

Teamwork Principals and Practices

for Survivors of Torture

SOT Community of Practice Symposium

Thursday October 9, 2025, 12:00 PM -4:00 PM ET

**Convened by The Harvard Program in Refugee Trauma and The Center
for Victims of Torture-National Capacity Building Project; Supported by
The Office of Refugee Resettlement**



Joe Bartholomew, 2007, "Perspectives, Three"



COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE SYMPOSIUM

OCTOBER 9, 2025

12:00 PM – 4:00 PM

- The Office of Refugee Resettlement, HHS
 - The Center for Victims of Torture
- The Harvard Program in Refugee Trauma

COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE SYMPOSIUM

- A community of practice (CoP) is a group of persons who share a common interest and a desire to learn from and contribute to the community with their variety of experiences (Lave & Wenger 1991). These persons are intentionally committed to learning new skills, information, and knowledge within a model of dialogue and discussion.
- The CoP groups are a horizontal co-constructed learning experience created by group members who share a common interest. All member are valued, and their voices are heard.
- CoP groups have a shared empathic horizon that aims to achieve support among groups members who share new ideas, policies and plans in a professional environment.
- The ultimate aim is to foster greater goodness, beauty, and justice in the workplace, and the world.

COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE SYMPOSIUM

For our purposes, the CoP groups will be focused on mutual learning through case-based discussions. Specifically, this model is based upon co-constructed learning - everyone has something to share; and everyone has something to teach.

The group process relies on the group members willingness to reflect and exchange ideas. This process has been demonstrated that new ideas and strategies emerge, as close relationships develop among participants.

SYMPOSIUM SCHEDULE*

- 12:00 – 12:15 Introduction and Opening Remarks – Tim Kelly, Huy Pham and Dr. Richard F. Mollica
- 12:15 – 1:15 Lecture: Teamwork principles and practices. Speaker: Dr. Giuseppe Raviola
- 1:15 – 1:30 Q&A Moderated by Eugene F. Augusterfer
- 1:30 – 2:00 Break
- 2:00 – 3:00 Break-Out Rooms – Teamwork Lessons Learned
- 3:00 – 3:50 Full Group Discussion – Small Group Report
- 3:50 – 4:00 Evaluation and Closing Remarks

*Times are listed in Eastern Time

Teamwork principles and practices

Reflections on 20 years in medicine, psychiatry and 'global health'

Giuseppe Raviola, MD MPH

Director, Mental Health, Partners In Health

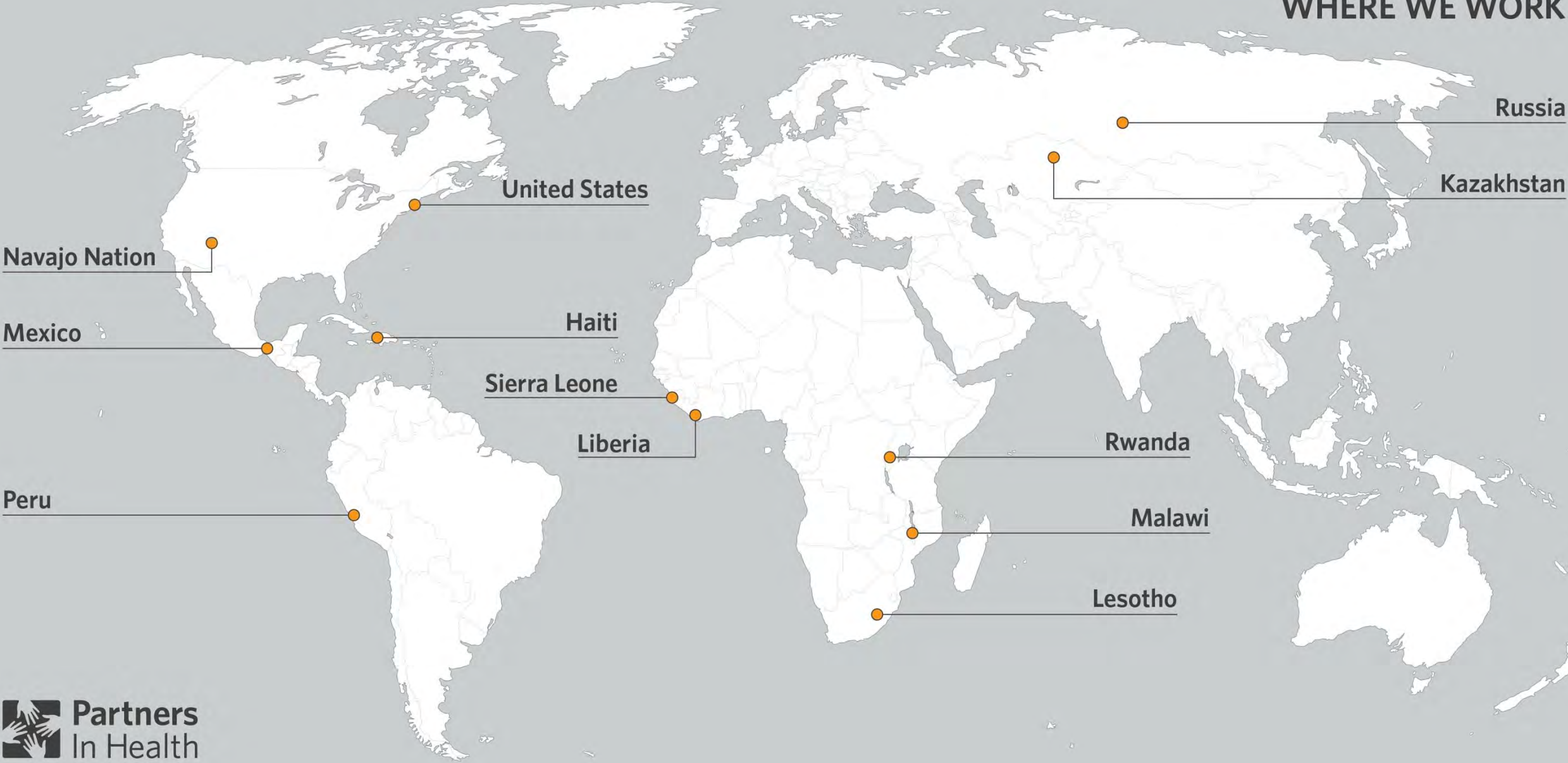
Director, Chester M. Pierce Division of Global
Psychiatry, Massachusetts General Hospital

Associate Professor of Psychiatry, Global
Health and Social Medicine, Harvard Medical
School

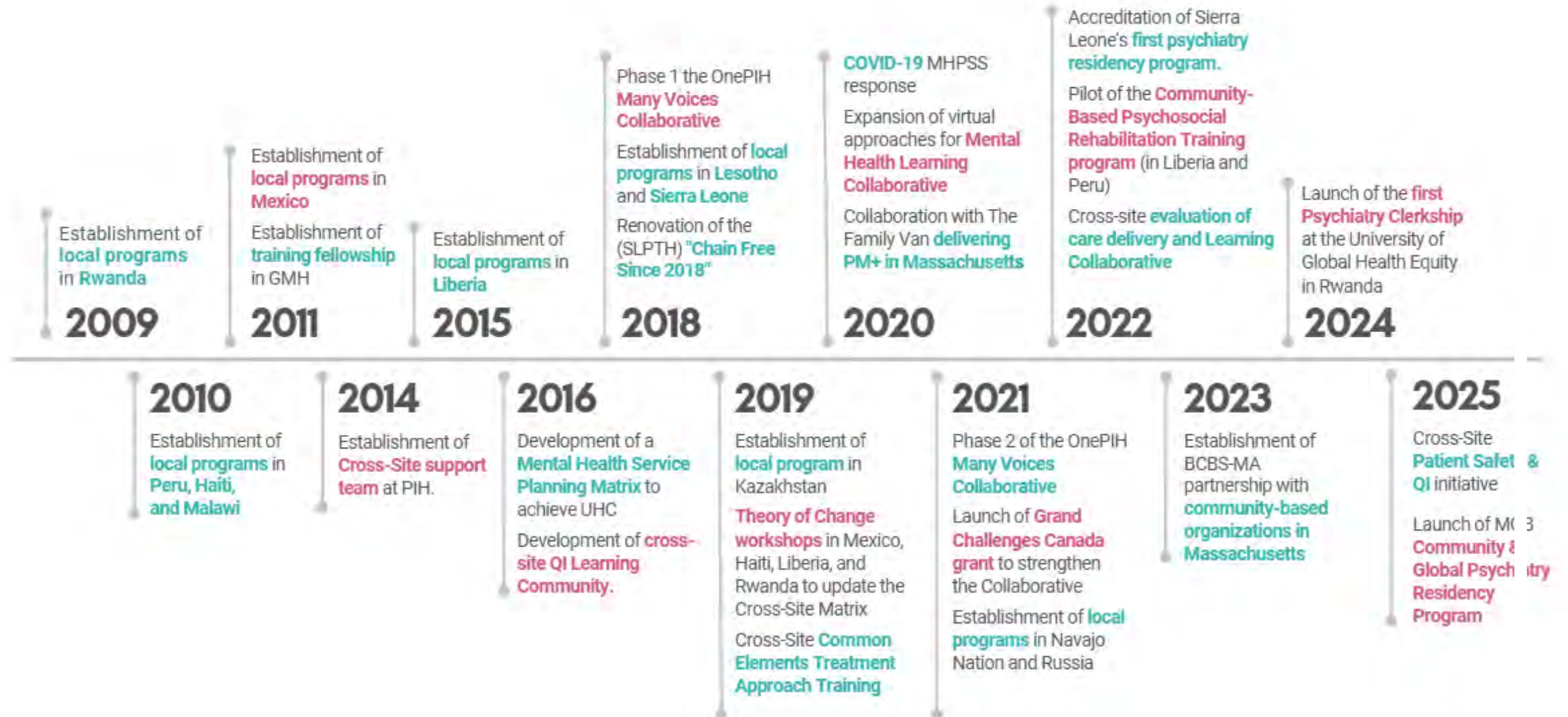
October 9, 2025



WHERE WE WORK



History of Mental Health at PIH



My initial assumptions today

- You are working with vulnerable people
- You are part of a team or teams
- You are under resource constraints
- You are working in challenged systems
- You are torn, at times, between your needs and the needs of the team

The key question: How do I as an individual empower a group to optimize its present and future potential?

A short answer: “Play the long game”, think about teams, and take good care of yourself and your team.

Let's have fun today!

Principles and practices of teamwork

- Know your **community** context, where you work
- Know your **organizational** context, where you work
- Know your organizational **values** and **competency(ies)** framework
- Know what the team(s) are in context; know your team
- Know your **role** in the team
- Know your **skills**, strengths and weaknesses, where you need to grow (**self awareness** and **humility**), and know those of your teammates
- Manage up, manage down (around the team)
- Consider a **framework for vision, mission and strategy implementation**
- Consider a **framework for management or quality improvement** if relevant
- **Nurture** your team (skills, stress management, professional development) and nurture yourself; be a **Mentor** to someone

Example of a competency framework: Partners In Health

- A competency framework is a tool that helps an organization define the skills, knowledge, and behaviors employees need to demonstrate to succeed in their roles.

The Competencies

Partners In Health's core competencies represent the key skills and behaviors to be demonstrated by all staff. While staff in all roles are expected to demonstrate the core competencies, the depth and nuance will naturally grow with each level of role responsibility. All core competencies are considered equal in importance.

- Accountability
- Achieving Results
- Adaptability
- Teamwork
- Leading & Supervising (*people managers only*)

Each competency is defined below and further illustrated by a list of indicators. The indicators are meant to support the definition and are not designed to be an exhaustive list.

Teamwork in the PIH competency framework

Teamwork

The ability to work well with others to achieve common goals.

- Actively listens and responds thoughtfully to the ideas, contributions, and concerns of others.
- Supports the suggestions and proposals of teammates and partners.
- Expresses disagreement with care, emphasizing common ground and offering constructive alternatives.
- Provides honest, respectful, and solution-focused feedback to team members.
- Demonstrates genuine care and empathy for colleagues, direct reports, stakeholders, and community partners.
- Carries their fair share of the workload.
- Shares expertise, resources, and support to help others succeed.
- Builds relationships that are rooted in authenticity, mutual respect, and recognition of diverse cultural knowledge and frameworks.
- Cultivates inclusive environments where all voices are welcomed, valued, and empowered to contribute.
- Welcomes feedback with openness and humility.

Leadership

Nonprofit Leadership Lessons From Dr. Paul Farmer

On the hermeneutic of generosity, the iron cage of rationality, and accompaniment.

CITE

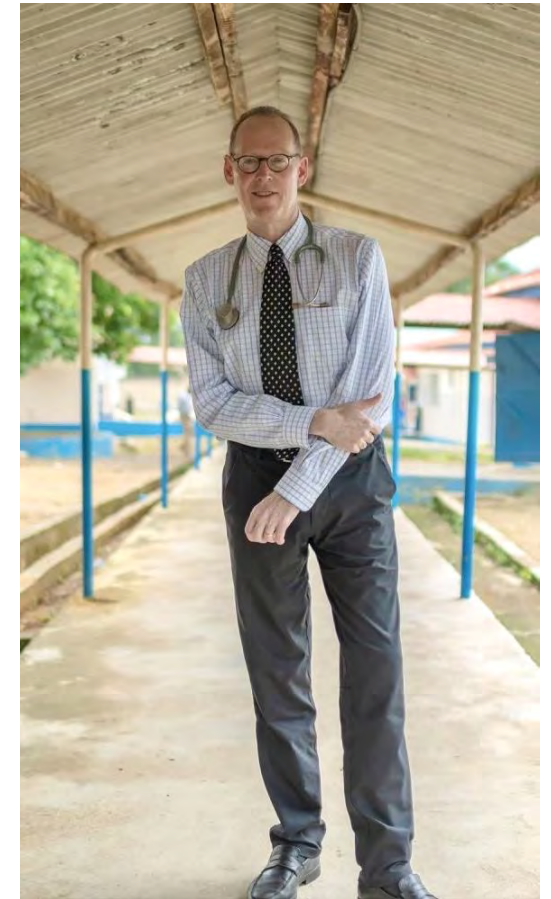
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ORDER REPRINTS

By [Kim Samuel](#) & [Dan Palazuelos](#) | Sep. 26, 2022



Lessons from Dr. Paul Farmer (PIH co-founder)

- Practice the “hermeneutic of generosity”

-*Give people the benefit of the doubt*, always assuming that the individuals with whom we interact—especially partners in the workplace—are fundamentally good and want others to be happy (in contrast to a “Hermeneutic of Suspicion,” the assumption that we’re all out to get each other”).

- “Beware the iron cage of rationality”

-The “iron cage” is the trap of focusing too much on operational efficiency and formal planning at the expense of deep listening and consideration of real lived experience.

- Be wholeheartedly invested in outcomes

-Do get emotionally invested. Do whatever it takes to work effectively in the service of the people you are accompanying. Build teams around this aim.

What is your own origin story as it relates to “Teams”?

The OnePIH Cross-Site Mental Health Program

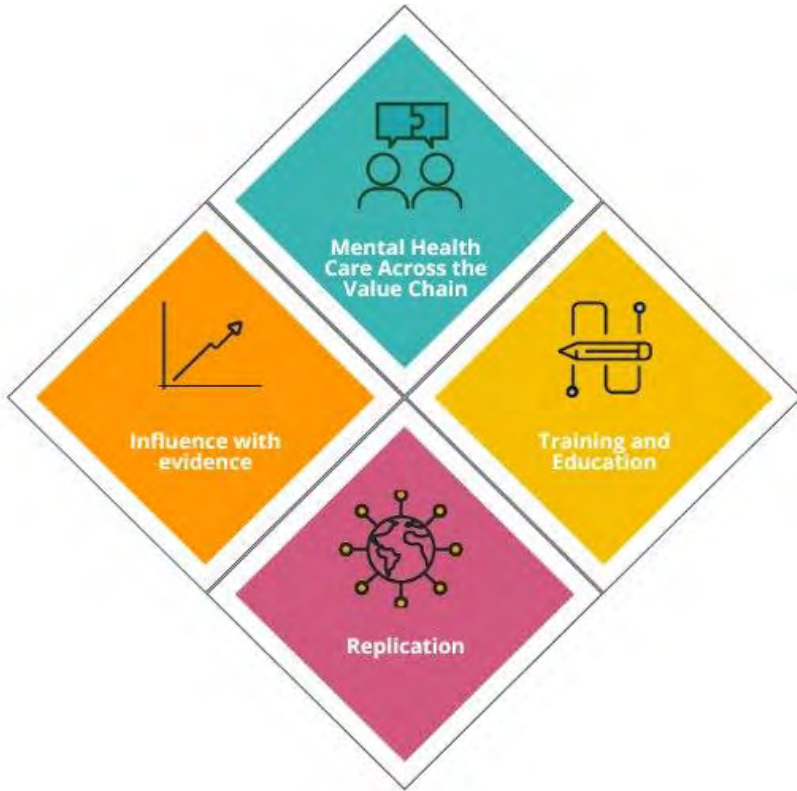
The Basics:

- Has existed since 2009
- Involves all PIH sites
- Is trans-disciplinary, blending medical and psychological and social support informed by a social medicine perspective, for complex (diverse and co-morbid) conditions
- Represents the most established international health care delivery organization in the world in building mental health programs in low-resource settings across countries, for the long-term

Fundamental focus on:

1. Quality clinical care and support (care itself as an innovation)
2. Accompaniment of site teams in program development and management, with cross-site collaborations to improve practices
3. Advancing global mental health equity and delivery through a comprehensive approach to addressing the care of people living with mental disorders

OnePIH Mental Health Theory of Change



Mental Health Care Across the Value Chain:

Assert quality of care, proximity and clinical excellence, setting a standard for accompaniment of patients and site-based teams across ALL PIH sites.

Training and Education:

Build capacity of the next generation of mental health professionals through deepening partnerships with high quality clinical, education and research institutions.

Replication:

Deepen partnerships with governments to scale mental health care delivery models.

Influence with evidence:

Continue to improve the value chain approach, measurement of impact, and knowledge sharing through the Cross-Site Mental Health Learning Collaborative, academic publication and advocacy.

PIH Haiti Mental Health Team at Harvard for a
Research Capacity Building Workshop, 2013

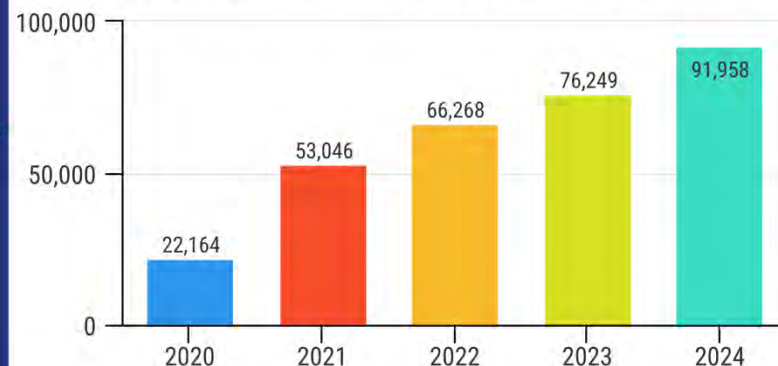


Expansion of Mental Health Services Across All Care Delivery Sites

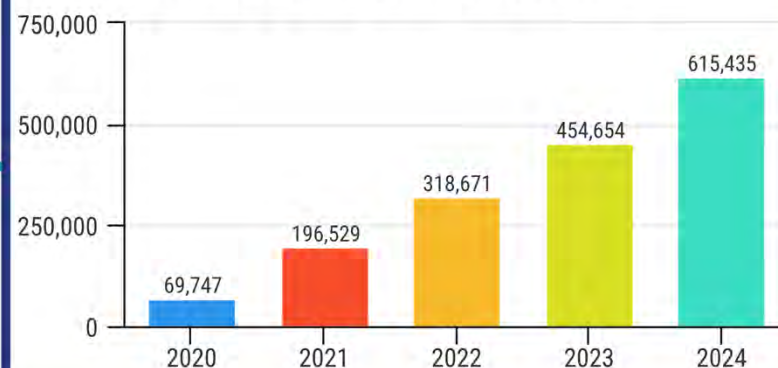
Snapshot of the growth of Partners In Health's mental health program, delivering mental health care across 105 PIH supported facilities

Data from 2020 to 2024

Growth in New Mental Health Patient Enrollment Over Time



Growth in Mental Health Visits Over Time



615,000+

mental health visits across care delivery sites since 2020



91,000+

newly enrolled people living with mental health conditions since 2020



40,000+

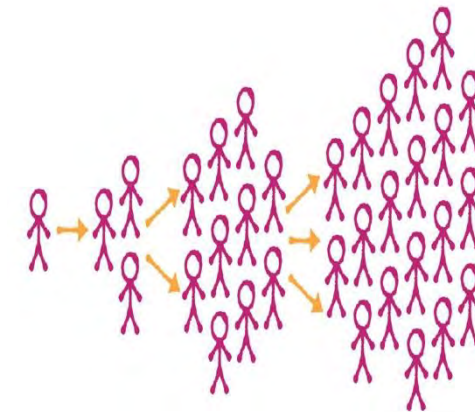
average number of currently enrolled people living with mental health conditions during 2024

The Family Van in Roxbury and Dorchester

Community Outreach:
Flyers, workshops & events

On the van:
Walk-in clients & regulars

Word of Mouth

[illegible]

OnePIH Cross-Site Mental Health Program

Photo: Annie Kwalimba, Mental Health Lay-Counselor APZU, leads a support group for new mothers.

Google: “PIH Mental Health Storymaps”





“Tikitaka” soccer at
Barcelona for 15 years

Coach:
Pep Guardiola

Players:
Many



Lesson from all team sports: Individual

- Technical skills, ball mastery (competencies)
- Tactical awareness, game intelligence (contextual knowledge)
- Physical attributes Psychological and leadership qualities (teamwork, humility)

Lesson from all team sports: Collective

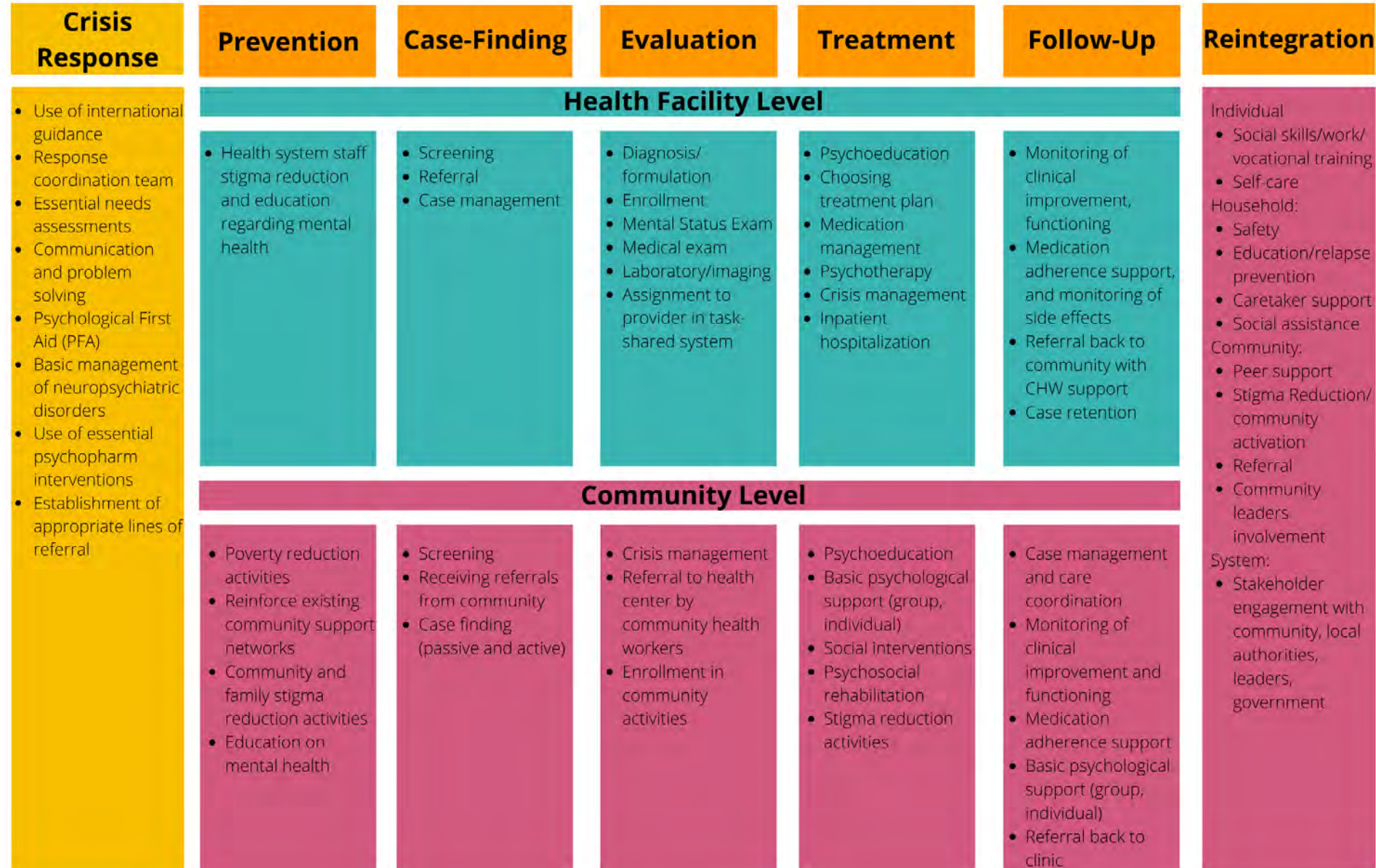
- Trust (“psychological safety”)
- Vision and Mission (“compact” or “mission statement”)
- Strategy
- Resources

Through a shared sense of purpose, motivation is built to work for the group

PIH/HMS GHDP Cross Site Mental Health Meeting
September, 2016
Boston



A service delivery
VALUE CHAIN
informs a service
delivery planning
matrix used to plan
and organize services
with limited resources



Core frameworks: Mental Health Value Chain



The **Mental Health Value Chain** is embedded in the Mental Health Service Planning Matrix and outlines critical components needed to build and sustain high-value care across all healthcare system levels over time.

A SERVICE DELIVERY PLANNING MATRIX TO ACHIEVE UNIVERSAL MENTAL HEALTH COVERAGE



Mental Health Value Chain Workshop



Agenda

I. Introduction – 20 minutes

- Learning Objectives
- Facilitators & Participants

II. Setting the Stage – 40 minutes

- A primer on coordinated and collaborative care models
- Roots of the Value Chain in Rwanda

III. The Main Event – 50 minutes w/break

- Overview of the PIH Mental Health Planning Matrix and Value Chain
- Real-world examples & discussion

IV. The Closing Act – 20 minutes

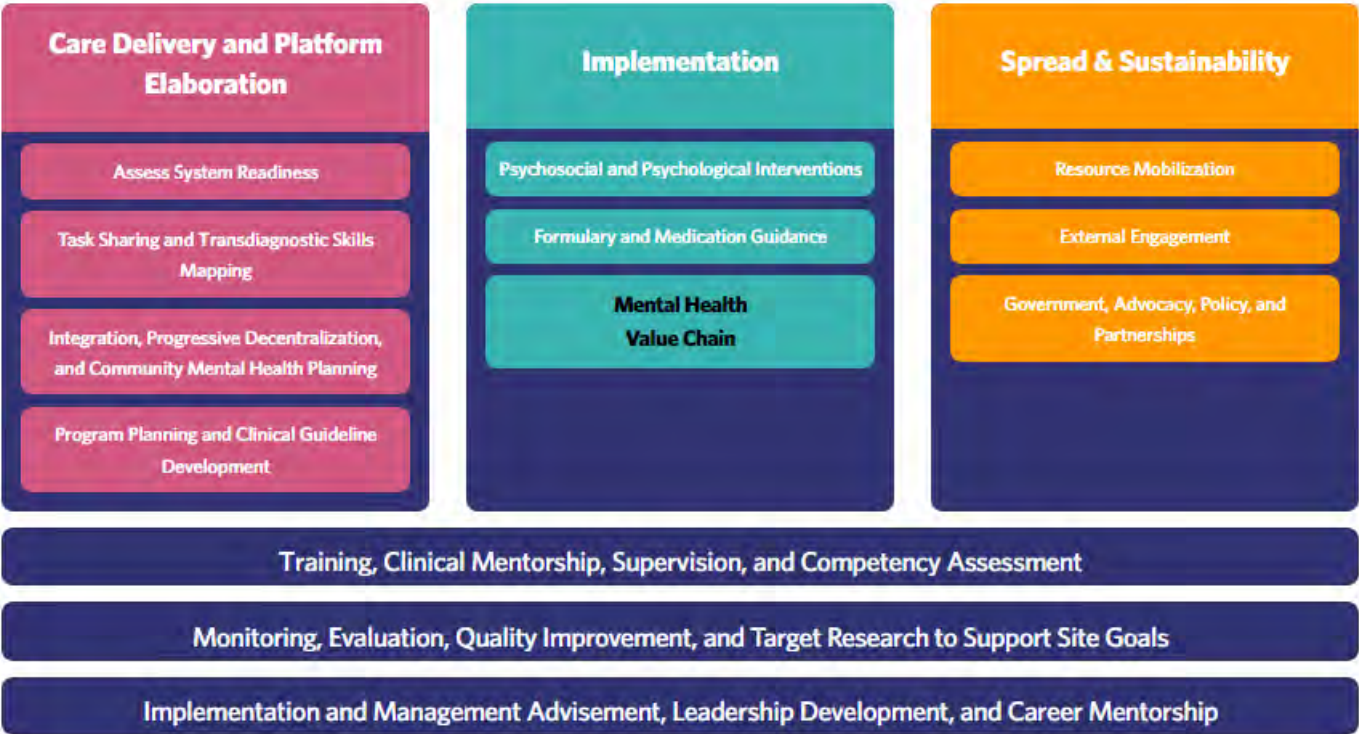
- Conclusion and Next Steps

Core frameworks: Mental Health Service Planning Matrix

The core pillars of the OnePIH Mental Health Program have evolved to a shared delivery model called the **PIH Mental Health Service Planning Matrix to Achieve Universal Health Coverage**.

PIH Mental Health Service Planning Matrix to Achieve Universal Health Coverage

The planning matrix is divided into three phases, and features three cross-cutting themes.





Impact: Learning Collaborative Implementation

There are currently over **200** people involved with the Collaborative. Between 2016 and 2019, there have been **48** Learning Collaborative calls with mental health practitioners and implementers sharing innovations and insights across teams and **40** specific innovations shared and implemented across teams. To leverage best practices, care delivery site teams also engaged in peer-to-peer capacity-building trainings and curriculum adaptation processes as illustrated in these examples.

Peru to Mexico

Cross-Site training in Problem Management Plus (PM+) and sharing of implementation strategies and lessons learned, as well as ongoing supervision strategies

Haiti to Liberia

Cross-Site training in homeless mental health care, alongside sharing of implementation facilitators and barriers in the West African context

CETA Intervention

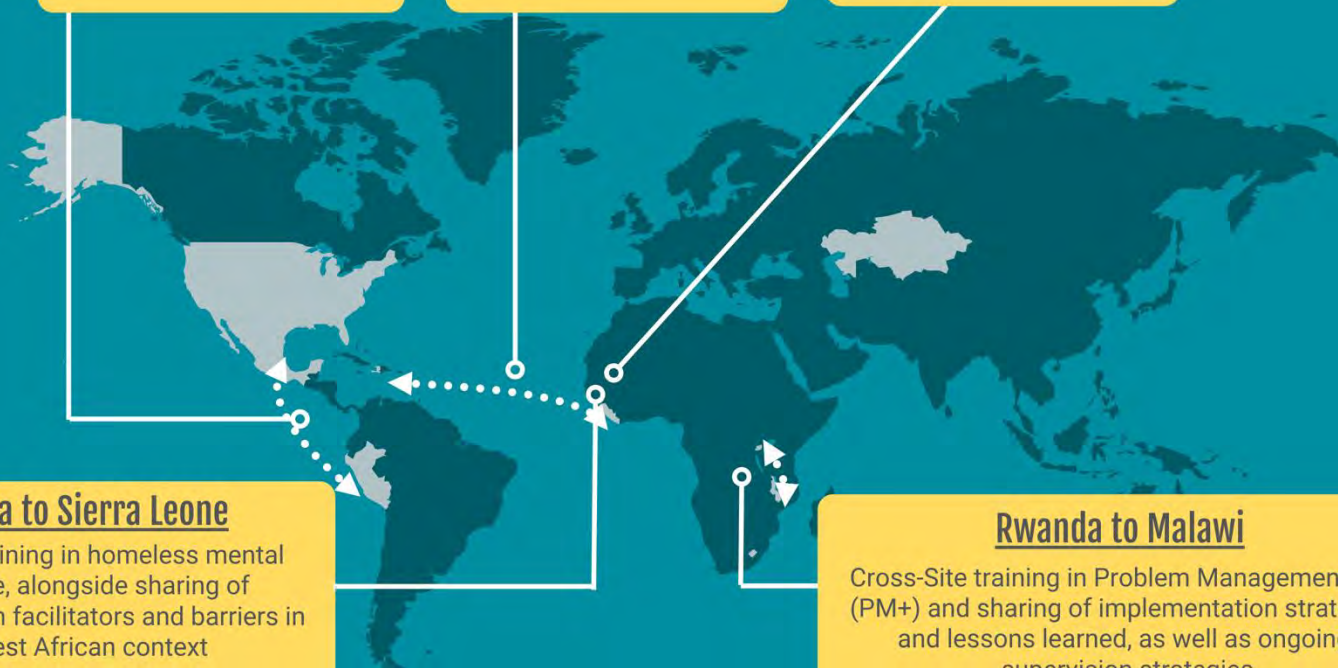
Cross-Site initiative of training and supervision of 51 representatives from 9 countries, around CETA, sharing of implementation strategies, and supervision sessions weekly over a nine-month period

Liberia to Sierra Leone

Cross-Site training in homeless mental health care, alongside sharing of implementation facilitators and barriers in the West African context

Rwanda to Malawi

Cross-Site training in Problem Management Plus (PM+) and sharing of implementation strategies and lessons learned, as well as ongoing supervision strategies



Mental Health Learning Collaborative

The MHLC is a unique cross-national consultation model focused on **both increasing the reach and quality of mental health care workers delivering evidenced-based and culturally adapted services** and **ensuring health systems preparedness** to support this work.



200+

People involved in the MHLC between 2016 and 2024

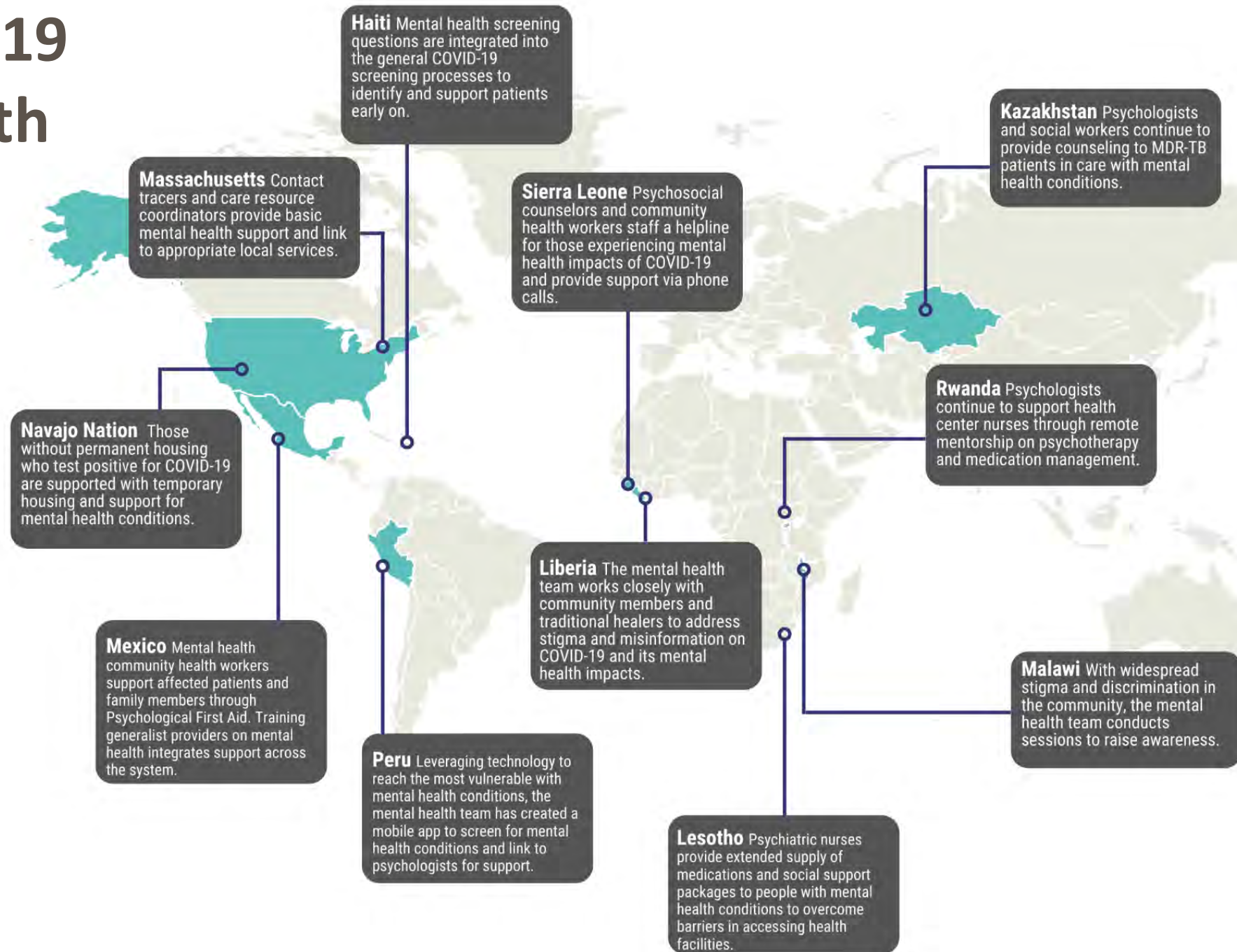
116

Mental Health Learning Collaborative Calls

40+

Innovations shared and implemented across teams.

PIH's COVID-19 Mental Health and Psychosocial Response Globally



MHLC Resources, Initiatives, & Opportunities to Join

The MHLC meets biweekly to discuss topics that directly respond to the needs of care delivery sites and are opportunities for colleagues to share learnings and exchange resources on mental health and psychosocial responses in their respective contexts. Any mental health practitioners and partners are welcome to join the MHLC community. To learn more, explore our [Mental Health Resource Library](#) and the additional links and resources below.



PIH: Cross-Site Mental Health Resources

Mental Health Assessment Tools

→ Click here

This tab lists the standardized mental health assessment tools used by sites to aid in their diagnosis people with mental health condition. Many of these tools have been validated in a range of settings, some have been validated in PIH countries. This platform lists what standardized global tools sites are using and a description of the assessments.

Mental Health Site Forms

→ Click here

This tab lists the forms sites use to guide the care of patients with mental health disorders. These forms are site specific, as they work within sites task-sharing models. If you would like to use or adapt one of these forms please contact the site for approval.

Cross-Site Training Materials

→ Click here

This tab lists the Cross-Site Training Materials. These materials can be used to train health workers in a variety of important mental health topics. As country guidelines and protocols, cultural norms, and local beliefs may vary, this training has been developed to allow for easy adaption. Embedded throughout the materials are prompts to indicate where examples may be made more relevant to sites, or could benefit from being adapted to suit the local cultural norms.

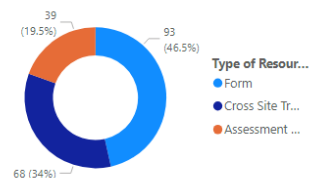
How can I access these resources?

Links to the resources can be found on each of the following pages. You will be able to access these resources if you are logged in to your PIH email address, or if you have access to the Cross-Site Collaboration Team. If you would like to use or adapt any of the assessment tools, forms, or cross-site training materials, please email the Cross Site Team: xsitementalhealth@pih.org

What are these resources?

Intended as a reference for sites working to deliver mental health care, the files shared on the PIH Cross-Site Mental Health Resources Page can be used by sites to learn what resources are available and what tools and forms other sites providing mental health services are using. By creating a hub of site tools, forms, and training materials, the Cross-site team hopes to facilitate cross site learning and collaboration.

Number of Resources



Examples of MHLC collaborations:

- PSR curriculum adaptation
- Psychotherapy adaptation
- Homeless support program
- Training & education initiatives
- EMR development
- Emergency response
- Substance use working group
- QI learning series
- Clinical case conferences

Cross-Site Processes: Project Management

FY26 Programmatic Overviews

Many Voices
Fiscal Year 2026 – 2028 Funding Period
Programmatic Overview

1. Context

What is the local, regional and national context for the project? Please describe any relevant social, economic, or health policy factors that influence the project planning and implementation.

Mental health is increasingly recognized as a public health priority in Rwanda, influenced by historical trauma, post-genocide recovery, and evolving social determinants such as poverty, stigma, and access to care. National strategies have progressively emphasized mental health integration into primary health care, aligned with Rwanda's Health Sector Strategic Plan and Universal Health Coverage goals. Despite the decentralization of Mental Health Care from Specialized and Referral Hospitals to District Hospitals and Health Centers, rural districts like Burera, Kayanza, and Kiruhura (where PIH is currently operating) face critical shortages in trained mental health professionals and infrastructure. Social reintegration for people with mental health conditions remains a challenge due to stigma and limited economic empowerment opportunities.

FY25-27 Strategic Workplans

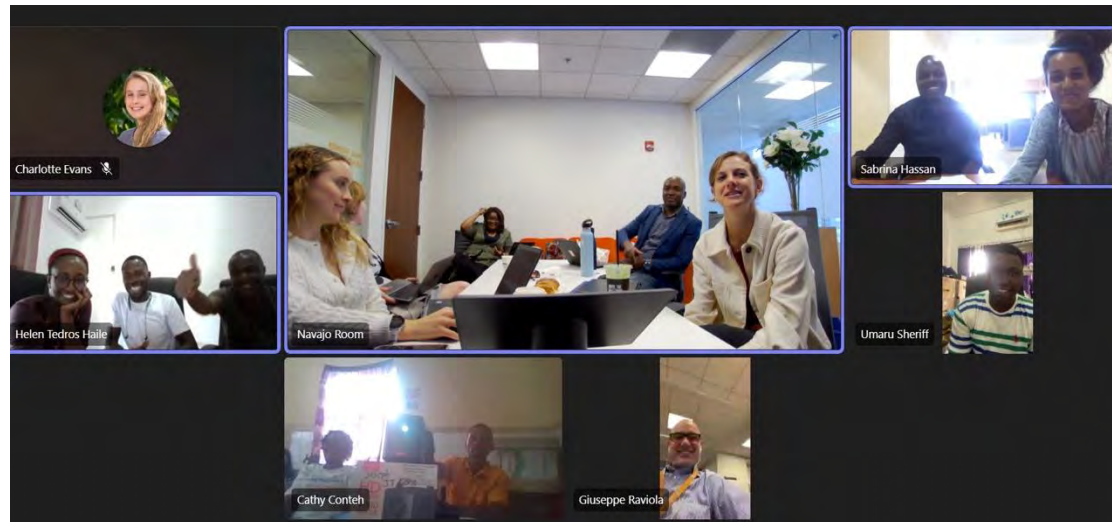
PROMOTE MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE DELIVERY AT INSTITUTIONAL AND COMMUNITY LEVELS, IMPROVING THE QUALITY AND SCOPE OF CARE SERVICES	A. Mental Health Care Access the Value Chain: Availability of care, continuity and clinical outcomes, setting a standard for comprehensive of services and the service users	A.1. Increase the quality of healthcare services by increasing the number of community health workers (CHWs)	A.1.1. Develop a robust strategic approach to implementing service providers	A.1.2. Strengthened a strategic approach to implementing service providers	A.1.3. A robust strategic approach to implementing service providers
			A.1.4. Develop a robust strategic approach to implementing service providers	A.1.5. Develop a robust strategic approach to implementing service providers	A.1.6. Develop a robust strategic approach to implementing service providers
			A.1.7. Develop a robust strategic approach to implementing service providers	A.1.8. Develop a robust strategic approach to implementing service providers	A.1.9. Develop a robust strategic approach to implementing service providers
			A.1.10. Develop a robust strategic approach to implementing service providers	A.1.11. Develop a robust strategic approach to implementing service providers	A.1.12. Develop a robust strategic approach to implementing service providers
PROMOTE MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE DELIVERY AT INSTITUTIONAL AND COMMUNITY LEVELS, IMPROVING THE QUALITY AND SCOPE OF CARE SERVICES	B. Strengthen the competence of mental health staff to manage existing needs in current context	B.1. Strengthen the competence of mental health staff to manage existing needs in current context	B.1.1. Develop a robust strategic approach to implementing service providers	B.1.2. Develop a robust strategic approach to implementing service providers	B.1.3. Develop a robust strategic approach to implementing service providers
			B.1.4. Develop a robust strategic approach to implementing service providers	B.1.5. Develop a robust strategic approach to implementing service providers	B.1.6. Develop a robust strategic approach to implementing service providers
			B.1.7. Develop a robust strategic approach to implementing service providers	B.1.8. Develop a robust strategic approach to implementing service providers	B.1.9. Develop a robust strategic approach to implementing service providers
			B.1.10. Develop a robust strategic approach to implementing service providers	B.1.11. Develop a robust strategic approach to implementing service providers	B.1.12. Develop a robust strategic approach to implementing service providers
PROMOTE MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE DELIVERY AT INSTITUTIONAL AND COMMUNITY LEVELS, IMPROVING THE QUALITY AND SCOPE OF CARE SERVICES	C. Promote integration of mental health services into the health system	C.1. Promote integration of mental health services into the health system	C.1.1. Develop a robust strategic approach to implementing service providers	C.1.2. Develop a robust strategic approach to implementing service providers	C.1.3. Develop a robust strategic approach to implementing service providers
			C.1.4. Develop a robust strategic approach to implementing service providers	C.1.5. Develop a robust strategic approach to implementing service providers	C.1.6. Develop a robust strategic approach to implementing service providers
			C.1.7. Develop a robust strategic approach to implementing service providers	C.1.8. Develop a robust strategic approach to implementing service providers	C.1.9. Develop a robust strategic approach to implementing service providers
			C.1.10. Develop a robust strategic approach to implementing service providers	C.1.11. Develop a robust strategic approach to implementing service providers	C.1.12. Develop a robust strategic approach to implementing service providers
PROMOTE MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE DELIVERY AT INSTITUTIONAL AND COMMUNITY LEVELS, IMPROVING THE QUALITY AND SCOPE OF CARE SERVICES	D. Promote integration of mental health services into the health system	D.1. Promote integration of mental health services into the health system	D.1.1. Develop a robust strategic approach to implementing service providers	D.1.2. Develop a robust strategic approach to implementing service providers	D.1.3. Develop a robust strategic approach to implementing service providers
			D.1.4. Develop a robust strategic approach to implementing service providers	D.1.5. Develop a robust strategic approach to implementing service providers	D.1.6. Develop a robust strategic approach to implementing service providers
			D.1.7. Develop a robust strategic approach to implementing service providers	D.1.8. Develop a robust strategic approach to implementing service providers	D.1.9. Develop a robust strategic approach to implementing service providers
			D.1.10. Develop a robust strategic approach to implementing service providers	D.1.11. Develop a robust strategic approach to implementing service providers	D.1.12. Develop a robust strategic approach to implementing service providers

Microsoft Teams Organization

WhatsApp Community

Cross-site Processes: Calls

Care Delivery Site/ Cross-Site Mental Health team Call



Bi-weekly calls between sites and cross-site MH team to discuss programmatic work, M&E, training and curriculum development, discrete projects, and relevant updates

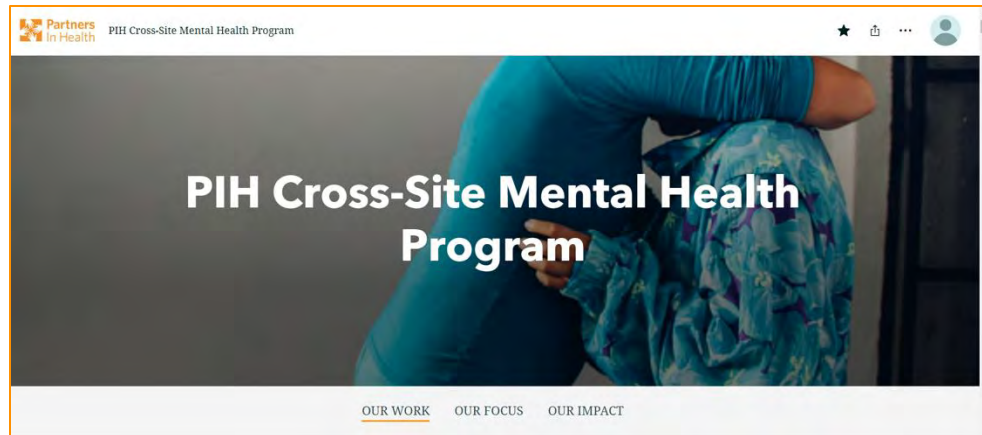
Mental Health Learning Collaborative (MHLC)



- *Participation in bi-weekly MHLC Calls*
- *Annual site presentations*

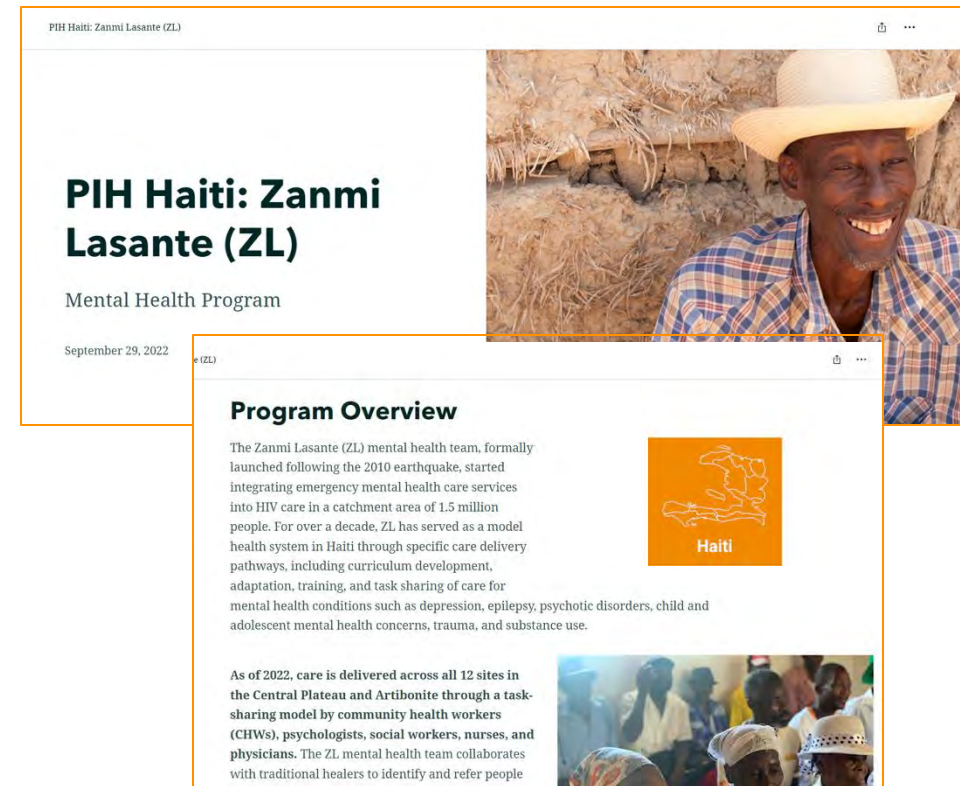
FY26 Annual report

Program Overview



[Annual Report on Storymaps](#)

Care Delivery Site Profiles

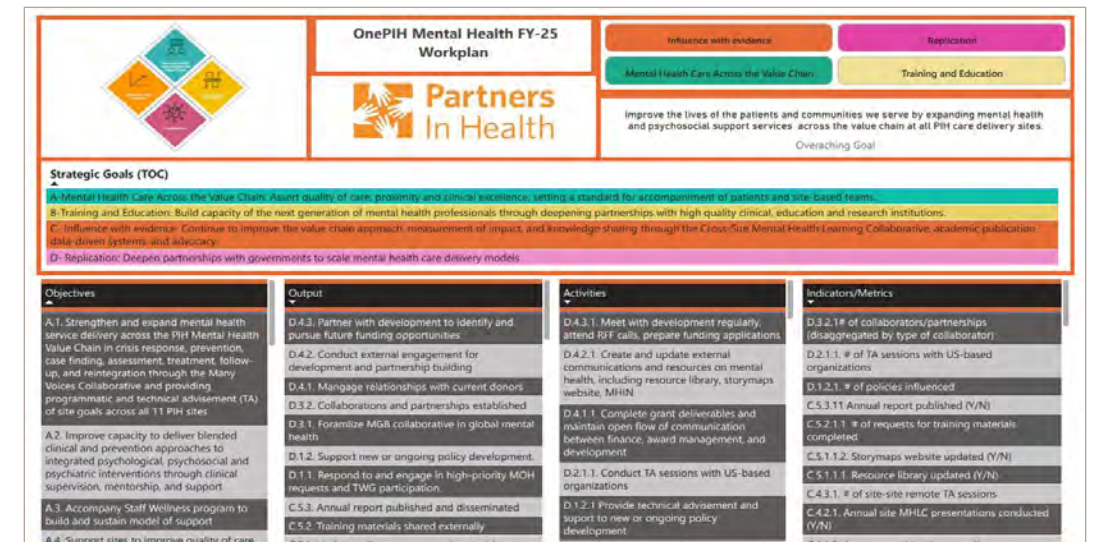
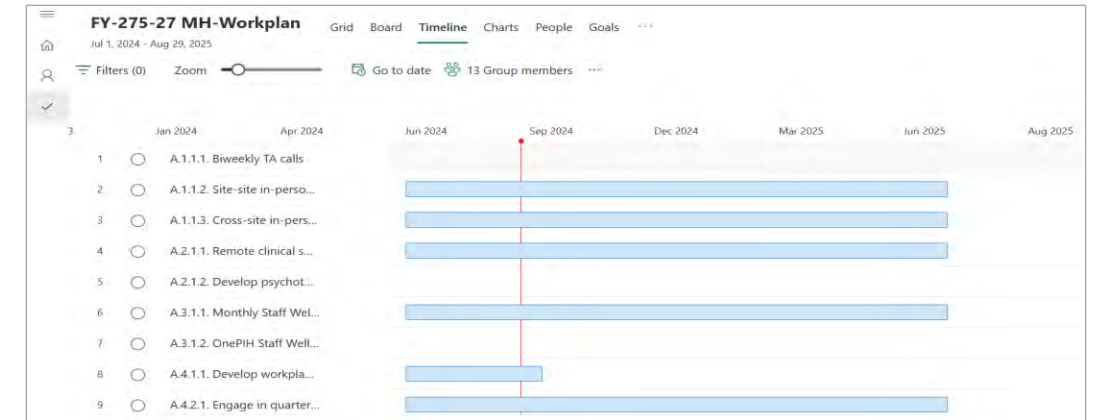
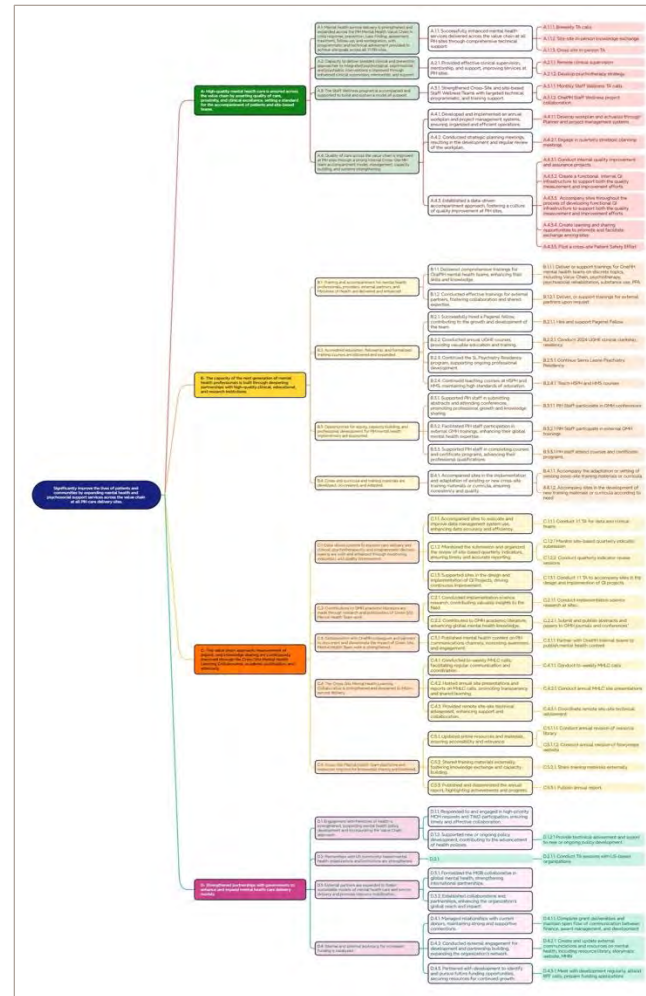
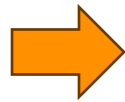


Cross-Site Processes: Monitoring & Evaluation

Logical Framework

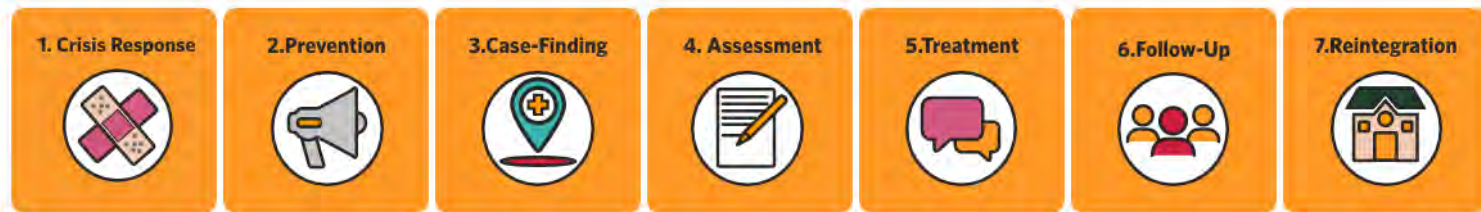
Monitoring Platforms

Theory of Change



KPIs

- KPIs are organized by the Value Chain components and a few additional categories



- Training & Supervision
 - Integration
- This set of indicators will be reported on by all sites (unless not applicable) and each site has their own set of indicators which are not reported in DHIS2

Principles and practices of teamwork

- Know your **community** context, where you work
- Know your **organizational** context, where you work
- Know your organizational **values** and **competency(ies)** framework
- Know what the team(s) are in context; know your team
- Know your **role** in the team
- Know your **skills**, strengths and weaknesses, where you need to grow (**self awareness** and **humility**), and know those of your teammates
- Manage up, manage down (around the team)
- Consider a **framework for vision, mission and strategy implementation**
- Consider a **framework for management or quality improvement** if relevant
- **Nurture** your team (skills, stress management, professional development) and nurture yourself; be a **Mentor** to someone



Resilient Leadership

An Evidence-Based Framework for
Leading with Resilience in Times of Change

www.bluebridgecoaching.com





Why Resilience **Matters**



Public health work =
demanding, under-resourced, politically charged



Chronic stress →
burnout + impaired system performance



Resilience
...as process or capacity that can be enhanced or taught." (Park et al., 2021)



Three Core Components of Resilience

(Park et al., 2021)



**Presence
of adversity**



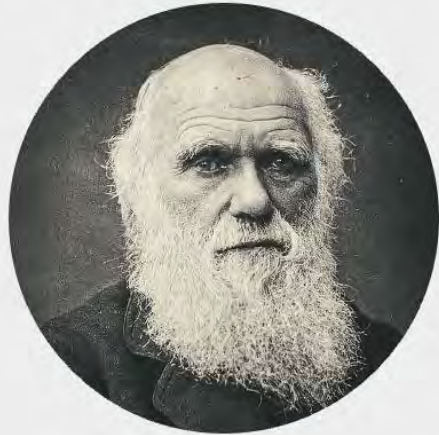
**Protective factors that
overcome this adversity**



**A subsequently more
positive outcome,
or growth**

Survival vs. Thriving

(Darwin → Mallak → Werner)



Darwin:

"Survival of the fittest"
(most adaptatable)



Mallak (1998):

Resilience = responsiveness,
adaptation, improvisation



Werner (1992):

Resilience = thriving
(not just surviving)



Individual Resilience: **Foundations**



Defined: capacity to buffer & recover from stress, and even to thrive!



Domains:

- Physiological
- Biological
- Spiritual/meaning
- Behavioral
- Psychological/Emotional
- Cognitive
- Social/relational
- Environmental/contextual



Stress Science (McEwen, 1998):

- Short-term stress = adaptive.
- Chronic stress → allostatic load (immune suppression, slowed recovery).

Organizational Resilience

(Werner, 1995; Mallak, 1998)



Individual resilience forms the foundation for organizational resilience



Principles of resilient organizations

- Constructive perception of experiences.
- Adaptive behaviors → change = opportunity.
- Access to external resources.
- Expanded decision-making & empowerment.
- Bricolage: solutions from available tools.
- Tolerance for uncertainty.
- Role coverage: teams back each other up.



Self-Efficacy

(Bandura, 1997; Hellriegel, 1998)



Belief in one's ability to act effectively under stress.



High self-efficacy employees:



Possess
needed skills



Sustain
effort



Persist despite
obstacles

Behavior vs. Thought



Thoughts

- Our inner narratives shape how we interpret stress, setbacks, and uncertainty.
- Unhelpful thought patterns (e.g., catastrophizing, self-blame) can erode resilience.
- Reframing thoughts ("What can I learn from this?" vs. "This always happens to me") builds psychological flexibility.



Behaviors

- Actions often matter more than thoughts: what you do can shift how you think.
- Small resilience-building behaviors: exercising, seeking support, practicing problem-solving.
- Acting despite unhelpful thoughts strengthens confidence and adaptability



The Connection

- Behavior and thought influence each other: changing one can shift the other.
- Resilient people use both: train the mind through thought patterns and reinforce resilience through consistent actions. (Taherkhani, 2023)



Thought Patterns and Resilience

All-or-nothing / Dichotomous thinking undermines resilience

Seeing situations, people, or outcomes in extremes (good/bad, success/failure, perfect/imperfect), without much acknowledgment of gradations or nuance.

- Increases emotional reactivity: small setbacks can feel catastrophic.
- Reduces flexibility: less able to adapt when things don't match the extremes.
- Can fuel negative loops: "if I failed here, I must be a failure."
- Correlates with worse mental health in trauma or stress contexts.
- Develop cognitive flexibility: look for "gray areas."
- Use reframing: examine evidence for and against extreme thoughts.
- Mindfulness and noticing rigid thinking.
- Practice balanced language ("sometimes," "often," etc.).
- Self-Blame / Blame Assigning responsibility for negative events to oneself or blaming others/external factors
- Excessive self-blame can lead to rumination, shame, hopelessness.
- Makes recovery harder: low perceived control, reduced self-efficacy.
- Can interact with other distressing thoughts (like black-white thinking): "Because I messed up now, I will always fail."
- Studies show self-blame is a predictor of psychological distress, lower resilience.

Empathy = an evolutionary capacity

(Frans de Waal, 2008)

Empathy is hardwired
into our biology.



Three levels:



Emotional
contagion.



Sympathetic
concern



Perspective-
taking



**Regulates
interactions,
sustains cooperation,
builds trust**



**Essential for
leadership
resilience**

Generosity & Kindness → Resilience

Generosity activates reward circuits

↑ happiness

(Park et al., 2017)

Acts of kindness

↑ well-being (small-moderate effects)

(Nguyen et al., 2025)

Kindness intervention

↓ depression, ↑ positive affect

(Palacios-Delgado et al., 2025)

Compassion-based practices

↓ stress

(Perkins et al., 2022)



generosity & kindness strengthen both psychological and biological resilience

Psychological Safety on Teams & within Organizations

(Edmondson, 1999)

Psychological safety is the soil for organizational resilience



Constructive perception:

Safety makes it possible to learn from setbacks



Adaptive behavior:

Change feels like opportunity, not threat



Empowerment & decision-making:

People contribute without fear



Innovation:

Safety frees creativity and problem-solving



Trust & support:

Teams back each other up, even in uncertainty

Collective Efficacy

(Earls et. al., 1997)



Shared belief in a group's ability to achieve desired outcomes by working together.



High collective-efficacy groups:



Mutual trust
among members



Willingness to intervene
for the common good

Transformational Resilience

(Doppelt, 2016)



**Adversity as
catalyst for
growth, innovation,
new meaning.**



Two core elements:

Presencing

grounding,
awareness,
compassion

Purposing

meaning-
making, values
alignment.



**Leadership =
courage to face
uncertainty
& hard truths.**



Tools:

Calm & Clarity



SMART Skills (Fricchione):

self-awareness, mindfulness, optimism, flexible problem-solving.



Relaxation Response (Benson):

breathing, relaxation, meditation



Evidence:

reduces cortisol, BP, improves immune function; reduction of allostatic load

Tools: **Curiosity & Courage**



Cognitive reframing
(Lazarus & Folkman, 1984):
challenges → feedback/opportunities.



Curiosity (Kashdan, 2009):
opens perspectives, lowers defensiveness,
fosters adaptability.





Tools:

Compassion



Psychological First Aid (PFA):
“Look, Listen, Link.”. Empathic listening and developing a language of support.



Foundational Helping Skills :
“Engage, Understand, Support”. Communication, empathy, collaboration, promoting hope



Builds individual & collective resilience

Tiny Habits

(Fogg, 2020)



Start small
anchor to an
existing routine



Make it easy
do one push-up



Celebrate wins
emotions wire
habits



Small steps
big change
over time



Closing:

The Continuum of Resilience



**Individual → Organizational
→ Transformational**



**Growth is the
opportunity**



**Starts with micro-practices
→ expands to culture**

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Principles and practices of teamwork

- Know your **community** context, where you work
- Know your **organizational** context, where you work
- Know your organizational **values** and **competency(ies)** framework
- Know what the team(s) are in context; know your team
- Know your **role** in the team
- Know your **skills**, strengths and weaknesses, where you need to grow (**self awareness** and **humility**), and know those of your teammates
- Manage up, manage down (around the team)
- Consider a **framework for vision, mission and strategy implementation**
- Consider a **framework for management or quality improvement** if relevant
- **Nurture** your team (skills, stress management, professional development) and nurture yourself; be a **Mentor** to someone

THANK YOU!

