

Helping ensure the beginning is never an end



“A mother’s life or death directly impacts her family. Merck for Mothers understands that saving the lives of mothers can have a multiplier effect on families.



Somewhere in the world a woman dies every two minutes from complications related to pregnancy or childbirth—a preventable tragedy in our modern world. Maternal health isn’t just a priority, it’s vital for a lifetime of benefits for women and their impact on family and society. To help ensure these healthy beginnings, Merck’s efforts have been purposeful and transformative. Launched in 2021, the Kenneth C. Frazier Award for Maternal Health Equity is a symbol of this commitment to a global cause that supports the health and well-being of those involved in childbirth—both mother and child—and their future impact

on our world. Forging this path are exceptional leaders and community-based organizations who are helping change the trajectory of maternal health. The Frazier Award for Maternal Health Equity is a recognition of those tireless efforts to rise to the challenge, and has been instrumental in connecting people and organizations to partner and co-create ways to help women access critical care around pregnancy and childbirth. This prestigious grant award is given every year to advance this vision and commitment to quality maternal health care for all, leading to improved outcomes for women and children worldwide.

2025 Award Recipient





2025

LOCATION

Türkiye

MISSION

Provide a mobile health platform that connects refugee populations with existing health care worldwide.

WEBSITE

heradigitalhealth.org

When women flee their homes, their health care should follow. HERA is a refugee-led mobile health platform, giving displaced women access to maternal care through a WhatsApp AI chatbot that speaks their language and understands their cultural realities. HERA creates portable health records that cross borders, provides trustworthy and culturally grounded guidance, and offers care navigation that works on any phone—a chatbot that becomes a lifeline. It has 250,000 users with potential to scale to 300,000 with support from the Frazier Award.

HERA impacts entire communities through accessible technology, leveraging mobile platforms that center on culturally grounded multi-lingual support and provide continuity of care.

Past Honorees



2024

Moving Health



LOCATION

Ghana

MISSION

Provides emergency transportation designed for maternal health and emergency care in remote areas

WEBSITE

moving.health

Moving Health was recognized for tackling a critical gap in maternal health: lack of safe, reliable transportation to medical care. Low-cost ambulances and partnerships with midwives and community leaders give pregnant women faster, life-saving access to health in ‘last-mile’ communities. Building on Moving Health’s locally grounded and sustainable mission, the Frazier Award supported expansion to new regions, helping to ensure that no woman is left behind in an emergency.



2023

ARMMAN



LOCATION

India

MISSION

Leverages technology to enable healthy pregnancy, safe delivery, and safe childhood

WEBSITE

armman.org

System gaps in health care often mean that timely information and care don’t reach women who need it most. ARMMAN bridges this divide by leveraging mobile technology and existing health systems to encourage women with life-saving information during pregnancy and early childhood. ARMMAN’s equity-driven, gender-transformative approach is proof that delivering information through technology when it matters and where it’s needed can change health outcomes at scale.



2022

Mali Health



LOCATION

Mali

MISSION

Improves maternal and child health by supporting women, communities, and the community health system to develop local solutions that help ensure every mother and child has access to quality primary care

WEBSITE

malihealth.org

Mali Health’s comprehensive programs received the Frazier Award for quality maternal care that’s not just medical but social, financial, and geographic. Their programs emphasize community-led solutions for women, connecting them to health information and skilled midwives, and with each other. Mali Health is evolving a new model of women-empowered maternal health that works at scale.



2021

Sinergias



LOCATION

Colombia

MISSION

Develop and execute projects and programs that facilitate the implementation of best practices, the strengthening of local capacities and the impact on public policies to promote the health, well-being, and social development of all people

WEBSITE

sinergiasong.org

Sinergias was honored as the first recipient of the Frazier Award for co-creating respectful, culturally relevant maternal health care with indigenous and rural communities. They became a powerful advocate for equity and dignity in care by positioning women as leaders in their own health care systems. Sinergias is a reminder that health equity begins with listening and creating systems that adapt to people and their health needs and not the other way around.