

NEWSLETTER

JOINTED HANDS WELFARE ORGANISATION



Welcome!

As we step out of April, we are filled with gratitude and optimism for the support we continue to receive in the execution of our mandate. The month of April marked a time of renewal and growth, and as Jointed Hands Welfare Organization (JHWO), we are excited to share the latest developments and initiatives that made this month remarkable to us.

In this edition, you will find highlights from our recent activities, including our successful training of community health volunteers on using innovative data collection tools. We believe that empowering community members with knowledge and technology is key to enhancing health outcomes and fostering resilience. We also explore the importance of community-led monitoring in our health responses, emphasizing how local voices are essential in shaping the future of health services.

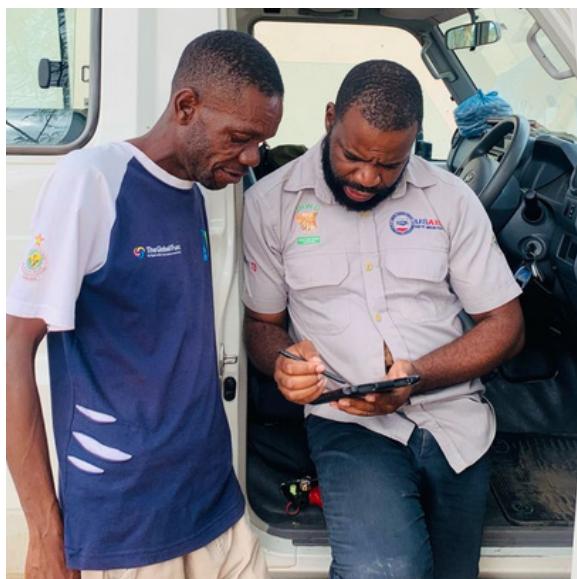
We invite you to engage with these stories and join us on this journey of collective action and positive change. Thank you for your ongoing support and commitment to our mission. Together, we are making strides towards building healthier & resilient communities by ensuring that every individual has access to the support they need.

Wishing you all a wonderful month ahead!

KEY HIGHLIGHTS



Comprehensive Guide to
Lung Cancer Prevention
and Early Detection



Celebrating our success: JHWO's recognition in the TBPPM Photo Contest 2025

APRIL, 2025

We are excited to share that our submitted photos showcasing our community work in the fight against tuberculosis (TB) have been recognized as one of the top 5 entries in the prestigious TBPPM Photo Contest 2025. This achievement not only highlights the dedication and hard work of our team but also underscores the importance of visual storytelling in raising awareness about TB.

Find the news here: <https://www.tbppm.org/news/2602970>

Submissions were evaluated based on their relevance to TB awareness and the strength with which they conveyed the critical role of collaboration between the public and private sectors in combating TB. According to the TBPPM Network, the selected photographs exemplified innovative approaches to TB advocacy and highlighted the importance of public-private collaboration in delivering impactful TB care within communities.

As a result of this recognition, one JHWO representative has been awarded a full fee waiver to attend the upcoming TBPPM Course 2025 at the McGill Summer Institute scheduled from May 26 – 30, 2025. This course, titled "Engaging All Health Providers to End TB: Public-Private Mix (PPM)," presents a fantastic opportunity for us to deepen our understanding of public-private mix strategies.

Participating in this course will further enhance our skills and knowledge, enabling us to significantly impact TB care within the communities we serve. We look forward to leveraging this experience to further our mission of ending TB and improving health outcomes for all. We thank the TBPPM Learning Network at McGill University TB Centre for this opportunity.



Winning Photo: Children from Gutsaruzhinji village conveying the end TB message as part of the targeted TB and silicosis screening exercise at Surprise Farm (one of the major TB hotspots where JHWO supported Community Based Volunteers to conduct active case finding for TB under a 5-year TB program funded by USAID).

STRENGTHENING COMMUNITY-LED MONITORING THROUGH TECHNOLOGY

Empowering communities is at the heart of effective health response strategies. Building the capacity of community members to lead in the health response is a significant step forward in enhancing the health systems and ensuring that local voices are heard. Recently, we conducted an activity to strengthen the capacity of Community Health Monitors who are collecting Community Led Monitoring (CLM) data using the innovative Kobo Collect application.



Simbarashe Manomano (JHWO) taking one of the community cadres through the KOBO collect CLM application.

This activity is part of the Community Systems Strengthening (CSS) project, which is being supported by the Global Fund through FACT Zimbabwe. We are implementing the CSS project in Shurugwi, Chirumanzu, Mangwe and Umzingwane.

During the activity, we visited the community cadres to assess and help them on how to effectively use the Kobo Collect application for data collection. The Kobo Collect platform enables community cadres to gather essential information on health service availability, access, and community health needs in real-time. By digitizing data collection, we are helping to streamline health reporting processes and improve the accuracy of the information gathered within communities.

As we continue to implement and expand our community-led monitoring efforts, we are excited about the potential of empowering communities to take charge of their health needs. With the successful training of our community cadres in using the Kobo Collect application, we are optimistic that the data collected will lead to timely interventions and strengthen health outcomes in our target areas.

COMMUNITY-LED MONITORING (CLM)

What is CLM?

Community-led monitoring (CLM) is an approach where communities take an active role in monitoring and evaluating the quality, accessibility, and responsiveness of health services. It allows community members to take ownership of their health challenges and solutions by actively participating in the monitoring of health services. This approach empowers communities to:

1. **Identify gaps:** Communities identify gaps in health services, including accessibility, quality, and responsiveness.
2. **Collect data:** Communities collect data on health services, often through participatory methods.
3. **Analyze data:** Communities analyze data to understand trends, patterns, and areas for improvement.
4. **Act:** Communities take action to address identified gaps and advocate for improvements.

Benefits of CLM

1. **Improves accountability-** Community members can hold service providers accountable by providing feedback on their experiences with health services. This strengthens transparency and fosters trust between communities and health authorities.
2. **Increased community engagement -** CLM empowers communities to take an active role in health decision-making and encourages them to advocate for their health rights. When communities are engaged, they are more likely to support health initiatives and ensure response sustainability.
3. **Better health outcomes -** CLM can lead to improved health outcomes by identifying and addressing gaps in health services. By collecting localized data, communities can help health service providers identify specific health needs, gaps, and challenges. This enables the development of tailored interventions to meet the unique demands of different communities.

Principles of CLM

1. **Community ownership:** Communities take ownership of the monitoring process.
2. **Participation:** Communities participate in all stages of the monitoring process.
3. **Empowerment:** CLM empowers communities to advocate for their health needs.



By empowering communities to monitor and evaluate health services, we are using CLM to contribute to improved health outcomes and more responsive health systems in our country.

ADVANCING LUNG CANCER CARE IN ZIMBABWE: DEVELOPMENT OF LUNG CANCER GUIDELINES, PROTOCOLS AND ALGORITHMS

During the month of April, through the Hope for Lungs project consortium with support from Bristol Myers Squibb Foundation (BMSF) we have made strides in enhancing lung cancer care by initiating the process of developing comprehensive Lung Cancer Clinical Guidelines, Protocols and Algorithms. The guidelines focus on overall lung health, specifically prevention, diagnosis, treatment of lung cancer and the integration of palliative care, aiming to improve the quality of life for lung cancer patients and their families.

To ensure a holistic approach, the consortium established writing teams composed of a multidisciplinary group of experts, including:

- Palliative care specialists
- Radiologists
- Academic researchers
- Pulmonologists
- Cardio-thoracic surgeons
- Vascular surgeons
- Clinical oncologists
- Allergologists
- Pathologists
- Health promotion and
- Public health specialists

**Comprehensive Guide to
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The creation of these guidelines is both iconic and significant, especially in the current landscape of lung cancer care. As a country and a region, we face increasing challenges in managing this disease, these guidelines will serve as a vital resource for healthcare service providers, ensuring that patients receive comprehensive and coordinated care throughout their journey. The approach with these guidelines is not only to enhance clinical practice but also for them to be accessible and easy-to-understand for all levels of healthcare service providers making them user-friendly.



By integrating palliative care into the treatment framework, the medical needs of patients are not only going to be addressed but also the prioritization of their psycho-social well-being. This initiative reflects the commitment to enhancing the overall quality of life for lung cancer patients and affected families, making it a pivotal development in our ongoing efforts to combat lung cancer. We are excited about the positive impact these guidelines will have on patient care and look forward to their implementation in clinical practice.

SECURING THE FUTURE: COMMUNITY-DRIVEN RESOURCE MOBILIZATION.

Our Executive Director, Donald Denis Tobaiwa, had a great opportunity to present through a webinar organized by the World Health Organization (WHO), titled "Securing the future: Community-driven resource mobilization."

The webinar provided a platform for experts to share insights and experiences on community-driven resource mobilization. Our Executive Director's presentation highlighted the importance of community engagement and participation in resource mobilization efforts.

Based on the background of the current volatile funding environment, the presentation emphasized the need for:

- Community-led initiatives that empower communities to take ownership of health responses and resource mobilization efforts.
- Inclusive approaches that ensure resource mobilization strategies are inclusive, equitable, and contextual to the set target community.
- Identification of sustainable funding sources to support community-led health initiatives.

The webinar sparked valuable discussions and knowledge sharing among participants, contributing to a deeper understanding of community-driven and sustainable resource mobilization.

Our Executive Director's participation in the WHO webinar demonstrates our organization's commitment to thought leadership and collaboration in the global health community, especially in the midst of emergencies and unprecedented challenges.

