Weekly Newsletter
Volume 1, Issue 2, August 2020

Announcement

World Overdose Day: August 31, 2020

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Marking the World Breastfeeding Week 2020

The world is marking the world breastfeeding week under the theme “Support breastfeeding for a healthier planet”. In line with this theme, KANCO has been working together with health stakeholders and the Ministry of Health for a media outreach drumming support for immunization at the workplace.

According to WHO, breastfeeding provides every child with the best possible start in life. It delivers health, nutritional and emotional benefits to both children and mothers. And it forms part of a sustainable food system. They add that increasing rates of exclusive breastfeeding could save the lives of 820,000 children every year, generating US $302 billion in additional income.

It’s against the background that WHO is calling for support for mothers to effectively breastfeed through the call to: **Invest** to make skilled breastfeeding counselling available to every woman through increased financing for breastfeeding programs and improved monitoring and implementation of policies, programs and services. **Train** health care workers, including midwives and nurses, to deliver skilled breastfeeding counselling to mothers and families: **Ensure** that counselling is made available as part of routine health and nutrition services that are easily accessible: **Partner and collaborate** with civil society and health professional associates, building strong collaborative systems for provision of appropriate counselling and: **Protect** health care workers from the influence of the baby food industry.

The call is for multi-stakeholder efforts to ensure commitment, concerted action and collaboration, to ensure every mother has access to skilled breastfeeding counselling, empowering her to give her baby the best possible start in life.
The grant flexibility provision by the Global Fund in response to the pandemic, allowed countries to use up to 5% of existing Global Fund grants to fight COVID-19 and mitigate the impact the pandemic has on HIV, TB and malaria programs which saw up to US$500 million being made available through these grant savings and reprogramming. This was in response to the emerging needs for community support for an effective response.

Following this provision KANCO with the support of AMREF and in partnership with the Ministry of Health through the Global Fund TB Grant, has been conducting community sensitizations on COVID19, Gender based violence, human rights and TB, across 4 counties; Kwale, Bungoma, Machakos and Kitui Counties.

These training focusing on Community Health Workers (CHWs) and Community Health Extension Workers (CHEWs) have been further facilitating the dissemination of the Home Based Isolation and Care Guidelines for Patients with COVID. Some of the topics covered include: home based care, preventing community transmission of Covid-19 as well as TB through an integrated approach to the community disease response.

So far 15 training have been conducted across four counties, where KANCO implements the Global Fund TB Project with the support of AMREF.
The current Global Fund strategy (2017-2022) ends in 2022 and the GF is going through a process of identifying what GF should prioritize in their next strategy. The GF Strategy is a multiyear road map for partnerships and acceleration of the progress against HIV, Tuberculosis and Malaria and improve global health. The current Strategy is halfway and the GF has started the process of developing the next strategy, to commence in 2023.

In light of this, the GF has launched an open consultation to develop the next Global Fund Strategy and is strongly encouraging all stakeholders to contribute to this consultation by identifying the most pressing challenges and opportunities in the fight against the three diseases; building resilient and sustainable systems for health; promoting and protecting human rights and gender equality; and Mobilizing Increased Resources. Further the views will contribute to an inclusive Strategy development process, outlining how these priorities are affected by the COVID-19 pandemic and broader changes in the health and development landscape. This will also inform if the current GF strategy was successful, what may have been missed, and define future engagements.

Objectives of the survey
1. To evaluate how Anglophone Africa CS and CG perceive the 2017-2022 SP objectives have been achieved
2. To identify key areas and new strategies that require to be integrated in the next GF strategy.
3. To identify and consolidate inputs and key suggestions from CS and community constituency that represent the voice from Anglophone Africa.

Take part in the survey [here](#)
#Stay Safe

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