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Practicum Site: Lwala Community Alliance Rongo, Kenya

Practicum Site Supervisor: Daniele Ressler

Monitoring and Evaluation Programs at Lwala Community Alliance

Purpose: Lwala Community Alliance (LCA) is a data-driven non-profit organization with a mission to build the capacity of rural communities to advance their own comprehensive wellbeing. The continual, diligent monitoring and evaluation of LCA's program interventions is essential in order to fulfill their mission. The purpose of the practicum was to assist in the existing monitoring and evaluation projects associated with the Community Health Worker (CHW) program and in the nutrition department.

Design: The goal of the CHW monitoring and evaluation project was to design a three-fold evaluation of its overall effectiveness involving measurements of knowledge, empathy, and perceived supervision. Collaboration between multiple partners who served as respective experts in their field of evaluation contributed to the overall protocol. The aim of the nutrition program was to design an annual survey to provide more comprehensive insight into the nutritional status of members of the catchment area and information on the effectiveness and uptake of the recent nutritional interventions done by LCA.

Outcomes: A draft of the final CHW evaluation protocol was completed and subsequently submitted to the Institutional Review Board (IRB). A final draft of the annual nutrition survey was also completed and was to be conducted in all area households beginning in 2020.

Interpretation: Monitoring and evaluation provides essential information to advise best practices for an organization. The

strategies to evaluate the effectiveness of the existing CHW program, provide baseline information on the nutritional status of the community, and evaluate existing nutritional interventions provide invaluable information to determine future activities at LCA.

