## Grow Healthy, Grow Strong Newsletter Issue #15 - May 2024



## **COMING UP NEXT MONTH:**

June is our last month for project implementation for this second year of GROW. Our plans for this month will be less busy due to the local census which is happening at the same time. We will continue to host more parent group discussions in the remaining zones while making plans to expand into Kokopo District.

We have our bi-monthly Nutrition Advocacy Group meeting in early June where key project stakeholders will discuss and advise on various aspects of GROW. This group are responsible for project direction and act as a backstop of activities to ensure they are implemented accordingly.

Photo above: CNAG meeting at the Sinivit LLG office

Photo: Parent group discussion in zone 3, Dadul-Rieit Ward, Sinivit LLG, Warangoi District

## **GROW PROJECT UPDATE**

This month, we were able to complete four parent group discussions in our community engagement activity area. That equates to one group per week, which keeps our project officer Onawuta very busy! The sessions continue to be very popular with locals and we have seen a good turn out from fathers as well as mothers. One of the sessions included a group of ten fathers, which was our biggest so far.

We have also provided the Community Nutrition Advocacy Group (CNAG) with a box of early childhood educational toys and books. This will be brought to parent group discussions to keep children busy during the parent sessions and provides an opportunity for play to improve childhood development such as fine or gross motor skills.

There has also been great linkages between the Sinivit LLG and the Warangoi health facility with Sister Pinggah, the Sister in Charge, updating the CNAG on the number of children identified with stunting. This allows an open communication between the community and the health facility, being accountable to each other and focusing on our aims which are to reduce stunting in children of the local communities.

We are thankful that the Rieit Ward in Pomio district is able to be a great example for us to base experiences on when we expand to the Kokopo area in the coming months.







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