VillageReach works with governments to solve health care delivery challenges in low-resource communities. Our programs focus on increasing access to quality health care at the last mile, or the point at which services are delivered.

VillageReach has worked in Malawi since 2008, partnering with the Ministry of Health and Population (MoHP), the private sector and other partners to develop and implement high-impact solutions. Our work has improved the delivery of health information and health care for millions of people throughout all the 28 districts in the country.

VillageReach focuses on three essential components of the health system and has experience across the following areas:

**Data Systems**
We integrate data driven decision-making at all levels of the health system because smart decisions lead to improved health.
- Supply chain
- Vaccines

**Access to Products**
We improve availability of vaccines, medicines and supplies at the last mile so that people always have access to the treatment they need.
- Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAV)
- Sexual and reproductive health
- Adolescent health (SRHS)
- HIV/AIDS

**Health Workers**
We improve the productivity and capacity of health workers, so they can deliver quality care.
- Human Resources for Health
- Digital health/mobile health
- Maternal, newborn and child health
- Community health
- Nutrition
Our Work

Youth-Friendly Services
Project Izizi is generating primary evidence about adolescent-specific needs, preferences, and behavior related to modern contraceptives through an innovative, dynamic and youth-driven approach. The research will help the development of contraceptive options that meet adolescent needs. VillageReach also partners with District Health Offices to conduct continuous improvement process (CIP) for quality improvement at health centers according to the Malawi National Youth Friendly Health Services Strategy and Standards.

Community Health Programs
VillageReach has worked extensively in the Kwitanda catchment area in Balaka District to implement community-based interventions to improve maternal and child health. Our most recent work includes a morbidity and mortality study of women and children under five to identify health issues facing the community and recommendations on how best to prevent and treat common conditions. The responsibilities for the Kwitanda Community Health Project (KCHP) have been transferred to a local NGO, MaiKhanda Trust to build on the progress achieved and on the work begun by VillageReach and MoHP.

OpenLMIS
In partnership with Procurement and Supply Management (PSM), VillageReach is helping to support the nationwide roll-out of OpenLMIS, an open source logistics management information system to serve all districts and over 650 facilities across six programs. VillageReach continues to support this implementation with technical assistance and user support from the district level up to national level. Future enhancements include interoperability with DHIS2 data and integration of lab products and stock management features.

ColdTech
Using our user-centered design, VillageReach partnered with the Malawi Ministry of Health and Bull City Learning to design and develop an interactive video-based maintenance and repair application called ColdTech. It addresses the need to train technicians and engineers for basic maintenance and repairs of cold chain equipment within the health system. The application is accessible on tablets or smartphone devices online or offline, providing content to guide CCE maintenance activities anytime.

Drones for Health
VillageReach is a leading contributor to research assessing the potential of UAVs to integrate drones into more traditional means of transport in order to more efficiently deliver health commodities in case of interruptions in the regular supply chain or to areas cut off from the regular supply chain, among other use cases. In Malawi we are investigating the costs and benefits of delivering blood, oxytocin, and specimen samples, along with community perceptions. This study will inform in the development of a long-term business case for the integration of UAVs into the Malawi medical transport system.

Chipatala cha Foni (CCPF) - Health Center by Phone
VillageReach created a multisectoral partnership comprised of government, community, donor, private sector and non-governmental stakeholders to create a toll-free health and nutrition hotline. The hotline extends the reach of the health system to rural communities, providing referrals and information on all standard health topics as well as youth-friendly services. CCPF is now available nationwide will be fully operated by the Ministry of Health and Population. Partnership with mobile carrier Airtel, along with the government’s commitment and support, has been essential to national scale-up and sustainability.

“CCPF is an important part of achieving universal health coverage in Malawi and reaching rural communities who make up almost 74% of the population.”
–Atupele Muluzi, Minister of Health and Population, Malawi

Pharmacy Assistant Training Program
The Malawi College of Health Sciences and VillageReach led a health workforce initiative to improve the quality of care at rural pharmacies by training pharmacy assistants to better manage and dispense medicines. The program significantly improved pharmacy practices such as data and storeroom management while greatly reducing clinical time spent on logistics. The USAID Organized Network of Services for Everyone’s (ONSE) Health Activity, in partnership with Malawi’s Ministry of Health, the College of Health Sciences and VillageReach, are extending the impact of the program through mentorships that continue to support and train pharmacy assistants across all of Malawi’s districts.

“Having a Pharmacy Assistant has improved the quality of care at our facility and for our patients.”
–Japhet Kaphika, Medical Assistant

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