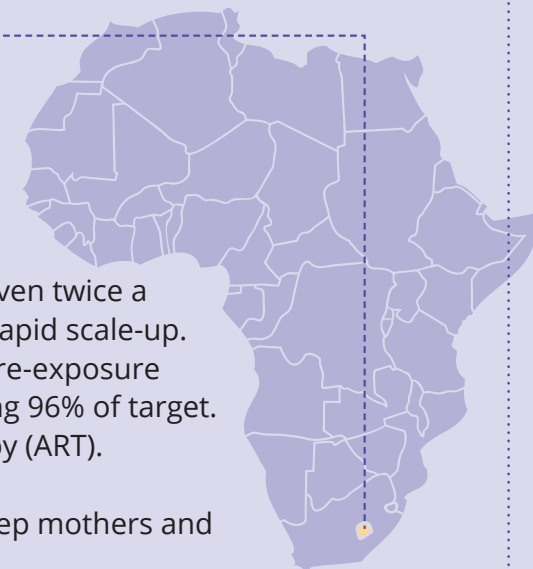
DETAILED HIGHLIGHTS THIS QUARTER

LESOTHO ←

m2m Lesotho continued to play a key role within the FHI 360-led EpiC consortium, delivering integrated community-based HIV prevention, care, and treatment services through Mentor Mother and nurse-led models across Maseru, Mafeteng, Mochale's Hoek, and Thaba-Tseka. m2m also strengthened health systems through training, capacity building, service integration, and implementation support to government and consortium partners.

During the quarter, teams supported the national rollout of Lenacapavir, a long-acting HIV prevention injection given twice a year. m2m helped develop training materials, served as master trainers, and led step-down trainings to support rapid scale-up. Results were strong. A total of 1,469 eligible HIV-negative pregnant and breastfeeding women were initiated on pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP), reaching 127% of target. In addition, 3,456 women attended first antenatal care visits, achieving 96% of target. All pregnant and breastfeeding women newly diagnosed with HIV were successfully linked to antiretroviral therapy (ART).

These results reflect strong coordination between community and facility platforms to expand prevention and keep mothers and children healthy.



LESOTHO: Meet Mamotji

At 21, Mamotji is raising her child in Ha Mosakae, a rural village in Lesotho's Maseru district. She learned she was living with HIV at 15 and stayed on treatment with the support of her grandmother.

When she became pregnant at 19, fear and uncertainty returned. "Being young, single, and living with HIV was overwhelming," she says. "I worried about my health and whether my baby would be born HIV free."

Living far from the clinic made it difficult to stay motivated. Everything changed when an m2m Mentor Mother began visiting her at home.

"I learned why it's important to keep going to the clinic and stay on treatment," Mamotji says. "The Mentor Mothers shared her own story, and I realised that there I want to do better for my baby."

With regular follow-up and support from nurses at St Rodrigues Health Centre, Mamotji remained in care throughout pregnancy and breastfeeding. Today, she is a proud mother to an HIV-free baby, and is happy and healthy.

DETAILED HIGHLIGHTS THIS QUARTER

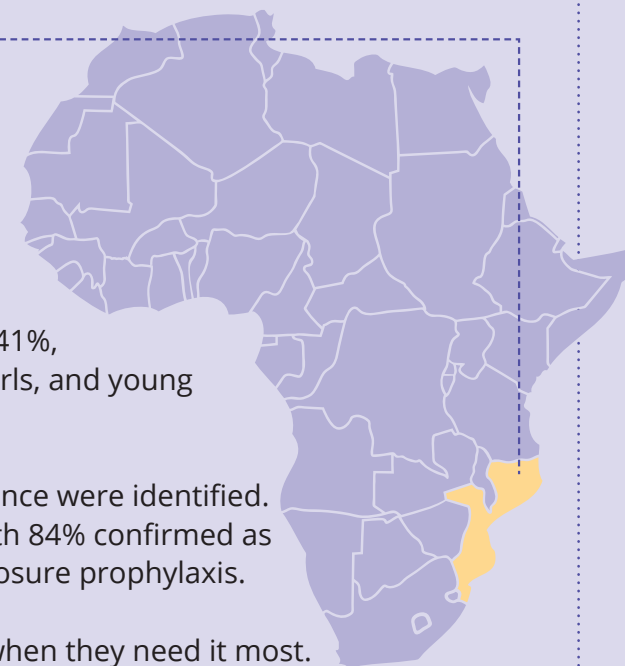
MOZAMBIQUE ←

In Mozambique's Cabo Delgado province, where displacement, insecurity, and disrupted services continue to heighten protection risks, m2m is delivering a survivor-centred violence mitigation and response programme. Mentor Mothers serve as trusted frontline responders in communities and health facilities, providing first-line psychosocial support using the World Health Organization's LIVES approach and linking survivors to clinical, counselling, and protection services.

This quarter, the team held 518 community awareness sessions, reaching 13,897 people across Chiúre and Metuge districts. In just three months, this exceeded the number of people reached in the previous year by 41%, demonstrating rapid growth, strong community trust, and rising demand for support. Women, adolescent girls, and young people made up a significant share of those reached.

The programme also strengthened survivor identification and referral pathways. A total of 117 cases of violence were identified. All 51 suspected cases of sexual violence received immediate support and were referred for further care, with 84% confirmed as survivors. Every survivor who accessed services within the critical 72-hour window was initiated on post-exposure prophylaxis.

These early results show how trusted, community-based support can help survivors access life-saving care when they need it most.



Mentor Mothers and community members gather during an m2m outreach session in Mozambique, creating safe spaces for dialogue, support, and healing.

Mozambique: Nancy's* Story

"There was a time when I felt alone and misunderstood," says Nancy, a 40-year-old woman from Metuge District, Mozambique. "It was painful to be judged by my family and friends."

Nancy was experiencing emotional abuse at home, worsened by stigma after people assumed she was living with HIV because of weight loss. Isolated and unsure where to turn, she attended an m2m community session on violence and mental health, where she realised support was available.

After the session, a Mentor Mother met with Nancy privately, listened without judgment, and linked her to counselling and other support services. She continued checking in and, with Nancy's consent, helped her family understand the harm caused by stigma and emotional abuse.

Over time, life at home began to improve. "Today, there is more peace in my home," Nancy says. "I feel safer, and I am able to speak for myself."

**Name changed to protect privacy and safeguard identity.*

THE JOURNEY SO FAR...

To achieve our mission, we intensely focus on the present and the future. But it is always motivating to look back on how far we have come.

Since 2001, m2m has:



Created **12,874 jobs** for African women living with HIV.



Reached **17,348,899 people** with life-changing health services.



Helped to keep **3,138,411** at-risk women and children alive.



This has only been possible because of the steadfast support of our partners, so ngiyabonga, asante sana, and thank you!

www.m2m.org

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