



## **Saving Mothers and NGO Committee on Sustainable Development-NY Strategic Partnership for the United Nations & Communities Globally**

*Two leading organizations proudly join forces to deliver low cost-high impact solutions  
to reduce maternal death rates in developing countries.*

NGO Committee on Sustainable Development-NY and Saving Mothers have teamed up to address the global maternal health crisis by providing greater access to low-cost, high-impact solutions in order to reach more women worldwide. With over 300,000 women dying needlessly each year in childbirth, maternal death has been a global health crisis of epic proportion for far too long.

Saving Mothers was founded by a group of healthcare professionals as a non-profit organization dedicated exclusively to addressing this challenge. Led by Dr. Taraneh Shirazian, Director of Global Women's Health for NYU's College of Global Public Health, the organization's mission is to eradicate preventable maternal death through education, intervention, and the application of practical, low-cost, high-impact solutions. One of these proven solutions is the Safe Birth Kit. The Safe Birth Kit is a small portable bag containing everyday items that can save a mother's life: a drape to provide a clean surface for delivery, gloves, a razor blade to safely cut the umbilical cord, two cord clamps and soap to cleanse the mother's perineum – all ordinary items that are essential to preventing the spread of infection during delivery. The Saving Mothers Safe Birth Kit is unique because of the range of key components included and the field-tested pictorial instructions which emphasize the urgency of hospital referral in case of warning signs.

“The partnership with the NGO Committee on Sustainable Development-NY will enable Saving Mothers to reach a far broader number of pregnant women in need within underserved communities around the world,” stated Dr. Taraneh Shirazian, the President and Co-Founder of Saving Mothers, “Providing this access will ensure that Saving Mothers can continue its efforts to reduce maternal morbidity rates, bringing us closer to our goal of eradicating preventable death during childbirth within the next decade.” Ms. Margo LaZaro, President and Chair of the NGOCS-D-NY stated: “the NGOCS-D-NY Executive Board is proud to welcome Dr. Taraaneh Shirazian and her Saving Mothers team of health care professionals to the United Nations community to support their outstanding work to save women globally with their Safe Birthing Kits to, Leave No One Behind.”

### **About Saving Mothers**

Saving Mothers is a 501c3 not-for-profit organization dedicated to eradicating preventable maternal deaths and birth-related complications. Founded in 2009 by medical professionals, Saving Mothers seeks to improve health outcomes for women in the most underserved global communities. Saving Mothers brings low-cost, high-impact solutions to bear in solving these challenges. Saving Mothers currently has operations in Kenya, Guatemala, and the Dominican Republic.

Over 300,000 women in developing nations die during childbirth each year. The vast majority of these deaths are due to lack of access to basic sexual and reproductive care. In response to this crisis, the New York-based team of Ob/Gyn doctors at Saving Mothers provides surgical outreach, trains local health providers in limited-resource settings, and provides ongoing material support through the distribution of Safe Birth Kits and other medical supplies to hospitals and clinics where there is the greatest need. Saving Mothers works with governments as well as local organizations to deploy medical innovations and educational programming that can be sustained and supported over time. Saving Mothers works in tandem with community partners to customize interventions to fit seamlessly within

a diversity of cultural and development contexts, and we develop strategic plans to ensure continued improvement to maternal and infant health indicators.

To learn more please visit: <http://www.savingmothers.org>

### **About the UN NGO-Committee on Sustainable Development-NY**

The NGO-Committee on Sustainable Development-NY is a 501.C3 not-for-profit organization that passionately supports the UN Charter: “We the Peoples of the of the United Nations and the UN 17 Sustainable Development Goals with their 169 Targets adopted by 193 Heads of State in 2015. We actively engage with the United Nations and communities globally by promoting and facilitating knowledge sharing and the dissemination of information while championing partnership building for sustainable development with all stakeholders. By raising awareness of an action agenda for the UN 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda to “Leave No One Behind.” The team from the NGOCS-D-NY work with Ambassadors and Permanent Missions to the United Nations, members of civil society, academia, women, youth, people with disabilities, indigenous leaders, and the private sector along with sustainable development experts in energy, water, health, education, climate change, and infrastructure to bring about partnerships and collaborations with gender equality that foster innovative solutions for the sustainable development goals through inclusive social impact initiatives. Our motto is: “*Turn Your Passions into Actions for Change*”

To learn more please visit: <http://ngocsd-ny.org/contact-1/>

*\*We dedicate our Saving Mothers & NGO Committee on Sustainable Development-NY Strategic Partnership in loving memory to: Professor Vicki Jan Isler who represented Mediators Beyond Borders International & NGOCS-D-NY Executive Board at the UN.*

#### **Saving Mothers & NGOCS-D-NY Strategic Partnership Team:**

Dr. Taraneh Shirazian, the President and Co-Founder of Saving Mothers

Ms. Margo LaZaro, President and Chair of the NGOCS-D-NY & UN Rep. Huairou Commission & Global Family

Ms. Mary Ann Tarantula, Zonta International & NGOCS-D-NY Executive Board

Ms. Prabha Sankaranarayan, CEO, Mediators Beyond Borders International & NGOCS-D-NY Executive Board

Ms. Bette Levy, Soroptimist International & World Federation of Mental Health & NGOCS-D-NY

Dr. Padmini (Mini) Murthy MD, Professor/Global Health Director NYMC SHSP MWIA & NGOCS-D-NY Exec. Bd.

Ms. Pamela Morgan, Zonta International & NGOCS-D-NY

Ms. Lisa Gilligan, Executive Director, Saving Mothers

Ms. Christine Fisher, Saving Mothers Executive Board

Ms. Terrie Paladino, Saving Mothers Executive Board

Ms. Samira Sine, Saving Mothers, Executive Board

Ms. Andrea Kutcher, Saving Mothers, Executive Board