

# ICW- Kenya Chapter Newsletter



*(1<sup>st</sup> – edition, September 2020)*

## **About ICW-K**

The International Community of Women Living with HIV-Kenyan chapter (ICW-Kenya) is a national network run by and for women living with HIV and AIDS in Kenya; it was registered in 2012, as a non-governmental organization (NGO) in Kenya. The main objective of the network is to empower women living with HIV in Kenya and create an enabling environment to improve their lives. This is achieved through fighting stigma and gender based violence (GBV) while promoting selflove/care, women leadership, understanding, reclaiming, demanding and exercising of human rights and gender equality; as well as addressing the vulnerabilities related to HIV and AIDS for women and girls in our communities.

The network also strives to empower women living with HIV to achieve economic stability and mitigate the impact of HIV in their livelihood. ICW-Kenya believes in inclusion of women in decision making processes and platforms following in the slogan; nothing is for us without us!



***A previous Leadership and Gender Based Violence Training in Homabay County, supported by African Women Development Fund (AWDF)***

# *ICW- Kenya Chapter Newsletter: 1<sup>st</sup> - edition*

ICW-Kenya works to build and strengthen the movement of women living with HIV to undertake advocacy at national level, county, sub-county, community and most important at household and individual level.

## **Key Activities of the month**

International Community of Women Living with HIV-Kenya (ICWK) is a sub-recipient (SR) of the Global Fund To Fight AIDS TB and Malaria (GFATM) through Kenya Red Cross Society. Our current HIV grant is implemented in Kiambu and Elgeyo Marakwet Counties. The overall goal of the grant is to contribute towards achieving vision 2030 through comprehensive HIV Prevention, treatment and care for all.



### ***Sensitization of Kapteren support group members, in Keiyo North, on stigma and discrimination***

Our program interventions are focused on sensitization of PLHIV support groups on stigma and discrimination, identification documentation and reporting of human rights violations among PLHIV. Through the Know Your Rights session, we have been able to reach PLHIVs groups and the general populations with stigma and discrimination messages.

# ICW- Kenya Chapter Newsletter: 1<sup>st</sup> - edition

## Sensitization of county leadership on HIV and the law



ICW-K also conducted a training to sensitize law makers and law enforcement agencies on human rights and the law. The training involved MCAs, police and office of the county commissioner from Elgeyo Marakwet County. The training aimed at strengthening their capacities on HIV related human rights so as to

### **County Assembly speaker Mr. Sabulei giving his remarks**

proactively respond to the gaps in

the HIV response within their community. The leadership pledged to ensure that HIV is allocated adequate funds within the county budget, ICW-K will be following on this promise to ensure that it is effected.

## Peer champions training



**Facilitator demonstrating how to use the malaria testing kit during the peer champions training in Kiambu County**

## *ICW- Kenya Chapter Newsletter: 1<sup>st</sup> - edition*

ICWK organized training for peer champions aimed at supporting health facilities within Kiambu County to strengthen community healthcare services through defaulter tracing, treatment literacy, psychosocial support. Peer champions continue to support health facilities including; Kiandutu health centre, St. mulumba hospital, Makongeni dispensary, Mary help for the sick hospital, and Ngoliba health centre.

A total of 75 peer champions were targeted during the intensive 7-day training, that focused on TB, Lung disease and Asthma, TB and HIV coinfection and Malaria, aimed at delivering comprehensive and quality integrated HIV, TB and malaria services to their communities

### *Sensitization of matatu and bodaboda operators on Covid-19, anti-stigma messaging and GBV*



#### *The Facilitator taking participants through a session on SGBV- Kiambu County*

So as to empower bodaboda operators of HIV and Covid-19, ICW-K conducted sensitization, to bodaboda operators from Kiambu, to enhance their safety measures and those of their clients. The meeting comprised of representatives from all bodaboda Sacco's and matatus operators in the Kiandutu area. This meeting aimed at creating awareness on Covid 19 to the bodaboda and matatus industry as well as make them ambassadors of Covid 19 awareness in their respective sectors.

## *ICW- Kenya Chapter Newsletter: 1<sup>st</sup> - edition*

It also offered a great platform to discuss the key issues regarding the increase in the number of sexual gender based violence, proposing mitigation strategies as well as awareness on HIV.



*Kiambu County, Community leadership trained on sexual and gender based violence .*

The following activities will feature on our next issue;

- Sensitization of MCAs, Ministries of Justice and Interior, judges, prosecutors, lawyers, traditional and religious leaders on the legal, health and human rights aspects of HIV.
- Community meetings on HIV services as well as addressing Sexual and gender based violence for men by men.
- Sensitize Community Based Organizations, HCWs and other stakeholders on reduction of stigma and discrimination against people living with HIV.

For More Information about us visit [www.icwk.org](http://www.icwk.org)

# *ICW- Kenya Chapter Newsletter: 1<sup>st</sup> - edition*

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