

Laikipia County

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

Report



Our Main Story

HE. Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua Officially Launches DRIVE

Kenya's Deputy President, Rigathi Gachagua, on July 13 this year graced the occasion of the official launch of the DRIVE initiative at Naibor town, Segera Ward in Laikipia North...

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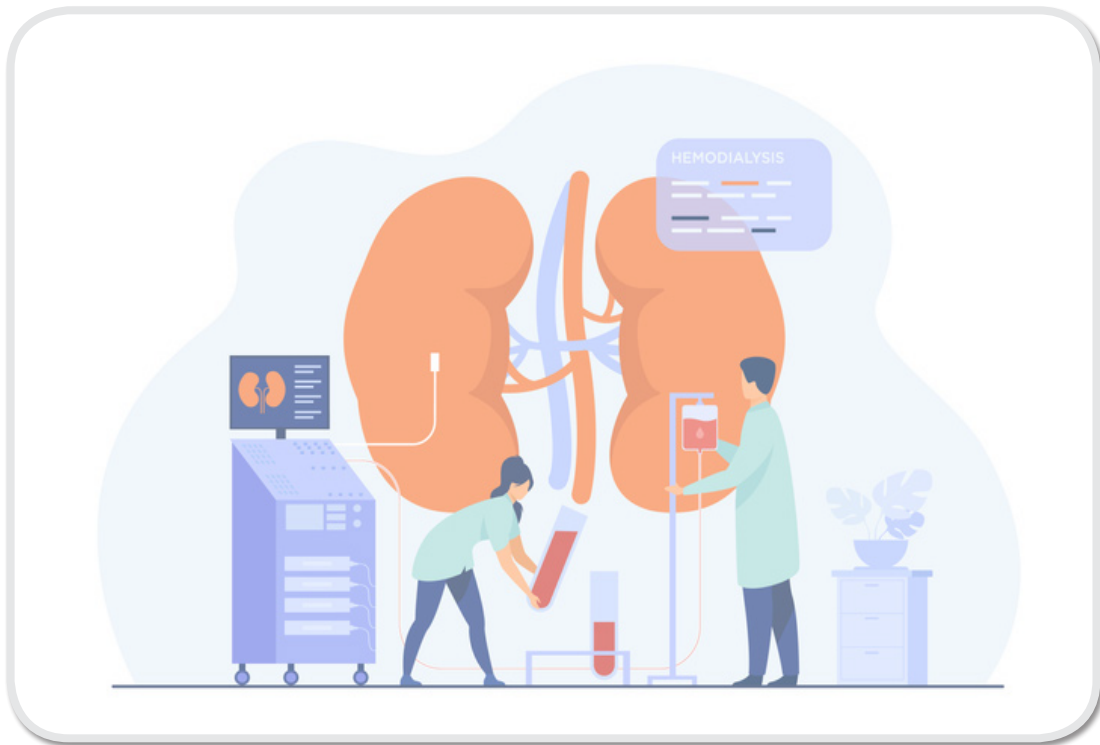
- Laikipia Hits 1 Billion OSR
- Samburu Visits Laikipia
- Affordable Housing Efforts
- NTRH Bounces Back in Training



NTRH RENAL UNIT

NANYUKI TEACHING AND REFERRAL HOSPITAL - NCRH

Just to remind you



DIALYSIS CLINICS
MONDAY, TUESDAY,
THURSDAY & FRIDAY

1st Sessions 5:30 - 9:30
Afternoon - Mid-Day Onwards

Special Requests and Emergencies: 24hr standby



Laikipia Breaks 1 Billion Own Source Revenue Ceiling

The implementation of the various projects contained in the budget in the financial year 2022/2023 and attainment of our manifesto rests squarely on the availability of funds to finance this budget.

CGL continues engaging the National Government on its share of revenue allocation but more importantly, it is critical to optimize on our Own Source Revenues.

In the financial year 2022-2023, the Laikipia County Revenue Board was tasked with an **Own Source Revenue target of Kes. 1.297B.**

In the backdrop of an intense electioneering period and transition in the first half of the financial year, severe drought and a depressed economy, the County Revenue Board was able to collect a record **Kes. 1.13B**, an impressive **87 percent** performance as tabulated below thus shattering the erstwhile elusive glass ceiling of a Kes. 1B mark.

**Daniel Ngumi, Chief Officer,
Department of Finance, County Planning and Development**

Efforts That Led to 1 Billion OSR in Laikipia



Elijah Kamunya
Chief Executive Officer, CEO
Laikipia County Revenue Board, LCRB

How was 1 Billion Achieved

- ✦ Absolute support from HE. Gov Joshua Irungu, EGH and the entire executive team of CECMs and Chief Officers.
- ✦ A fully constituted Revenue Board made up of a Non-Executive Chairperson, The Chief Officer- Finance Department, Five
- ✦ Other persons and The CEO who is the Secretary to the Board.
- ✦ Revenue automation and 100% cashless payments for all revenues
- ✦ A functional and effective monitoring and evaluation team
- ✦ A concerted effort to eliminate revenue losses through pilferage and implementation of appropriate internal control processes.

"Going forward, the Board wishes to build on these gains as it strives to achieve the target of Kes. 1.475B for the Financial year 2023/2024."

Elijah Kamunya, CEO Laikipia County Revenue Board



Affordable Housing: Transforming Dreams into Reality for Laikipia County Staff



IMAGES: June Yator

Absa Bank, and the Department of Infrastructure, Lands, Housing, and Urban Development on July 13, 2023 organized a conference in Nanyuki and Nyahururu to enlighten Laikipia County staff about achieving homeownership through the national government's affordable housing program. Absa is availing loans at 9 per cent for Laikipia County employees and 9.5 per cent for other customers.

Laikipia County administration has identified suitable locations to construct these affordable houses, for the diverse financial capabilities of its employees.

There are multiple options for Laikipia County employees that they can choose from.

One option is 100 per cent financing

for fully constructed county government houses, valued between Ksh 1million and Ksh 6million, without an initial deposit. However, for properties exceeding Ksh 6 million up to the maximum limit of Ksh 8million, a 10 percent contribution is necessary.

Another option is financing for landowners for construction on their properties. Furthermore, individuals can purchase properties outside the county for up to Ksh 8 million.

A "buy and build" approach, where the bank finances the acquisition of land and the construction of a home, on the condition that the applicant contributes 20 percent of the total cost of both the land and construction.

Still, there is a flexible repay-

ment plan with a fixed interest rate of 9 percent for the first nine years. Thereafter, the interest rate can be negotiated based on prevailing market rates.

Mortgage opportunities for unfinished houses to individuals who were unable to complete their homes, goes up to Ksh 8million.

Individuals may also get remortgage loans from Absa Bank, even if they already have an existing loan from another bank.

Individuals are however not eligible for multiple mortgages for affordable housing. Furthermore, if one already has an existing mortgage for the construction of a home, they do not qualify to apply for the affordable housing program.

By June Yator



NTRH Makes Comeback to Training Scene Following Doctors' Reinstatement

Nanyuki Teaching and Referral Hospital early this month received over 36 interns, the biggest cohort of trainees in recent times as the hospital makes a resounding comeback in the medical training front.

The officer-interns include: four medical officers, 19 nursing officer, and 13 clinical officer interns. They have been posted at NTRH by Ministry of Health for a 12-months hands-on experience in their respective fields of training.

This comes after years of stoppage of medical and nursing trainings due to inadequate capacities, with the hospital accommodating clinical officer interns and other cadres.

The team is expected to go through a year of solid grounding not just in the art and science of healthcare, but also other aspects such as team work, integrity, communication skills, leadership and other values for holistic growth.

A pool of 16 consultants backed by 24 medical officers and over 150 nurses are expected to handhold the budding professionals through their stay at NTRH.

The availability of consultants is a key threshold for a healthcare fa-



IMAGE: David Serem

The officer-interns: 4 medical officers, 19 nursing officer, and 13 clinical officer interns; posted at NTRH by Ministry of Health for a 12-months hands-on experience.

cility to be cleared to accommodate interns for placement by the various medical governing bodies.

The team had a four-day induction on quality protocols, customer care, governance and other aspects that will shape their learning process with the NTRH family.

Hospital CEO Dr. Sammy Kilonzo in his welcoming remarks rallied the team to make the best of the one year by building a firm to shape the

next phase of their career.

Daniel Kassoo, head of clinicians at the hospital, says the move is a welcome development, as training boost the standards of healthcare for hospitals.

NTRH is looking forward to a future of broadened specialty options, including the availability of sub-specialists and super specialists to handle the region's healthcare needs.

By David Serem



Samburu County Visits Laikipia for Peer Learning



"Peer learning of counties is a noble undertaking. It allows us to keep on improving our own governing structures by learning what works and what does not, from our respective counties." HE. Joshua Irungu, EGH

In the spirit of inter-county peer-learning, leaders from Samburu County on Friday 21 July, 2023 visited Laikipia to learn how Laikipia County's Governor Delivery Unit works.

The Samburu team was led by Geoffrey Lelenguyah, Head of Government Service Delivery Unit. While welcoming the team, Governor Joshua Irungu EGH appreciated the Samburu neighbor noting that Laikipia too, will learn from the interaction.

"You are very welcome here in

Laikipia. Peer learning of counties is a noble undertaking that allows us to keep on improving our own governing structures by learning what works and what does not, from our respective counties," said the Governor.

On his part, Mr. Lelenguyah, expressed his gratitude for the enlightenment the host team accorded to them.

"We are very grateful and excited to learn from one of the best counties in this country. I'm sure when we implement what we have learnt, our delivery unit will be more knowledgeable and in-

formed," he said. "We are in the formulation stage of this unit hence by coming here we have really benefitted," he added.

Governor's Delivery Unit is a directorate designed to track government's projects. While at it, access, and monitor and evaluate projects progress and impact on people.

Inter-county learning helps in strengthening the devolved units will strengthen with their governing and administrative structures; by learning best practices from each other.

By John Muriithi



IMAGES: Kiplkimei Rutto





Deputy President HE. Rigathi Gachagua Officially Opens the DRIVE Project in Laikipia

Kenya's Deputy President, Rigathi Gachagua, on July 13 this year graced the occasion of the official launch of the DRIVE initiative at Naibor town, Segera Ward in Laikipia North.

The DRIVE (De-risking Inclusion and Value Enhancement of Pastoral Economies in the Horn of Africa) principal purpose is to protect pastoralists from recurring drought shocks by providing livestock insurance as well as promoting trade and infrastructure. The project is currently underway in 21 ASAL (Arid and Semi-Arid Lands) counties across the country

The Deputy President affirmed the government's commitment to boosting pastoralists' livelihoods by ensuring their financial stability at the grassroots level.

He expressed his optimism that livestock farmers in the ASAL counties will have enhanced access to affordable index-based



DP issued cheques worth Ksh 400 million. Monies will benefit close to 43,000 farmers registered under the project

drought insurance, as well as other financial services such as savings and credit, over the next five years.

"The Kenya Kwanza Plan gives priority to the livestock subsector as an essential component to achievement of Vision 2030 and Sustainable Development Goals. The Medium-Term Plan of 2023-2027 identifies agriculture insurance for crops and livestock as key in exports," he said.

During the event the DP issued cheques worth Ksh 400 million which will benefit close to 43,000 farmers registered under the project. Livestock farmers will also receive training and assistance in accessing trustworthy markets, enhancing youth and women participation along the livestock value chain as majority of the population in Laikipia North rely entirely on livestock keeping for their livelihoods.

"Many of our livestock farmers in Laikipia have been adversely affected by drought, leading to high rates of poverty and food shortage," HE Governor Joshua Irungu EGH, noted. "This makes the DRIVE Project particularly timely, and it is in line with my commitment to ensuring food security and agricultural prosperity," He added.

Accompanying the Deputy President were the Cabinet Secretary of Agriculture, Mithika Linturi, the CS of East African Community and ASALS, Rebecca Miano, Governors from the targeted counties under the project, and other dignitaries from both the National and County Government of Laikipia.

By Mollin Wanjiru



IMAGES: Kipkimeit Rutto

Bridges in Laikipia West to boost Trade, Agriculture, and Movement of People



IMAGES:Kipkimeiri Rutto

Residents in Laikipia West have reasons to smile following the construction of crucial bridges; the Kwa Ng'ang'a Bridge in Nyahururu and Kandutura – Ngomongo Bridge in Rumuruti.

The Kwa Ng'ang'a Bridge connects Immanueli, Ngomongo, and Chemichemi villages to Nyahururu town.

"My administration has embarked on a massive road improvement program that will open up the interior parts of the county for sustained social and economic development. We are building bridges to ensure our farmers, traders have easy and fast access to markets," HE. Governor Irungu EGH, stated while commissioning the bridge.

The bridge brings relief to residents of these areas, who have long endured using a makeshift bridge.

On July 11th, CECM Infrastructure, Housing, and Urban Development, Ekwam Nabos oversaw the groundbreaking ceremony for the Kandutura – Ngomongo Bridge in Rumuruti ward took place.

This bridge will soon provide a crucial connection for Kandutura and Rumuruti residents, further enhancing transportation and connectivity in the region.

"We will not tire; we are committed to ensuring that every corner of this county is accessible by ensuring all roads are in a motorable state," explained CECM Mr. Ekwam Nabos.

By Everlyne Rukwaro



NTRH & Pathology Network to Provide Key Lab Diagnostic Services



IMAGES David Serem



NTRH CEO Dr. Sammy Kilonzo

Patients in need of key diagnostic pathological services are set to benefit from a new partnership between Nanyuki Teaching and Referral Hospital and The Pathology Network, a private medical diagnostic organization.

This move is a sigh of relief to patients who have had to rely on lengthy and costly processes to access cytology and histology tests at various referral facilities.

Cytology and histology are tests focusing on individual cells and sections of body tissues respectfully, procedures that are key in understanding the causes and effects of diseases to enable decision making. These tests are key in understanding the nature of growths and tumors.

Under this new public private partnership, patients will have their sam-

ples taken at the hospital and delivered to respective labs, completely eliminating their need to deliver the samples themselves as it has always been. Previously, patients or their next of kin have been taking their samples directly for the tests on their own, raising the risks of losing specimens or cross contamination in case of improper handling.

According to the hospital CEO Dr. Sammy Kilonzo, the partnership introduces overall efficiency by drastically reducing cost and turn-around time with guaranteed quality, aspects that are key to timely decision-making in patient care.

“We are moving in to close the gaps in delay on tests that affect the quality of tests and consequently the course of action that follow,” the CEO says, adding that cost alone

is a factor that causes delays as the patients travel about with specimens to facilities offering these services which are not within Laikipia County.

Dr. Kilonzo observes that reduced turn around time from over a month to three to seven days alone is comforting for a patient waiting in suspense for results.

The move is a stop gap measure to address the need as the county works out mechanisms to build its own capacity in the future, a venture that needs significant inputs to start.

The partnership brings standardization in quality and charges, all to the benefit of the clients.

By David Serem



NCRH Mortuary Renovations: Giving Dignity and Respects to our Departed

Nyahururu County Referral Hospital (NCRH) management has embarked on upgrading various departments. The hospital morgue has been one beneficiary department.

Key to these efforts is acquisition of hydraulic trolley, receiving trolley with a cover, three body fridge with three chamber each which are crucial for preservation and storage.

The fridges will provide a controlled environment with low temperatures, typically between 2°C and 4°C (35°F to 39°F). This preservation is essential, especially when there is a need for post-mortem examinations, delays in funeral arrangements, or in cases where the body needs to be transported over long distances.

Good refrigeration will be essential for the proper handling and storage of bodies in legal and forensic contexts. The mortuary fridges will provide a secure and controlled environment that ensures the integrity of evidence and facilitates thorough examinations, autopsies, and investigations.

The fridges also provide flexibility in scheduling funeral services. In situations where there are delays in arranging the funeral due to various factors such as legal procedures, family travel, or waiting for specific religious ceremonies. The ventilation systems in the



room have also been improved while also fixing a specialized drainage systems and complementing sanitary standards in the facility

The morgue is critical institution for family of the decease, the knowledge that even in grief, their loved one is accorded proper care, respect and dignity, and thus, NCRH intends to ensure

family get satisfaction that their departed is taken good care of.

Being the only public morgue in Nyahururu area, NCRH morgue serves a wide region, extending services even to the neighboring counties. This calls for even further action, as management imagine and work towards an eve expanded facility with even bigger capacity and world class services.

By Esther Muthoni



IMAGES: Esther Muthoni



BATUK, Beyond Zero Camp: Thousands across Laikipia Reached by Free Health Care

Over seven thousand Laikipians have benefitted from a series of camps organized through a partnership between the Laikipia Beyond Zero Mobile Clinic, and BATUK (British Army Training Unit-Kenya).

These camps ran for a period of two weeks, from the 3rd of July, in Sosian to the final camp in Dol Dol on the 14th of July. This is the second time that BATUK has partnered with Laikipia Health Service, with first partnership running for a week last year. The two medical teams spent days in Sosian, Ol Moran, Thome, Kiamariga, Solio, Debatas, Ewaso, Imenti (in Wiyumiririe), Kanyoni and Dol Dol.

“The goals of the partnership is to reach the marginalized communities and serve Laikipians, from giving them preventive healthcare and curative, health promotion and screenings,” the Nurse in charge of the Beyond Zero clinic Beatrice Maina explained.

Roughly 7,668 people turned up for the free medical services; 500 screened for Breast and Cervical Cancer, and 2350 children receiving various services during the camps. Other services offered included nutritional assessments for children,



dental checkups, ENT (Ears, Nose and Throat) consultations, family planning services, ultrasound scans, filling out of prescriptions, health education sessions and lab tests for HIV and AIDS.

The wide range of diagnostic and curative services at these camps were made possible by the efforts not just of the Beyond Zero clinic, but also the availability of staff from

BATUK, medics from various LHS facilities such as Nanyuki Teaching and Referral Hospital, Kimanjo and Dol Dol Sub County Hospital, among others.

“This year we were even able to do lab works, and we were able to do imaging in the fieldwork with the help of the British Army” Nurse Beatrice explains.

By Andrew Maina



IMAGES: Andrew Maina



What They Had to Say on Cooperative Day



HE Governor Joshua Irungu EGH

“Cooperatives act as a mass movement of social enterprises, County Government of Laikipia continues recognizing the unique role these cooperatives societies play in bringing about equitable and fair platforms for economic growth and development. They also play a crucial role in agriculture value chain through channeling farm inputs to improve production, provision of market linkages for produces and management of post-harvest loss.”

CEC Trade, Tourism, Co-operatives, and Enterprise Development Stephen Kisorio

“Every cooperative has a vision when starting, some of our cooperatives have experienced hurdles along the way. As a department, we have initiated recovery plans and capital injection to ensure that the vision remains alive. Going forward, our plan is to capacity build the leadership of the cooperatives to instill strong management.”

CO Trade, Tourism, Cooperatives, and Enterprise Development Samuel Njoki

“As we seek to improve the well being of our cooperatives, special attention will be on value addition and implementing warehouse receipting. We are also keen on increasing allocation of Cooperative Revolving Fund and bring to an end the unfair competition in our dairy cooperatives as they are faced with milk hawking. We must work to eliminate this brokerage.”



101 Ushirika Day in Nanyuki, Laikipia



HE Deputy Governor Rueben Kamuri

“Throughout the celebration of Ushirika Day, it has also been a learning moment. There are many success stories from our cooperatives. I am proud by the togetherness exhibited here by cooperatives in Laikipia, they are working in tandem with government to uplift the livelihood of our people and they are our key partners in achieving food security a key agenda of the county government.”

Director Cooperatives Rosemary Ngugi

“The day has accorded us a moment to reflect on the tremendous impact that cooperatives have in driving sustainable development in Laikipia. Cooperatives are not only engines of economic growth but also catalyst for social progress and environment stewardship. They promote the principles of cooperatives actions, participatory decision making and shared benefits all of which contribute to sustainable development.”

Compiled by Nahashon Maina



IMAGES: Nahashon Maina



NTRH Pharmacists Secure Multimillion Shilling Antimicrobial Stewardship Grant to Counter Public Health Crisis



A team led by Nanyuki Teaching and Referral Hospital (NTRH) pharmacists has launched the One Health Initiative project dubbed “The Commonwealth Partnership for Antimicrobial Stewardship.”

The team aims at countering the emerging public health crisis of poor Antimicrobial Stewardship (Misuse of antibiotics in human and animal health care), and the attendant increase in drug-resistant illnesses.

To aid in the realization of this, the project has secured a grant, from the Commonwealth Pharmacists Association, and Tropical Health and Education Trust Fund to a tune of Ksh 12 million. Other partners are University Hospitals of Bristol, and Weston, and the University of Plymouth (through the Dharura Global

Health Charity).

“The One Health Initiative has come from a point of view where we said that there is a crisis in Antimicrobial abuse in need of mitigation; that we should have rational antimicrobial use at both human and animal level healthcare,” Dr. Edna Kubai project team member explains.

The project, launched in April 2023, will see the team carry out a survey to examine antimicrobial use at the NTRH inpatient department, as well as Lewa and Leparua Dispensaries. They will also assess the current

use of Antibiotics for animals in the surrounding local communities and focus group discussions organized for local livestock owners.

The study will be followed up with a sensitization drive, carried out by an ‘Antimicrobial Guardians’ team to enhance antimicrobial stewardship.

“One of the outcomes we are looking forward to is for the NTRH getting an antibiogram, which is a guidance, on how we will be using antibiotics for treatment of common infections and also for surgical prophylaxis,” Dr. Esbon Wambugu, a pharmacist at NTRH says.

So far, the team has trained 11 of the intended 15 ‘Antimicrobial guardians,’ who will then carry out the sensitization training and FGDs for the targeted healthcare workers and local communities.

The project will then see a second follow-up survey, to establish whether or not the sensitizations have had a desired impact on the use of Antimicrobials.

By Andrew Maina



County Housing Arrears Repayment Plan

In an effort to address the long-standing issue of accumulated arrears in County houses, the Department of Infrastructure, Lands, Housing, and Urban Development on 11th and 12th July spearheaded a crucial two-day exercise in Nanyuki and Nyahururu to look for ways a look for friendly repayment arrangement.

The County Government of Laikipia cognizant of the economic times Laikipians and Kenyans are undergoing is considering tenant's payment agreement that ensure compliance while also being lenient and accommodating to the tenants.

"Tenants are obliged to first clear half of their outstanding balance. The balance will be evenly distributed over the subsequent months until full settlement," the Chief Officer, Housing and Urban Development Mr. Kenneth Kibaara said.

Furthermore, Mr. Kibaara assured the occupants that penalties would be entirely waived, thus taking away the penalty burden from them and hoping the waiver will help them cope with the current economic times.

"Our strategy is to ensure timely collection of arrears, as this money is essential for funding the county's programs. The budget relies on these revenue streams," emphasized



CO Kibaara assured the occupants that penalties would be entirely waived, thus taking away the penalty burden from them and hoping the waiver will help them cope with the current tough economic times.

Mr. Kibaara, underscoring the significance of this exercise.

The primary purpose of these meetings was to facilitate discussions on the collection of arrears and formulate a feasible payment plan for tenants. The target group being residents who have been struggling with arrears over the years.

This plan addressed various situations, including employees whose rent deductions were not reflected in the revenue system, individuals who had been paying less rent, and new tenants who inherited arrears from previous occupants.

By June Yator



WASREB Impact Report 2021/2022: NAWASCO Bags Position One As the Top Most Improved Utility



NAWASCO HEAD OFFICES IN NANYUKI TOWN

Nanyuki Water and Sanitation Company (NAWASCO) has been ranked as the top most improved water utility in the country in the recently released Impact Report. The organization garnered 20 points, from 137 to 157 out of the possible 200 points.

In addition, the utility was ranked top in the large category and fourth overall out of 88 Water Service Providers (WSP) in Kenya.

The Impact Report is prepared annually by the Water Services Regulatory Board (WASREB) to assess and evaluate WSP's progress in water

coverage, water quality, metering, and non-revenue water management.

This achievement marks a key milestone as the utility strives to improve people's lives by realizing their constitutionally enshrined rights to clean water and adequate sanitation standards.

NAWASCO is currently serving a 286-square-kilometer area in Nanyuki and neighbouring counties of Nyeri and Meru areas, with water and sewer connections ranging from 10,000 to 34,999.

IMPACT REPORT,
National Average for
NAWASCO Performance Y2021/2022

Dinking Water
Quality, 95 Percent

Hours of Supply, 17
Hours

Compiled by Ann Ngunjiri



NAWASCO serves a 286-square-kilometer area in Nanyuki and neighbouring counties of Nyeri and Meru areas, with water and sewer connections ranging from 10,000 to 34,999.



FROM LEFT. Top Utility in the Large Category & most improved water utility in the country

IMPACT REPORT,
National Average for
NAWASCO Performance Y2021/2022

Revenue Collection
Efficiency,
94 percent



IMAGES: Kariuki Stevejackson



County & Leo Project Kenya to Provide Healthcare Facility in Segera



The County Government of Laikipia in partnership with The Leo Project on July 31, 2023 held the grand opening ceremony of The Caitlin O'Hara Community Health Clinic in Segera.

The project is a culmination of collaborative efforts by Laikipia County Development Authority (LCDA), the department of Health and The Leo Project Kenya.

The occasion marked a significant milestone in the government's journey to provide equitable and accessible healthcare services to the members of Laikipia County.

The Deputy Governor H.E Reuben Kamuri dedicated the day to the wellbeing of the community.

“Let us embrace the challenges ahead together, we can make a difference fostering a healthier, stronger, and more united community. One life at a time,” he said.

The founder Leo Project Caitlin O'Hara Health clinic Jess Danforth urged everyone to reflect on the profound impact this clinic will have on countless lives.

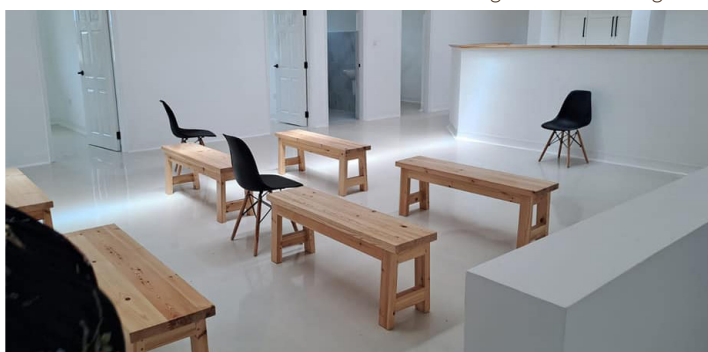
“Each patient who walks through these doors will receive more than medical care; they will experience a sense of belonging, care, and compassion,” she said.

The project is rooted in the belief that every individual, regardless of their background, deserves to have their health needs met with dignity and respect.

The County Government's goal is to foster a safe space where the people of Laikipia can access comprehensive healthcare services without barriers.

By providing medical care, education, and support, the government aims to empower individuals to make informed decisions about their health; nurturing a community of wellness and self-sufficiency.

By Pauline Mwiyeria



Mainstreaming Climate Change Adaptation into Laikipia County Departments



The Department of Water, Environment and Natural Resources, through the Climate Change Unit, earlier this month held a climate change induction workshop for the County Executive Committee Members (CECMs) and Chief Officers (COs) on the Financing Locally-Led Climate Action (FLLoCA) program designed to support climate resilience at the county and community levels.

The purpose of the workshop was to mainstream climate change into other county departments as well as build the capacity of the CECMs and COs by sensitizing them to their substantial roles and responsibilities in implementing and realizing the County Climate Change Action Plan.

The Plan runs for five years (2023-2027) under the FLLoCA program.

County Executive Committee Members will serve on the steering committee, chaired by H.E. Governor Joshua Irungu EGH, to provide overall guidance and

oversight of climate change activities.

On the other hand, the Chief Officers will join the County Climate Change Fund Planning Committee, which will monitor, evaluate and ensure that an equitable share of funds is allocated to climate-related projects identified across various sectors to holistically mitigate and adapt to climate change.

"The county climate change action plan can only be more effective when departments coordinate efforts to identify,

track, and capitalize on climate finance to mitigate the effects of climate change," Deputy Governor, H.E. Reuben Kamuri, emphasized during the workshop.

Water, Environment, and Natural Resources CEC, Ms. Leah Njeri, expressed optimism that the induction workshop will serve as a foundation of discussions on how to leverage the capacity of every department in the quest to establish sustainable solutions to climate change.

"It's time we address climate change as a development issue that requires everyone's participation, including stakeholders, to develop smart investments that will build resilient communities and foster sustainable economic growth," she said.

The workshop also served as a platform for exploring ways to incorporate climate adaptation measures into County Integrated Development Plan (CIDP) to make county developments more resilient to climate change.

By Ann Ngunjiri



IMAGES: Ann Ngunjiri



LG & Habitat for Humanity Partnership with Laikipia



A historic collaboration between global electronics giant LG, renowned non-profit organization Habitat for Humanity Kenya, and the Laikipia County Government has resulted in significant improvements of healthcare and education facilities in the county.

In a ceremony held in Naibor, key stakeholders unveiled a range of essential upgrades, including laundry machines, refrigerators for health

centers, and modern educational infrastructure, promising to uplift the lives of the local community.

Representatives from LG, led by Vice President Maurice Makoloo, and Habitat for Humanity Kenya, represented by Denis Haveaux, Senior Director Europe and EU Representative, joined hands with the Laikipia County Government delegation, led by Deputy Governor H.E Reuben Kamuri, County Secretary Koinange Wahome, and CECM Health Albert Taiti, to celebrate the

transformative outcomes of their collaboration.

The event witnessed the presence of local officials, community leaders, and residents, who expressed overwhelming enthusiasm and gratitude as the new facilities were officially handed over to the beneficiaries.

Prioritizing their commitment to support healthcare in Laikipia, LG and Habitat for Humanity Kenya contributed two state-of-the-art laundry machines worth one million Kenyan shillings to Nanyuki Teaching and Referral Hospital. Additionally, they donated microwaves to various health centers and ten refrigerators to several facilities, including Nanyuki Teaching and Referral, Naibor, Muramati, and Lamuria health centers.

The high-quality refrigerators are designed to ensure the safe storage of temperature-sensitive medica-



Focus on Healthcare and Education Upgrades



IMAGES: Jackline Mariga

tions and vaccines, thereby enhancing healthcare services and ultimately leading to improved health outcomes for the local population.

The joint effort extended beyond healthcare and encompassed educational development in Naibor. Habitat for Humanity Kenya spearheaded the construction of modern, hygienic toilets and a fully-equipped classroom, providing a nurturing environment conducive to quality learning and skills development.

Speaking at the event, an LG representative expressed delight at being part of such a transformative project, emphasizing their commitment to using resources and expertise to positively impact society. Maurice Makoolo, Vice President of Habitat for Humanity Kenya, echoed this statement, stating that access to quality healthcare and education are fundamental to building sustainable communities. He expressed

gratitude for the opportunity to work alongside LG and the Laikipia County Government in creating lasting change in Naibor.

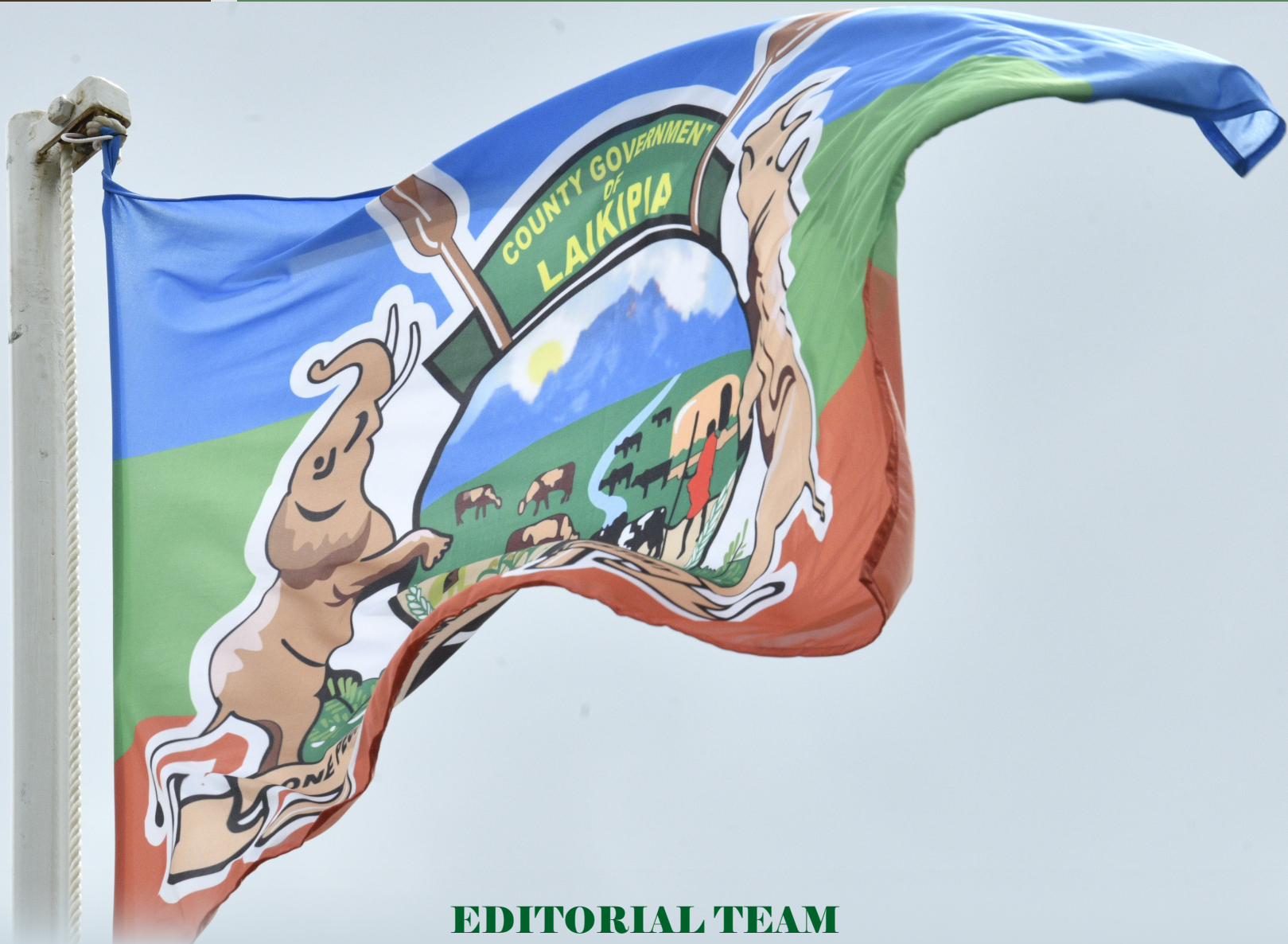
Laikipia County Deputy Governor, H.E Reuben Kamuri, conveyed his appreciation for the positive impact of the partnership on the region. He praised the joint effort as a powerful demonstration of collaboration in addressing community needs, highlighting how the new facilities will enhance healthcare services and foster a conducive learning environment for the children.

The initiative did not stop there; the team went on to launch a borehole at Jua Kali center and commission a modern, technologically advanced house deep in the villages of Naibor to address the housing needs of vulnerable individuals in the area.

The LG and Habitat for Humanity Kenya collaboration with the Laikipia County Government exemplifies corporate social responsibility in action. It showcases the transformative potential when private enterprises and non-profit organizations unite for a common cause.

By Ianton Ndung'u





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