



Calling on Mchinji's district leaders

Help save the mothers and babies in your district!





In Mchinji rates of stillborn and neonatal deaths have not improved since 2011.

In 2013, 502 babies died in health facilities in Mchinji district - that's nearly 10 babies per week. 77 women also died from pregnancy and childbirth-related causes between 2010 and 2013.

The impact

The death of a woman or baby causes families and communities to suffer grief and pain. The loss of a mother hurts the children left behind. The loss of newborn lives means that Mchinji is losing many young people that will build a successful future for the community.

YOU CAN HELP SAVE THE LIVES OF MCHINJI'S MOTHERS AND BABIES.









HOW?



I. Make sure health facilities in Mchinji are safe for mothers and babies.

Timely access to safe health facilities could help save up to **3400** mothers a year in Malawi ¹.

Do they have?

-  Drugs
-  Skilled staff
-  Equipment
-  Safe water
-  Electricity
-  Good laboratory services
-  Good ambulance services
-  Good communication and transport for patient referrals

IF THE ANSWER IS NO THEN FACILITIES ARE NOT SAFE AND YOU NEED TO ACT!

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HOW?



2. Address blood shortages in Mchinji

Excessive bleeding is the leading cause of maternal deaths in Mchinji. Blood loss is responsible for half of maternal deaths in Mchinji.

A lack of blood was a contributing factor in 1 in 5 maternal deaths.

LESS BLOOD WAS DONATED IN 2013 THAN 2012. WITHOUT BLOOD, WOMEN WILL CONTINUE TO DIE.

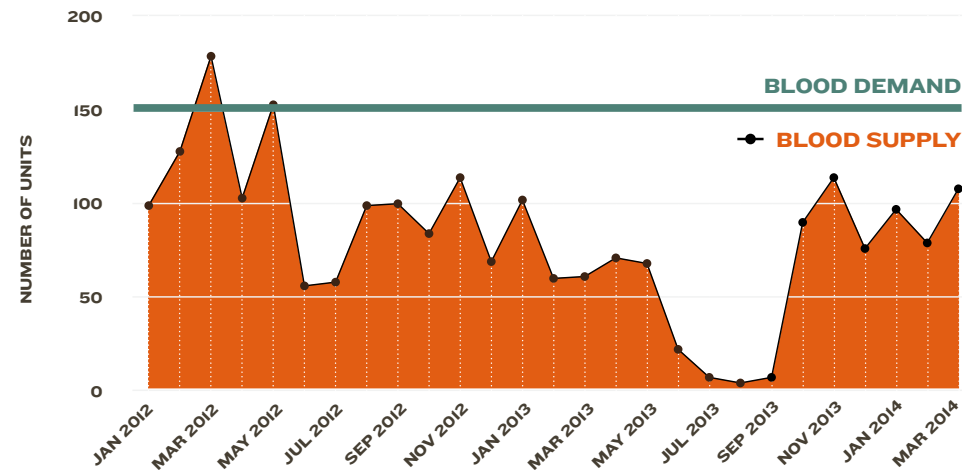
You must encourage community members to give blood regularly because the amount of blood available in Mchinji district is low.

Make sure district planners manage the collection and storage of blood. This will improve the availability of blood in Mchinji

Help facilitate and support blood donation campaigns in mchinji's communities.

Voluntary blood donation can save the lives of our mothers and babies.

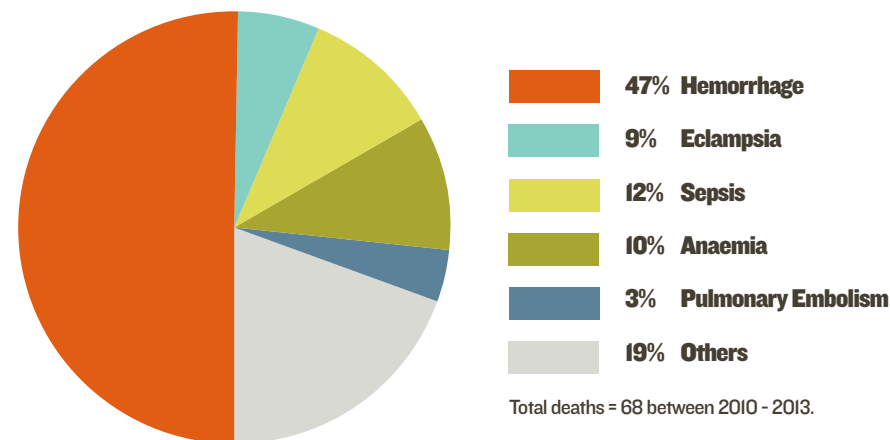
Blood availability and demand



FROM JULY TO SEPTEMBER 2013 THERE WAS ALMOST NO BLOOD AVAILABLE IN MCHINJI. THERE IS STILL NOT ENOUGH BLOOD TO MEET DEMAND

Mchinji: Immediate cause of Maternal deaths

(cumulative since 2010)



Total deaths = 68 between 2010 - 2013.

**YOU CAN HELP SAVE THE LIVES OF
MCHINJI'S MOTHERS AND BABIES.**

HOW?



3. Count newborn deaths

When babies die, their deaths are often ignored. As a result we overlook the causes of death and cannot learn from the experience. This means that many more newborn babies will die from preventable causes. That is why it is important to **COUNT** all the babies born – including those that die – in Mchinji.

In 2013, 502 babies died in health facilities in Mchinji district, nearly 10 babies per week.

Break the silence about newborn deaths in Mchinji!

Make sure that the community and traditional leaders, and health care providers count newborn deaths in Mchinji so we can all learn from the experiences.

More babies in Mchinji can survive if we take 3 steps:

1. We count newborn deaths in Mchinji
2. We study the information to know why they died
3. We use this information to make changes that will save newborn lives in the future.

Sources:

All data obtained from Mchinji HMIS on maternal and newborn health (January 2011-March 2014).
I. World Health Organization, UNICEF, UNFPA, The World Bank & the United Nations Population Division. (2014). Maternal mortality in 1990-2013: Malawi. Geneva: WHO

**SPEAK UP FOR
YOUR DISTRICT.
THE MOTHERS,
BABIES AND
PUBLIC OF
MCHINJI ARE
RELYING ON
YOU!**



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