

## INNOVATION TO MAXIMIZE ACCESS TO QUALITY PRIMARY HEALTHCARE

#### WHY DO WE NEED TO INNOVATE?

Progress in global health does not reach everybody. In the countries D-tree works in (Tanzania, Zanzibar, Malawi and Zambia) many people don't have access to or don't utilize life-saving primary healthcare services. Reasons include geographic, educational and cultural factors. We believe innovation can create and increase access to quality primary healthcare and maximize access.

#### **HUMANITY**

We innovate to reduce inequalities and come closer to our vision that every person has the opportunity to live a healthy, happy, long and fulfilling life.

### **COLLABORATION**

We develop innovations together with partners who complement us to find solutions that work for the people we serve and that can be adopted and adapted by others.

#### **IMPACT**

We focus on innovations that have a tangible, meaningful impact on people's lives.

## A STRONG FOUNDATION FOR INNOVATION

We are not starting from zero. D-tree began over 20 years ago as one of the original pioneers of digital health demonstrating how digital innovation could dramatically improve the quality of care delivered by frontline health workers in low-and-middle income countries. Our early innovations spanned 16 countries, demonstrating the life-saving impact of digital tools, and later helping create the WHO guidelines to make digital health a widely accepted part of global health system strengthening.

Today, we continue to push the envelope for primary healthcare transformation in the countries we work in through initiatives like:

- Precision Community Health to provide targeted, individualized interventions that improve health outcomes of pregnant women.
- Closing the referral loop to make sure mothers and children seek and get important health services by connecting community health workers, private drug dispensaries, and public health facilities.

INNOVATION IS MEANINGFUL ONLY IF IT BRINGS A TANGIBLE AND SUSTAINABLE CHANGE AT THE SYSTEMS LEVEL.



# THIS ENABLES US TO DEPLOY INNOVATIONS THAT CAN BE RAPIDLY INCORPORATED INTO HEALTH SYSTEMS, SCALED AND EVALUATED FOR IMPACT.

We have become trusted partners to national and local governments and local implementing partners. This enables us to deploy innovations that can be rapidly incorporated into health systems, scaled and evaluated for impact. In Zanzibar, for example, we worked in partnership with the government to bring a digitally enabled community health platform to national scale - one of the only examples of a national program globally, where each household has access to a Community Health Worker and where collected data is used at facility, district and Ministry level. There is tremendous potential to leverage this national infrastructure and data set to introduce innovations and conduct research.

#### **WHAT WE OFFER**

To us, digital technology is a means to an end, and innovation is meaningful only if it brings a tangible and sustainable change at the systems level. This systems-level innovation is much broader and more complex than technical or technological innovation. It requires a structured and methodical approach to ensure we use our resources well, and demonstrate and maximize health impact.

Complex challenges cannot be tackled alone. We will build a partner network and demonstrate how we leverage our teams and programs to innovate and succeed together. This will enable us to then turn it

up a notch and intensify our efforts to support peer organizations in adopting innovations in their contexts.

Are you passionate about making primary healthcare more people-centered to increase quality and access? Work with us! We have:

- Strong relationships with governments and other partners which enables us to facilitate local buy-in, participation or ownership, and to rapidly start up projects.
- A growing network of local and global internal and external experts who can complement the strengths of your team and who can help adapt ideas or prototypes to local contexts. This includes software engineers, data scientists, public health experts and subject matter experts in different health areas.
- Experience in conducting or facilitating implementation or operations research, including interaction with local research bodies and regulatory authorities.
- Long running programs with longitudinal data that can be used to inform, validate and refine your concepts, prototypes and data models, and that can be adjusted to your specific data needs.

All of this puts us in a position where we are able to conduct and support the whole innovation process from ideation to scale, to test and validate, to customize solutions to specific contexts, and to investigate integrations into the healthcare system.

**Join us** to bring ideas from prototypes to scalable solutions that improve people's lives.