

GENOWA ECHO

ENDLESS POTENTIAL

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A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF HOMA BAY



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A Message from The **CECM COMMUNICATIONS**



GRACE MERCY OSEWE (MRS)

CECM COMMUNICATIONS

It is the twentieth edition and counting! This remarkable journey started with a single idea of better informing you about your county government's activities. Your consistent feedback has been a driving force in our efforts to maintain momentum.

In this 20th edition, we are excited to share what we accomplished in September. H.E Governor Gladys Wanga spent much of the month in Nairobi, meeting with investors and development partners to attract them to Homa Bay County, highlighting our vast potential as an investment and tourist destination.

Our different departments excelled in their activities, implementing impactful programs for our people. We participated in global celebrations for the deaf and the elderly and also hosted delegations to discuss health and agriculture matters. Our public participation and stakeholder management team organized events to gather support for our proposed climate change interventions.

Finally, in October, as previewed in our Op-ed, we have planned the grand launch of the Okoa Kaunda Classrooms Initiative in the second week of the month, and we invite you to participate. We will also publish our annual edition of the Mashujaa Special.

Enjoy your read!

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The exterior of Kojwach Primary Ondoa Kaunda Classroom. Photo Credit Eunice Atieno

EDUCATION: BRINGING DIGNITY TO OUR CHILDREN: THE ONDOA KAUNDA STORY

By Steven Muga

Construction of the first batch of the Ondoa Kaunda Classrooms Initiative is complete, and the launch, to be presided by H. E Governor Gladys Wanga is due this month. The Ondoa Kaunda project is a transformative initiative spearheaded by the Homa Bay County government to improve early childhood education infrastructure. Named after a term used to identify the rusty iron sheet classrooms, the project seeks to eliminate the dilapidated, worn-out classrooms that have become the face of Early Years Education (EYE) centres in the county. This program forms part of Governor Gladys Wanga's broader development agenda, aimed at providing quality and accessible education to all children in the county.

The Ondoa Kaunda project is driven by the construction of modern, fully equipped EYE classrooms in various primary schools across Homa Bay County. By replacing the old makeshift structures with permanent, child-friendly classrooms, the county government aims to

create a conducive learning environment that will foster early childhood development and set the foundation for educational success. So far, the government through the department of education has constructed 163 new EYE classrooms bringing us to a total of 240 new classrooms done by this government. We are targeting to do another 200 classrooms in this financial year.

The initiative is also aligned with Governor Wanga's focus on the economic stimulus in a labour-based model and community development. The project employs local labour to carry out the construction of the classrooms, providing employment opportunities to residents in the respective areas. This labour-based model not only injects income into the local economy but also encourages community ownership and participation in the success of the schools.

Furthermore, the Ondoa Kaunda project is set to significantly impact the county's education



sector. Early childhood education plays a pivotal role in shaping children's cognitive, social, and emotional development. The provision of better classrooms and learning facilities will encourage higher enrolment rates, reduce absenteeism, and increase retention, particularly for students from disadvantaged backgrounds who often miss school due to poor infrastructure. Governor Wanga's administration has emphasized inclusivity, ensuring that children in even the most remote areas of Homa Bay benefit from the project.

By prioritizing early childhood education through the Ondoa Kaunda project, Homa Bay County is investing in its future generation. The long-term impact will not only be felt in the education sector but will also resonate across the socio-economic fabric of the county, creating a more educated, skilled, and empowered populace. The project stands as a model of how focused government initiatives can drive positive change at the grassroots level.



The interior of one of the Ondoa Kaunda Classrooms. Photo Credit Eunice Atieno

PARTNERSHIPS: GOVERNOR WANGA PULLS ALL STRINGS IN COURTING DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS, AND INVESTORS TO HOMA BAY

By Lawrence Magware



Governor Gladys Wanga addressing the 4th AAAP Forum in Nairobi. Photo Credit Eunice Atieno

In the bustling city of Nairobi, Governor Gladys Wanga spent most of September navigating high-profile meetings and forums, driven by one goal: to transform her home county of Homa Bay into a beacon of investment and development. As the leader of the only county in Western Kenya hosting a Special Economic Zone (SEZ), she is acutely aware of Homa Bay's potential to become a top-tier destination for investors and tourists alike—and she's on a mission to ensure the county capitalizes on every opportunity.

Her September campaign to court investors reached its peak during the Global Center for Adaptation Forum held by the Africa Adaptation Acceleration Program at Serena Hotel. It was here that Governor Wanga took the stage, passionately outlining her administration's vision for climate resilience. Acknowledging the harsh realities of climate change, she stressed the need to protect food security at the community level, ensuring that despite environmental challenges, the people of Homa Bay can still feed their families and their

future. But Wanga's ambitions go beyond survival. Her focus is on building a broader food system that thrives, one that can withstand disruptions while feeding the region.

Beyond climate adaptation, the governor turned her attention to a fundamental pillar of development: infrastructure. Recognizing the importance of safe, efficient roads in bolstering Homa Bay's economic competitiveness, she sat down with Eng. Kungu Ndungu, Director General of the Kenya National Highways Authority. The agenda? Reviving stalled road projects and expanding critical arteries in the county. The Kadongo-Gendia Road, the Homa Bay Highway dual carriageway, and the expansion of the Homa Bay-Rongo road to make way for the Kabunde airstrip—all were discussed. These roads aren't just pathways for vehicles; they are lifelines that will connect farmers to markets, open up new areas for investment, and drive economic growth in Homa Bay.

Governor Wanga's dedication to infrastructure took



French Ambassador to Kenya Arnaud Suquet (second left) looks on as Governor Wanga acquaints with a consulate staff at the French Embassy in Nairobi.
Photo Credit Eunice Atieno

her next to the leadership of the Special Economic Zones Authority, chaired by Mr. Fred Muteti. The Riwa City SEZ, a project close to her heart, promises to be a game-changer for the county. Conversations revolved around the SEZ's development, marketing strategies, and how to attract investors who could turn Riwa City into a thriving hub of economic activity. With a commitment from the SEZ Authority, the governor's vision of an industrialized Homa Bay seems closer than ever.

Her partnership-building efforts extended further still, with a pivotal meeting with H.E. Salim Mvurya, Kenya's Cabinet Secretary for Investment, Trade, and Industry. Together, they discussed how to streamline the setup of Riwa City SEZ, agreeing on the need to expedite the process to ensure infrastructure and trade incentives are in place. Governor Wanga left the meeting optimistic, knowing that once the SEZ is operational, it will be a powerful driver of job creation and industrial growth in the county.

In her pursuit of international partnerships, Governor Wanga met with influential global leaders, including the French Ambassador to Kenya, H.E. Arnaud Sequet. France's global standing in infrastructure and investment was central to their discussion. Wanga expressed her desire to attract French investors to Homa Bay, eyeing opportunities for infrastructure projects that would further modernize the county.

Her final diplomatic meeting was with Ambassador Ruzaimi Mohammad, the Malaysian High Commissioner to Kenya. As the two leaders discussed opportunities for Malaysian investments in Homa Bay, the focus was clear: creating sustainable development projects that would bring much-needed jobs to the county's youth and improve livelihoods across the board.

In every meeting, every handshake, and every plan laid out, one thing was clear—Governor Gladys Wanga's vision for Homa Bay is bold, dynamic, and rooted in the belief that the county can rise to become a regional powerhouse. Whether through climate adaptation, improved roads, or international investment, she is determined to see her county flourish, and her tireless efforts in Nairobi this September brought Homa Bay one step closer to realizing its vast potential.



Meeting with CS Salim Mvuria in his office, Nairobi. Photo Credit Eunice Atieno

SOCIAL PROTECTION: COUNTY GOVERNMENT SCALES UP EFFORTS ON ACHIEVING SOCIAL PROTECTION AND INCLUSIVITY



Ndhiwa Residents in an acclamation endorse the setting up of a Hope Center in the area. Photo Credit Geoffrey Khoore

NDHIWA RESIDENTS ENDORSE THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE SGBV RESCUE CENTER

By Communication Team

The Homa Bay County government, through the Department of Gender and Social Services and the Directorate of Public Participation, conducted a public engagement with the residents of Ndhiwa Sub-County regarding the establishment of a rescue/hope center in Kosewe Ward. This initiative is in response to the significant challenges posed by HIV infections, teenage pregnancies, and sexual and gender-based violence in Homa Bay County, particularly in the Ndhiwa sub-county. The centre, once completed, will cater to the needs of the entire Ndhiwa sub-county and beyond.

The discussions, led by Hon. Sarah Malit, the County Executive Member in charge of Sports, Culture,

Gender, and Social Services, involved residents, opinion leaders, government administrators, and civil society stakeholders. The project will be a joint partnership between the County Government of Homa Bay and Shining Hope for Communities (SHOFCO).

Hon. Sarah Malit emphasized the county's commitment to reducing HIV infections, teenage pregnancies, and gender-based violence in every village within the county. Additionally, H.E Governor Gladys Wanga has solidified a social service partnership plan with SHOFCO, focusing on transformative projects in education, healthcare, water and sanitation, economic empowerment,

and youth development to uplift urban and rural communities.

The collaboration between SHOFCO and Homa Bay County will encompass critical areas such as healthcare, water and sanitation, education, youth empowerment, gender, and the prevention of sexual abuse. The partnership aims to address multiple dimensions of poverty and inequality through programs focused on education, healthcare, water and sanitation, economic empowerment,

community mobilization, and youth development.

Over the next five years, SHOFCO and Homa Bay County will work together on agriculture, water, environment, gender, health, education, and youth and women empowerment programs. Specific initiatives include sponsoring 250 TVET students, establishing water pans, safe houses for victims of sexual abuse, and resource centres for the communities, among other interventions.

STEPS TAKEN TO MAKE SAFE SPACE OFFICERS MORE EFFICIENT

By Communication Team



The proposed site for the construction of a Hope Center. Photo Credit Geoffrey Khoore

The County Department of Youths, Sports, Talent Development, Gender, Inclusivity, Cultural Heritage, and Social Services, in partnership with the State Department of Children's Services and USAID's Nuru Ya Mtoto under PATH, has concluded a comprehensive three-day workshop that aimed to provide training and capacity-building for county gender and social work officers, National Police Service gender and children desk officers, and department administrators.

The workshop focused on enhancing participants' knowledge and understanding of child welfare and protection services within their respective jurisdictions. Additionally, the workshop aimed to promote collaboration and synergy among various

agencies to improve interventions for children's welfare within the county.

The County government of Homa Bay is intensifying its efforts to combat the Triple Threat of new HIV infections, teenage pregnancies, and gender-based violence. Alarming statistics indicate that children are disproportionately affected by these issues. Therefore, the training and retooling of officers were crucial to improve their effectiveness in handling child protection matters.

Overall, this workshop was a significant step towards strengthening child welfare services and ensuring the safety and well-being of children in Homa Bay County.

THE DEPARTMENT OF GENDER AND SOCIAL SERVICES HOLDS ACCELERATE PROJECT SENSITIZATION MEETING.

By Collins Ogutu

The Department of Gender and Social Services held an accelerated shelter inception Project aimed at increasing the uptake of services through the provision of safety for GBV survivors.

The Embassy of Denmark does the project through the Gender Violence Recovery Center (GVRC) Speaking during the meeting, Marvin Njuguna Programs Officer at GVRC noted that the project focuses on sexual and Reproductive Health Services and Prevention Management

Njuguna added that GVRC has been implementing a project dubbed accelerate in Homabay hence on-boarded a new program for safe spaces to strengthen the GBV Referral Pathway and uptake of services.

Further, he disclosed that the Program is implemented in 13 counties in Kenya where the

modern contraceptive prevalence rate is low and GBV Prevalence rate is high. “We support 13 counties in Kenya, Homabay being one of them. We chose these counties based on a needs assessment of GBV Prevalence and SRHS uptake,” he said.

The Chief Officer for Gender and Social Services Ms Dolphin Ochere stated that the Danida-funded project will enhance the County Government’s commitment to helping Gender Based Violence (GBV) survivors beyond treatment by removing them from unsafe environments.

The meeting comprised of staff from the Department of Gender and Social Services, National Government Administrative Officers, National Police Service, Community Based Organizations and Non-governmental Organizations.



Accelerate Project Officers and Gender Department pose for a group photo after the training. Photo Credit Courtesy

CLIMATE CHANGE: STAKEHOLDER INVOLVEMENT SPEARHEADING COUNTY CLIMATE RESILIENCE



Residents participate on priority projects. Photo Credit Oluoch Bernard

HOMA BAY COUNTY ENGAGES COMMUNITY IN CLIMATE ACTION THROUGH FLLOCA INITIATIVE.

By Oluoch Bernard

The Homa Bay County Government, through the Financing Locally Led Climate Action (FLLoCA) initiative, recently concluded a four-day public participation exercise across its 40 wards. This initiative is a crucial part of the county's efforts to address climate change, focusing on key sectors such as water, environment, and agriculture.

During the four-day public participation exercise, community members were sensitized on climate change, engaged in reviewing and updating the existing action plan, and involved in identifying priority areas for projects in the FY 2024/2025. These activities are crucial in ensuring that climate actions are inclusive, responsive, and tailored to the unique challenges faced by different wards within the county.

During the engagement with members of the public, it was noted with great concern that climate change poses significant threats to

communities in Homa Bay County, affecting water availability, agricultural productivity, and overall environmental sustainability. Addressing these challenges is essential to safeguard the livelihoods of residents, enhance food security, and protect natural resources. Effective climate action reduces vulnerability to climate-related shocks, promotes sustainable development, and ensures that communities are better equipped to adapt to changing environmental conditions.

The FLLoCA program plays a pivotal role in advancing climate resilience in Homa Bay County. It emphasizes local engagement, capacity building, and sustainable investments in climate adaptation and mitigation measures. By integrating local knowledge and priorities, the county can implement climate interventions that are not only sustainable but also widely supported by the community, thereby enhancing resilience and adaptive capacity in the face of ongoing climate challenges.



CECM Dr. Joash Aloo demonstrating a procedure during the exercise at Koderia Forest. Photo Credit Abnery Pajero

HOMA BAY COUNTY PLANTS 10,000 TREES AT KODERA FOREST TO FIGHT CLIMATE CHANGE

By Abnery Pajero

The County Government of Homa Bay, in collaboration with local schools, communities, and partners, successfully planted 10,000 trees at Koderia Forest today as part of a major tree-planting exercise aimed at combating climate change and restoring the environment. This effort is part of the county's broader strategy to increase forest cover and build resilience against climate-related impacts.

Key partners in this initiative included the Seth Ogelo Foundation, Miti Maisha Foundation, Falme Bet, NCBA Bank, SHOFCO, and the Office of the First Daughter. Their contributions and partnership were pivotal in ensuring the success of this tree-planting drive.

Dr Joash Aloo, the County Executive Committee Member in charge of the environment, shared a nostalgic reflection on the past state of the environment, contrasting it with the present challenges. He noted that last year, the lake had become extremely polluted, but efforts such as planting 387,000 trees in 2023 have helped restore some balance. Dr Aloo also mentioned the county's silent policy of planting at least 100 trees during burial ceremonies and his personal goal of planting 200 trees on his birthday. "We

must break the vicious cycle of cutting down trees and destroying our environment. By planting more trees, we can build resilience, provide water, and move towards climate change mitigation," Aloo remarked.

He also highlighted the county's commitment to increasing forest cover to 10% and tree cover to 4%, in line with national goals. "Tree planting is not just about increasing cover; it's about creating carbon sinks, restoring biodiversity, and building a sustainable future," he added.

Stacy Otieno, County Director of Environment, highlighted the current state of Homa Bay forest cover, which stands at 3.1%, with a target of increasing it to 4%. She pointed out that this initiative aligns with the presidential decree to plant 15 billion trees nationwide by 2030, with 15 million trees targeted for Homa Bay County. "We are also supporting farmers in agroforestry to ensure we increase tree cover sustainably," Ms Otieno added.

The County Government of Homa Bay remains dedicated to environmental conservation through reforestation, agroforestry, and climate action initiatives, ensuring that future generations inherit a thriving ecosystem.

DISASTER PREPAREDNESS: COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF HOMA BAY CONDUCTS EVACUATION SUPPORT TRAINING TO STRENGTHEN DISASTER PREPAREDNESS

By Abnery Pajero



CECM Grace Mercy Osewe addressing the training. Photo Credit Abnery Pajero

To boost disaster management capabilities, the County Government of Homa Bay, through the Department of Special Programs and Disaster Management, successfully concluded a week-long training on the Evacuation Support Programme. This crucial training is part of the county's broader strategy to enhance preparedness, improve response times, and ensure efficient management of evacuations and displacement during emergencies.

The training was aimed at equipping key personnel, including disaster management officers, community leaders, and volunteers, with the knowledge and skills needed to effectively plan, coordinate, and execute evacuations. This initiative is essential in ensuring that the county can protect vulnerable populations and minimize the impacts of natural or man-made disasters on local communities.

The training covered various critical areas, including risk assessment, emergency planning,



Participants take part in construction of a rescue camp. Photo Credit Abnery Pajero

logistics coordination, camp management and communication strategies during evacuation processes. Participants were also trained on how to offer psychosocial support to displaced persons and how to work collaboratively with different stakeholders during a disaster event. "This training

comes at a time when climate change is causing unpredictable weather patterns and increasing the frequency of disasters. We must be prepared to act swiftly and efficiently to safeguard our communities,” said [Insert Name], the Director of the Department of Special Programs and Disaster Management.

The success of this programme was made possible through collaboration with key partners, including the International Organization for Migration (IOM), the Council of Governors, the National Disaster Operation Centre (NDOC), the Kenya Red

Cross, and various civil society organizations. Their support was integral in ensuring that the training provided was comprehensive and up to date with the latest best practices in disaster management.

The County Government of Homa Bay is committed to ensuring that all stakeholders, from county officials to community leaders, are equipped to respond effectively to emergencies. With the completion of this training, the county is better prepared to manage evacuations, coordinate responses, and reduce the negative impact of disasters on residents.

HEALTHCARE: COUNTY HEIGHTENS MCH AND PCN AS UHC BEGINS TO ROLL OUT



CHMT members and Lwala Community officers after the surveillance exercise. Photo Credit Veroncia Nyasoro

COUNTY TEAMS UP WITH LWALA IN ROLLING OUT MATERNAL HEALTH SURVEILLANCE

By Veroncia Nyasoro

The County Government of Homa Bay, in collaboration with the Lwala Community Alliance and Momentum, recently concluded a workshop focused on crafting the Maternal and Perinatal Surveillance Response (MPDSR) report. The primary objective of this workshop was to align efforts with the Sustainable Development Goals, specifically targeting the reduction of maternal and perinatal mortalities, and enhancing outcomes for newborns. The ultimate vision is to achieve zero mortalities in these areas.

A key emphasis of the workshop was on the pivotal role of Community Health Promoters (CHPs) in identifying and supporting pregnant mothers within communities. By ensuring that all pregnant women attend Antenatal Care (ANC) units, we can

guarantee that both the mother and the child receive the necessary care throughout the pregnancy. This collaborative initiative highlights the dedication of all stakeholders involved in enhancing maternal and child health outcomes within Homa Bay County.

Upon completion of the eight Antenatal Care (ANC) visits, mothers are better equipped for a successful delivery, ultimately working towards the goal of zero mortality. It is imperative to recognise that pregnancy is a natural process and should not result in maternal deaths. As stated by Dr. Vincent Oduor, the Gynaecologist at Homa Bay County Teaching and Referral Hospital, and the champion for zero maternal mortality, every effort must be made to ensure the safety and well-being of expectant mothers.

DELIBERATE STEPS LINED UP FOR PRIMARY CARE NETWORK ENHANCEMENT



CECM Roseline Omolo(center) leads in the award ceremony for best-performing CHPs. Photo Credit Veroncia Nyasoro

By Communication Team

The Homa Bay County Government graciously welcomed a delegation from the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine in the UK for a Learning Experiential Visit today. The team, in collaboration with their local subsidiary, LVCT Health, is visiting the county to gain insights into the implementation of the Primary Health Care Network (PCNs) to achieve effective universal healthcare coverage. The visit also aims to enhance the connection between the community health system and facility-based care services.

The Primary Health Care Networks (PCNs) are structured to begin at the community level, encompassing dispensaries, and health centers, and ultimately linking to healthcare facilities to establish a comprehensive network. Community Health Promoters (CHPs) play a crucial role in this network by identifying pregnant women and utilizing the electronic Community Health Information System (eCHIS) to track the number of expectant mothers in the communities. This data is invaluable for follow-up care and monitoring of Antenatal Care (ANC) contacts.

After a full-day field visit where both the LVCT and the County Health Management Team took time to visit primary care sites including dispensaries and health centres and meetings with the CHPs, the teams gathered for another two-day debriefing

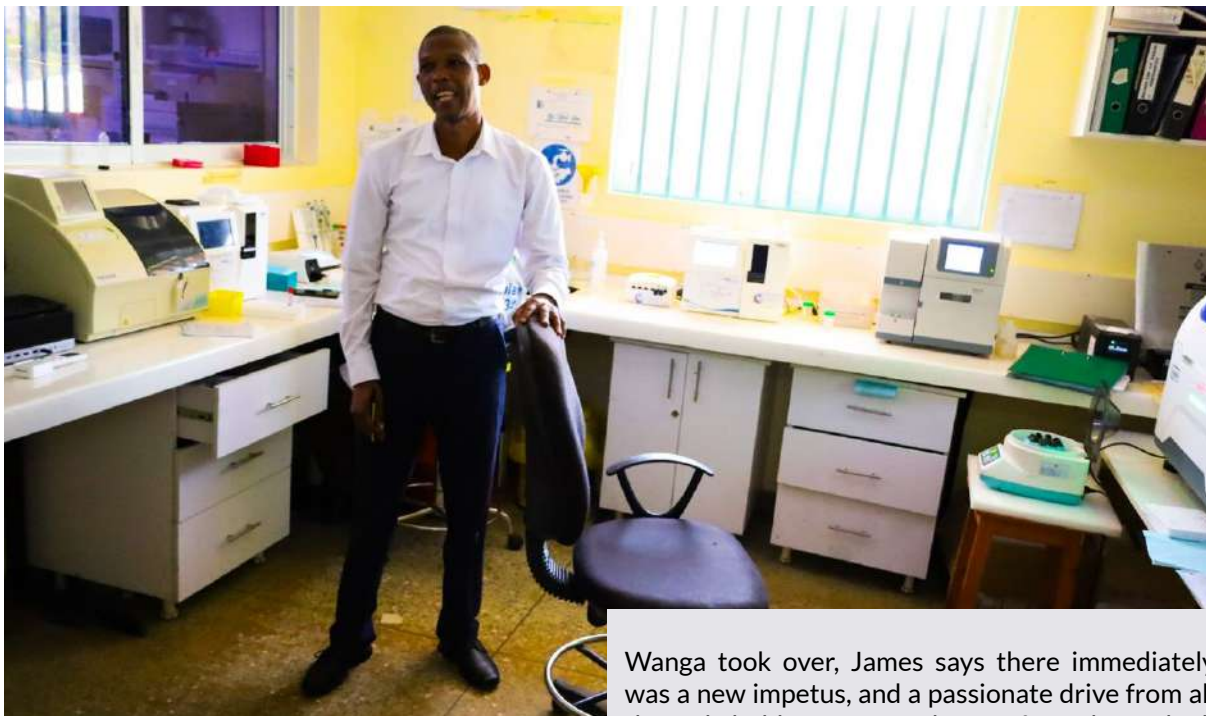
meeting at Cold Springs to deliberate on the way forwards. The team primarily focuses on community health and strengthening healthcare systems and facility-based care services. Under the C-it DU-it study, the collaboration targets the interface between the community and healthcare facilities. It aims to empower community work improvement teams to utilize accurate data for quality improvement initiatives.

The teams were led by Dr. Lilian Mutiso, Executive Director of LVCT Health, Professor Miriam Taegtmeier, Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine and Dr Gordon Okomo, the County Director for Health.



DG Joseph Magwanga welcomed the LVCT team to the county. Photo Credit Veroncia Nyasoro

DIAGNOSTICS: ISO-CERTIFIED HBCTRH OFFERING WORLD-CLASS SERVICES WITH DISTINCTION AND EFFICIENCY



HBCTRH Laboratory Manager Dr. James Owino when in the laboratory before he begins his daily routine

By Lawrence Magware

As far as medical laboratories go, few boast a remarkable transformation within such a short time as the Homa Bay County Teaching and Referral Hospital's laboratory. It is interesting to note that whereas quite several facilities and services within the county's biggest health facility have made almost a lifetime leap, the laboratory has never been mentioned with the same breath. But make no mistake – HBCTRH Laboratory is one of the few ISO-certified facilities we have within the region.

James Owino has been there and seen it all, first as a junior officer to a fully-fledged Laboratory Manager and the diagnostic-in-chief, literally speaking. "We have moved from offering services dependent on what was available to what is needed. We initially would turn away patients including those needing mere malaria tests because more often than not we never had resources even for the basics," James says amid deep reflections on how fast things can change.

With a huge input from the Kenya Medical Research Institute (KEMRI), the laboratory began churning out positive stories but that soon ground to a halt as there was no commensurate support from the county government until there was a change of guard at the Governor's Office. When Governor

Wanga took over, James says there immediately was a new impetus, and a passionate drive from all the stakeholders to not only transform the outlook of the referral facility but also the entire hospital's 'software' and that is how the laboratory got a new lease of life.

From generating a paltry KES 250,000 monthly, the laboratory began to rake in KES 1 million by early 2023 to now excess of KES 3 million. This is attributed to the sharp focus the hospital put on diagnostic services where the supply of laboratory reagents for tests began being consistent and prompt, employment of additional technicians was done and the cashless and automation of payment and financial transactions were executed.

The laboratory now has all the major components of that make a laboratory a good one including phlebotomy, serology, haematology, and parasitology sections. Further, the facility has a dedicated tuberculosis laboratory besides a well-equipped bacteriology, biochemistry and mother and child special set-aside unit.

The HBCTRH Laboratory has made significant improvements by acquiring an electrophoresis machine, eliminating the need to refer sickle-cell patients to other locations for testing. This has greatly reduced the waiting time for results, which used to be as long as two weeks. In addition to this, the facility has also become a research centre for malaria, as part of a collaborative project with Mount Kenya University and the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) aimed at combating malaria in Kenya.

THIS MONTH ON EXPLORE HOMA BAY COUNTY



SIGHTS AND SOUNDS: THE ANNUAL RUSINGA FESTIVAL

The Rusinga Festival is a beautiful celebration of the Abasuba people and their rich culture, held every third week of December. This two-day event features a variety of activities including music, fashion, film, traditional cuisine, artistry, literature, traditional sports and games, as well as tours and cultural exchanges with both local and international communities. While the festival aims

to raise awareness about the diminishing Suba culture, it also highlights the beauty of the lake region as a tourist destination, drawing attendees from beyond the Lake Region and across the globe. Over the years, the Rusinga Festival has grown to become a prominent fixture in the Kenyan cultural festival landscape.

LAMBWE VALLEY: A DRAMATIC UNTOLD VIEW

The Lambwe Valley is a stunning south-westerly extension of the Kavirondo fault trough, nestled between the Kanyamwa Escarpment to the east and the picturesque Gwassu and Gembe Hills to the west. The valley floor gently slopes southward from the shores of the magnificent Lake Victoria. At its expansive northern end, the valley boasts the captivating Ruri hills. This region's tropical woodlands and savannas are home to a diverse array of wildlife, carefully conserved to preserve the natural habitat and make Ruma National Park the exclusive sanctuary of the rare Roan Antelope.

The Lambwe River, originating from deeply gullied watercourses in the Gwasu and Gembe hills and the escarpment, gracefully meanders the entire length of the valley. Overall, the Lambwe Valley is

a breathtaking natural landscape characterized by lush vegetation and adorned with dramatic geological features.



