

# WHAT WOMEN WANT!

*Demands for Quality  
Reproductive and Maternal  
Healthcare from Women and Girls*

Medicines and supplies. Respectful and dignified care. Improved health, well-being and maternal, reproductive, and general health services. Increased, fully functional and closer health facilities. Counseling and awareness on maternal, reproductive and general health and services. Labor and delivery information, personnel, services and supplies. Increased, competent and better-supported health providers. Increased, competent and better-supported midwives and nurses. Water, sanitation, and hygiene. Beds and bedding.

**LISTEN AND ACT ON THE DEMANDS OF  
TANZANIA'S WOMEN AND GIRLS!**

## What Women Want

### Demands for Quality Healthcare from Tanzania's Women & Girls

Approximately 300,000 women and girls die during pregnancy and childbirth every year. In Tanzania, maternal deaths represent 18% of all deaths of women aged 15-49. Changing this picture begins with women and girls. When women and girls are involved in identifying the barriers and solutions to healthcare, progress accelerates. As quality has a huge impact on whether a woman or girl will seek care, the heart of the *What Women Want* campaign is about understanding quality from women's and girls' perspectives.

Beginning on 11 April 2018, International Maternal Health and Rights Day, and continuing for one year, 359 partners asked nearly 1.2 million women and adolescent girls in 114 countries: **what is your top request for your maternal and reproductive healthcare?** Led by White Ribbon Alliance Tanzania, over 110,000 of these demands were gathered in Tanzania alone through the tireless efforts of maternal health organizations and their volunteers asking about and amplifying the needs of women in their communities and schools.

The *What Women Want* campaign is unique in that it asked women and girls in Tanzania to set the agenda, as opposed to beginning with a premise of what is important or asking them to decide among a set of options. For example, a mother from Yombo Vituka told of how she went to the local government health facility expecting it to be safer than giving birth at home. Yet during childbirth the nurses swore at her and when she needed help, they ignored her. Her child was born with disabilities. Her demand for quality care based on respect and dignity was echoed by tens of thousands of others: "If service providers in health facilities treated pregnant women with respect and dignity, we would have no more women giving birth at home." Theirs' are voices and concerns often lost, but which are vital to providing services which women want and use.

A resounding call for better quality health services as defined by women and girls, this brief provides the top ten demands of those who participated in the *What Women Want* campaign from Tanzania. If the hope and expectation is for women and girls to visit health centres, adhere to recommended advice, and collectively pursue better health outcomes, it follows their agenda must become everyone's agenda.

**Women and girls  
have spoken,  
now it's time to listen.**

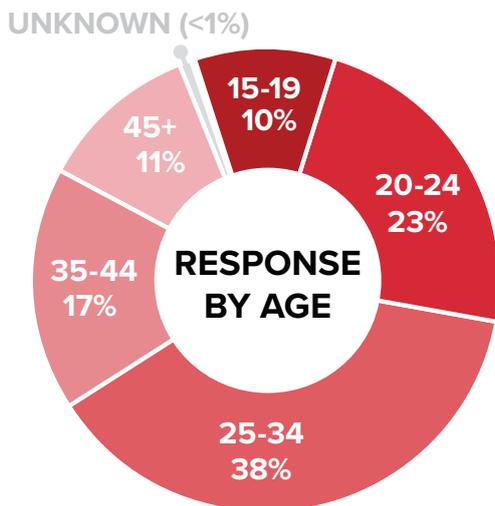


# 10 REGIONS

Arusha, Dar es Salaam, Dodoma, Kilimanjaro, Lindi, Mara, Mtwara, Mwanza, Shinyanga, Tabora

# 210 PARTNERS

# 111,901 DEMANDS



## TOP TEN DEMANDS

1. Medicines and supplies: **8.99%**
  - Availability of free and safe blood\*
  - Increased maternity devices and tools
2. Respectful and dignified care: **8.61%**
  - Friendly and courteous health workers
3. Improved health, well-being and maternal, reproductive, or general health services: **7.56%**
4. Increased, fully functional and closer health facilities: **7.32%**
5. Counseling and awareness on maternal, reproductive and general health and services: **7.17%**
6. Labor and delivery information, personnel, services and supplies: **7.03%**
  - Availability of delivery kits
7. Increased, competent and better-supported health providers: **5.41%**
8. Increased, competent and better-supported midwives and nurses: **4.61%**
9. Water, sanitation, and hygiene: **4.41%**
  - Clean toilets in facilities
  - Availability of clean water
10. Beds and bedding: **4.18%**

To learn more about the methodology and analysis of these results, visit: [whiteribbonalliance.org/whatwomenwant](http://whiteribbonalliance.org/whatwomenwant) to download the complete summary report.

\* Represent top sub-categories of demands

# LISTENACT

Listening to women is a radical act.

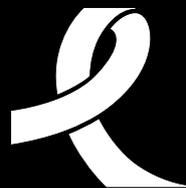
But acting on what we hear is revolutionary.



Tell us how you are listening and acting on women's and girls' demands:

[whiteribbonalliance.org/whatwomenwant](http://whiteribbonalliance.org/whatwomenwant)

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**WHAT WOMEN WANT!**

DEMANDS FOR QUALITY HEALTHCARE FOR WOMEN & GIRLS