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

| **Respondent ID** | 3-LM-1-2 |
| --- | --- |
| **Respondent Group Number** | 2 |
| **Care Group Role** | Lead Mother |
| **Consent to participate** | (missing) |
| **Interview date** | (missing) |
| **Interview start time** | (missing) |
| **Interview end time** | (missing) |
| **Interview location** | Mlagsi |
| **Interview language** | (missing) |
| **Interview condition notes** | (missing) |
| **Enumerator ID** | (missing) |
| **Fully anonymized** | (missing) |
| **Resident community** | (missing) |
| **Gender** | (missing) |
| **Age** | 37 |

**Section 2: Care group experience**

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

*Yes I have joined a Care group and I am part of a VSL group called Siyikukhanyakwezwe.*

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

*We teach each other about nutritious food and how to clean our homes, we learnt a lot of new things that we did not know.We have not experienced any hardships yet.*

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

*Women can now cook and sweep their homes and they are now clean as well and they now have tippy taps in their homes.*

*Being a lead mother is a voluntary job.*

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…?**

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

*You gain knowledge and add on to what you already know and we also share the knowledge that we get from the Promoter.*

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

*I did not have any difficulties about being a Lead Mother.*

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

*T Shirts,workshops, books as well as knowledge to teach other people.*

**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?)**

***T****each Care group members about breastfeeding and how they should take care of their children, teach them about hygiene,cleaning their homes as well as seeing to it that they feed their children nutritious food.We engage with the community through the promoter.*

*As a Lead Mother I also weigh children and partake in cooking demonstrations.*

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?**

*Yes it is sometimes hard to be a Lead mother especially if you have to go and teach a session and the weather is hot especially if you are going to a far distance.It differs every week because our meetings are not done from the same homestead. I conduct sessions once a month.*

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

*Some are happy about what we are doing in the community but there are some who do not want the lessons.The promoter and the village heads put pressure on us to conduct sessions.*

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

*I have 12 care group members.*

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

*None.*

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

*Some of their family members, even their husbands do not want them to join care groups as they do not understand the purpose of the care group.*

**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?)**

*Its called Siyikukhanyakwezwe and its me and the Promoter who came up with the name.*

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

***“****Injongo yikuqeda otondobala****” (****the purpose is to eliminate malnourished children)*

*Its purpose also to develop each other****,****keep our homes clean as well as to help each other through VSL to buy cement to build toilets*

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

*It is comprised of care group members,who are between the ages of 17-35. Anyone who is interested in joining the group can do so.*

*Anyone whom we understand can join the group.Anyone who is interested to join the group can join.The people in the group are from different church denominations such as Zion ,Pentecostal,and Zion whilst others are not church members.The group is made up of 13 members comprising of youth,old people and the middle aged.*

**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)**

*It is the women who are pregnant and lactating,who stay near the particular lead mother.*

**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 since we share the same water sources.*

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

***Y****es they all actively participate and I encourage them to talk and engage depending with the topic being discussed.*

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?**

*We greet each other, we learn as questions and they answer and discuss and set the next meeting date. We interchange meetings, there is no one specific household where we hold our meetings from.*

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

*One month*

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

*Yes we engage in interactive activities like song and drama to enhance our learning and understanding and everyone chooses a role they think suits them perfectly.*

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

***Care Group experiences (Amalima area only)***

***71\_(Structure)* Do you as the Lead Mother make any decisions for the group? What kinds of decisions, and how frequently?**

*Yes I do make decisions for them sometimes such as where which topics are going to be learnt, following the teaching guide.*

*I choose the topic as the lead mother through the test books, when there are some activities to be done they put their ideas, then they come up with a song or a drama and the roles that are going to be done.*

***72\_(Structure)* Has the group ever made a decision together? For example, about the Care Group structure, a special speaker, or a topic to discuss? Please tell me about this time.**

*We discuss as a group, for example if we are going to do demonstrations,we discuss as to who is going to bring which food items for the demonstrations.*

**73\_How did the care group go about making decisions as a group (e.g. topics for discussion, activities, delegation of tasks, etc.)?**

***74\_(Focus)* What topics are group members able to practice at home after the meeting? Why do you think this is so? (Probe for: specific action, no additional resources needed, family support, peer encouragement?)**

***T****he topic about hygiene is the one they are able to practise at home because they have adopted hygienic practices since they have built toilets,tippy taps,garbage pits and pot racks at their homes.*

**75\_*(Community linkages)* Was the group recognized by the community? How? By whom?**

*Yes they realise what we are doing and the village head provides us with information about what is going to happen in the area, and other members comment on how the existence of the group has elevated the community.*

1. **Probe - If yes, how did this recognition or linkage to the community happen? Please explain.**

*Village heads are the ones who inform us about anything that is starting in the community, as lead mothers we were chosen in a community meeting,so the community is aware of the existence of care groups.*

1. **Probe - Does the group continue to this day? Why or why not?**

*Yes it still continues to this day.*

**76\_Can you tell me a story about a memorable care group experience? (Probes: Who was there that day? Who spoke? What did they say? How did the group react?)**

*We enjoyed on the day, it was a cooking demonstration,we brought different foods and we enjoy seeing and tasting different food items.*

1. **Probe - Have you had other care group experiences like that one?**

**77\_Recall a group session that was valuable to you? What made it valuable?**

**78\_Some group members may do something different as a result. Did you notice differences in the members after participating? (Probe: confidence, level of participation, support to each other in the group, behavior change, community engagement.)**

*Before care groups started, people did not have any confidence, now they are more confident and have began practising what they have learnt. Even those who were not participating now they take part in group discussions. Behaviour change is also noticed, because people are now clean and they have dug garbage pits in their homes.*

1. **Probe - When do you usually see these differences in the Care Group cycle?**

*In the middle of the cycle.*

1. **Probe - Are there some members who do show these changes? (Probe: why? who?)**

***Y****es members have transformed for the better since they are now able to bath and look presentable when meeting other members for sessions.*

**79\_Can you describe or demonstrate how you facilitate a group session? (Probe: Differ by topics? Changes over time?)**

*We pray,then we introduce each other, then I teach them, give examples using one group member who breastfeeds if it’s a breastfeeding topic. If we are learning about cooking, one member will demonstrate how they cook a particular meal then we correct if there is anywhere they made a mistake.*

*We sing but we start by reading from the book that we use as the guide.*

**80\_What activities do you use for group sessions?**

**81\_What activities do members like best? What activities allow members to speak or share most? (Probe for: joint problem solving, hands on practice, expert visitors, games, or open conversation)**

*People like singing the most,as it teaches them better and we bring in different songs then we teach each other.We only have the promoter as our visitor, we have never had any other visitor, we have not yet included games.*

*We come up with different songs we like for a certain topic then we add messages we want, change lyrics then we add words that we want.*

1. **Probe - How did you facilitate this type of activity?**
2. **Probe - Would you be willing to try different styles such as joint problem solving or open conversation? Why or why not?**

*Yes I would want to, maybe people can solve their problem simultaneously if faced with the same problem.*

**82\_Have you heard any feedback on topics or activities? When? What did they say? Who?**

*Yes I have them especially after finishing a topic, women always comment whether they enjoyed or not.*

**83\_For Care Groups in other areas, we want to learn from your experience. Is there anything you recommend that care groups try? Please provide examples, if you have them.**

1. **Probe - In terms of membership and recruitment?**

*You need to recruit people who understand each other in the group to avoid squabbles.*

1. **Probe - In terms of who leads the group?**

*Be at par with the group you are leading and treat people in the same manner, and avoid favoritism.*

1. **Probe - In terms of what information is shared and how it is shared?**

*We call the women and teach them the topics and emphasise on the topic where you see that they are lacking.*

1. **Probe - In terms of continuing after the formal group has been closed?**

*Continue with the vegetable gardens and continue preparing nutritious food for the children.*

**84\_Is there anything that you recommend they never do? Please provide examples, if you have them.**

1. **Probe: In terms of membership and recruitment?**
2. **Probe: In terms of what information is shared and how it is shared?**
3. **Probe: In terms of continuing after the formal group has been closed?**

**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 should be seen by the things and activities they do, for example, building toilets and buying goats. People should be able to pay fees for their children using the money they get from projects. And be able to produce their own nutritious food.*

**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**

*Yes it is possible, we managed to solve a problem of a woman whose husband didn’t want her to come for sessions.*

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

*Yes we support each other by cleaning, for example, sweeping and farming in a certain household where a group member cannot do it on their own.*

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

***Y****es because even in breastfeeding and cleaning people seem to follow those topics and practise them well at home.*

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

*Yes it is achievable because as it is, we go and inform the village head about all our activities before we do anything.*

**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?**

*Confidentiality is key. So that the group prospers and to avoid fights and conflicts between the lead mother and the Care group.*

*So that there is growth in the group.*

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

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

**c.** **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?**

*Some people do not come to join us in trying to build a feeding kitchen for our children.*

*We discuss as a group that we ave to meet and build the kitchen but the members are distances them selves and this frustrates me because it is our children who benefit from the kitchen but people do not seem to realise that.*

***I****t is important so that we avoid health hazards that is why we want to build a kitchen for the children where they are going to use for feeding.*

*To avoid contracting diseases.*

**a.** **Probe - Why is that a challenge?**

**b.** **Probe - Why did the challenge or frustration come up?**

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

**d.** **Probe - Why… why… why…**

**Section 5: Recommendations**

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

*I would advise the Lead mother to respect her group members so that they also respect her and be time conscious.*

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

*I would advise them to be patient with each other and avoid conflicts.*

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

**Section 6: Conclusion and remaining thoughts**

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

*None*

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

*Yes so that we do things differently, if need be.*