

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

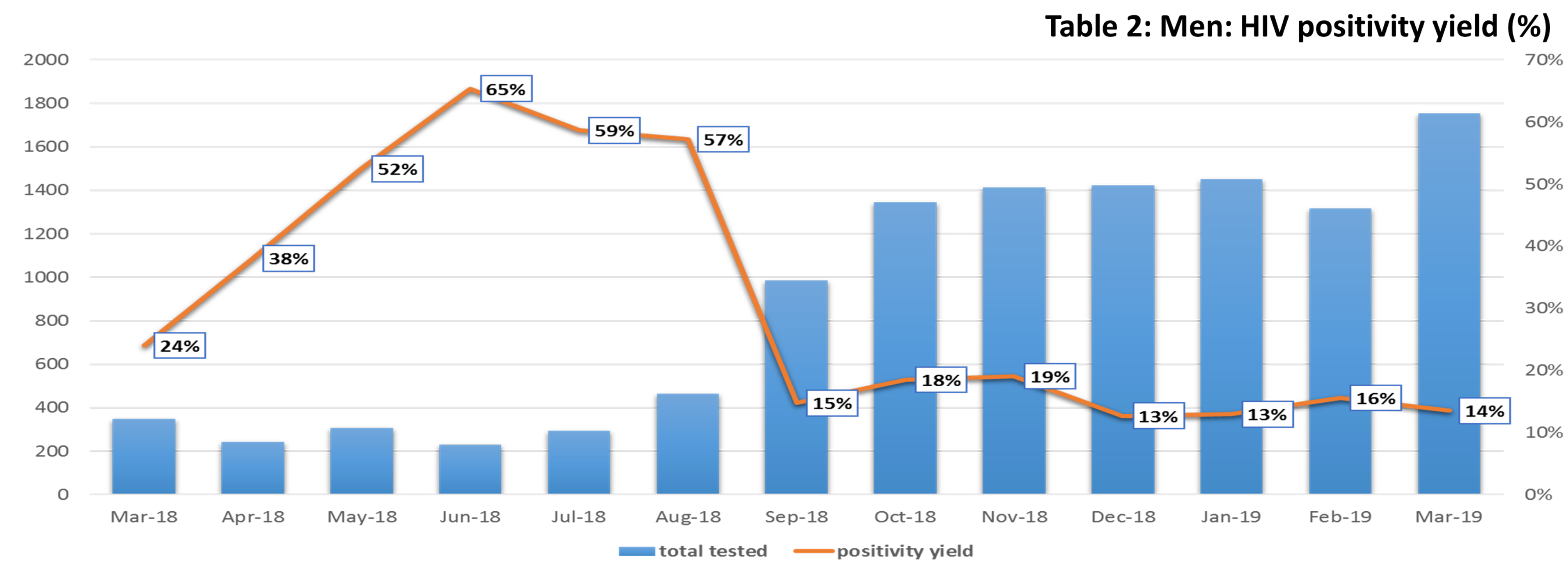
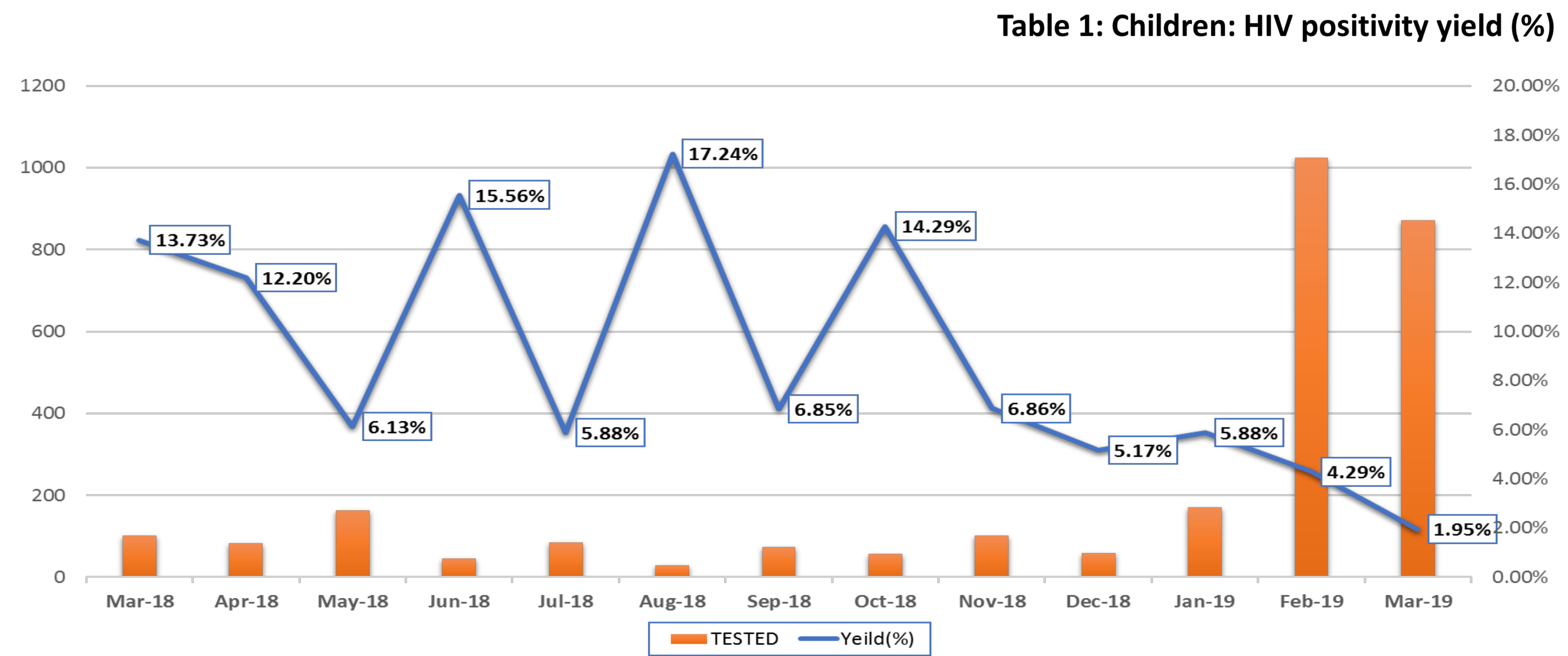
Motivation via daily WhatsApp and quarterly, non-monetary, recognition and awards to CHWs

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*

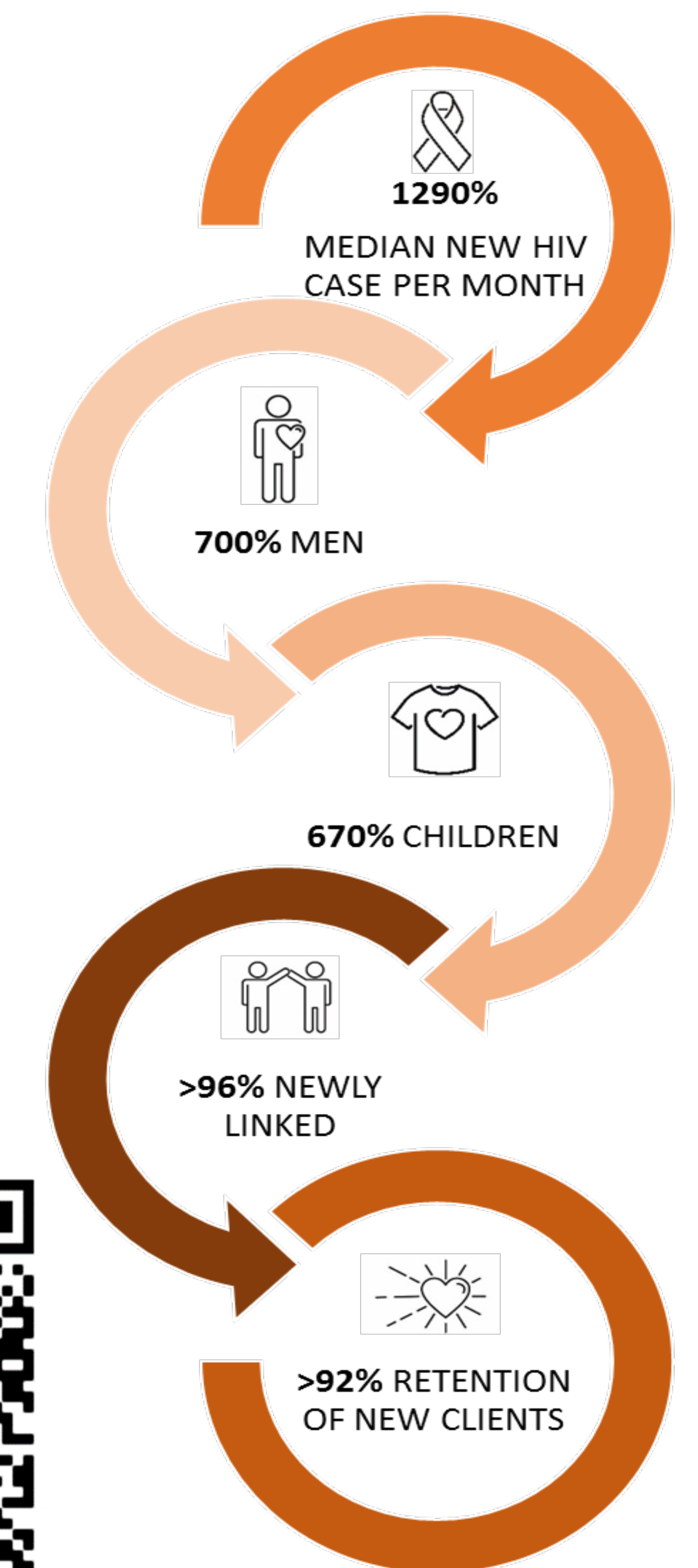
LESSONS LEARNED



CONCLUSIONS

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

Replicating it may help advance epidemic control.



- R** RESPONSABILITY
- E** EMPATHY
- C** COMPASSION
- I** INTEGRITY
- P** PASSION
- E** ETHICS



Case Identification Strategies

