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

| **Respondent ID** | 1-GM-2-5 |
| --- | --- |
| **Respondent Group Number** | 5 |
| **Care Group Role** | Member |
| **Consent to participate** | (missing) |
| **Interview date** | (missing) |
| **Interview start time** | 11:13 |
| **Interview end time** | 11:30 |
| **Interview location** | Kariangwe |
| **Interview language** | (missing) |
| **Interview condition notes** | (missing) |
| **Enumerator ID** | (missing) |
| **Fully anonymized** | (missing) |
| **Resident community** | (missing) |
| **Gender** | Female |
| **Age** | 39 |

**Section 2: Group Experience.**

**1\_Are you a member of any groups now (Care group or VSLA or others)? Have you been a member of any group in the past?**

*Yes. Yes, I have joined a group where I was teaching children who were not yet going to school.*

**2\_What is the purpose of these groups?**

*The group seeks to improve the way we breastfeed our babies, how we take care of them and also to know when to breastfeed. Besides this, the group seeks to encourage us to keep our homes clean by sweeping, washing our plates always, and using the toilets. The purpose of this group is to promote hygiene among breastfeeding women as they are taught how to hold the breast, hold the baby, how to change nappies and also how to feed the baby.*

*Also, the purpose is to educate the care group members about health-related information and to sensitize us with all the information about health and hygiene. The group disseminate information to us mothers about agriculture and how to feed and take care of our children*

**3\_What made you decide to join the group?**

*My reason for joining this group was that I was selected by the lead mother to be in her group. She told me that the group was for health and hygiene and I was pleased to join the group as I wanted to improve and get information about health and hygiene. Considering that I once taught babies who were not yet old enough to go for ECD.*

1. **Probe - Can you please highlight some of the activities you do as a Care Group?**

*The lead mother was educating us on what we must do when breastfeeding in order to keep our kids healthy. The group is engaged in gardening in which we have our nutritional garden where we have vegetables, onions, tomatoes and carrots. These help us to engage in the selling of these products as one of the activities that we are engaging as the care group.*

1. **Probe - What benefits do or did you get from the group?**

*“I have benefitted from the group through increasing my social capital as I have made friends in this group”. Also, through the selling of our products I have managed to supplement the income from my husband as when we sold the produce, we shared the profits as a group.*

1. **Probe - How often do you meet as a Care Group?**

*For our group, we meet 3 times a month.*

1. **Probe - As a Care group what are some of the challenges/successes you have experienced?**

*The challenge we are facing as a group is that when we have our sessions there are always disturbances and noise from the babies. Babies are always crying during the sessions and when they cry the mothers are forced to move out of the sessions. When they do so they are missing some of the important information due to the baby crying.*

*We do not have a shade for our meeting which makes it hard to conduct sessions during the rainy seasons. So this will make it even hard to conduct sessions from now onwards. Also, there are no refreshments for the meetings which makes people to attend the meetings hungry.*

*The other challenge we have faced as a group is about the members failing to attend the meeting on time. We agreed to meet at 1400hrs but some walking long distances are failing to be here on time which makes us to delay to dismiss.*

*The success is that our care group members are getting information that most of the community members are not getting. This information helps to change our behaviour on how we take care of the children when breastfeeding.*

1. **Probe - How have solved these Challenges?**

*We have not yet done anything for now for most of the challenges because we do not have resources. However, on the shade, we built a shade using 50kg sacks but they were torn. So now we are back to zero again.*

1. **Probe - How often do you get home visits from your peer group members/ Lead Mothers?**

*The lead mother visited me once.*

1. **Probe - Do you have any challenges with joining and participating in the groups? Please explain**.

*No, I do not have a problem for now, I am enjoying every moment that I have spent in the group. For now I cannot complain about it.*

**Section 4: What constitutes care group quality.**

**26\_What characteristics of a care group make it of high quality for you?**

*A group should promote privacy, people are free to participate where they know that their privacy and secrets are safe. Unity is another ingredient for a high-quality group because unity makes us to be a family and never despise one of our members. The group should have a leader who is well-behaved because when the leader fails to exhibit good character our husbands will never allow us to join such groups. Even the entire community will not recognize the group.*

1. **Probe - Who is in the group?**

*The group consists of women only .*

1. **Probe - Are there any males, grandmothers in your group?**

*No we do not have.*

1. **Probe - If yes, what has been their contribution towards your group’s activities?**

*No.*

1. **Probe - Who leads the group and how?**

*The lead mother is the one who leads the group. She is the one who always facilitates the meetings by choosing what to teach during the sessions.*

1. **Probe - Who participates in a meeting? How are solutions identified?**

*We are allowed to participate, comment and deliberate as a group. We all come up with solutions if a problem is identified and we agree on what is done.*

1. **Probe - Practicability of discussions to apply at home?**

*Yes, they are practical because we are taught and we demonstrate how to do it and how it can be done. After the demonstration people will be knowing what they are supposed to do.*

*However, the only issue difficult to implement is the issue of toilets because of the care group members have no toilets.*

1. **Probe - Interactive Activities.**

*As alluded to above that during the meetings we are all given time to participate and make a contribution this means that our activities are interactive in nature.*

1. **Probe - Social Support from members.**

*The members are so supportive in the sense that we always have them visiting each other. The support is also noted when we go together to water our garden.*

1. **Probe - Recognition by community leaders or structures?**

*No idea*

**Section 5: Recommendations.**

**29\_Do you have any recommendations for programs that support groups for women in your community?**

*Firstly to have children dropping centre where kids can be taught before they start their ECD. This will help to prepare these children for their ECD. As a group, we also request for refreshments for our meeting so that we can have something to eat when we meet.*

*Amalima Loko should try to incentivize the groups so that the communities can see the importance or value us as a group. This could be through helping us with a fence in fencing our gardens, giving us seeds, or drilling boreholes in the gardens. We also need IEC materials for the group.*

*There is a need to sponsor and help with the building of toilets because without toilets its hard to implement hygiene activities.*

1. **Probe - What can be done differently in your group?**

*For our club we should try to increase the frequency of our meetings so we can try to make this information steak into people’s heads rather than having it being taught once or twice a month.*

**30\_Do you feel there are any other topics or groups who could benefit from participating in a Care Group in your Community?**

*The importance of education should be also involved for these young women so that their babies can value education as they grow. This is because most of the children have been dropping out of school.*

**Section 6: Conclusion and Remaining Thoughts.**

**31\_Would you ever consider becoming a Lead Mother for a Care Group? Why or Why not?**

*Yes, being a lead mother is easy because I have been able facilitating since and up to now I am able to facilitate.*

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

*No.*