

# F.A.R.E

## “Facilities’ Advancement and Referral Enhancement”

Improving the quality and accessibility of essential reproductive health services and referral mechanisms for maternal health emergencies in the North-eastern slums of Nairobi (Kenya) and in the Guraghe Region (Ethiopia)

### Joseph Leo, Administrator, Redeemed Gospel Church Health Center (Kenya):

*“A swift referral system, ambulance services that we can rely on 24/7, a maternity that has opened its doors to BabaDogo residents. Through the collaboration between Redeemed Gospel Church Health Center and Ruaraka Uhai Neema Hospital, hundreds of mothers have received **free maternity services** at RUNH thanks also to the FARE project. Were it not for this project, I wouldn't want to imagine how the situation could have been. At times, by the time these women come to our clinic, it's already **an emergency** and with this referral system, especially using RUNH ambulance, **it becomes a success story**. All we have is gratitude to World Friends, RUNH and all stakeholders who have made this possible.”* Says Joseph Leo- administrator at Redeemed Gospel Church Health Center. Not only do we refer obstetric cases, other gynecological problems, like fistula, also get treatment at RUNH. All the equipment that we received from World Friends has really come in handy and we, as a facility, can now **give better services to our patients**. The **continuous trainings** our hospital staff has received at RUNH Training Center have also been a huge plus. Thanks to the FARE Project, we are partnering to help all women to fulfill what should be theirs already: **THE RIGHT TO A SAFE PREGNANCY AND CHILDBIRTH**.”



### The Partners:

**Amici del Mondo- World Friends- Onlus**

[www.world-friends.it](http://www.world-friends.it)

**Engera APC Onlus**

[www.engera.org](http://www.engera.org)

**Oxfam Italia**

[www.oxfamitalia.org](http://www.oxfamitalia.org)

**ASL 7 Siena**

**Ruaraka Uhai Neema Hospital (Kenya)**

**Redeemed Gospel Health Centre (Kenya)**

**Eparchia di Emdibir (Ethiopia)**

**Pediatric Aid Treatment for Africa (Ethiopia)**

Thanks to the contribution of :



## Activities carried out in the first semester of the project implementation

ACTIVITIES	KENYA (slums of North-Eastern Nairobi)	ETHIOPIA (North Guraghe)
<b>Infrastructures</b>	Following an analysis of the infrastructural needs of the health facilities the implementing partners started the procurement process of the medical equipment, which has been delivered to the target facilities. Thanks to the kind donation of a private donor it was possible to purchase an ambulance for the clinic of Shebraber in Ethiopia.	
<b>Training</b>	The training modules and schedule have been defined. So far, local experts have facilitated two sessions for the personnel of the health facilities, specifically on: Integrated Management of Childhood Illnesses (IMCI); Emergency Triage Assessment and Treatment (ETAT).	The medical staff of Engera APC Onlus has conducted several training sessions for the personnel of the health facilities, on: use of Antibiotics, Antihistamines and Antacids; interpretation of Laboratory Tests; Triage of patients and Gynaecological Management of pregnancy.
<b>Clinical Protocols and Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs)</b>	A SOPs consultant has conducted an assessment at the partner facilities and has agreed with them on the guidelines/protocols that are now being developed: Hypertension and hypertension in pregnancy, Urinary Tract Infections, Sexually Transmitted Infections, Malaria, Management of Obstetric Referrals.	Given the lack of shared and clear guidelines and standard operating procedures the medical staff of Engera APC Onlus has defined the clinical protocols to be developed: Basic Hygiene at facility and household level; Emergency Triage; Waste disposal; use of Oral Rehydration Solutions and Antibiotics.
<b>Referral system for obstetric-gynaecology emergencies</b>	Dr. Scali, from ASL 7 of Siena, has conducted a Referral System Analysis in every partner facility and has shared the results with all partners. Based on the results, the following measures aimed at strengthening the referral system have been taken: organization of periodical trainings for local clinical staff and health community workers; strengthening the link between local/traditional health workers and the related health facility; promotion of family planning methods and health education at community level; improving the organization of antenatal care visits; purchase of additional equipment for the ambulance.	The terrain of the geographical region where the project operates, characterized by vast remote areas that are poorly connected, and the rainy season make it difficult to reach the health facilities. Therefore, all activities related to referral system strengthening have been put on hold in the last two months. Based on these challenges, an investigation of potential strategies is currently undergoing. One identified way is to reduce the need for referral through enhancing the quality of the services provided at facility level and improving the capacity of local staff to respond to obstetric and gynaecological emergencies.

*"Engera APC Onlus has been present in Ethiopia since 2005, providing health care and assistance in the Guraghe Region. Thanks to the contribution of the Region of Tuscany and the close collaboration with the local catholic diocese of Emdibir it has been possible to conduct several missions during which formal and on-the job training sessions have been delivered to personnel of health facilities targeted. Furthermore, medical equipment has been purchased, in particular for the recently opened clinic of Shebraber, one of the most in need of equipment, medical supplies and training for local medical and health staff. Unfortunately, the rainy season has caused road closures and consequently halted the implementation of the activities, which are planned to resume in November"*

**(Dr. Francesco Silenzi, President of Engera APC Onlus)**

