

# TOGETHER for HERHEALTH



HEATHER WHITE Executive Director TOGET**HER** for Health



KATHRYN VIZAS Cofounder and Chief Strategy Officer TOGET**HER** for Health

# No woman should die from cervical cancer when we know how to prevent it.

Simple, inexpensive care should be available to every woman, no matter who she is or where she lives.

-KATHRYN VIZAS

OGETHER FOR HEALTH EXISTS to remove roadblocks and generate momentum toward ending cervical cancer everywhere, for all women. Effective prevention methods—HPV vaccination, cervical cancer screening, and lifesaving treatment—are available, yet too many women are diagnosed with cervical cancer every year and far, far too many lose their lives. Pervasive barriers, including social stigma and fragmented programs, exacerbate an inadequate flow of resources, limiting access to these services.

And yet, I genuinely feel inspired—if, together, we choose to commit—in the effort to permanently end this disease. More and more, well-equipped programs even in the most challenging settings are proving that cervical cancer prevention can scale in line with the World Health Organization's ambitious plan to end cervical cancer as a public health problem worldwide.

TogetHER for Health is demanding accountability by funders and policy makers for their commitments to the WHO's cervical cancer elimination strategy, investing in

Protecting women's health protects everyone.

innovative programs that can bring prevention to scale, and leveraging partnerships from rural Alabama to the streets of Nairobi. Protecting women's health protects everyone, supporting the well-being of families, communities, and society.

We invite you to join us in bridging the gap between the dream of elimination and the reality of lives saved. Together we can ensure that future generations need never fear a cervical cancer diagnosis.

DR. HEATHER WHITE Executive Director TogetHER for Health





TOGETHER in the Global Movement to End Cervical Cancer

The World Health Organization's Global Strategy to Accelerate the Elimination of Cervical Cancer, adopted in 2020, has targeted and accelerated efforts to promote women's cervical health worldwide. Expanding access to HPV vaccines, regular cervical cancer screening, and early treatment can end this global epidemic.

Grounds for Health, TogetHER for Health Cervical Cancer Grants Program recipient

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Now is the time to act.

### TogetHER's Strategies to Scale Impact

#### Scaling Up | Policy & Advocacy

TogetHER advocates on behalf of cervical cancer elimination efforts to leaders, emphasizing the need for increased domestic and global funding for research, outreach, and on-the-ground services for HPV and cervical cancer prevention. Eliminating cervical cancer is a human rights issue. We are working to counter the effects of structural racism, discrimination, poverty, and inequality.

TogetHER is amplifying the power of our outreach, teaming up with new allies to safeguard and increase resources from the United States and other bilateral and multilateral donors for lifesaving cervical cancer prevention programs.

#### Scaling Out | Partnership & Education

Because screening coverage is still low in most underdeveloped nations, we must identify the most efficient, scalable ways to ensure access to cervical cancer prevention technologies. TogetHER's Cervical Cancer Grants Program supports projects transforming innovative ideas into proven strategies to revolutionize prevention in the most challenging environments.

Programs we support provide the data and evidence to facilitate the introduction of new prevention strategies where they're most needed. Each additional project we can fund multiplies the potential impact in low-resource settings, empowering a more effective response down to the community level.

# TOGET**HER is a leader in a** growing global movement.

We're mobilizing communities, generating political support, and expanding knowledge on what works to prevent cervical cancer in even the most challenging settings.

### Scaling Deep | Expertise & Perspective

TogetHER's partnership with organizations closely connected to local communities builds trust as we learn and address individual and community needs. The Kizazi Chetu campaign —organized by TogetHER, Scope Impact, and more than twenty Kenyan organizations—is engaging influential Kenyan leaders to speak about the importance of early detection and treatment of cervical disease. In the United States, TogetHER for Health has joined Alabama stakeholders and agencies in Operation Wipe Out, empowering women to learn about HPV and cervical cancer prevention and access services. This statewide, multisectoral effort among local organizations and concerned citizens is united to end cervical cancer as a public health problem.

TogetHER is dedicated to ensuring that the movement to eliminate cervical cancer has the resources, innovative ideas, and strategic direction it needs—strengthening political commitment, the development of new technologies, and equitable access to preventative care and treatment. We can achieve the worldwide goal of ending cervical cancer.



Program ROSE, TogetHER for Health Cervical Cancer Grants Program recipient Scaling up, scaling out, and scaling deep, TOGETHER is working to transform and save women's lives.

# The vast majority

of cervical cancers can be prevented with HPV vaccination, screening, and treatment.

# A single dose of HPV vaccine

at 9–14 years provides lifelong protection against >90% of cervical cancers.

# **Cervical screening**

between 30 and 49 years identifies abnormal cells to be removed, reducing risk of disease.



# We focus on one issue—cervical cancer.

Formed in 2017, TOGET**HER** is a global partnership focused on ending cervical cancer by:

## **Cultivating leadership**

- Educating decision makers and advocates
- Mobilizing the funding and political support needed to expand effective programs
- Working with First Ladies, national ministries, and both international and local champions to secure commitments toward elimination of the disease

# **Enhancing services**

- Collaborating with local partners to scale up high-quality prevention programs
- Fostering efforts to introduce and scale effective tools and strategies for prevention, early detection, and treatment
- Piloting and evaluating new programs and technologies to reach more girls and women

### Expanding knowledge

- Integrating cervical health into reproductive healthcare, building on existing investments
- Equipping champions—including international and local leaders—with data and messages to engage their constituencies and build momentum
- Amplifying the stories of girls, women, and health workers on the frontlines

# 300,000+ ....

cervical cancer deaths around the world each year

# TOGETHER Challenge Stigma. Lack of resources.

Fragmented efforts.

Many factors keep us from eliminating deaths from cervical cancer. Our challenge is to overcome these obstacles by informing policy makers, educating providers, and funding programs that reach girls and women around the world.



#### TOGETHER'S IMPACT

# **Our advocacy, grants, and partnerships have changed care practices around the world.** We are making a difference for women and families and we are just getting started.



#### o KENYA · Promoting cervical health

TogetHER and Scope Impact are partnering with key leaders in Kenya to influence and inspire their communities around cervical cancer prevention and care.

#### ASIA-PACIFIC · Accelerating regional impact

As a steering committee member of the Women's Cancer Coalition for the Asia Pacific Region, TogetHER advocates for favorable policies to scale up cervical cancer prevention in six target countries in the region.

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# • MALAYSIA · Breaking down cultural barriers to screening

TogetHER's grants program reduces barriers to cervical health and drives demand for services in multiethnic, multilingual, and multicultural Malaysia.

#### • **RWANDA** • Enhancing services

TogetHER sponsors evaluation of a smartphone-based screening tool, to improve care, which serves as a model for enhanced visual screening.

# TOGET**HER** is building momentum toward our goal to eliminate cervical cancer.

**1000s** of women and children have been vaccinated, screened, and treated through programs supported by TogetHER

# Structural Change 😓

**46** organizations supporting TogetHER advocacy calls to action

**2021–2022** U.S. Congress recognizes need for critical investments in cervical cancer prevention in high-burden countries

## Regional Impact 🧭

- **31** countries where TogetHER and our partners are making regional impact
  - 8 grants provided under our Cervical Cancer Grants Program to support introduction of new technologies and innovations to reach more women and girls with services
- million women and children in Alabama gain better access to HPV vaccination and cervical screening via Operation Wipe Out

### Cultural Shift 욹

- 20 "Faces of Hope" personal stories and other TogetHER case studies show the impact of our programs on real women's lives
- **93** million social, traditional, and online news media impressions in Kenya due to Kizazi Chetu media campaign supporting cervical health

A s a cofounder of Operation Wipe Out, TogetHER's team is 100 percent focused on our mission to eliminate cervical cancer as a public health problem in the state of Alabama. This has been one of the most rewarding efforts I have been engaged in personally and professionally. Like us, TogetHER knows that no single organization takes center stage—we're all involved because we believe in the mission to end cervical cancer.

> DR. ISABEL SCARINCI professor, vice-chair for global and rural health, University of Alabama Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology





# Alabama has the third-highest cervical cancer death rate in the United States. **Yet this cancer can be prevented, and we have the tools.**

Most women and children can access these lifesaving resources at no cost throughout the state. Promoting education and ensuring affordable, readily available prevention services are vital.

TogetHER for Health has united key Alabama stakeholders and agencies in Operation Wipe Out, a dynamic and organically expanding initiative empowering women to learn about HPV and cervical cancer prevention and use prevention services. Working closely with a diverse coalition of partners—caregivers, educators, medical professionals, state agencies, civic and business leaders, and concerned citizens—we identify specific community needs and develop targeted, effective responses. This broad-based collaboration enables Operation Wipe Out to continually adapt to the unique needs of women in the state.

Through Operation Wipe Out's communityled efforts, we aim to make Alabama a model for the elimination of cervical cancer in neighboring states, across the country, and around the world.

Operation Wipe Out symbolizes what's best about our state: community-based organizations joining forces to ensure that every woman and child has the opportunity to access critical information and services to prevent HPV and HPV-related cancers, including cervical cancer.

> NANCY WRIGHT, MPH director, Cancer Prevention and Control Division, Alabama Department of Public Health

# Operation Wipe Out's community-led efforts aim to **make Alabama a model for the elimination of cervical cancer**.

The Strategic Plan for Cervical Cancer Elimination as a Public Health Problem in the State of Alabama—2023–2033 is a roadmap to end cervical cancer in the state. This comprehensive, collaborative plan was created with input by more than 60 frontline healthcare providers from across Alabama at the Cervical Cancer Summit in fall 2022, sponsored by the Alabama Department of Public Health.

#### **OPERATION WIPE OUT PARTNERS**

- Alabama Department of Public Health
- Auburn University School of Nursing
- Chambers County School District
- The Circle of Care Center for Families

- Quality of Life Health Services, Inc.
- Rotary Club of Birmingham
- Rotary Club of LaFayette
- TogetHER for Health
- University of Alabama at Birmingham Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology and O'Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center

# Knowledge Is Power—the Power of Women's Health

Partnering with global health leaders, we work to enact effective, equitable healthcare policies; promote education and best clinical practices for prevention; and link communities to resources for vaccination, screening, and care.

# Protecting women's health through education, access to healthcare, and support from

institutions and policy makers empowers, protects, and strengthens their families and communities, at home and across the world. TOGETHER for Health's key initiatives embody our focus: global cervical cancer prevention, treatment, and ultimate elimination.

#### **CERVICAL CANCER GRANTS PROGRAM**



**TogetHER's Cervical Cancer Grants Program** provides small, highly targeted grants to expand access to lifesaving cervical cancer prevention services in lowor middle-income countries. With your support, we will continue to fund critical initiatives with multiple awards for programs that will help make lifesaving prevention and treatment available and affordable to women worldwide.

#### **KIZAZI CHETU**



TogetHER for Health and Scope Impact's campaign, Kizazi Chetu—"Our Generation" in Swahili—has helped launch a cervical health movement in Kenya. With your support, we can expand this lifesaving, holistic community model throughout Kenya and adapt it to other countries in sub-Saharan Africa.

#### **OPERATION WIPE OUT**



**TogetHER for Health's Operation Wipe Out** aims to eliminate cervical cancer as a public health problem

in Alabama. With your support, we will fulfill this commitment to eliminate cervical cancer in Alabama by improving access to vital information and services creating a model for promoting cervical health worldwide.



# togetherforhealth.org

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**MEMBERS**: American Cancer Society | Basic Health International | FHI 360 | Global Communities | Jhpiego | PATH | Pathfinder International | Population Services International