A holistic, evidence-based, achievable strategy towards zero preventable maternal and child deaths - A CALL FOR ACTION TOWARDS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL 3

Global Polio Eradication (GPEI) remains our priority – maternal and child mortality reduction programme Calmed can be built on Post-Polio Legacy framework.

We invite you to join us for guidance and action (please see Para 8)

   ➢ Programme strategy and components are evidence-based actions, to reduce maternal, new born mortalities/morbidities and enable communities to satisfy unmet needs of contraception.
   ➢ It has five components
     a. needs and priorities assessment – by communities, Rotary, Government
     b. top down (training the trainer model), using enhanced WHO Basic Emergency Obstetric New Born Care (BEmONC) for skills training of professionals (doctors, nurses, midwives, public health workers).
     c. bottom up (enhanced community awareness) approach, working in partnership with the Government and communities.
     d. Maternity Emergency Response Network (M.E.R.N.) for urgent resuscitation at the community and fast track transfer of women and babies to best available care.
     e. MPDSR (Maternal and Perinatal Death Surveillance and Response) - quality assurance for improved infrastructure and governance, resulting from review of all maternal & child deaths. We work on WHO guidelines, with Governments for implementation of an achievable realistic corrective action covering human resources, infrastructure and governance, specially in support of Universal Health Coverage (UHC).

2. Who are we? – we are a group (Global Networking Group for Preventable Maternal and Child Mortality) of Rotarians, academics, professionals, administrators and volunteers, all with a common interest in achieving measurable reduction of preventable maternal and child deaths in areas of need.

3. Why is Calmed important? It sets new standards in Rotary Foundation Service in maternal and child health area of focus. The programme
   ➢ Strategy incorporates funding, hands on vocational efforts of professionals, and advocacy.
   ➢ Is based on internal (RFPD, Rotarian Doctors Fellowship) and external (Government, NGOs, Academics) Rotary partnership.
   ➢ Components are evidence based.
   ➢ Pilot programmes have shown validated sustainable improvement in maternal and child mortality rates, coupled with skills enhancement, enhanced community awareness and important behavioural changes.
   ➢ Has generated legacies of Global Grant (training materials, partnership/collaboration, mentoring support) freely available – Para 5.
➢ Is capable of adaptation and merging (dove-tailing) with in-country initiatives- we have experience of successful collaboration with Governments.
➢ Has received recognition - Rotary GBI Champion of Change award (2016) and London Times - Sternberg award (2016). Eight faculty members received individual PHF recognition.

4. Our Collaborators (logos are shown below) continue to support us with funding, advocacy and guidance. The programme is validated by WHO, through our important partnership with Geneva Rotary Health Group - please write for details. We are pleased to acknowledge support from Uganda UK Health Alliance.

5. Pilot Studies – successful outcome - exceeded its targets
➢ Calmed had been piloted through Rotary Foundation Global Grants GG 1326259 & 1413592 (2013 to 2017) in two states of India, Sikkim and Gujarat (Pop. 3.2 million).
➢ Supported by Rotary Foundation Grants of $ 100,000, resources from Collaborators including India Government, a training faculty of 15 senior doctors trained 39 expert trainers who passed Master Trainers standard. They trained 218 health care professionals and over 500 community workers (ASHAs)
➢ Three years follow up (modelled estimate based on state government of India data) shows saving of 250 mothers and 1250 babies, and a legacy of technical details, equipment and materials for sustainability of the programme.
➢ Legacies left behind after the programme included resources for training, simulators, videos, digital media (stored in tablets, phones and computers) and a cadre of trained motivated professionals supported by telemedicine and mentoring network.

6. Strategies for Long Term benefit - Maternal and Child Health Academy – supported by Academics, Professionals, Governments and other stake holders, when established, will be the resource for future training of professionals to a global standard, support quality control, initiate research and will offer a long-term solution.

7. Action taking place – Current initiatives in place includes
   a. Geneva Rotary Health initiative – RC Geneva Internationale has established a consultative collaboration with WHO for Calmed programme development, monitoring and evaluation
   b. Uganda UK Health Alliance – is collaborating with a view to adapting and implementing Calmed based programme in the country with a view to accelerated progress towards SDG 3 goals.
8. **Action needed now – your support is important** – “Together we see a world where people unite and take action to create lasting changes across the world, in our communities and in ourselves.”

We seek your support for further pilot programmes based on Calmed template as Global Grant VTTs or as a country wide programme in partnership.

   a. **Promotion and Publicity** – the programme details and benefits can be shared in Rotary Institutes, Rotary Conferences, Training Programmes, Meetings, Magazines, Social media etc.

   b. **Global Grants** - in target areas of 1 to 3 million, Rotary Foundation Global Grants based on our existing Calmed model can be implemented. Our legacy (Para 5) resources and partnership for implementation will be freely available.

   c. **Country initiatives** - for individual country initiatives covering larger population, it is imperative to join existing in-country Government initiatives, with Rotary collaboration based on the Calmed template. Additional funding support from aid agencies and philanthropists will be required.

   d. **Join us and help us enlarge our volunteer professional workforce** (doctors, midwives, nurses, administrators and others) for taking leadership roles in Vocational Training in Maternal and Child Health Area of focus.

   e. **Join our strategic leadership team** for programme development and implementation.

Stop Mothers Dying!


For further information, please contact us

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