



# NYERI COUNTY

## WEEKLY REVIEW

13TH - 17TH JANUARY, 2020

# 019

ISSUE NO. 12

## One on One with Nyeri Health CEC Dr. Rachel Kamau

She takes us through the 2019 achievements in her docket

*Story on page 2 & 3*



# 2019 Health Department score card

*Dr. Rachel has been incharge of the Health Department in the County Government of Nyeri for over two years.*



## **1. What are the key achievements for the department in the past one year?**

Key achievements were mainly in development of infrastructure, capacity building of health care workers and increasing allocation resources for health commodities

Ten hematology machines were procured and installed in the following Health Centres; Nyeri Town, Thangathi, Mweiga, Wamagana, Ngorano, Karaba, Warazo, Kamoko, Karemeno and Gichira.

A further 6 biochemistry analyzers were procured and installed in Mweiga, Nyeri Town, Wamagana, Karemeno, Thangathi and Ngorano health centres and personnel recruited and deployed to facilitate operationalizing of the same.

Additionally, Narumoro and PGH were provided with generators and Karatina and Nyeri hospital with mortuary coolers.

## **2. Since Nyeri was selected as a pilot project for UHC, the Nyeri county residents have been receiving free medical services. What have we achieved so far?**

Universal Health Coverage (UHC) has been identified as one of the "Big Four Agenda" of national development and economic priorities towards achieving the Kenya Vision 2030. The following has been achieved so far;

- Registration of 716,947 people (86.2%) and 349,901 households.
- Hiring of 91 health care workers.
- Provision of some basic equipment and supplies
- Increased the frequency of medical outreaches.

for screening of NCDs.

- Surveillance for food safety
- Capacity building of health care workers and CHVs.
- Expansion of oncology, renal and ICU services.

## **3. Nyeri is the county with the highest non-communicable diseases (NCDs) prevalence rate around the county. What measures have you taken so far?**

The following interventions were carried out last year to address the high rates of NCDs

- Screening and community awareness on NCDs.
- Training of health care workers.
- NCD surveillance and research.
- Established comprehensive

weekly clinics for diabetes and hypertension in selected health centres in the 8 sub-counties.

- Established comprehensive daily clinics on diabetes and hypertension in selected sub-county facilities that is; Othaya, Mukurweini and Karatina hospitals.
- Established diabetes and hypertension support groups.

## **4. We have over 400 community health volunteers around the county. What have been their contributions towards the improvement of health Sector?**

Nyeri County has 2,510 community health volunteers spread across the eight sub-counties. They form the community health work force as prescribed in the 2nd National Health Strategic Plan of 2005-2010.



Following devolution, Nyeri County established 251 community health units each representing a sub location and recruited 10 community health volunteers per unit. These community health volunteers have been key in health service delivery at the community level mainly providing preventive and promotive health services. As a result of community intervention, there has been negligible outbreaks for diarrhoea diseases. The community health volunteers also mobilize the community on positive health seeking behavior including encouraging pregnant women to seek early antenatal care and deliver at a health facility. They also monitor attendance to child welfare clinic and adherence to the immunization schedule.

#### ***6. Other counties have had their doctors going on strike. How has Nyeri managed to keep afloat?***

- Releasing doctors for training- To date, the County has released 58 doctors since 2013.
- Promotions as per the staff establishment.
- Salary always paid on time.
- Consultative meetings between the union, the Governor and the County health

leadership.

- Political goodwill on all matters health
- Strong governance structures at the hospital level
- Availability of resources in the hospital.

#### ***8. Mental health is a menace usually overlooked yet it warrants the requisite attention. How is the situation in Nyeri?***

Mental health is a major concern in Nyeri County. Suicide is on the rise and so are other mental illness. To this end we have:

- Conducted mental health assessment to children in school.
- Provided mental health drugs in health centres and hospitals.
- The County has trained community healthcare volunteers on prevention and detection of mental illnesses.
- Established a drop-in-site for the mentally ill street persons. These persons are provided with uji and medication. Those relapsing are taken to hospital and

later rehabilitated back home. This has reduced mentally ill persons in the streets.

#### ***9. What are the main challenges you faced (and perhaps continue to face) in the department and how did you overcome?***

1. Increased workload at the referral hospitals due to community's preference for hospitals which overburdens the facilities.
2. Increased patient referrals from neighboring counties of Kirinyaga and Laikipia.
3. Staff shortage. This has been attributed to the high rate of attrition. At the same time new facilities have been operationalized (28 since devolution) and services have expanded in the county referral hospital (ICU, Renal, oncology etc.) and other facilities. The County currently has 43 doctors on post graduate training who are paid salaries and allowances by the County despite training constitutionally being a national function. This is contributing to increased budget that cannot allow the County to employ an adequate number of staff. The shortage cuts across all cadres. To mitigate the shortage, the department is engaging skilled workers on short-term contracts.
4. Late disbursements of UHC funds to the county which is delaying implementation of health activities.



# Fish farmers' field day in Tetu

*"Fish farmers were taught how to rear fish using different methods and the best ways of harvesting them. They also had an opportunity to learn better ways to cook and eat fish."*

**RIGHT:** Some of the officers who participated during the Fish Farmers Field Day at Ihururu, Tetu. **INSET:** Ready cooked fish

By Wanjiru Mwangi



PHOTOS | WANJIRU MWANGI

The County Government of Nyeri in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries and Irrigation, and Aquaculture Business Development Programme (ABDP) hosted fish farmers during a field day at Ihururu Chief's camp in Tetu sub-county.

The theme of the day was 'Fish for health and wealth' and the objective was to teach farmers on how to increase their income in fish farming, promote food security and create employment opportunities for people. Fish farmers were taught how to rear fish using different methods and the best ways of harvesting them. They also had an opportunity to learn better ways to cook and eat fish.

Importance of fish was also insisted on to the farmers since fish improves immunity, provides calcium for strong bones and also has omega 3, which helps in brain development.

The County Government of Nyeri is funding fish farmers in rehabilitation of ponds, giving them cover nets and fish feeds.

According to the head of fisheries and ABDP County Coordinator, the County Government of Nyeri has also introduced cage farming, offering tilapia monosex fingerlings.



*An officer sensitizing farmers.*

PHOTO | WANJIRU MWANGI



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PHOTO | KENNEDY KARANJA

From left governors H.E Kiraitu Murungi (Meru), H.E Mutahi Kahiga (Nyeri), H.E Ann Waiguru (Kirinyaga) and Nyeri Economic advisor Ndirangu Gachunia who is also the CEO of Central Region Economic Bloc during a meeting on progress of Nairobi – Nanyuki railway line in Nairobi.

# Consultative meeting for the revitalization of the Thika - Nanyuki railway line

*Nyeri Economic advisor Ndirangu Gachunia thanked Nyeri Governor H.E. Mutahi Kahiga for seconding him as Central Region Economic Bloc's Chief Executive Officer.*

By Kennedy Karanja

**N**yeri governor H.E Mutahi Kahiga joined other governors from Central Economic Bloc (CEREB) counties where the Nairobi - Nanyuki railway line is transversing to get a progress report of the ongoing revival of the Thika - Nanyuki line from the Kenya Railways officials.

The implementation of the rehabilitation works will be divided into three sections: Thika to Maragua - 47.60km, Maragua to Karatina - 54.20km and Karatina to Nanyuki - 75.40km. The constructions will be ongoing concurrently.

The railway line will play a key role in the transportation of livestock and livestock products, farm produce and also as a means of transportation for high capacity haulage of bulky goods.

The revitalization of the railway operations will support establishment of Special Economic Zones (SEZ) through ease of movement of goods, services and persons.

Railway passenger services will ease the movement of persons through provision of alternative of less costly transport means.

The railway line is in line with the president's Big Four Agenda which will support their implementation.



COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF NYERI



DEPARTMENT OF GENDER, YOUTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES  
P.O BOX 1112-10100 NYERI-KENYA

TENDER NOTICE

Bids are invited from eligible and qualified firms for the under mentioned works.

TENDER REFERENCE	NEGOTIATION NUMBER	TENDER DESCRIPTIONS	ELIGIBILITY	BID BOND
CGN/GYSS/28/2019-2020	769356-2019/2020	PROPOSED 2NO. STAFF HOUSES, ABLUTION BLOCK AND SEPTIC TANK AT IHURURU REHABILITATION CENTRE	YOUTH	NIL
CGN/GYSS/29/2019-2020	769363-2019/2020	PROPOSED FENCING, ACCESS ROAD AND PARKING AT IHURURU REHABILITATION CENTRE	OPEN	261,663

Interested bidders can view the tender document in the County Government of Nyeri website ([www.nyeri.go.ke](http://www.nyeri.go.ke)) and/or the IFMIS tender portal: [www.supplier.treasury.go.ke](http://www.supplier.treasury.go.ke) using the unique IFMIS negotiation number given above or <https://tenders.go.ke>.

NB-There will be a mandatory pre-site meeting on 21<sup>st</sup> January 2020 at 10.00.a.m. Complete tender documents **must be** submitted through the IFMIS SUPPLIER Portal: [www.supplier.treasury.go.ke](http://www.supplier.treasury.go.ke) so as to be received on or before **31<sup>st</sup> January 2020 at 11:00am** as indicated in the IFMIS PORTAL. Those Firms with ongoing/stalled contracts in Nyeri County will not be considered.

Bidders **MUST** also submit a hardcopy of their bid in plain sealed envelopes with the tender number clearly marked and bearing no indication of the identity of the tenderers. This should be addressed to:

**THE COUNTY SECRETARY  
COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF NYERI  
P.O BOX 1112 - 10100, NYERI**

and placed in the tender box located at the Governor's office ground floor or sent by post to reach on or before **31<sup>st</sup> January 2020 at 11:00am**.

Submitted tender documents shall be opened publicly soon after the above stated closing date and time in the County Secretary Boardroom, in the presence of tenderers or their representatives who choose to attend. Late bids shall not be accepted or opened.

**County Secretary  
County Government of Nyeri**

# Ndaro-ini coffee farmers to sell their coffee

By Jackline Gikunju

Nyeri Governor H.E Mutahi Kahiga hosted a group of Gikanda Farmers Cooperative Society Management Committee and Ndaro-ini Coffee Farmers representatives in a follow-up consultative meeting following the recently held successful meetings aimed at seeking solutions for the sale of their coffee. Gikanda FCS will facilitate Ndaro-ini to move their coffee.

Governor Kahiga assured them of his government's support and urged them to join hands in getting the best proceeds for their coffee.

Coffee is a key player in Nyeri's economic development and a major income earner for the Nyeri farmers.



PHOTO | KENNEDY KARANJA

Nyeri Governor H.E Mutahi Kahiga, outgoing Health CS Hon Sicily Kariuki and Nyandarua Governor H.E Francis Kimemia during a meeting on UHC program which is expected to be rolled out nationwide.

# UHC national wide roll out plan underway

By Kennedy Karanja

Nyeri Governor H.E Mutahi Kahiga joined colleague Governors in the signing of Intergovernmental Participation Agreement (IPA) - an agreement which is between the national government and county government.

It will be a country scale - up of Universal Health Coverage Program that will pave way for the process of implementation of the 2nd phase of UHC which is to be rolled out to the whole country.

The 2nd phase will bring other counties in, as a result of the success of the 1st phase. There will be placement of 4,000 interns all over the country who will aid the hospital workforce. There will be provision of health, technological products, medicine and essential basic equipment which will respond to county specific gaps. This phase will also help in setting up of structures like community health units.

He recognized the efforts and commitment of Health CS Sicily Kariuki and her ministry for the job well done on the 1st phase of UHC for Nyeri.

**COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF NYERI**

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES**  
P.O BOX 1112-10100 NYERI-KENYA Email: [healthchiefofficer@gmail.com](mailto:healthchiefofficer@gmail.com)

**TENDER NOTICE**

Bids are invited from eligible and qualified firms for the under mentioned works.

NO.	TENDER REFERENCE	TENDER DESCRIPTION	NEGOTIATION NUMBER	BID BOND (KSHS)	ELIGIBILITY
1	CGN/HEALTH/10/2019-2020	Supply, Delivery, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of Medical Gas Piping System at New Naromoru Level 4 – Hospital. (RE-ADVERTISEMENT)	769089-2019/2020	280,000/=	OPEN
2	CGN/HEALTH/11/2019-2020	Supply, delivery, installation, testing and commissioning of high and low water tank at New Naromoru Level 4 – Hospital. (RE-ADVERTISEMENT)	769091-2019/2020	170,000/=	OPEN
3	CGN/HEALTH/13/2019-2020	Proposed construction of new Naromoru level 4 Hospital - Structured Cabling /EPABX/CCTV. (RE-ADVERTISEMENT)	769093-2019/2020	302,000/=	OPEN
4	CGN/HEALTH/22/2019-2020	PROVISION OF SECURITY SERVICES FOR MUKURWE-INI SUB COUNTY HOSPITAL (RE-ADVERTISEMENT)	N/A	26,880/=	OPEN
5	CGN/HEALTH/46/2019-2020	PROVISION OF CLEANING SERVICES FOR COUNTY REFERRAL HOSPITAL	N/A	246,960/=	OPEN

Interested bidders can view the tender document in the County Government of Nyeri website ([www.nyeri.go.ke](http://www.nyeri.go.ke)) and/or the IFMIS tender portal: [www.supplier.treasury.go.ke](http://www.supplier.treasury.go.ke) (for tender no.10,11&13) using the unique IFMIS negotiation number given above or <https://tenders.go.ke>.

**N.B:**

- There will be a mandatory pre- tender site visit on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> January, 2020 at 10.00 am at Naromoru Health Centre for tender No. 10,11&13.
- No bidder will be eligible for more than one tender
- Any bidder with ongoing/Stalled works with the County Government of Nyeri will not be Considered

Complete tender documents must be submitted through the IFMIS SUPPLIER Portal: [www.supplier.treasury.go.ke](http://www.supplier.treasury.go.ke) so as to be received on or before 31<sup>st</sup> January 2020 at 11:00am as indicated in the IFMIS PORTAL.

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**COUNTY SECRETARY  
COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF NYERI**

# Quest to enriching young minds



*LEFT: Kenyatta University team which paid a courtesy call to Nyeri Governor H.E Mutahi Kahiga.*

*“The discussion was centered on empowering the youth through education as well as equipping them with the requisite skills to cope with life’s challenges and upheavals.”*

PHOTOS | PETER WANGARI

By Joseph Wambugu

Nyeri Governor H.E Mutahi Kahiga was pleased to have had fruitful deliberations with a team from Kenyatta University. The discussion was centered on empowering the youth through education as well as equipping them with the requisite skills to cope with life’s challenges and upheavals. He noted that it is important to ground young people firmly on the

tenets of hardwork and proper work ethic.

Upon an invite from the institution, the governor is looking forward to joining over 500 schools that will congregate at Kenyatta University on 25th January 2020, as part of K.U’s Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) activities in guiding the youth and offering advice on career choices, inculcating values in them

among other pertinent issues affecting young people today.



## Consoling two Kieni quarry workers’ families

By Joseph Wambugu

Nyeri governor H.E Mutahi Kahiga joined residents of Gikindu to convey his sincere condolences to the two families of two quarry workers who died on their line of duty. The two men were working at Gikindu quarry when disaster struck. A heap of rock debris fell on them after the quarry collapsed around 10:00am.

The quarry is situated at Thegu River Ward in Kieni East sub-county. He thanked the area residents, the national government, Red Cross team and Nyeri County Government staff for the quick response for helping to retrieve the second body after a six- hour operation.

Governor Kahiga pledged that his government will support the two families fully with resources during these hard times of mourning, during the burial process and even after.

He urged those working in the quarry to take cautionary measures while at their job.



PHOTO | PETER WANGARI

*Nyeri governor H.E Mutahi Kahiga (in suit) consoling Gikindu residents after a tragedy struck killing two quarry workers in Thegu River ward, Kieni East.*

# Governor awards county staff for commendable performance in 2019



PHOTOS | PETER WANGARI



**ABOVE:** Nyeri Governor H.E Mutahi Kahiga with Nyeri county staff in a group photo during the awarding ceremony of the staff who had performed exemplary well in the year 2019. **LEFT:** The Governor with some of the CECs during the awarding ceremony. **BELOW:** The Governor awarding Samuel Wariahe, one of the County staff choir member.

By Njambi Mugo

**N**yeri Governor H. E Mutahi Kahiga awarded members of staff for exemplary performance in the year 2019.

The members of staff are part of four teams; Finance team, the Nyeri staff choir, the Squash and the Darts team who put Nyeri County on a pedestal in the year 2019.

Governor Kahiga applauded the finance department which geared Nyeri County in achievement of position one among all counties in adherence to procurement laws with a 75% success, as recognized by the Public Procurement Regulatory Authority (PPRA).

**He also acknowledged that it was a huge milestone for County government of Nyeri having been hailed for timely payment of pending bills by Treasury CS Ukur Yatani.**

The Governor also congratulated Nyeri Staff Choir for their commendable performance in the KICOSCA music competitions after emerging 1st position in the Set Piece category (sacred), Position One is the Kikuyu Folk song, Position 2 in the Kikuyu Dance category and Position 3 in the Boran Dance (Borrowed Category). He also lauded the squash and dart team who emerged position one and

two respectively during the 7th edition of Kenya Inter-Counties Sports and Cultural Association (KICOS-CA).

Governor Kahiga urged the County staff to work together as a team and pull in the same direction, building on each other's strengths, to emerge as winners.



Officers from the Department of Agriculture and other stakeholders in a strategy meeting at Wambugu ATC Centre

The attendants of the meeting resolved that in case of the locusts' invasion in the county, there is need for:

- \*Creation of reporting desks in case one identifies one in a local farm.
- \*Sensitization of KWS and KFS to provide aerial spraying equipment if need be.
- \*Capacity building of technical staff to visit neighbouring counties affected.
- \*Get brochures from national government addressing the desert

## Nyeri county ready in case of locust invasion

By Wanjiru Mwangi

The Department of Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries and Irrigation held a staff meeting at Wambugu ATC to discuss the measures to be taken as desert locusts invasion preparedness.

**locust situation to help sensitize farmers on actions to take once they are spotted.**

**\*Use of community radios, ward leaders and location leaders to inform farmers to harvest their maize and cut grass just incase they come.**

The County government of Nyeri will be providing the technical support and equipment and also the chemicals required to fight the desert locusts should they invade the county.



*Nyeri Deputy Governor H.E Dr Caroline Karugu chatting with a patient when she visited Nyeri Hospice.*

*“Nyeri Hospice is a facility that was opened in 1995 to provide palliative care to the terminally ill at an affordable rate.”*

# Nyeri Hospice to expand in offering palliative care services

**N**yeri Deputy Governor H.E Dr. Caroline Karugu made a courtesy visit at Nyeri Hospice located in Nyeri town to show support to the fraternity. Nyeri Hospice is a facility that was opened in 1995 to provide palliative care to the terminally ill at an affordable rate.

The institution also facilitates spiritual, emotional and social support to both the patients and their families, and in near future will start taking in people with HIV/AIDS and other non-communicable diseases, which are quite rampant in the county. She acknowledged the good work the institution is doing in reaching

out to the community and appealed to friends, well wishers and persons of goodwill to assist the institution as it grows in offering palliative services to the terminally ill in Nyeri County. At Nyeri Hospice, comfort is always there for those seeking it.

facebook

## Your say...

**Dennis Max**  
This is a big project, it is a beautiful project build on sustainability and aimed at benefiting the lowest denominator of our nation... We must understand that every new thing, follows a process... It is first tested, evaluated and reviewed and any challenges noted are corrected... I believe through the stewardship of Governor Mutahi Kahiga, UHC will settle in to fill in the gap as intended... In my opinion, lets give it time to establish its course...

Hongera Bwana Govenor

Top Fan  
**Mary Muruthi**  
Well done Governor...we Kenyans wants to hear such good news.... Ndio maana twakupenda kaba Kahiga Mwalimu.....politics kando kazi uliopewa zitekeleze kwanza... We're proud of u..... kudoz

Top Fan  
**Lawrwnce Kiambo**  
Thanks. Wonderful. This will create jobs opportunities. I hope hawkers issue was discussed to allow our Government to relocate them.

**Kipkechem Alfonse**  
i am not from Nyeri county but i see a great leader in you...you are man of the people i wish you well ...good work your exelency

**James Mwangi**  
By the way I need to thank you and and your management for making our hospitals great esp mukurweini hospital.thank you sir !

## Prize giving day at Kihatha Primary School

**N**yeri Deputy Governor H.E Dr. Caroline Karugu joined Kihatha primary school fraternity in Kamakwa/Mukaro ward –Nyeri Central, for a prize giving day celebrations for KCPE class of 2019.

The school had improved as compared to the previous years where they had only 13 students with above 350 marks. They had a mean grade of 74 points, up from 53 points. This is a clear testimony that this year has been the best year ever for the school in terms of academic achievements.

She urged parents and all stakeholders to walk together noting that education is not an event but a journey. As a strong believer in holistic education, the Deputy Governor views education as much more than the achievement of good examination results. She wants all students to give off their best across the whole curriculum and extra-curricular activities.

# Weekly Pictorial

13<sup>th</sup> - 17<sup>th</sup> JANUARY, 2020 GOVERNOR'S PRESS



*Ongoing construction of a Multipurpose Hall at Karatina Children's Home.*



*Central Kenya National Show – Nyeri officials when they paid a courtesy call to Nyeri governor H.E Mutahi Kahiga in his office. On the right is Nyeri Education CEC Margaret Mcharia.*



*The County Government of Nyeri has installed streetlights in Kariokor area in Naromoru/Kiamathaga ward in Kieni East sub-county.*



*The new look of Karatina Stadium in Mathira East sub-county after the County Government of Nyeri erected a perimeter wall.*