

THE ROLE OF MOM TO MOM VOLUNTEERS IN RETAINING CLIENTS IN PMTCT CLINICS AND OVERCOMING BARRIERS TO EARLY STARTING OF CHILDREN ON ART IN RURAL PWANI REGION OF TANZANIA

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OUTLINE/OVERVIEW

- INTRODUCTION
- CHALLENGES
- INTERVENTION
- RESULTS AND DESCRIPTION
- CONCLUSION



Introduction

- **PASADA stands for Pastoral Activities and Services for people living with AIDS Dar es Salaam Archdiocese** and it is a faith based organization dedicated in providing comprehensive care and support to PLHIV



Introduction cont...

- As a faith based organization with holistic approach, PASADA started to implement intervention of PMTCT activities since 2002 in 19 diocesan healthy facilities.



Challenge

- In 2009 PMTCT discovered that there was a problem of **lost to follow-up** after single dose of nevirapine that was given to mothers during labor and no follow up then .



Challenge cont....

- After delivery the mother was instructed to bring the infant for DNA/PCR test after one month
- The mothers were neglecting these instructions just to be brought back at a worst stage- very sick
- Also children were not brought back for DNA/PCR testing timely
- Children who tested positive were not brought to start ARV' s



Challenge cont....

The challenges can be divided into systemic and social challenges...

Systemic Challenges were

- Unreliable supply chain
- Scarce of facilities providing ART services
- Incapable health care workers

Social Challenges were

- Failure to afford transport costs to facilities
- Culture and beliefs against modern medicine
- Non-disclosure of HIV status
- Gender based violence
- Family break-ups
- Fatigue of parents/guardians
- Fighting between cattle keepers and farmers

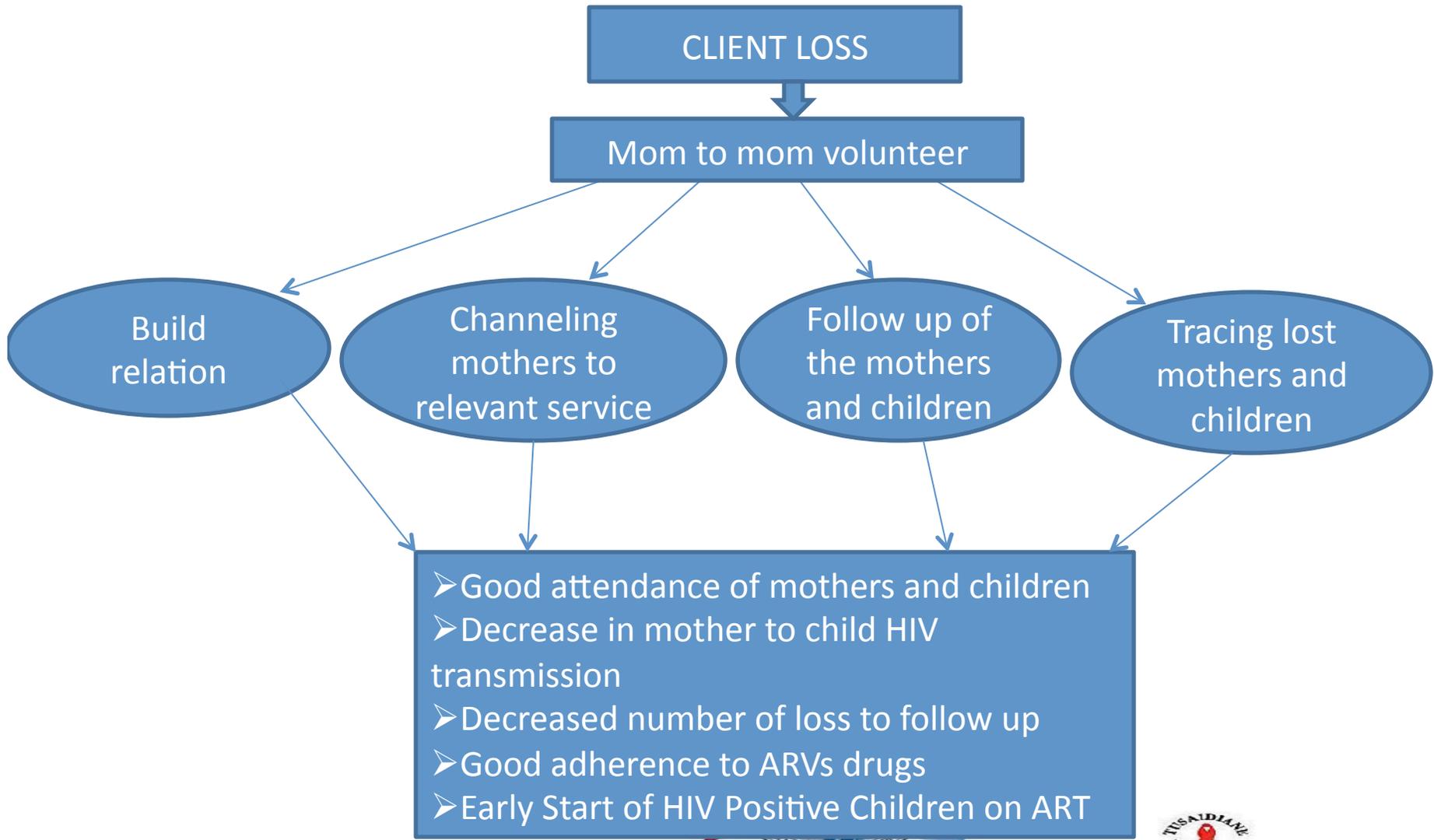


Intervention

- There emerged an idea of recruiting volunteers to make follow up, and we named - them “ MOM TO MOM VOLUNTEERS” as they were to be following up pregnant, lactating mothers and their children. See the figure below;



CLIENT LOSS TO FOLLOW UP MODEL



Intervention

- ✓ Intensified pediatric case finding (IPCF)
- ✓ Support mobile ART services
- ✓ Regular community sensitization in collaboration with local leaders
- ✓ Support couple RCH Clinics
- ✓ Participate in male support groups
- ✓ On going health education to children, parents and guardians

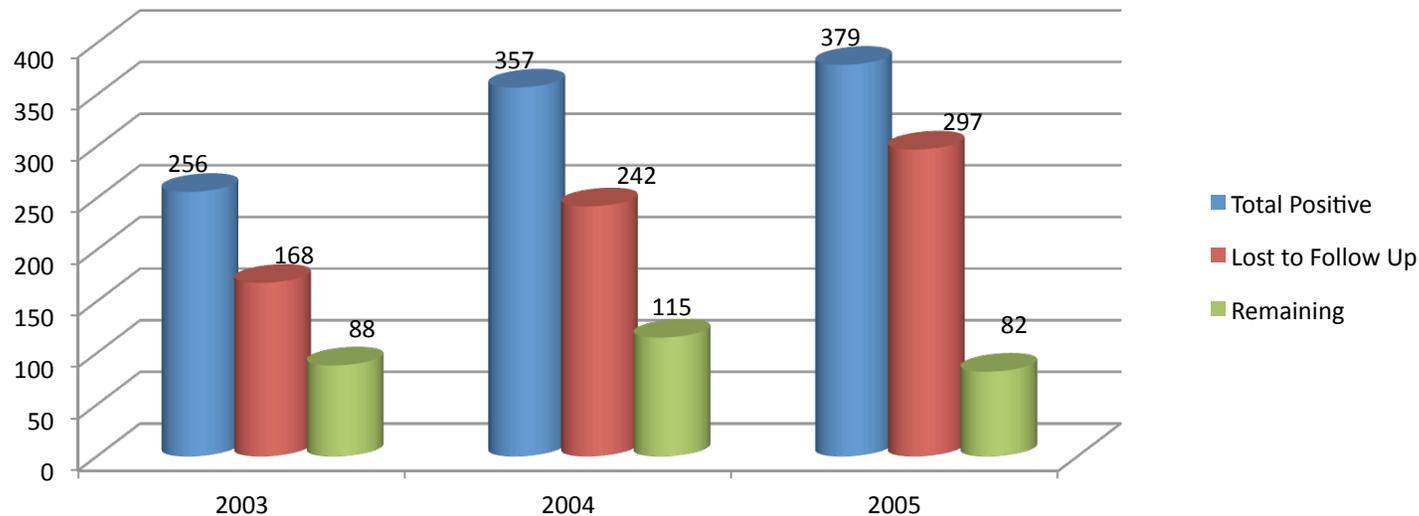


Results and Description cont...

- Due to the collaboration effort we managed to have good client attendance, decrease of mother to child HIV transmission and also decrease of loss to follow up of both pregnant and lactating mothers as shown in the graphs below;



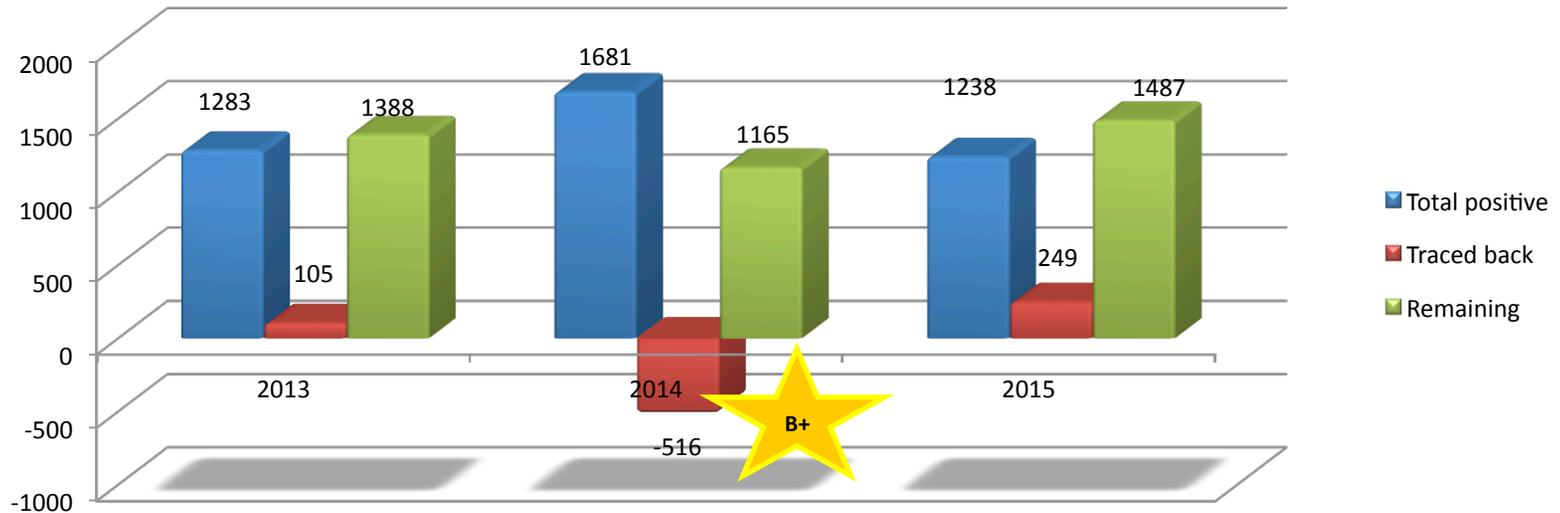
SITUATION BEFORE MOM TO MOM VOLUNTEERS



In the period of 2003 we enrolled 256 HIV positive women and out of them 168 (66%) women were lost, In 2004 we enrolled 357 positive women out of them 242 (68%) women were lost, 2005 we enrolled 379 out of them 297 (78.3%) women were lost.



AFTER MOM TO MOM VOLUNTEERS



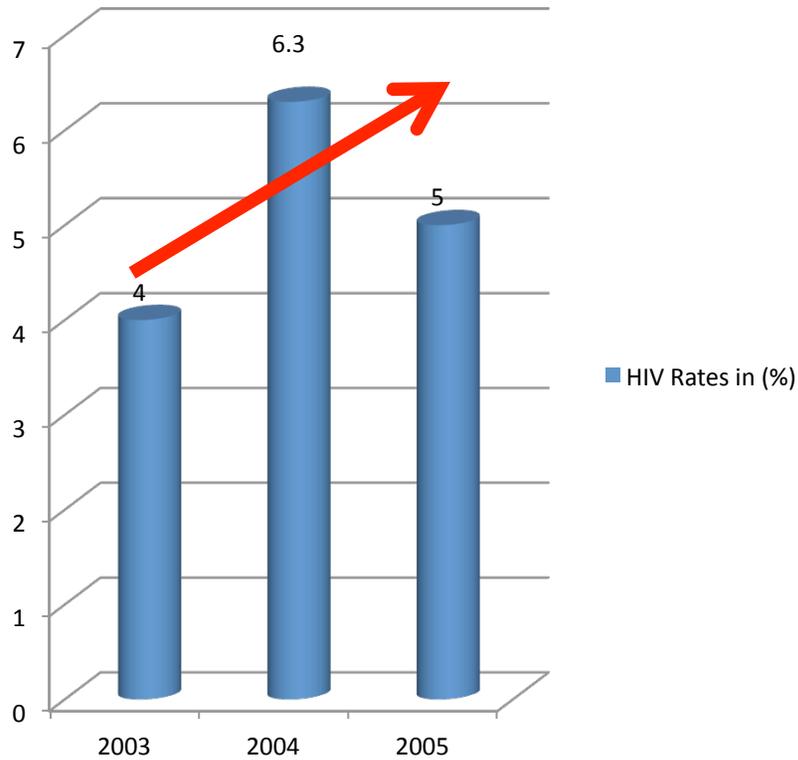
In 2013 we enrolled 1283 HIV positive women and retained 1388, in 2014 we enrolled 1681 HIV positive women and retained 1165, the current situation (2015) we enrolled 1238 women and retained 1487 .

All these efforts go hand in hand with prevention of HIV Exposed Infants

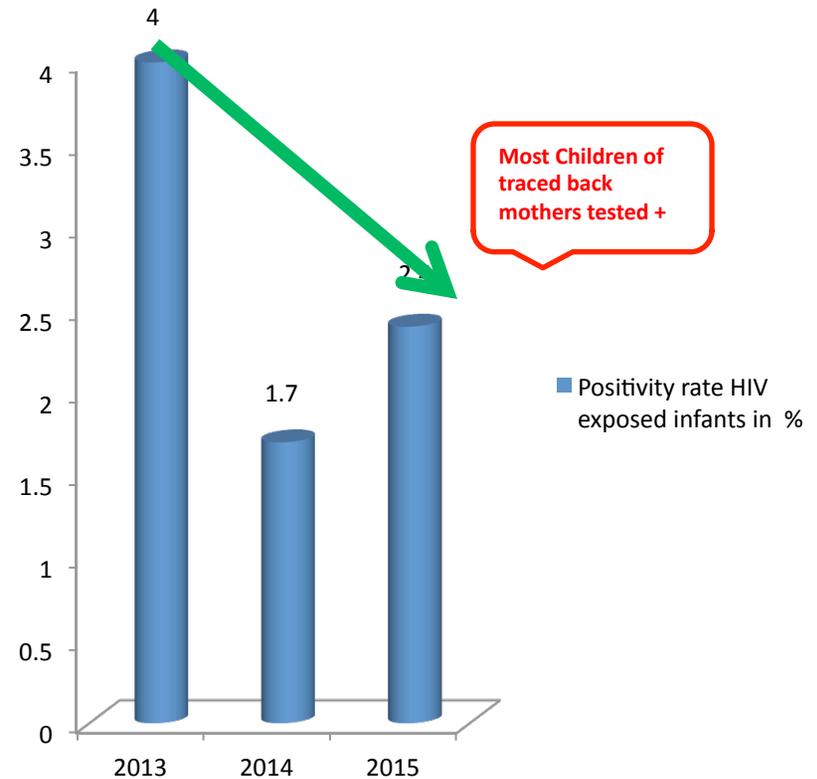


PREVIOUS AND CURRENT HIV TRANSMISSION RATES AMONG HIV EXPOSED INFANTS

HIV Rates in (%) 2003-05



HIV Rates in % 2013-15



Enrolment of Children on ART

- By December 2015, 1746(34%) children were on ART but now all 6200 (100%) children are on ART



Conclusions and recommendations

- To retain mothers and their children in PMTCT clinics we need to involve the community, including good attitude of care givers and also training on customer care to both mom to mom volunteers and we health care provider.



Thank you

