**LISTENING AUNTIES**

**COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH CARE**

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**What is a Listening Auntie?**

A Listening Auntie is a respected woman from the community. These women were chosen by the adolescents and girls in their community as trusted individuals. They were also chosen for their ability to listen and influence others. They then received a 3-day training in advanced listening and mental health referral to prepare for their role. This program is modeled on the Zimbabwe ‘Friendship Bench’ approach.

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**"We listen to the girls attentively in a private place. Then I ask her ‘what do you want to do?’ We listen closely, ask her opinion, and when she tells us her plan, we help her take the proper steps."**

*Listening Auntie*

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**17,000**

During the course of three years, the Listening Aunties were visited over 17,000 times by young women in their communities.

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**405**

Women Are Trained As Aunties In Nawabganj Sub-District

All Listening Aunties are unpaid volunteers.

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**97%**

Among females in the intervention area who knew who the Listening Aunties were, nearly 97% would recommend them to a friend.

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**What Issues are Aunties Seen for?**

- School Concerns
- Suicide
- Menstrual Concerns
- Child Marriage
- Sexual Harassment
- Parental Pressure
- Domestic Violence
- Unwanted Arranged Marriage
- Sexual Reproductive
- Early Pregnancy
- Harassment Abuse
- Relationship Issues Health

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Want to learn more about Listening Aunties and other mental health initiatives at LAMB?

Contact mentalhealth@lambproject.org.