

With your donation, you are helping young women in South Sudan to receive training as a midwife and also to reduce maternal and infant mortality rates.

Child and maternal mortality rates are extremely high in South Sudan. Training young women as midwives saves lives. At the same time, it also provides genuine professional prospects.

Giving birth always comes with big risks in poorer countries. However, nowhere in the world do more women die during pregnancy or birth than in South Sudan. The infant mortality rate is also shockingly high: 64 in 1,000 children do not live to see their first birthday (Germany: 3.3 in 1,000 children).

South Sudan is one of the least developed countries in Africa. Pregnant women there often have no access to adequate medical care. As a rule, women marry and have children at a very young age. As there are hardly any trained midwives, many give birth at home with the assistance of traditional birth attendants. These are often not in a position to deal correctly with any complications that may occur. There is a great need for professional obstetric care for mother and child.

## Practical training with a future

With its midwifery school in Juba, the Presbyterian Church of South Sudan (PCOSS) is helping to meet the high demand for professional obstetric care. Each year, roughly 60 young women embark on the three-year training programme. The trainee midwives are taught midwifery, anatomy and physiology, as well as English, mathematics and first aid. Regular internships allow them to put what they have learned into practice and to exchange views and experiences with their future colleagues.

## Prevention and education

An important aspect of the training is the cooperation with local hospitals and traditional birth attendants. The role of trained midwives also includes prevention and information. They perform immunisations and provide information on general health issues. This way, not only do mothers and children benefit from their work in the long-term, but also the entire population.

## **DONATE**

**Donation Account: BMDZ** Evangelische Bank eG IBAN DE91 5206 0410 0000 0011 80, BIC GENODEF1EK1 Reference "South Sudan: Midwifery School"

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