

My name is Agnes and I am the head of Matyazo Health Center's PMTCT program.  
PMTCT is the Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission of HIV.

I have been supporting the center since 2002. It is very demanding work due to the large number of patients we have to take care of, as well as the quality time and emotional counseling sessions we conduct. I am regularly at the center far beyond normal working hours.

When I began my work HIV service delivery in the country had many challenges related to inadequate medical supplies, expensive user fees and high levels of HIV-related stigma. Due to the work of

"I am proud of my contribution to the community and happy to see reduction of children getting infected through the successful PMTCT program in Matyazo.

At one point I left the program due to exhaustion. Three months later I returned because of my belief in the work of the center. I am deeply committed to the children in the program

I believe counseling and home visits are critical. Because of time I am not always able to provide full justice sometimes to these visits. I know more support is needed. When I can, I like to help in the maternity unit.

A major concern is "Teenage pregnancy. "I have an 18-year-old daughter and a 16-year-old son. I openly talk to them about reproductive health and they share their concerns and questions. We still need more education for our teenagers about HIV and pregnancy.