**3.2.B.1 Baseline interview transcript**

| **Respondent ID** | 2-LM-1-2 |
| --- | --- |
| **Respondent Group Number** | 2 |
| **Care Group Role** | Lead Mother |
| **Consent to participate** | (missing) |
| **Interview date** | (missing) |
| **Interview start time** | 13:58 |
| **Interview end time** | 15:23 |
| **Interview location** | Daluka |
| **Interview language** | (missing) |
| **Interview condition notes** | (missing) |
| **Enumerator ID** | (missing) |
| **Fully anonymized** | (missing) |
| **Resident community** | (missing) |
| **Gender** | Female |
| **Age** | 36 |

**50\_What Care Groups have you joined? (Probe for: when, how long, roles in each)**

*I joined Amalima Loko Care groups, Health clubs. I joined Amalima Loko when it started in July 2022. I joined health clubs 5 years ago. My role in the Amalima Loko Care Group is to teach other women on how to handle and care for children. I also teach and promote good hygiene. On health clubs we do VSL and teach each other about hygiene. I also pay visits to my group members. I use this as a monitoring tool.*

**51\_Consider the most recent group, what good things did you experience? What challenges did you experience?**

*On hygiene, we usually propose that next week we will have a meeting in one of the member’s home just to monitor. So we would observe how she serves us even water etc. Topics like frequency of breastfeeding are difficult to monitor. At times we ask them to demonstrate how to breast feed at times we ask how many times their baby wets the nappy. If they say once, we will see that she is not feeding well.*

**52\_How did your experience change over time, or between care groups?**

*We got lessons about hygiene from our promoter. We gained so much knowledge. We got knowledge on how to handle ourselves from pregnancy to giving birth. Mothers are now participating and practising good hygiene at their home. Back then we were a bit backwards. We have developed VSLA develops us now we have kitchen utensils. We are now able to buy books for our children. One challenge is that; at first mothers were reluctant to join. Other mothers with children above five don’t see a need for the lessons or benefits since their children are not part of the Blanket supplementary feeding.*

*We would talk to them to come and meet with other women. Others saw the good that we have done then joined.*

1. **Probe - What was different? Please explain. (Probe for: positive /advantages or challenges/ disadvantages).**

*There has been a good change in behaviour of neighbour women e.g. after attending the lessons given by the promoter, mothers showed change in behaviour and started to show interest in the meetings. They now do what you are supposed to do if you have a child who is under 5 years of age. They have even invited other women to come and experience these lessons. Now we have VSLA clubs that have helped us develop ourselves.*

**Section 3: Care group leadership**

**53\_Tell me about being a Lead Mother…?**

*As a lead mother I lead mothers and teach them and we share opinions as a group, I try to make sure that they are comfortable. We have books that are a guide but as a lead mother I am the one who informs them of the day’s topic*

* 1. **Probe - What are good things about being a Lead Mother?**

*I am respectable before other mothers.*

* 1. **Probe - What can be difficult about being a Lead Mother?**

*I haven’t met any challenges besides that at first mothers were reluctant to come to meetings.*

* 1. **Probe - What have you gained by being a Lead Mother?**

*I have gained knowledge from the promoter that I didn’t have.*

**54\_What would help Lead Mothers to carry out their roles?**

**55\_What does a Lead Mother do for the Care Group? *(Probe*: group formation, for each meeting, between meetings, linking with communities?)**

*In group formation, I compile the register. There are rules and regulations that we agree on so it is me who reads them out in meetings, I greet the group, I mark the register, to see that they all participate in the lessons. I supervise even on refreshments, I also give opening remarks, I mark the register, I read out the minutes of the previous meeting. I also read the Agenda of the day. In the community, if there are meetings in the community they give us a slot if we have a message to share with other women so that they join. We ask from the village head to be given a chance to show case, so we ask him to call community members on our behalf.*

1. **Probe - Are some of the roles expected of Lead Mothers harder to do than others, in your experience? Why or why not? Does this vary every week or month?**

*We haven’t seen it so far. I think it is all the same as long as you understand what you are doing. There isn’t a difference where we are from and where we are going in as far as the duties are concerned.*

**56\_What do others in the community think or say about Lead Mothers? (*Probe:* special attention or role? Respect? pressure?)**

*Some people despise the roles of other people especially if you are not performing other duties or chores well in your home wondering if you will be able to do the job. Others support you.*

*I was once part of a group that was about teaching children from 10 years and above. We were teaching about life skills for example sporting activities.*

**57\_How many households/mothers do you have under your stewardship?**

*I have 12 households*

**58\_Has your group faced any conflicts? If yes, which ones? How have you dealt with them?**

*No we haven’t met that because of the love that they found in the lead mother.*

**59\_What are the most common challenges faced by mothers/households under your stewardship?**

*Sometimes they complain about coming every week for the meeting, my husband doesn’t agree. So we had to rotate the venue from one member’s house to another. This made it easy for the husbands to understand. Rainy season has begun so its farming time, the Wednesday we used to meet is a resting day so we have a challenge now. So we have to agree as a group and change to another day and change the time for meeting. The group is united despite of the challenges.*

**60\_What tips would you have for another lead mother?**

**Forming the Current/Most Recent Care Group**

**61\_Consider your current Care group, or most recent. What do people call it? (Probe, if there is a name other than Care group: who decided on the name?)**

*The name of the group is Mthombowolwazi Care Group. The lead mother decided on the name. Other group members were happy because it carries knowledge. They did not complain.*

**62\_What is the purpose of the group?**

*To promote child care as mothers and encourage good hygiene within our families together as a group.*

**63\_(Lead Mothers only) Who are/were members?**

*Women and grandmothers are the members.*

**64\_Can you describe the members? (Probe: livelihoods, ages, religion. How are you similar or different from the members? How are they similar and different from each other?)**

*The age range is 25-54 years. Their source of livelihoods is chicken rearing, farming vegetables, selling tomatoes. They are all Christians. We are not different. When we were appointed we were taught not to act as teachers but we share knowledge as all members.*

**65\_Can you walk me through your process for deciding is part of the group? (Probe: where they live, age of child, age of mother, number of children, language, married/unmarried, etc)**

*We select our neighbours, we do not consider the number of children that they have but most of the members have 5 children going down, we just invite every woman who has a child who is under 5 years of age. Most are Ndebele speaking and most are married traditionally.*

**67\_Are there other decisions lead mothers make?**

**68\_Before joining the group, did you and the members know each other? (Probe for: interactions/friendly? How did you meet the members? How did they get to know each other?)**

*Yes, we knew each other as neighbours. Others we go to the same church together. Others are relatives amongst themselves.*

**69\_What do you expect each group member to do?**

1. **Probe - Did every member do this? (Probe: Did every member attend regularly? Did every member engage in discussion by speaking up in meetings?)**

*Most participate. We encourage them to all participate. Others can add on the day’s lessons. They bring suggestions.*

*Actively participating member means attending majority of care groups meetings, engaging in conversations during meetings by speaking up or otherwise, coming prepared to meetings with topics or experiences to discuss etc.*

**70\_Tell me the story of what I would experience if I visited [insert care group that was mentioned]: what would happen from the time I arrived until the time I leave.**

* 1. **Probe - Where will I arrive? Who will be there?**

*You would be welcomed by the lead mother. The CGP might be there also*

* 1. **Probe - How long will it last?**

*1 hour*

* 1. **Probe - Is there interaction among the group? Does the group engage in interactive activities (games, activities, etc)?**

*The one that was recently formed hasn’t participated because no field day has happened but when it happens we are ready to participate with our drama, singing but from previous groups we would go to field. We are always practising singing, we read lessons then drama then a small song about the lesson. We sing as a group. If a field day occurs, we can go and assist maybe in cooking for visitors or working in the field and contribute financially.*

* 1. **Probe - What do group members do during this time?**

**Section 4: What constitutes care group “quality”**

**85\_Close your eyes. Envision a care group which is high quality or very successful. How would you describe this group? What makes it high quality or successful?**

*It’s a group with health workers like Nurses and promoters, a group that involves village heads, nutritionists. What makes it quality is the lessons that the health workers develop the group, the homes of the members will improve in terms of hygiene issues.*

**86\_For each below, ask their opinions. Does this make sense for Care groups? Why or why not? How could it be achieved?**

1. **Probe - groups where members actively share and problem-solve together for each topic**

*If the lead mother has love for the members, one of the members can easily share her problem knowing that she will be assisted. On issues that concern breast feeding, we have lessons that help us solve issues around breast feeding.*

1. **Probe - where the group is supports and encourages each other;**

*Door to door visits would help.*

1. **Probe - where members follow each session by doing the behaviors at home with their families,**

*Lead mothers can engage in monitoring by visiting the group members to see how they are doing.*

1. **Probe - where the group is recognized by the community.**

*The group can come together and do projects that will make them visible in the community like helping each other build toilets, have a chicken project even working in the field.*

**5 Whys: Root of Challenges and Successes of Care Groups**

**Now we would like to learn more about the challenges and successes of care groups, from your perspective. We will start the discussion and then ask “why” five times, to make sure we have the deepest understanding of the root of the challenges and successes. [Give example]**

**87\_Think about your experience leading care groups: What is the key to a care groups’ success?**

* 1. **Probe - Why is that the key to success?**

*A key to success is to be united and respect each other, also to work hard as a group and help to develop each other.*

* 1. **Probe - Why is that important?**

*Because when you are united you achieve your goals, there won’t be any arguments.*

* 1. **Probe - Why… why… why…**

**88\_Sometimes care groups have challenges. What is the biggest challenge or frustration you have seen occur in a Care Group? Can you tell me about a time when your care group experience was frustrating or challenging? What did you do? How did the group react?**

*No arguments yet. I haven’t met any challenges so far. What I noticed is that from group formation no one has ever despised others opinions, we just do everything with love and unity.*

1. **Probe - Why is that a challenge?**
2. **Probe - Why did the challenge or frustration come up?**
3. **Probe - Why is that important?**
4. **Probe - Why… why… why…**

**Section 5: Recommendations**

**89\_If a newly formed group asked for your advice, what would you say?**

*I would say what is important in a group is unity, understanding each other and respect for each other, love as well is important. Do not look down upon each other*

* 1. **Probe - What would you say to the Lead Mother(s)?**

*When you are lead mother you must be a confidante, people must know their secrets are safe with you, a woman who has respect, a woman who can take care of her home and children as well, you must be a humble woman. This will help the group to grow and improve. It keeps the group united*

**90\_What additional support would help Lead Mothers? Other Care Groups?**

*I would share with them knowledge about some issues that happen in the care group. Lessons from promoters and nurses can help lead mothers to deliver lessons well to the other members. Other care groups could be assisted with visits and be involved in other community or group programs so that they share with us.*

**Section 6: Conclusion and remaining thoughts**

**48\_Is there anything else you would like to add?**

*As we do visits, there is a lot of distance to be covered so we request that we be assisted with bicycles so that on some visits we can use bicycles.*

**49\_Would you like to learn the results of this research? If so, how?**

*Yes, using the same channel as the one you used now.*