

Child Health in the Majority World: A Billion Reasons to Hope

1. Overview of 25 years in Children's Health in the Majority World
 - a. Under-5 mortality has fallen from 91 to 43 deaths/year per 1000 live births. Our goal, though, is to get below 25 per 1000.
 - b. Sub-Saharan Africa bears a disproportionate burden of death and disease in children. In the next decades this will be accentuated as populations growth is concentrated there.
 - c. Celebrate that child-under-5 deaths have fallen from over 12 million to less than 6 million per year. But a significant scaling up in effort will be required to maintain our progress and further reduce deaths.
 - d. Neonatal (first 28 days of life) mortality accounts for 45% of under-5 mortality, meaning that improvements in labor and delivery have the potential for enormous impact. Additionally, almost all of the post-neonatal death is due to preventable infectious disease causes.
 - e. Poverty, low maternal education levels, and distance from care are the root causes of the disease and death mentioned above.
2. The Bible teaches us that God cares deeply about justice, about caring for the weak, about showing mercy. Shouldn't we?
3. Evidence-based interventions
 - a. Safe labor and delivery, newborn resuscitation and care
 - b. Breast feeding
 - c. Immunizations, vitamin A, and mass treatment for malaria
 - d. Malnutrition prevention and treatment
 - e. Medical care for pneumonia, malaria, diarrhea and other infections
4. Lessons and best practices
 - a. Partnership and relocation
 - b. Prevention and cure, both-and
 - c. Training as you go
 - d. Gathering data
 - e. Being part of a team
 - f. Be the voice of the vulnerable
5. Next Steps
 - a. Pray
 - b. Study/Train
 - c. Support