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

| **Respondent ID** | 2-LM-2-1 |
| --- | --- |
| **Respondent Group Number** | 1 |
| **Care Group Role** | Lead Mother |
| **Consent to participate** | (missing) |
| **Interview date** | (missing) |
| **Interview start time** | 10:15 |
| **Interview end time** | 11:43 |
| **Interview location** | Mathambo |
| **Interview language** | (missing) |
| **Interview condition notes** | (missing) |
| **Enumerator ID** | (missing) |
| **Fully anonymized** | (missing) |
| **Resident community** | (missing) |
| **Gender** | Female |
| **Age** | 39 |

**Section 2: Care group experience**

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

*I am part of Sizphile care group. I joined in July 2022. My role as a lead mother is to encourage mothers to breastfeed their babies, about hygiene issues, take care of their children, I encourage them to engage in clubs so that we develop ourselves. I am also part of Vuka Uzenzele. I joined last year before I became a lead mother. It has 10 members all women. The main aim of the group was to come together as women and do something that will develop us so that we don’t wait to be given money by our husbands. As a group we would help each other in the fields, rotating until we have helped everyone in the group. Do VSL groups.*

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

*We have gained knowledge that has enabled me to teach others as well. I have learnt to practise good hygiene. I have learnt to lead by example. If I teach good hygiene I have to practise it first. I have never heard of any fights from the beginning of the meetings to start. When we started the group we made it clear that we want people who understand each other. We encourage humility at all times.*

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

*I have experienced a lot of changes. Other people didn’t know that they should have a refuse pit, that wooden rack is essential. Other people were still using the old way of going to the bush but now they have built toilets. They have also learnt to wash their hands. Even lactating mothers have learnt how to breastfeed their babies. Most of the people now have toilets, pits, wooden racks. People are practising good hygiene. Even the village head was there in the meeting were we proposed that we get into groups and build toilets for each other. These have been very productive lessons because we no longer use a lot of firewood when cooking we now have tsotso stoves. We have found a good way of preserving the trees.*

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

**Section 3: Care group leadership**

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

*A mother who values humanity, with no segregation, one who listens to the problems of the group members, building each other*

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

*The lessons give us good direction towards development. We haven’t how to prevent many diseases, as a lead mother if I see a child who has no parents who needs to go to the hospital I can assist. People are marvelling my work and leadership.*

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

*I haven’t seen any challenges. When someone comes with a problem I attend to them and try to help each other solve the problem. At first others were failing to understand what they were being taught but they now understand.*

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

*I have gained knowledge on the things that I didn’t know I have also learnt to work with others*

**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?)**

*When forming the group, we go to the village head to do a meeting and layout the rules of the group. I give opening remarks. When people have volunteered we then do introductions first in the community, in meetings I deliver lessons and share knowledge. I also encourage people to carry out the assigned tasks in meetings. I also manage time so that mothers can go back to their homes and do other chores. In the community there are grannies who are no longer able to do farming so we go and help her in the fields. I visit group members to monitor and encourage them. Even the sick I visit them and encourage them to go to the clinic. We participate in community activities such as games.*

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?**

*So far they are not difficult*

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

*They are happy about my leadership. When I call for meetings they come running***.**

*After digging pits, and digging holes for toilets I went on to share knowledge on child care, the first hours of a child. I have encouraged exclusive breast feeding.*

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

*I have 10 households under my leadership.*

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

*We haven’t faced any conflicts. When the group started we encouraged members to be humble and understand each other*

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

*I haven’t met any reports about challenges from mothers.*

**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?)**

*It doesn’t have a name.*

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

*To teach and gain knowledge and pass it on to others. It teaches young mothers child care. It teaches hygiene. When teaching about hygiene even men are welcome. We encourage each other to get fully vaccinated.*

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

*From young mothers and grannies. Age range is 16-75 years. Most of them rely on farming. Those who don’t have seeds we share with them. Most go to church. We are the same in that we both bring questions to be discussed by the group the difference is that I bring the lessons and they listen. Some are always on time, some delay for the meetings so now what I do is I set the meeting time earlier so that it gives room for everyone to be there. They all practise what I teach them.*

**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?)**

**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 call the community, layout the purpose of the group. Those who are committed and interested in joining the group will volunteer. The community chooses the committee. In our care groups we accommodate mothers of 0-11 months and 2yrs to 5 years children. Even grannies who are caregivers are accommodated.*

**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?)**

*We only know each other as neighbours, others you would have learnt with them a long time ago. Amongst the members some may happen to be relatives.*

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

*They participate a lot. I think it’s because they have a purpose for the group and knowing that the knowledge will push them forward. They attend meetings well. They know when the bell rings you have to rush to the meeting. We share ideas as a group. If there’s a workshop* ***somewhere I call the other community members and share with them.***

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

**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?**

*Lead mothers will welcome you.*

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

*It will depend with the activities that will be available.*

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

*Since we started the group there hasn’t been any field day. We haven’t been part of games. Field days accommodate everyone. It is good to participate. As a care group we have attended a school fundraising day and supported the children in ways that we can so that the school develops.*

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?**

*A care group that teaches other members of the community, a group that teaches each other about development eg building wooden racks.*

**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**

*Members should learn to listen to each other and help each other in problem solving as a team***.**

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

*Members must respect each other so that they listen each other.*

1. **Probe - where members follow each session by doing the behaviors at home with their families**
2. **Probe - where the group is recognized by the community.**

*The group must take part in community activities and support other groups in the community.*

**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?**

**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?**

*When I started delivering lessons people seemed lost, they did not understand about the meetings, I however did not lose hope. I carried on and explained to them the need and benefit of the group.*

*Development becomes slow it causes discouragement to the group leaders*

*The group was still on its early stages.*

**Section 5: Recommendations**

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

*I would advise them to engage traditional leaders in what they do. I would encourage them to do projects for example even chicken projects*

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

*I would encourage her to practise good hygiene and lead by example always.*

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

*I would attend their functions and support them*

**Section 6: Conclusion and remaining thoughts**

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

I *wish this program continues so that we keep learning and go forward. We would like to have more lessons even on prevailing diseases so that we can quickly mobilize people to go for vaccines.*

**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.*