

## **“Health for all in Upper Nile, South Sudan”**

*Peter Nuer, Health Officer-JUNS  
Save the Children*

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Save the children inaugurated Maiwut PHCC in March 2008, a permanent structure built with support from the Basic Services Fund (BSF).

As part of their support to primary health, health facilities provide out-patient and in-patient care, diagnosis and drug treatment, MCH, EPI, VCT and health education.

As part of the health education outreach at Maiwut Primary Health Care Clinic, Andrew, the Clinical Officer, talked about the importance of modern medicines, which have limited harm unlike traditional medicines, and can help with many physical problems.

Mary Nyayop Chuol attended the session. She had spent five years in marriage without conception. As children are very important in Southern Sudan, her in-laws and husband were giving her a hard time, blaming her for the lack of children. She had tried other ways of becoming pregnant like going to the traditional healers and using herbal medicines but all in vain.

During the session Mary learned that she should try modern medicine. Shortly after the session she came to the PHCC. The Clinical Officer tested her for STDs and prescribed treatment for her and her husband.

Within two months Mary conceived and is due to give birth to a baby at the end of this year. Mary realized that modern medicine is far better than the traditional medicines and now encourages her friends to also use the health facility to help them. She also makes regular ante-natal visits to the clinic.

In partnership with Save the Children, BSF has supported one PHCC and three PHCUs in Maiwut County, two PHCUs in Longechuk County and four PHCUs in Maban County since 2006.