

# NEWSLETTER

**RESPONSE TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC** 



### **No-One Left Behind**

Beyond Zero Initiative donates food and nonfood items to cushion vulnerable groups during COVID-19 pandemic.

In support of the national response against the COVID-19 pandemic, the Beyond Zero Initiative made donations of food and nonfood items, as well as medical supplies, to several vulnerable groups in the months of April and May 2020.

The donation to vulnerable group's prioritised senior citizens, differently-abled persons, mothers and children from vulnerable households in line with the Beyond Zero 2nd Strategic Framework 2018-2022.

#### HEADLINES:

NO-ONE LEFT BEHIND: DONATIONS TO VULNERABLE GROUPS

HEALTH FOOT SOLDIERS: TRAINING OF COMMUNITY HEALTH VOLUNTEERS (CHVS)

#### **POWER IN PARTNERSHIPS**

#### **TESTIMONIALS**

FRESH OF THE DIGITAL PRESS: BEYOND ZERO EVENT MAGAZINE & MORE [cont.]

The donations were made to:

- Nyumba ya Wazee in Kasarani received bales of uji mix flour, bags of sugar, boxes of long life milk, beans, gloves, diapers, face masks, hand sanitizers, gallons of multipurpose disinfectants and blankets.
- St Joseph the Worker, a health centre that serves the low income communities in the outskirts of Nairobi City, received food items as well as medical articles to protect the health workers and medical supplies to boost their provisions.
- Nyumbani Children's home, which cares for HIV positive orphans and offers outreach support to elderly and vulnerable people.
- Imani Rehabilitation Centre in Nairobi, which has seven projects caring for over 300 vulnerable children country-wide.

66 I want to thank Her Excellency First Lady Margaret Kenyatta and Beyond Zero for the food support during this time of the COVID-19 pandemic. We are not only grateful for the food donation but also for knowing that you think about us and the children we care for.

Sister Mary Owen, Nyumbani
Children's home.



In addition, nine charity and community based organizations that cater for children with special needs and other vulnerable groups were supported through food and medical donations.

These organisations include Acorn Special Tutorials Centre, Little Rock Centre, Crossing Bridges Ngong Branch, Sweet Aroma, Bringing Hope Charity International, Special Education Professionals, Crossing Bridges: Naivasha Branch, Nongera Education Centre and Nyumba Kumi Gichungo. These donations have reached over 300 households.

#### **Health Foot Soldiers: Training of CHVs**

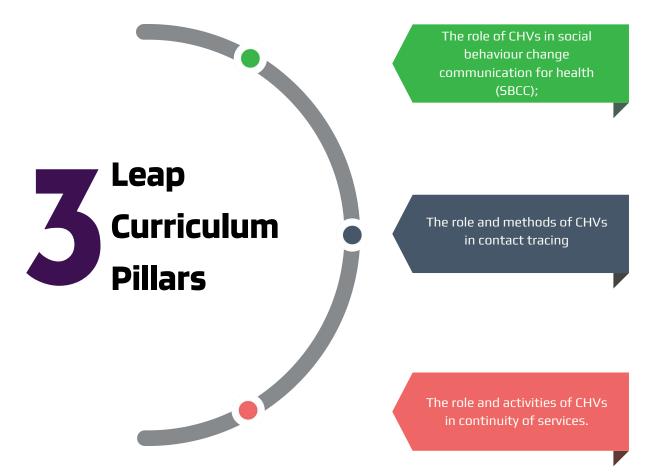
Beyond Zero's contribution to the national Covid-19 response

Community Health Volunteers (CHVs) are the vital link between communities and the health system. Globally, they are often the foot soldiers on the ground that deliver primary health services in communities. Thus, Beyond Zero partnered with AMREF Health Africa to support the training and skills enhancement of 5,100 CHVs drawn from Nairobi Metropolitan Services.

Through a mHealth application called 'Leap', the CHVs were taken through a curriculum developed by the Ministry of Health, which is based on three pillars. These are:

- 1. The role of CHVs in social behaviour change communication for health
- 2.The role and methods of CHVs in contact tracing
- 3. The role and activities of CHVs in continuity of services.

The skills, knowledge and insights acquired through the training will better equip the CHVs to support the Government's efforts to fight COVID-19 by assisting in contact tracing and referral of suspected cases, reinforcing the efforts of Covid-19 isolation centres and offering home-based care services for people in their communities.



#### **Health Foot Soldiers: Training of CHVs**

[cont.]

Following a onemonth training on Covid-19 response, Office of the First Lady, Beyond Zero and AMREF Health Africa organized a virtual graduation ceremony for the 5,100 CHVs on 4th August 2020.



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Your Excellency, it is well known that CHVs are a vital and inevitable link between communities and the health system. To achieve universal health coverage Community Health Volunteers cannot be ignored. CHVs are the foot soldiers, the infantry men and women who win the war. In order to win this war, we must be equipped, sharpened and taken care of.

On behalf of my fellow Community Health Volunteers we really appreciate the step taken by Beyond Zero under your patronage to partner with Amref Health Africa through the Leap Platform to equip us with Skills, Knowledge and insights to be able to support the efforts of the Government to fight Covid-19.

Your Excellency, we are a significant pillar in basic health interventions, ensuring continuity of essential health services during pandemic. We continue to advocate for ANC visits for pregnant mothers, skilled deliveries in our health facilities, that children in our communities are taken to the health centers for immunizations and are fully monitored for proper growth and development. With the knowledge gained through the Leap mHealth training we continue to assist in contact tracing as well as support in Covid-19 isolation Centre's and Home Based Care services.

- Michael Mungai Kimani - CHV Graduant Kabiria Community Unit, Dagoretti Sub-County

#### **THE POWER IN PARTNERSHIPS**

#### a) Slovak Government donates COVID-19 humanitarian aid

On 27th July 2020, the First Lady Margaret Kenyatta applauded the Government of the Slovak Republic for expressing solidarity with Kenya in the fight against Coronavirus by donating COVID-19 humanitarian aid.

The Kshs 26 million donation – which comprised testing kits, personal protective equipment, respirators, sanitizer, clothing and shoes – was received on behalf of the First Lady by Director of Administration in the Office of the First Lady, Ms Eva Maina.

Ms Maina said the First Lady, through the Beyond Zero initiative, has prioritised the support of women, children, the elderly and persons with disabilities especially during this COVID-19 pandemic period.

Slovakia Ambassador to Kenya Frantisek Dlhopolcek commended the role played by First Lady Margaret Kenyatta in enhancing cooperation between Kenya and the Slovak Republic.



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This donation will enhance our collective fight against the spread of the Coronavirus in Kenya, especially where it is needed most – the most vulnerable and marginalised communities in the country. - Ms Maina said.



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The First Lady is a patron of our development cooperation and we are very happy with her patronage and advice. - Ambassador Frantisek Dlhopolcek.

### **THE POWER IN PARTNERSHIPS**

[cont.]

b) The People's Republic of China donated masks and non-contact infrared thermometers to help combat the COVID-19 pandemic.



Beyond Zero, on behalf of Her Excellency Margaret Kenyatta, received a donation on 22 July 2020 from the People's Republic of China. This was part of the Chinese Government's consignment of Covid-19 medical supplies delivered to African countries to help in slowing down the spread of virus through the Organization of African First Ladies for Development (OAFLAD), which First Lady Margaret Kenyatta is a member.

The First Lady Margaret Kenyatta thanked Chinese First Lady Her Excellency Professor Peng Liyuan for donating medical supplies, which comprised 18,000 surgical masks and 120 infrared forehead thermometers, which will help ensure the safety of health workers in the Beyond Zero Covid-19 intervention. The Beyond Zero Coordinator, Ms Angella Langat, pointed out that the donation is a demonstration of China's friendship with Kenya, and continued collaboration through the Organization of African First Ladies for Development (OAFLAD).

#### **INSPIRING ACTION. CHANGING LIVES**





FRANCISCA MUENI

The mobile clinic has helped our community a lot. We used to walk for long distance to the nearest health facility but now the health services have been brought closer to us and we're happy.

> EUNICE WAIRIMU, BEYOND ZERO MOBILE CLINIC BENEFICIARY NYANDARUA COUNTY

66 I received a text message on my Airtel line in January about the Beyond Zero Medical Safari that would be held at Uhuru Park on 24th January 2020. One of the services listed in the text message was cervical cancer screening. I had never been screened for cervical cancer and had been postponing for a long time. This time around, I chose to go and get screened. That morning I went to Uhuru Park and looked for cervical cancer screening services.

I went to the Beth Mugo Cancer Foundation tent where I was registered and waited for a while before I was screened as there were other many women who had come for screening. My turn came and I was screened. The results showed suspicious precancerous lesions on the cervix and the nurse explained if left untreated they would develop into cervical cancer.

I was treated using thermocoagulation and advised to go for screening after one year. I'm so happy I went for screening on that particular day. And I'm grateful to the First Lady for enabling us to access such services. I'd like to encourage other women to go for screening to know their status" says an elated Francisca Mueni.



CAROLINE WAIRIA

> I'm very happy because the services offered during the mobile clinic outreaches are free of charge

I developed a tear after giving birth to my first born daughter in 2014. Although I went back to hospital for the tear to be repaired, I still experienced urine leakage and the problem only got worse after giving birth to my 2nd born in 2017 because now I was leaking both urine and stool.

I did not understand the condition until I saw an advert on TV about the free Beyond Zero fistula camp at Mama Lucy. The symptoms of fistula on the advert matched the symptoms I was experiencing i.e. leaking urine and stool.

I decided to go for screening at Mama Lucy Hospital and I was informed I had a 4th degree tear. I underwent surgery and I'm very happy that now I can hold urine even for up to one hour." - Caroline Wairia MONICA WAMBUI, BEYOND ZERO MOBILE CLINIC BENEFICIARY NYANDARUA COUNTY



#### MR. DAVIS KAMONDO, COUNTY REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH COORDINATOR, KIAMBU COUNTY

66 The Beyond Zero mobile clinic which was donated in November 2014 in Kiambu County has greatly contributed to increased ANC coverage being one of the health facilities that offer ANC services. Additionally, the clinic offers a wide range of

reproductive health services including cervical cancer screening, postnatal care, HIV testing & counseling. Other services are nutrition counseling, treatment of minor ailments and health promotion. The mobile clinic has a schedule which ensures that rotation within the 12 sub-counties. Once the clinic is at the sub-county, the sub-county reproductive health coordinator maps out the towns/villages where outreaches will be conducted." Mr. Davis Kamondo, County Reproductive Health Coordinator, Kiambu County.

"Two years ago during one of the outreaches in Githunguri subcounty, we encountered a case of a woman who had lived with fistula for 15 years. Her husband and family had abandoned her. When she heard about the Beyond Zero mobile clinic outreach, she came to the venue where she was screened and the healthcare workers confirmed that she had fistula. We took her phone number and organized to take her to Kenyatta National Hospital for fistula repair. The woman underwent surgical repair and she was able to smile and even get back together with her husband. I can say the Beyond Zero clinic outreach helped a lot." Christine Mumo, Kiambu Town sub-county public health nurse.



DR. JACQUELINE WANJIRU NDUNG'U, OB-GYN MAMA LUCY HOSPITAL.

The Hemafuse device donated to Mama Lucy Hospital during the Beyond Zero Medical Safari in Nairobi County in January 2020 is mainly used for autotransfusion.

Here at Mama Lucy Hospital we use it for patients who have raptured ectopic pregnancies where we harvest the blood and through the hemafuse device and autotranfuse the blood back to the patient.

A total of 16 women have benefitted from this process since the device was donated."



GRACE WANGUI, IN-CHARGE BEYOND ZERO MOBILE CLINIC, NYANDARUA COUNTY

When we're scheduling our mobile clinic outreaches, we consider the hard-to-reach areas; people who have difficulties accessing health facilities due to poor terrain





#### **FRESH OF THE DIGITAL PRESS**

Beyond Zero Half Marathon 2020 Event Magazine and the Technical Report 2019-2020 Out Now!

On March 8th 2020, over 15,000 participants turned up for The Beyond Zero Half Marathon (BZHM) to run for a worthy cause under #IWillRun.

To highlight the activities that took place before and after the marathon, the Initiative published the BZHM Event Magazine. For a more detailed look at what Beyond Zero has been able to accomplish through the generous support of the Public and Private sector, the Technical Report (2019-2020) was most recently published.

They are both available for download on <u>www.beyondzero.or.ke.</u>

### **CAPTURED MOMENTS**

ACORN TUTORIALS



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### CAPTURED MOMENTS

IMANI CHILDREN'S HOME









### CAPTURED MOMENTS

NYUMBANII CHILDREN'S HOME









### **CAPTURED MOMENTS**

ST. JOSEPH'S CENTRE

















### **CAPTURED MOMENTS**

CHVS TRAINING





