



# IMPACT REPORT



2025



# Executive Summary

In 2025, MaterCare International advanced its life-saving mission to reduce maternal mortality and morbidity in underserved regions by expanding access to high-quality obstetric care. With the generous support of donors and partners, MaterCare continued to serve women and families facing the highest risks during pregnancy and childbirth, often in settings where skilled care is scarce and preventable maternal deaths remain tragically common. Only through global partnership is this work possible.

This year's work focused on strengthening local health systems through education, mentorship, and collaboration. MaterCare supported ultrasound training in Nyabwina (Uganda), explored possibilities of training Nyabwina nursing and midwifery staff in the Billings Ovulation Method with plans to implement in 2026, and conducted feasibility analysis for training Timor Leste General Practitioners and nurses in the Billings Method and Emergency Obstetric Care (EOC) also planned for 2026. By investing in local professionals, MaterCare ensures that improvements in care are sustainable, empowering communities to care for mothers long after visiting teams have departed. Partnerships with organizations such as The Watoto - Dzieci Afryki Polish Foundation have made this work possible.

Across program sites in Africa, MaterCare's initiatives contributed to improved maternal outcomes and increased confidence among frontline providers. Partner hospitals expanded their capacity to deliver emergency obstetric services, improved referral systems for high-risk pregnancies, and strengthened clinical protocols that enhance safety for both mothers and babies. Donations supported essential equipment, facility improvements, and clinical training tangible resources that directly translated into lives saved.

MaterCare also continued to lead with compassion and clarity in global maternal health advocacy. In 2025, we committed to planning of the 2026 MaterCare Rome Conference.

**Partnership remained at the heart of MaterCare's impact. Strong relationships with local dioceses, religious orders, hospitals, and community leaders enabled culturally sensitive and locally integrated programs. We work as a team alongside MaterCare Australia and MaterCare Poland.**

Sound stewardship of donor resources continued to be a priority throughout the year with MaterCare's strong commitment to transparency, accountability, and responsible financial management. Contributions were carefully directed toward programs with the greatest potential for long-term impact, and enhanced monitoring and evaluation efforts improved outcome tracking and reporting. New reporting standards were introduced at our project sites.

As MaterCare International looks ahead, the need remains urgent but so does the hope. With continued donor support, MaterCare is poised to expand its reach, deepen its partnerships, and save more lives. Every gift in 2025 played a vital role in protecting mothers, strengthening families, and building a future where childbirth is no longer a life-threatening event. MaterCare is profoundly grateful for the generosity and trust of its donors, whose partnership makes this mission possible.

# 2025 Projects

## UGANDA

**Project Overview:** St. Claret Maternity Unit

**Project Location:** Sheema/Mbarara District

**Village:** Nyabwina

**Construction Provided By:**

**The Watoto - Dzieci Afryki Polish Foundation**

**Medical Equipment Provided By:**

**MaterCare International**

**Local Partner:** Sisters of St. Joseph of Tarbes

**Blessing Ceremony:** March 6, 2025, officiated by His Grace Lambert Bainnomugisha, Archbishop of Mbarara Archdiocese



The St. Claret Maternity Unit represents a significant milestone in improving maternal healthcare in Uganda's rural communities. Through the joint efforts of dedicated organizations and individuals, mothers and babies in Nyabwina and surrounding areas now have access to essential, life-saving medical care. The success of this project underscores the importance of global partnerships in advancing healthcare accessibility and quality.

## RWANDA

**Project Overview:** St. Rita Maternity Unit

**Project Location:** Ruhango District, Southern Rwanda

**Village:** Ruhango

**Medical Equipment & Operational Support**

**Provided By:** MaterCare International

**Local Partner:** Pallottine Sisters

## RWANDA

**Project Overview:** Masaka Maternity Unit

**Project Location:** Gasabo District, City of Kigali

**Village:** Masaka

**Renovations Provided By:**

**MaterCare International**

**Medical Equipment Provided By:**

**MaterCare International**

**Local Partner:** Pallottine Sisters

**Blessing Ceremony:** December 3, 2025



"The facilities in Rwanda showed us what can be done with good intentions, good planning and good funding. After 20+ years on the Board of MaterCare, the 4 newborns in the clean and modern facilities built by the Polish Foundation and equipped by MaterCare made me cry and cry. THIS is what we work for. THIS is what we give for." Theresa Winchester, MaterCare Board Chair



# Prayer & Faith



**2025 was an office Year of Jubilee for our global church. In honour of this important year, we launched a prayer initiative.**

The last major official events of the 2025 Jubilee will be the closing of Rome's four Holy Doors, accompanied by the solemn closing rites and the celebration of Mass. The last Holy Door to close will be that of St. Peter's Basilica on January 6th at 9:30 am, with a Closure Rite and Mass presided over by Pope Leo XIV. The Holy Year officially concludes with the celebrations of the Feast of the Epiphany.

Across all MaterCare Media platforms, we have recognized the growing need for intercessory prayer. We introduced the MaterCare Prayer submission process in 2025, visit [www.matercare.org/prayer](http://www.matercare.org/prayer) to submit your prayer requests.



# Looking Ahead

In the coming year, we will focus on supporting Catholic health care workers in the field of maternal health, hosting the 2026 Rome Conference and providing avenues for deeper collaboration and mentorship.

Visit [www.matercare.org/events](http://www.matercare.org/events)

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## PROJECT FORECAST: 2026

### **Nyabwina, Uganda**

The opening of the St. Claret Maternity Unit was in February 2025. MaterCare equipped and furnished the health centre. MaterCare is looking to renovate the former school in the St. Claret Health Centre compound to provide maternity outpatient services freeing up space in the health centre. MaterCare is currently working to expand the project to provide maternal health care at the village level with small outpatient clinics in 2 distant villages. Plans are in place to begin training of staff in the Billings Ovulation method, a modern and effective Fertility Awareness Method (FAM) of natural family planning. MaterCare will also provide emergency transport and emergency communication in this region for high risk mothers.

### **Ruhango, Rwanda**

The St. Rita Maternity Unit, which opened in 2022, is looking to expand services to level 3 health centre which will require an operating room and a full time obstetrician pending approval. MaterCare is currently waiting for health authorities in Uganda to approve the request. MaterCare will look to construct an addition onto the existing maternity health centre, complete with an operating room and the necessary equipment.

### **Kipkorion, Kenya**

MaterCare is currently evaluating a project in Kipkorion, Kenya to provide comprehensive rural obstetrical care for mothers in this region. There are currently no maternal health services with most mothers delivering at home without any care. MaterCare will conduct a Needs Assessment to evaluate the full maternal health scope of the region. MaterCare would work with The Watoto - Dzieci Afryki Polish Foundation in the construction of a maternity health centre to be furnished and equipped by MaterCare in addition to contributing to the provision of health care management and operations.

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Together, we are proving that maternal mortality is not inevitable and that respectful, life-affirming care can transform outcomes for both mothers and their children.

We are deeply grateful for your trust in MaterCare's mission and stewardship. Your partnership enables us to continue this vital work with integrity, professionalism, and compassion. Thank you for walking alongside us as we strive to protect life, uphold dignity, and ensure safer motherhood for generations to come.

With sincere gratitude,  
MaterCare International

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