QUARTERLY PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS
This Thanksgiving, We’re Thankful for You!
Fall 2018

You’re Caring for Mothers and Babies at Every Stage

- Regular check-ups and healthy pregnancies
- Transportation to the clinic during labor
- Safe deliveries with skilled, caring midwives
- Emergency C-sections for complicated births
- Babies protected from disease thanks to vaccines
- Nutrient-rich porridge for a healthy start to life

Thanks to support from people like you, Janet gave birth to a health baby girl. Read her story inside.
Janet’s baby girl is snuggled in a soft blanket against her chest. Warm and safe in her mother’s arms, the three-month-old baby sleeps peacefully.

Embroidered on the blanket is the word “joy”. For the past several years, Janet has been robbed of joy many times over. Now, holding her healthy baby girl, the word fits perfectly.

Janet is sitting under the shade of a palm tree in front of her tidy, serene home. It feels like a million miles away from the brutal violence she experienced in the Congo.

After being taken prisoner by rebels a few years ago, Janet escaped and made her way to Uganda with her fiancé. In a refugee settlement, they began to build their life together. **Thinking the worst was behind them, they dreamed of creating a family.**

Janet became pregnant with their first baby. The excitement of bringing a child into the world took a tragic turn when it came time to deliver. Janet needed an emergency C-section. But help was far away. For almost two hours, she suffered excruciating contractions in the back of a vehicle as it bumped along dirt roads. By the time she arrived at the hospital, it was too late. Janet’s baby had died. She was heartbroken.

Despite her devastating loss, Janet and her husband leaned on their faith. They prayed that God would bless them with another child.

A month later, their prayers were answered when she became pregnant. Again, she planned for her future as a mother. **But the nightmare of the first birth replayed itself. The baby died on the long drive to the hospital.** Again, Janet grieved her loss.

Soon, she became pregnant for a third time. **But this time was different.**

**This time, thanks to you, a Medical Teams clinic was nearby.** Not only that, but Medical Teams had outfitted a surgical suite at the settlement.

When it was time to deliver, Janet only had to travel 10 minutes to deliver via C-section. Skilled surgeons safely delivered her baby.

**After so much struggle, Janet radiates joy as she cuddles her baby girl.** She covers her in kisses, thanking Medical Teams for the gift of her healthy child.

Because of your generosity, Janet gets to experience the joys of motherhood she has yearned for – her baby’s first smile, her little girl’s first steps, the first time she hears her name: “mama”.

Your compassion shows mothers like Janet that they matter.