



BABIES ON BOARD!

MEET THE NEXT GENERATION OF OUR MTN FAMILY

Families are like branches on a tree. We grow in different directions, yet our roots remain as one.
- anonymous

What truly defines a family? Without a doubt, the bond of common ancestry brings people together as a unit, but family is also much more than genetics or a surname. At its core, family are the people who support, love and accept us, and those who we feel we can confide in and trust.

Over the years, the Microbicide Trials Network (MTN) has been described as family by many of its global members – where people did not have to look far to find someone to help when needed and where encouragement and support was given freely. Geographical and time zone differences never mattered – we stayed connected – but who could forget the joy we felt being in each other's company at an MTN annual or regional meeting. It felt like a homecoming, like a family reunion, with lots of laughter and an occasional tear.

In the spirit of celebrating who we are, we're sharing photos and stories about our extended MTN family – some of the many babies born to or adopted by MTN staff and researchers over the years of the network's existence, from 2006 to the present. As MTN babies, these beautiful faces represent a hopeful future for us all. Please enjoy our [MTN babies photo gallery](#).

- Clare Collins and Lisa Rossi

Album design: Dave Crowe

"A Look Back ..." is an occasional series to honor the communities, researchers, staff and study participants who have made countless and meaningful contributions to the work of the MTN since 2006.