“To make people count, we first need to be able to count people.”
— Dr LEE Jong-wook, Former Director-General WHO (2004-2006)

ChildCount+ is an mHealth platform developed by the Millennium Villages Project aimed at empowering communities to improve child survival and maternal health. ChildCount+ uses SMS text messages to facilitate and coordinate the activities of community-based health care providers, usually community health care workers (CHWs). Using any standard phone, CHWs are able to use text messages to register patients and report their health status to a central web dashboard that provides a real-time view of the health of a community. Powerful messaging features help facilitate communication between the members of the health system and an automated alert system helps reduce gaps in treatment.

5 Goals of ChildCount+

Register Every Child & Pregnant Woman - Create a “living” registry of all children under five and pregnant women in a community. Record all births, deaths and pregnancies.

Routine Nutrition Screening Every 90 Days - Monitor the nutrition of every child from 6 months to 5 years every 90 days. When a child with acute malnutrition is detected the program provides support based on community-based management of acute malnutrition protocols.

Treatment Support for Malaria, Diarrhea and Pneumonia – track and treat the three major preventable causes of death in children under 5. Childcount+ manages clinic referrals and CHW follow-up visits.

Complete Immunization for All Children - Track the immunization status and follow-up with defaulters to ensure that every child completes their immunization schedule.

Comprehensive Antenatal and Post-Natal Care – Ensure that every pregnant woman attends at least 4 antenatal appointments and every child attends every childhood health appointment from 6 weeks to 18 months old.

Additional Plug-In Modules for Prevention of Mother-to-Child Transmission of HIV and Tuberculosis

How It Works

A community health worker (CHW) who has been registered with the system visits a household and performs a nutritional screening for all children 5 years and younger. They perform a MUAC (Mid-Upper Arm Circumference) and check for Oedema which is swelling of the body, a sign of severe acute malnutrition (SAM). They fill out a form, and send a formatted text message into the system.

CHW sends a formatted SMS
D324F +M 110 Y

ChildCount+ Sends an instant response with instructions
MUAC> Child +28 Fatimata Diallo F/13M has SAM+.

Please bring child in for IMMEDIATE inpatient care.