

Voices of Hope

Mexico

Maternal Health

Adelaida Leonides might not be able to read but she is positively contributing to the maternal health of her country. Adelaida is a midwife in Mexico, a country that has historically struggled with its maternal death rate. In 2011, the country's maternal mortality was 67 per 100,000, compared to Canada's rate of 8 for the same year.

To help address the issue, PWRDF works with Kinal Antzetik, a Mexican non-profit organization, in developing a training program for midwives and other community health practitioners. This initiative teaches midwives and others both the traditional and technical aspects of women's health and safety.

Adelaida is a participant in Kinal's program. Like Adelaida, many of the midwives in Mexico are illiterate. Kinal has accommodated for this by focusing on illustrations and symbols in its teaching materials rather than written texts.

As Mexico works towards reducing its maternal death rate, the program's benefits are already being seen as Adelaida and other trainees treat women in community health centres and advise mothers on proper maternal health care.



The Primate's World Relief and Development Fund

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