# Faith-engaged community posts associated with over 1200% increase in new HIV case ascertainment, with high linkage and retention, Zambia

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#### BACKGROUND & DESCRIPTION

In March 2018, to increase HIV case-finding, linkage, and retention particularly among men and children, Circle of Hope (CoH) and Catholic Relief Services (CRS) started engaging faith leaders and deploying faith community members to de-centralized community posts (CPs).

Trained clinicians conducted SDART initiations at times and places convenient to the patient

All staff was trained to complete registers and capture data in SmartCare, and was hired from trusted members of local community motivated by the RECIPE

CHWs trained to use a mix of testing approaches

Peer to peer mentoring facilitates skills transfer

CHWs received stipends to reach contacts and community members

Motivation via daily WhatsApp and quarterly, non-monetary, recognition and awards to CHWs

#### **DECENTRALIZATION of SERVICE DELIVERY to OVERCOME ACCESS BARRIERS:**

CPs are located in areas of high commercial activity such as marketplaces, bus stops, churches

CPs are staffed by a multidisciplinary team.



#### **ACCEPTABILITY by the SERVICE UTILIZER:**

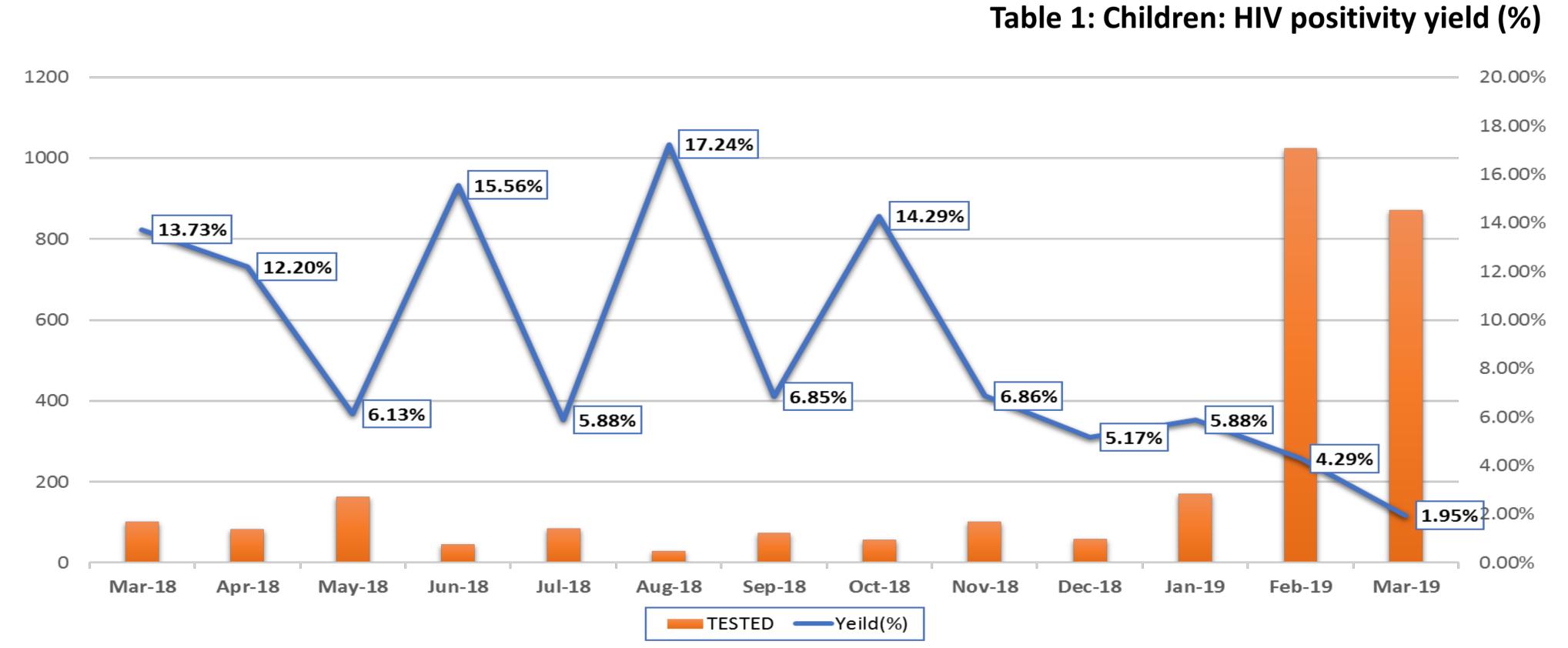
Community trust is built through early and continued engagement of local faith leaders and expert clients

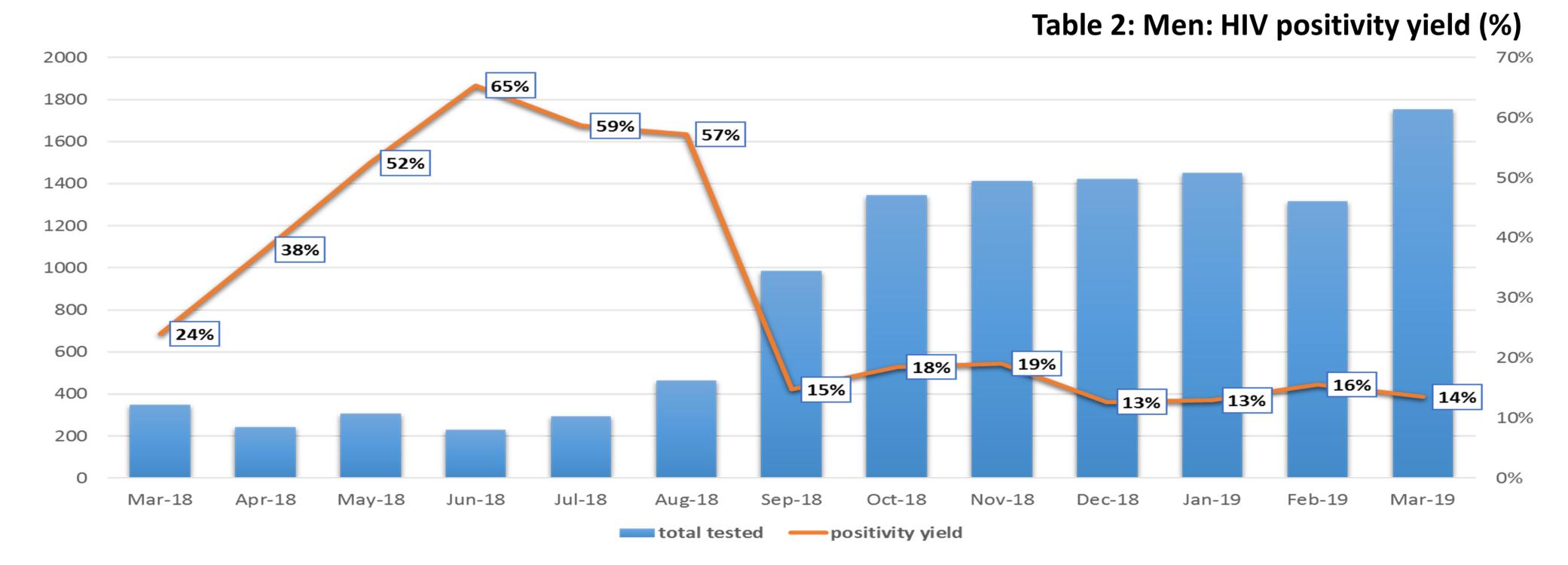


#### **CARE of CARERS:**

Build leadership capacity of all staff - 'RECIPE': Responsibility, Empathy, Compassion, Integrity, Passion, Ethics

### LESSONS LEARNED





# RESPONSABILITY **EMPATHY**

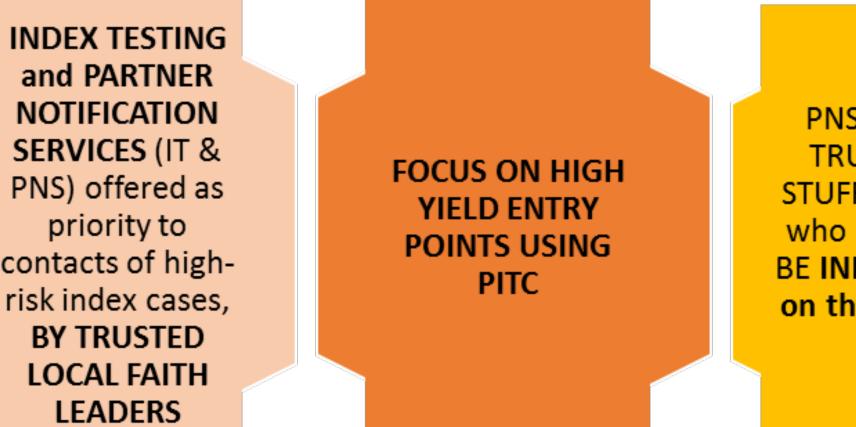
COMPASSION

INTEGRITY

**PASSION** 

**ETHICS** 

## **Case Identification Strategies**



TRUSTED LOCAL STUFF TRAINED in **CORE VALUES and RISK MARKERS USE** Social Network Strategy (SNS) to OFFER PRIORITY (hot spot) LOCATION **TESTING** 

SNS and IT & PNS STRATEGIES are COMBINED

**USING RISK** MARKERS (relationship/substan ce problems, prayer for healing) to **IDENTIFY CANDIDATES** for **RISK** FACTOR SCREENING,

**IMPROVES HTS** 

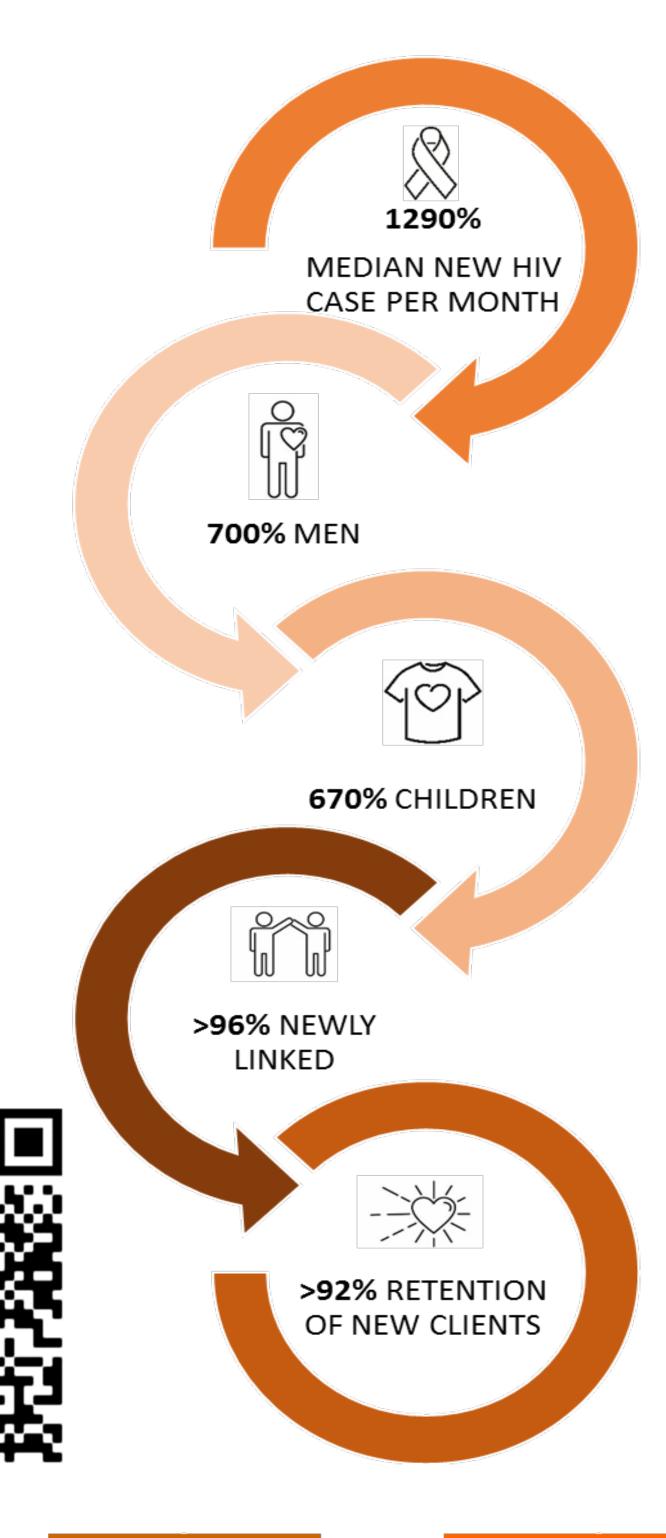
targeting and

efficiency

The faith-engaged CP model results in substantial improvements in casefinding, linkage, and retention.

CONCLUSIONS

Replicating it may help advance epidemic control.





#AIDS2020Virtual

contacts of highrisk index cases, BY TRUSTED **LOCAL FAITH** LEADERS

PNS OFFERED BY TRUSTED LOCAL STUFF to CONTACTS who if positive CAN BE INITIATED on ART on the SAME DAY in the CPs

17 YEARS OF SAVING LIVES THROUGH AMERICAN GENEROSITY AND PARTNERSHIPS