



Funding Level:
\$3,000,000



Duration:
April 2023 – April 2026



Geographic Location:
14 Councils in 2 regions of Tabora and Mbeya



Implementing Partners:
Pact Tanzania,
Tumaini Community Services Organization (TCSO),
Inland Development Trust (IDT)



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Context

Tanzania is classified as a Low Middle Income Country, where 43% of children face a high risk of not achieving their full potential for growth and development due to various critical risk factors, including early stimulation, malnutrition, poverty, food insecurity, family stress, low-quality resources, and child neglect and abuse (NM-ECDP 2021/22-2025/26). Early Childhood Development (ECD) is a crucial stage in a child's life, during which they grow and develop physically, emotionally, socially, and intellectually. The lack of access to quality ECD services can significantly affect children's future development and success. Research has shown that children who do not receive adequate early childhood care and education are more likely to have poor academic performance, lower income as adults, and experience poor health outcomes.

The government of Tanzania recognizes the critical importance of ECD and has taken significant steps to enhance the multi-sectoral approach to young children's nurturing care. For example, the government ratified the UN Convention on the Rights of Children in June 1992 and has enacted and implemented various policies and laws to promote ECD, including the National ECD Policy of 1996, the Child Development Policy of 2008, the Law of the Child Act of 2009, the National Multi-sectoral Early Childhood Development (ECD) program for the period 2021/2022 to 2025/26, National Multi-sectoral Nutrition Action Plan II (NMNAP II – 2021/22-2025/26), and the National Plan of Action to End

Violence against Women and Children (NPA-VAWC 2017/18-2021/22). However, despite these efforts, many Tanzanian children, particularly those from low-income families and rural areas, still lack access to quality ECD services.

In response to these challenges, the ECD Project, funded by the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation, aims to improve ECD services in Tanzania. By working with local organizations and government agencies, the project seeks to provide children from vulnerable households access to high-quality ECD services that promote their physical, emotional, social, and cognitive development.

Overview of the Project

The Hilton Foundation funds the Early Childhood Development (ECD) Project. The project's primary objective is to provide complementary integrated ECD services to vulnerable households in Tanzania. To achieve its objectives, the ECD project is integrated with the Adolescents and Children HIV Incidence Reduction, Empowerment, and Virus Elimination (ACHIEVE) project, which is led by Pact and funded by the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) through the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). ACHIEVE focuses on improving the health and well-being of orphans and vulnerable children, particularly those living with HIV/AIDS or at high risk of contracting HIV. The ECD Project has the following objectives;

01. Improve multi-sectoral engagement to ensure the provision of nurturing care services for children 0-3 years in vulnerable households.
02. Strengthen the capacity of families to practice a continuum of child-centered, age-appropriate, play-based stimulation, learning, and nurturing care.
03. Develop documentation of the ECD service delivery model and outcomes for OVC 0-3 reached.



Target Population:



6,000

households



7,000

children aged 0-3 years already enrolled under the ACHIEVE project.



Priority Households are those with:-

HIV-positive children,
HIV-positive caregivers,
HIV-exposed infants,
Young parents/caregivers,
Destitute households.



Service Components



Responsive Caregiving and Early Learning

- Empower caregivers to provide age-appropriate play-based, early learning, and stimulation activities.
- Special focus on young mothers <20 caregivers.
- Build caregivers' skills to develop no/low-cost materials.
- Strengthen male engagement in care for child practices.
- Improve parent to child interaction and age-appropriate play based learning.



Good Health

- Improve proper health practices including proper vaccination.
- Referral services to need-based health and social services, such as addressing developmental delays



Safety/Security

- Promote birth registration.
- Addressing VAC/GBV cases through referral services



Adequate Nutrition

- Improve nutrition services by conducting nutrition status assessments and providing nutrition supplements to needy people
- Promote proper infant and young child feeding practices. Including breastfeeding and complementary feeding practices



Pact is an international nonprofit that works in nearly 40 countries building solutions for human development that are evidence-based, data-driven, and owned by the communities we serve. Founded in 1971, Pact works with partners to build resilience, improve accountability, and strengthen knowledge and skills for sustainable social impact. Since 2001, we have been working in Tanzania to help people and communities build their own capacity to generate income, improve access to quality health services, and gain lasting benefits from the sustainable use of natural resources around them to benefit future generations.

About Conrad N. Hilton Foundation

International hotelier Conrad N. Hilton established the grant-making foundation that bears his name in 1944 to help people living in poverty and experiencing disadvantages worldwide. Today, the work continues, concentrating on efforts to ensure healthy early childhood development and sustainable livelihoods for youth, support young people transitioning out of foster care, improve access to housing and support services for people experiencing homelessness, identify solutions to safe water access, and lift the work of Catholic sisters. The Foundation is one of the world's largest, with approximately \$6.7 billion in assets. It has awarded grants to date totaling more than \$3 billion, \$435 million worldwide in 2022. Please visit www.hiltonfoundation.org for more information.