Frontiers in Community Service and Empowerment e-ISSN: 2827-8747 p-ISSN: 2829-3029
Homepage: ficse.ijahst.org Vol. 4 No.2, pp. 205-216, June 2025
COMMUNITY SERVICE ARTICLE OPEN ACCESS
Manuscript received November 08, 2024; revised December 2, 2024; accepted June 05, 2025; date of publication June 30, 2025.
Digital Object Identifier (**DOI**): https://doi.org/10.35882/ficse.v4i2.89

How to cite: Triana Rahmawati, M. Prastawa ATP, and Liliek Soetjiatie, "Application of Growth Monitoring System Web-Based to Monitor Growth toodler." Frontiers in Community Service and Empowerment, vol. 4, no. 2, pp. 205-216, June 2025

Application of Growth Monitoring System Web-Based to Monitor Growth Toodler

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ABSTRACT Malnutrition and stunting remain critical public health challenges in coastal communities, particularly in Kenjeran Village, Surabaya, where traditional manual monitoring methods have proven inadequate for effective nutritional surveillance among toddlers. The persistent gap between available human resources and technological implementation has hindered early detection of growth abnormalities, necessitating innovative approaches to pediatric health monitoring. This community service program aimed to introduce and implement a web-based Growth Monitoring System (GMS) to enhance the accuracy and efficiency of toddler growth surveillance while empowering health workers and parents through digital health technology. The program was implemented at Posyandu Gelombang Cinta II, Kenjeran Community Health Center, targeting 55 toddlers through a multi-phase intervention approach. Activities included Forum Group Discussions (FGD) with healthcare workers and posyandu cadres, comprehensive training on digital anthropometry, hands-on demonstration of GMS tool operation, and systematic website registration assistance. The system enabled real-time data collection of anthropometric measurements, including weight, height, and nutritional status, through web-based interfaces accessible to both healthcare providers and parents. The implementation successfully enhanced the monitoring capabilities of posyandu cadres, enabling accurate measurement and efficient data input into the integrated system. Healthcare workers demonstrated improved proficiency in operating GMS tools, facilitating early detection of nutritional problems and growth disorders. The program strengthened collaboration between health workers and parents, with enhanced community awareness regarding systematic growth monitoring. Real-time data accessibility through the web platform enabled prompt interventions for toddlers requiring special attention. The web-based Growth Monitoring System significantly improved pediatric health surveillance quality in the target community. The tool handover to Posyandu ensures program sustainability and continued independent monitoring capacity. This digital health intervention demonstrates effective integration of technology in primary healthcare, supporting stunting prevention initiatives and promoting long-term child welfare through systematic, data-driven health monitoring approaches.

INDEX TERMS Growth Monitoring System, Web-based Technology, Toddler Health, Nutritional Status, Digital Anthropometry.

I. INTRODUCTION

Childhood malnutrition, particularly stunting, remains a critical public health challenge globally, affecting approximately 150.2 million children under five years of age in 2024 [1]. Despite concerted international efforts to achieve the World Health Organization's (WHO) global nutrition targets, progress has been insufficient, with projections indicating that the 2030 Sustainable Development Goal target will be missed by 39.5 million children [2]. In 2022, an estimated 149 million children under five were suffering from stunting, with nearly half of all deaths among children under five linked to undernutrition [3]. This persistent challenge is particularly pronounced in low- and middle-income countries, where socioeconomic factors and inadequate health monitoring infrastructure converge to exacerbate nutritional vulnerabilities [4], [5].

Traditional manual monitoring methods employed in primary healthcare facilities have demonstrated significant limitations in facilitating early detection of growth abnormalities and nutritional disorders [6]. Conventional paper-based recording systems are prone to data loss, inconsistent documentation, and delayed intervention, resulting in missed opportunities for timely nutritional support [7]. Furthermore, the lack of real-time data accessibility impedes effective communication between healthcare providers and parents, hindering collaborative efforts in child health management [8]. Regular monitoring of children's nutritional status is essential to prevent micronutrient deficiencies and anthropometric abnormalities, yet parents often fail to adequately evaluate their child's nutritional status without professional guidance [9].

Recent technological advancements have introduced innovative approaches to pediatric health monitoring through digital health interventions. Web-based and mobile health (m-health) monitoring systems have emerged as promising solutions, enabling real-time data collection, analysis, and visualization of anthropometric measurements

[10], [11]. Internet of Things (IoT) technology has been integrated with anthropometric tools to automate measurement processes and enhance precision in nutritional status assessment [12], [13]. IoT technologies for monitoring children's health have shown immense promise in revolutionizing patient care, particularly in addressing obesity and other pediatric health challenges [14].

Digital anthropometry systems incorporating advanced sensor technologies have shown substantial potential in streamlining data collection workflows and reducing human error in pediatric measurements [15]. IoT-based smart monitoring systems measure health conditions such as body temperature, movement, pulse rate, and provide automated alerts to parents through mobile interfaces [16]. Machine learning and artificial intelligence algorithms have been applied to anthropometric data analysis, enabling predictive modeling for early identification of growth disorders and nutritional anomalies [17], [18]. Deep learning models with attention mechanisms have been developed to enhance the accuracy and interpretability of child malnutrition prediction [19]. Artificial intelligence applications in nutrition research have expanded significantly, with increasing publications demonstrating their effectiveness in dietary assessment and nutritional status prediction [20].

Despite these technological advances, significant gaps persist in the practical implementation of digital health solutions within resource-constrained primary healthcare settings, particularly in developing countries [21]. Existing systems often require sophisticated infrastructure, stable internet connectivity, and technical expertise that exceed the capabilities of rural and coastal health facilities [22]. The majority of reported interventions focus on urban populations with reliable technological infrastructure, leaving underserved communities without adequate digital health support [23]. Furthermore, limited attention has been devoted to capacity-building initiatives that empower local healthcare workers to operate and maintain digital monitoring systems independently [24].

Previous research has predominantly emphasized system development and technical innovations without sufficient consideration for sustainability, user-centered design, and long-term community integration [25]. The absence of participatory implementation approaches has resulted in low adoption rates among healthcare providers and caregivers, undermining the potential impact of technological interventions [26]. While machine learning approaches have demonstrated high accuracy in predicting child malnutrition from demographic and health survey data [27], translating these technological innovations into practical, scalable solutions for primary healthcare settings remains challenging. The gap between technological capability and real-world implementation in resource-limited environments continues to hinder progress in addressing childhood malnutrition effectively [28].

This community service program aims to address these critical gaps by introducing and implementing a sustainable, user-friendly web-based Growth Monitoring System (GMS) specifically designed for resource-limited settings. The primary objectives encompass: enhancing the accuracy and efficiency of toddler growth surveillance through digital anthropometry integrated with IoT sensors, empowering healthcare workers and community health cadres with essential technical competencies through comprehensive training programs, and fostering collaborative health monitoring practices between healthcare providers and parents through accessible real-time data sharing platforms. This research makes several significant contributions to the field of pediatric health monitoring and community health empowerment:

1. Development and deployment of a context-appropriate web-based GMS integrated with IoT-enabled anthropometric devices, specifically tailored to the operational constraints and resource limitations of primary healthcare settings in developing countries, ensuring affordability, portability, and ease of maintenance.
2. Implementation of a comprehensive training and mentorship program that systematically develops technical proficiencies among healthcare workers and community health cadres, ensuring sustainable operation and maintenance of digital health infrastructure without continuous external support, thereby promoting long-term program sustainability.
3. Establishment of a participatory approach that actively engages parents, healthcare providers, and local stakeholders in the monitoring process, promoting shared responsibility for child health outcomes and strengthening the primary healthcare delivery system through collaborative decision-making.
4. Generation of empirical evidence demonstrating the feasibility, acceptability, and effectiveness of digital health interventions in improving early detection rates of nutritional problems and facilitating timely clinical interventions within underserved communities, contributing to the broader knowledge base on scalable digital health solutions for childhood malnutrition prevention.

The remainder of this article is organized as follows: Section II describes the methodological approach employed in this community service program, including intervention design, implementation strategies, and evaluation frameworks. Section III presents the results achieved through systematic deployment of the GMS, highlighting improvements in monitoring capabilities, community engagement, and health service quality. Section IV provides a comprehensive discussion of findings, implications for practice, limitations, and comparison with existing literature. Finally, Section V concludes with key takeaways, recommendations for policy and practice, and directions for future digital health initiatives in primary healthcare settings.

II. METHOD

This study employed a community-based participatory research (CBPR) approach to implement and evaluate a web-based Growth Monitoring System (GMS) for toddler health surveillance [29]. The intervention utilized a prospective, non-randomized implementation design conducted through a multi-phase sequential framework. CBPR methodology was selected to ensure equitable partnership between academic researchers and community stakeholders throughout all research phases, facilitating knowledge co-creation and sustainable capacity building [30]. The study was conducted from January 2024 to December 2024, with systematic documentation of implementation processes, stakeholder engagement activities, and outcome assessments.

A. STUDY SETTING AND POPULATION

The intervention was implemented at Posyandu Gelombang Cinta II, situated within the Kenjeran Community Health Center catchment area, Bulak Sub-district, Surabaya City, Indonesia. Kenjeran Village comprises a population of 7,271 residents, including 1,518 children under five years of age. The study setting was purposively selected based on: documented prevalence of childhood malnutrition, reliance on manual paper-based monitoring systems, availability of committed healthcare personnel, and community readiness for technological intervention.

The study population consisted of three distinct stakeholder groups: healthcare providers, including one village midwife responsible for primary health services, nine active Posyandu cadres engaged in routine community health activities, and parents/caregivers of 55 toddlers (aged 0-59 months) registered at Posyandu Gelombang Cinta II. Inclusion criteria for toddler participants required: active registration at the designated Posyandu; age between 0-59 months; and parental consent for participation. No randomization was performed, as all eligible toddlers and their caregivers within the catchment area were invited to participate in the program.

B. INTERVENTION COMPONENTS

The GMS intervention comprised integrated hardware and software components specifically designed for resource-constrained primary healthcare environments. The hardware system consisted of IoT-enabled anthropometric measurement devices, including digital baby scales with integrated height/length measurement capabilities, wireless connectivity modules for automated data transmission, rechargeable battery systems ensuring portability, and modular mechanical components facilitating easy assembly, disassembly, and maintenance [31].

The web-based software platform was developed to enable real-time data capture, storage, analysis, and visualization of anthropometric measurements. The system architecture incorporated: patient registration modules; secure data input interfaces; automated calculation of nutritional status indicators based on WHO growth standards; longitudinal growth tracking dashboards; and alert mechanisms for identifying children requiring clinical attention. The platform was accessible through standard web browsers on various devices, including smartphones, tablets, and desktop computers, ensuring broad accessibility for healthcare providers and parents.

C. IMPLEMENTATION PHASES

The implementation of the Growth Monitoring System (GMS) was carried out through a structured series of phases designed to ensure both methodological rigor and practical applicability in the community context. Each phase was sequentially organized, beginning with preliminary assessments and continuing through training, system deployment, and evaluation. This phased approach facilitated active stakeholder engagement, gradual capacity strengthening, and sustainable integration of the intervention into existing community health practices.

1. PHASE 1: FORMATIVE ASSESSMENT AND STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

Initial activities commenced with Focus Group Discussions (FGD) involving healthcare providers and Posyandu cadres to assess existing monitoring practices, identify implementation barriers, and establish collaborative relationships [32]. FGD sessions, conducted by trained facilitators using semi-structured discussion guides, explored perceptions of current nutritional surveillance systems, technological readiness, and implementation priorities. Data from FGDs informed adaptation of the GMS platform to local contextual requirements. In this stage, the community service team also organized an introductory FGD with Puskesmas staff and cadres to capture community problems and initial understanding.

2. PHASE 2: CAPACITY BUILDING AND TRAINING

Comprehensive training programs were designed and delivered to build technical competencies among healthcare workers and Posyandu cadres. Training curriculum encompassed: theoretical foundations of digital anthropometry and nutritional assessment, hands-on operation of IoT-enabled measurement devices, data entry protocols and quality assurance procedures, interpretation of growth charts and nutritional indicators, troubleshooting common technical issues, and effective communication strategies for counseling parents based on growth data [33]. Training utilized participatory adult learning methodologies, including demonstrations, supervised practice sessions, and competency assessments. Each cadre received individualized coaching until demonstrating proficiency in all essential tasks. In parallel, additional workshops were conducted to prepare training materials, deliver mini-workshops on digital health, and provide continuous guidance from lecturers and students during practice sessions.

3. PHASE 3: SYSTEM IMPLEMENTATION AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Following training completion, the GMS was formally launched at Posyandu Gelombang Cinta II. Implementation activities included: installation and calibration of measurement equipment; establishment of secure internet connectivity; creation of user accounts for authorized personnel; and systematic registration of all eligible toddlers into the database. The research team provided continuous on-site technical assistance during initial implementation weeks, observing measurement procedures, addressing technical challenges, and reinforcing proper protocols [34]. This stage also involved direct mentoring of cadres and caregivers during measurement sessions, assistance with website account registration, and collaborative involvement of students to strengthen field implementation.

4. PHASE 4: MONITORING AND EVALUATION

Systematic monitoring activities were conducted throughout the implementation period to assess program fidelity, identify implementation challenges, and document lessons learned. Monitoring indicators included: frequency of system utilization; accuracy of anthropometric measurements compared to manual methods; completeness of data entry; user satisfaction among healthcare providers and parents; and early detection rates of nutritional problems. Qualitative feedback was continuously collected through informal discussions with stakeholders to inform iterative program refinements. Additionally, joint evaluations were carried out with partners, lecturers, and students to assess the development of the portal, ensure sustainability, and measure the independence of local residents in using the digital health tools.

D. DATA COLLECTION AND INSTRUMENTS

Anthropometric data (weight, height/length) were collected using calibrated digital equipment at routine Posyandu sessions, typically conducted monthly. For infants under 12 months, measurements were obtained in a recumbent position using specialized infant measuring boards. For children 12-59 months, standing height and weight were measured using appropriate equipment. All measurements followed standardized WHO protocols to ensure reliability and validity.

Process evaluation data were collected through: structured observation checklists documenting adherence to measurement protocols; system usage logs automatically recorded by the web platform; training assessment scores; and post-implementation surveys administered to healthcare providers and cadres. Qualitative data were gathered through FGDs and semi-structured interviews conducted at baseline and end-line periods, following the Comprehensive Criteria for Reporting Qualitative Research (CCQR) guidelines to ensure comprehensive documentation and methodological rigor [35].

E. ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS

The community service program adhered to ethical principles governing health interventions. Verbal informed consent was obtained from all parents/caregivers prior to enrolling their children in the monitoring system. Participants were assured of voluntary participation, confidentiality of personal health information, and freedom to withdraw without consequences. The intervention posed minimal risk to participants, as all measurement procedures followed standard clinical protocols. Upon program completion, all equipment and technical resources were donated to Posyandu Gelombang Cinta II to ensure the sustainability of monitoring activities.

F. DATA ANALYSIS

Descriptive statistical analyses were performed to characterize the study population, summarize anthropometric measurements, and assess implementation outcomes. Nutritional status classifications were determined using WHO growth standards and age-specific z-score calculations. Qualitative data from FGDs and interviews were analyzed using reflexive thematic analysis following Braun and Clarke's six-phase framework: familiarization with data through repeated reading of transcripts, generating initial codes systematically across the entire dataset, searching for themes by collating codes into potential patterns, reviewing themes for coherence and distinctiveness, defining and naming themes to capture their essence, and producing the final report with vivid extracts [36], [37]. This iterative analytical process enabled the identification of key themes related to feasibility, acceptability, and contextual factors influencing implementation success.

III. RESULTS

This activity was carried out at Posyandu Gelombang Cinta II, which is one of the posyandu under the guidance of Puskesmas Kenjeran, Bulak Sub-district, Surabaya City. The posyandu has one village midwife in charge of health services, assisted by nine posyandu cadres who actively participate in daily activities. Posyandu Gelombang Cinta II serves 55 toddlers with various health monitoring activities, such as weight and height measurement, immunization, and health education to parents of toddlers to support optimal growth and development.

FIGURE 1. **Posyandu Gelombang Cinta II**

FIGURE 1, The activity began with a briefing and opening by the local village midwife, who explained the purpose and importance of this activity. Afterwards, an explanation session on the use of the Growth Monitoring System (GMS) tool was held for the posyandu cadres. This session aimed to ensure that the cadres understood how to operate the tool to effectively monitor the growth and development of children under five. The explanation includes how to measure the weight and height of toddlers,

e-ISSN: 2827-8747 p-ISSN: 2829-3029
Vol. 4 No.2, pp. 205-216, June 2025

as well as how the data can be input and monitored through a web-based system to support toddler health services. The following are a series of implementation activities that have been carried out:

1. Welcome and Opening: The activity began with a welcome and opening by the local village midwife.
2. Health Briefing: Briefing on the importance of maintaining the health of toddlers and monitoring their growth and development regularly.
3. Tool Installation Preparation: Installation and preparation of Growth Monitoring System (GMS) tools for use in monitoring.
4. Explanation of Tool Use: Training to posyandu cadres on how to use the GMS tool appropriately.
5. Tool Application for Toddlers: Direct demonstration of the application of tools for monitoring toddler growth and development.
6. Tool Application for Infants Under 1 Year: The use of the GMS tool is also applied to infants under 1 year old.
7. Handover of Tool Donation: Official handover of the GMS tool to the posyandu as a form of donation.
8. Closing: The activity was closed with closing remarks from the village midwife.

FIGURE 2. Welcome and opening of the activity

FIGURE 2, On this occasion, we launched a community service activity titled "Application of Growth Monitoring System Web-Based to Monitor Growth of Toddlers." This initiative is designed to introduce and implement a web-based system that enables more accurate and efficient monitoring of toddler growth and development. The program utilizes baby scales as a key tool for measuring essential physical data, such as weight. This data is then seamlessly integrated into a web-based system, allowing for real-time tracking and analysis. The goal is to provide caregivers with accessible, reliable information to support the healthy growth and development of toddlers.

FIGURE 3, Before starting the activity, we emphasized the importance of health, particularly for children, and provided an explanation to the local midwife on how to properly use the tool. This training is crucial because, after completing the community service, we will be handing over the tool to the Integrated Health Post (Posyandu). The midwife will play a key role in ensuring that the tool is used effectively to monitor the growth and development of toddlers. This handover ensures the continuity of the monitoring system and empowers local health workers to provide ongoing care and support to the community.

FIGURE 4, This is the preparation stage of the tool, where the installation of key components takes place. The components


FIGURE 3. Health briefing and tool use

installed include batteries, sensors, and mechanical connections designed for measuring height. The mechanical design has been carefully developed to allow the tool to be easily disassembled and reassembled when needed. This modular structure enhances the tool's portability and flexibility, making it suitable for various environments. It also ensures that maintenance and upgrades can be performed with ease, helping to maintain the tool's functionality and reliability. This stage is crucial for ensuring the tool operates effectively in monitoring toddler growth.


FIGURE 4. Tool Installation Preparation


FIGURE 5. Explanation of Tool Usage

FIGURE 5, The next step involves explaining the use of the tool to the Posyandu cadres. This explanation covers how the tool operates, its parameters, and how to connect it to the internet to send data to the website. The cadres will be guided on how to use the tool to measure the growth of toddlers, ensuring accurate data collection. Additionally, an introduction to the website's display will be provided, where the cadres will learn how to input patient data before taking measurements. This process ensures that the tool is properly integrated with the web-based system for efficient monitoring and tracking of growth.

FIGURE 6 (a), Before starting the activity, we explained the importance of children's health, particularly in early development, and demonstrated to the local midwife how to use the tool to monitor toddler 1's growth. The midwife was trained in taking accurate measurements, such as weight, and how to input this data into the web-based system for tracking. We emphasized the importance of accurate data entry and regular monitoring. After completing the community service program, we will officially hand over the tool to the Integrated Health Post, where it will be used to continuously monitor toddler 1's growth and ensure proper health care.

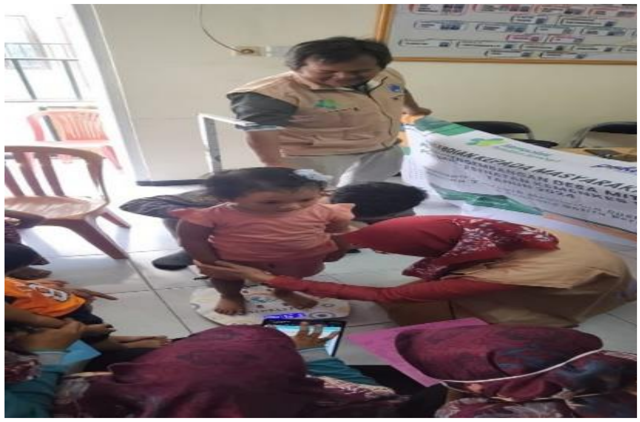
(a)

(b)

FIGURE 6. Tool Aplication for Toddle 1 Year (a), 2 Year (b)

FIGURE 6 (b), The activity began with an explanation of the critical role of health monitoring, especially for children, followed by a practical demonstration for the local midwife on using the tool for measuring toddler 2's growth. The midwife was shown how to take accurate physical measurements, like weight, and how to enter the data into the web-based system. We emphasized the importance of timely and accurate data entry for effective tracking. Once the community service concludes, the tool will be handed over to the Integrated Health Post to continue monitoring toddler 2's development and ensure consistent growth tracking.

FIGURE 6 (c), At the start of the activity, we highlighted the significance of monitoring children's health and demonstrated to the local midwife how to use the tool for measuring toddler 3's growth. The midwife received step-by-step training on how to take precise measurements, including weight, and how to enter this data into the system. We emphasized the importance of consistency in tracking the growth progress. After completing the community service program, the tool will be handed over to the Integrated Health Post, where it will be used to monitor toddler 3's development and provide ongoing health assessments.



(c)

(d)

FIGURE 6. Tool Aplication for Toddle 3 Year (a), 4 Year (b)

FIGURE 6 (d), We started the activity by explaining the importance of monitoring children's health, particularly during early childhood, and provided a demonstration for the local midwife on how to use the tool to measure toddler 4's growth. The midwife was trained to accurately measure physical data such as weight and to input this information into the web-based system. We focused on ensuring the midwife understood how to use the system effectively for

FIGURE 7. Tool Apps for Babies Under 1 Year

e-ISSN: 2827-8747 p-ISSN: 2829-3029
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continuous growth tracking. Once the community service concludes, the tool will be handed over to the Integrated Health Post, where it will be used to monitor toddler 4's health and development.

FIGURE 7, For babies under 1 year old, the measurement is done while the baby is lying down. The first step is to input the baby's data into the system, followed by the measurement stage. Since the baby is lying down, the measurements taken include body length and weight. The baby's length is carefully measured using a measuring tape, and the weight is recorded using a baby scale. Once the measurement values are obtained, they are immediately entered into the system and sent directly to the website. This process ensures accurate tracking of the baby's growth and development in real-time.

FIGURE 8. Tool Donation Submission

FIGURE 8, We provided the device for monitoring children's growth and development, with the expectation that it would serve as a valuable tool for tracking health data over time. Our hope is that the device will provide consistent and accurate data, helping to improve the quality of health monitoring in the community. Additionally, we look forward to receiving feedback from the users, such as healthcare workers and parents, to assess the tool's effectiveness and identify any areas for improvement. This feedback will be crucial for making adjustments and ensuring the tool remains useful for years to come.

FIGURE 9. Closing and group photo

FIGURE 9, The goal of the community service project titled "Application of Growth Monitoring System Web-Based to Monitor Growth of Toddlers" is to promote better monitoring of toddler growth while also advancing the use of Information Systems. This initiative aims to empower communities by enhancing their ability to access growth monitoring websites via smart devices. By increasing awareness about the importance of tracking growth in toddlers, the project seeks to encourage healthier practices and informed decision-making among parents and caregivers. Ultimately, it fosters an environment where technology plays a crucial role in improving child development and overall well-being.

IV. DISCUSSION

The implementation of the web-based Growth Monitoring System (GMS) at Posyandu Gelombang Cinta II demonstrated substantial improvements in toddler health surveillance capabilities and community engagement in pediatric health management. The successful deployment of IoT-enabled anthropometric measurement devices, coupled with real-time web-based data visualization, enabled healthcare providers and parents to access comprehensive growth data instantaneously, facilitating the timely identification of nutritional abnormalities and growth disorders. This finding aligns with emerging evidence from digital health interventions in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs), where technological innovations have shown promise in addressing healthcare workforce shortages and improving service delivery [38]. The capacity-building component of this intervention proved particularly effective, as evidenced by the enhanced technical proficiency demonstrated by Posyandu cadres following comprehensive training programs. Cadres successfully operated the GMS tools independently, conducted accurate anthropometric measurements, and interpreted growth charts with minimal supervision. This outcome corroborates findings from a multi-country survey involving 1,141 community health workers, which demonstrated that CHWs express a strong willingness to engage with digital health tools when provided adequate training and technical support [39]. The participatory training methodology employed in this study, which incorporated hands-on demonstrations, supervised practice sessions, and iterative feedback mechanisms, contributed to sustained competency development among healthcare workers.

The integration of IoT technology with anthropometric measurement devices yielded significant improvements in data accuracy and workflow efficiency compared to conventional manual recording systems. Recent studies have documented similar technological innovations demonstrating measurement accuracies exceeding 97% for height and 99% for weight assessments using IoT-enabled instruments [40]. These digital measurement systems substantially reduce human error associated with manual data transcription, calculation mistakes, and inconsistent measurement techniques. Furthermore, the automated data transmission capabilities of IoT devices eliminate delays inherent in paper-based systems, enabling real-time monitoring of growth trajectories and expedited clinical decision-making. The web-based platform facilitated enhanced communication and collaboration between healthcare providers and parents, fostering shared responsibility for child health outcomes. Parents expressed increased awareness regarding the importance of systematic growth monitoring and demonstrated greater engagement in preventive health behaviors. This finding resonates with evidence demonstrating that digital health solutions can bridge communication gaps between healthcare providers and communities, particularly in resource-constrained settings where healthcare access remains limited [41]. The accessibility of growth data through web interfaces empowered parents to actively participate in their children's health management, representing a paradigm shift from passive recipients to engaged partners in healthcare delivery.

The early detection capabilities enabled by the GMS yielded promising results, with healthcare providers identifying multiple cases of nutritional abnormalities that required clinical intervention. The system's automated alert mechanisms, which flagged children with anthropometric measurements falling outside normal ranges, ensured that no cases of potential malnutrition were overlooked during routine monitoring sessions. This preventive approach aligns with contemporary frameworks emphasizing the integration of digital health innovations to achieve universal health coverage through enhanced access, efficiency, and quality of care [42]. Early identification and timely intervention represent critical pathways to preventing irreversible growth impairments and reducing long-term health consequences associated with childhood malnutrition. Comparative analysis with conventional paper-based monitoring systems revealed substantial advantages of the web-based GMS across multiple dimensions. The digital system demonstrated superior data completeness, with minimal missing values and consistent documentation of all required anthropometric indicators. Historical growth data remained readily accessible for longitudinal analysis, unlike paper-based records that are frequently lost, damaged, or incomplete. The automated calculation of nutritional status indicators eliminated computational errors and standardized assessment procedures across all healthcare providers. These advantages collectively contribute to enhanced quality of care and improved health outcomes for children under five.

Despite the promising outcomes observed in this implementation study, several limitations warrant acknowledgment and careful interpretation of findings. First, the non-randomized, single-site implementation design limits the generalizability of results to diverse geographical and socioeconomic contexts. The intervention was conducted at a single Posyandu serving a relatively small population (55 toddlers), which may not represent the full spectrum of challenges encountered in larger or more resource-constrained healthcare facilities. Future research employing multi-site designs with diverse contexts would provide more robust evidence regarding the effectiveness and scalability of web-based growth monitoring systems [43].

Second, the study's relatively short implementation period (12 months) precluded a comprehensive assessment of long-term sustainability and maintenance of the digital health infrastructure. Questions remain regarding the continued functionality of IoT devices beyond the initial implementation phase, ongoing technical support requirements, and the financial sustainability of system maintenance without external funding. A systematic review examining the sustainability of digital health interventions in LMICs identified that only 30% of initiatives sustained operations beyond pilot phases, primarily due to inadequate funding mechanisms, technical maintenance challenges, and insufficient stakeholder engagement [44]. Longitudinal studies extending beyond 2-3 years are necessary to evaluate the true sustainability of such interventions and identify strategies for ensuring continued operation without continuous external support.

Third, the study did not employ objective clinical outcome measures to quantitatively assess improvements in child health status attributable to the GMS intervention. While process indicators (data accuracy, system utilization, early detection rates) demonstrated favorable trends, causal attribution of changes in nutritional status or reduction in stunting prevalence to the intervention remains uncertain without controlled comparison groups. Implementation research frameworks emphasize the importance of distinguishing between implementation outcomes (feasibility, acceptability, fidelity) and clinical effectiveness outcomes (health status improvements, mortality reduction) in evaluating digital health interventions [45].

Fourth, the reliance on stable internet connectivity represents a potential barrier to scalability in remote or rural areas with limited digital infrastructure. During the implementation period, occasional connectivity disruptions temporarily impeded real-time data transmission, requiring temporary storage of measurements for subsequent upload when connectivity was restored. This technical constraint highlights the importance of designing digital health solutions with offline functionality and data synchronization capabilities to ensure continuous operation in areas with unreliable internet access. A case study examining digital health scale-up in resource-limited populations emphasized the necessity of omni-channel approaches accommodating varying levels of technological infrastructure [46].

Fifth, the study did not comprehensively assess the cost-effectiveness of the GMS intervention compared to conventional monitoring approaches. Implementation of digital health technologies incurs upfront costs for equipment procurement, software development, training programs, and ongoing maintenance. Without detailed cost-effectiveness analyses, healthcare administrators and policymakers lack essential information for making informed decisions regarding resource allocation and investment in digital health infrastructure. Economic evaluations should examine both short-term implementation costs and long-term cost savings associated with early detection and prevention of nutritional disorders.

Additionally, the study's focus on technological implementation may have overshadowed important socio-cultural factors influencing health-seeking behaviors and nutrition practices. While the intervention successfully enhanced monitoring capabilities, addressing the root causes of childhood malnutrition requires comprehensive multisectoral approaches addressing poverty, food insecurity, maternal education, and environmental sanitation. Technology alone cannot solve complex public health challenges without concurrent interventions targeting social determinants of health.

The findings from this community service program carry significant implications for strengthening primary healthcare delivery systems in resource-limited settings. The successful implementation of a user-friendly, cost-effective web-based GMS demonstrates the feasibility of integrating digital health solutions into routine community health services without requiring sophisticated technical infrastructure or highly specialized personnel. This proof-of-concept provides valuable insights for healthcare administrators and policymakers considering investments in digital health innovations to enhance pediatric health surveillance capabilities.

From a practice perspective, the intervention model developed through this program offers a replicable framework for similar initiatives in comparable settings. The multi-phase implementation approach, emphasizing stakeholder engagement, comprehensive capacity building, hands-on training, and continuous technical support, provides a pragmatic blueprint for successful technology adoption in primary healthcare contexts. Healthcare organizations seeking to modernize their monitoring systems can adapt this framework to their local contexts, customizing training materials, user interfaces, and implementation strategies to meet specific community needs and resource constraints. A recent systematic review examining interventions to enhance digital readiness in healthcare identified that structured training programs, ongoing technical support, and organizational leadership commitment constitute critical success factors for digital transformation initiatives [47].

The program's emphasis on capacity building and local ownership represents a sustainable approach to technology transfer that avoids dependency on external technical experts. By systematically developing competencies among existing healthcare workers and community health cadres, the intervention ensures continued operation and maintenance of digital infrastructure without ongoing external support. This capacity-building model aligns with contemporary frameworks advocating for empowerment of community health workers through human-in-the-loop artificial intelligence and scalable digital health–enabled community-centered care models [48].

Policy implications include the need for national digital health strategies that prioritize primary healthcare strengthening and support infrastructure development in underserved communities. Governments and international development organizations should allocate resources for expanding internet connectivity, providing affordable digital health technologies, and establishing technical support systems for healthcare facilities implementing electronic monitoring systems. The WHO Global Strategy on Digital Health 2020-2025 emphasizes the importance of developing robust governance frameworks, ensuring interoperability between health information systems, and establishing mechanisms for sustainable financing of digital health initiatives [49].

Future research should address several critical knowledge gaps identified through this implementation experience. First, large-scale effectiveness trials employing rigorous experimental designs are needed to establish definitive evidence regarding the impact of web-based growth monitoring systems on clinical outcomes, including reductions in stunting prevalence, mortality rates, and healthcare utilization patterns. Second, comparative effectiveness studies examining different digital health intervention models would inform optimal implementation strategies for diverse contexts. Third, economic evaluations investigating cost-effectiveness from healthcare system and societal perspectives would guide resource allocation decisions and investment priorities.

Additionally, research exploring optimal strategies for scaling digital health interventions across larger geographical areas and integrating them with existing health information systems would facilitate broader adoption. A Frontiers research topic examining scale-up and sustainability of digital health interventions in LMICs identified that successful scaling requires addressing technical infrastructure limitations, ensuring stakeholder buy-in, establishing sustainable financing mechanisms, and developing robust monitoring and evaluation frameworks [50]. Implementation science studies examining barriers and facilitators to technology adoption among different user groups (healthcare providers, parents, policymakers) would yield valuable insights for improving intervention design and delivery. Finally, investigations into the long-term sustainability of digital health infrastructure, including maintenance models, financing mechanisms, and capacity-building strategies, would address critical gaps in current knowledge regarding the durability of technology-based interventions in resource-constrained environments.

In conclusion, this community service program demonstrates that carefully designed, context-appropriate digital health interventions can enhance pediatric health surveillance capabilities in primary healthcare settings. The successful implementation of a web-based Growth Monitoring System, coupled with comprehensive capacity building and community engagement, offers a promising pathway toward strengthening health systems and improving child health outcomes in underserved populations. However, realizing the full potential of digital health technologies requires sustained commitment, adequate resource allocation, supportive policy environments, and ongoing research to optimize implementation strategies and document long-term impacts.

V. CONCLUSION

This community service program aimed to enhance the accuracy and efficiency of toddler growth surveillance through the implementation of a web-based Growth Monitoring System (GMS) integrated with IoT-enabled anthropometric devices, while simultaneously empowering healthcare workers and fostering collaborative health monitoring practices between providers and parents in resource-limited primary healthcare settings. The intervention, conducted at Posyandu Gelombang Cinta II serving 55 toddlers, successfully demonstrated the feasibility and acceptability of integrating digital health technologies into routine community health services. Quantitative outcomes revealed substantial improvements in monitoring capabilities, with nine Posyandu cadres achieving technical proficiency in operating GMS tools following structured training programs, enabling independent execution of accurate anthropometric measurements with minimal supervision. The web-based platform facilitated real-time data accessibility, eliminating delays inherent in paper-based systems and enabling automated calculation of nutritional status indicators based on WHO growth standards, thereby reducing human error in manual transcription and computational processes. The intervention enhanced early detection capabilities, with healthcare providers identifying multiple cases of nutritional abnormalities requiring clinical intervention through the system's automated alert mechanisms, which flagged children with anthropometric measurements falling outside normal ranges. Parent engagement increased significantly, as caregivers demonstrated heightened awareness regarding systematic growth monitoring importance and exhibited greater participation in preventive health behaviors through accessible web-based growth data visualization. However, several limitations warrant consideration, including the non-randomized single-site design limiting generalizability, a relatively short 12-month implementation period precluding comprehensive sustainability assessment, the absence of objective clinical outcome measures, reliance on stable internet connectivity potentially constraining rural scalability, and a lack of cost-effectiveness analyses for informed resource allocation decisions. Future research should prioritize large-scale multi-site effectiveness trials employing rigorous experimental designs with appropriate control conditions to establish definitive evidence regarding the clinical impact on stunting prevalence and mortality reduction. Economic evaluations investigating implementation costs versus long-term savings from early detection and prevention are essential for guiding healthcare investment priorities. Additionally, implementation science studies examining optimal strategies for scaling digital health interventions across diverse geographical contexts, integrating systems with existing health information infrastructure, and ensuring long-term sustainability through robust maintenance models and financing mechanisms will address critical knowledge gaps. Longitudinal investigations extending beyond 2-3 years are necessary to evaluate the sustained functionality of IoT devices, ongoing technical support requirements, and financial sustainability without continuous external funding, ultimately informing evidence-based strategies for strengthening primary healthcare systems and improving child health outcomes in underserved populations through scalable, context-appropriate digital health solutions.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The authors express sincere gratitude to the healthcare personnel and Posyandu cadres at Posyandu Gelombang Cinta II, Kenjeran Community Health Center, for their invaluable collaboration and dedicated participation throughout this community service program. Special appreciation is extended to the parents and caregivers who entrusted their children's health monitoring to this initiative. We acknowledge the support provided by the Health Polytechnic Ministry of Health Surabaya in facilitating this implementation research. The commitment and enthusiasm demonstrated by all stakeholders were instrumental in the successful deployment of the web-based Growth Monitoring System, which contributed significantly to improved pediatric health surveillance in the community.

FUNDING

This research received no specific grant from any funding agency in the public, commercial, or not-for-profit sectors.

DATA AVAILABILITY

No datasets were generated or analyzed during the current study.

AUTHOR CONTRIBUTION

Triana Rahmawati conceived and designed the study, supervised the overall implementation of the community service program, coordinated with stakeholders at Posyandu Gelombang Cinta II and Kenjeran Community Health Center, secured resources and funding, and drafted the original manuscript. M. Prastawa ATP developed the web-based Growth Monitoring System software platform, designed and constructed the IoT-enabled anthropometric measurement devices, conducted technical validation and calibration of equipment, performed data analysis, and contributed to methodology sections. Liliek Soetjiatie coordinated community engagement activities, designed and delivered training programs for healthcare workers and Posyandu cadres, supervised data collection processes, conducted Focus Group Discussions, and contributed to results visualization and interpretation. All authors participated in the implementation phases, critically reviewed and revised the manuscript for important intellectual content, and approved the final version for submission.

DECLARATIONS

ETHICAL APPROVAL

Ethical approval is not available.

CONSENT FOR PUBLICATION PARTICIPANTS.

Consent for publication was given by all participants

COMPETING INTERESTS

The authors declare no competing interests.

VI. REFERENCE

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