



Tim Nicholls

Host organization: mothers2mothers (South Africa)

iCats role: Technical Project Manager & Analyst

iCats duration: Feb – Dec 2012 (full-time)

Degree: MBA Torcuato de Tella (Buenos Aires),
BBA Washington State University

Professional experience: 9 years professional experience in software development, technical consulting and international marketing

Summary

Tim coordinated the development and roll-out of a large-scale mHealth system that increases the efficiency and effectiveness of the m2m intervention to reduce mother to child transmission of HIV/AIDS. The seamless tracking of key patient data using cell phones results in better service delivery and higher reach in rural areas. This contributes directly to more babies being born without HIV/AIDS.

The problem m2m aims to tackle

- 1000 babies born with HIV daily in Africa
- In South Africa 35% of child deaths are caused by AIDS
- Mother-to-child transmission is avoidable, but lack of resources & stigma prevent the HIV+ women from seeking medical support



m2m solution

- Hires and trains HIV+ mothers to provide peer education to other HIV+ mothers
- Access to life-sustaining medical care, education and empowerment tools to prevent mother-to child transmission of HIV/AIDS during and after pregnancy

“Living in Cape Town ignited a spirit of innovative thinking to foster a more creative lifestyle and appreciate the people around me.”

m2m’s challenges

- Design, implement and rollout a solution to track mother and baby to increase validity of reporting and patient adherence
- Lack of strategic, IT, and operational skills in the area of mHealth



Opportunity for an iCats Fellow

There was an opportunity for an iCat Fellow to fill the lack of human capital, m2m required to design and roll-out their mHealth solution

“I learned valuable operational and management skills to achieve optimal results and drive impact”
Tim

Tim's achievements ...



- Facilitated the development and implementation of a large scale mHealth system
-> Scale the Mother Baby Pair Tracking program from 5 to 42 sites helping over 150'000 HIV positive women
- Complimented the transition toward the new digital mHealth records based on a mHealth strategy centered on electronic health information management, enterprise networking, technology integration, and business intelligence incorporation
- Implemented a training and support strategy centered around using the devices and managing the information
-> Trained mentor mothers to move away from a paper based system towards the new mHealth solution

Tims' next challenge

After his Fellowship, Tim works as an IT Consultant with LGT Venture Philanthropy to redesign and strengthen the iCat Program's IT systems and processes

...contributing to m2m's impact



- m2m enrolled 210'000 HIV+ pregnant women in 7 countries to their program
- 1'500 mentor mothers were employed by m2m providing steady income and skills development to HIV+ mothers
- UN has adopted the mentor mother model from m2m and has set ambitious targets to eradicate the transmission of HIV from mothers to babies by 2015
- Transition from a paper-based system to electronic management of client data providing vital information to Mentor Mothers as well as HIV+ women, ensuring the regular follow up and treatment for effective prevention of mother-to-child-transmission

"Tim has been central in the development of our Information Technology Strategy and launching a major mobile health system." Shungu, South Africa Country Director, m2m