

WELCOME TO OUR  
*Monthly newsletter*



CIHEB CEO Dr. Emily Koech (Third from right) and Team at Transform

## CIHEB CEO VISITS PHDA-SWOP FACILITY

Partners for Health and Development in Africa (PHDA) recently hosted a team from the Center for International Health, Education, and Biosecurity (CIHEB), including their CEO, in a visit to Transform Clinic on Wednesday, the 20th. This visit marks an important milestone in the organization's collaborative efforts to improve healthcare standards and empower communities through mentorship and technical assistance.

Led by its CEO, the CIHEB team provided significant technical assistance and mentorship customized to Transform Clinic's specific requirements. The clinic staff adopted novel techniques and enhanced clinic protocols with guidance from CIHEB. Transform also got the opportunity to illustrate the integration of new medical technologies into clinic services under CIHEB's supervision. This displayed the move to provide increased access to quality healthcare services to cater to the specific needs of the unique clientele the clinic caters to.

The CIHEB visit emphasizes the importance of collaboration and shared learning in the pursuit of healthcare excellence. PHDA has formed important partnerships in the community via inclusive discourse and mutual involvement, which has increased impact and fostered resilience.

## Newsletter Highlights

CIHEB CEO visits PHDA-SWOP facility (Transform)

First African workshop on Women & HIV

Stay tuned for a detailed implementation framework and the establishment of a steering implementation committee

PHDA registered as a data controller

Need a PHDA related event featured in next month's newsletter? Reach out to Laisa Lumumba at [Lumumba@phdaf.org](mailto:Lumumba@phdaf.org)

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*Wendy Adamba, SSLN Country Engagement Lead Kenya*

## THE NATIONAL MULTISECTORAL HIV PREVENTION STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

In a move to further the ongoing commitment to end AIDS as a public health threat by 2030, the National Multisectoral HIV Prevention Steering Committee held a meeting in which the Technical Support Unit (TSU) and South-to-South Learning Network (SSLN) team members participated. Strategies were deliberated upon towards accelerating the achievement of the goals in the plan and discussions on the way forward were agreed upon.

Anchored on foundational documents such as the Kenya AIDS Strategic Framework (KASF), the Devolution Roadmap, and the Acceleration Plan, the meeting emphasized the urgency of action to curb the alarming rate of new HIV infections, with 22,154 new infections reported. It also underscored the importance of innovative approaches to prevention, promotion of Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP), and the scale-up of male circumcision services. However, more is to be done towards equitable access to these interventions, especially among the Key Populations.

We strive to provide the strategic directions that will lead to accelerated progress toward a Kenya free of HIV infection stigma and AIDS-related deaths. The KASF II (2020/2021 - 2024/2025) targets to; reduce new HIV infections by 75%, reduce AIDS-related mortality by 50%, micro-eliminate viral hepatitis, reduce the incidence of sexually transmitted infections, reduce HIV-related stigma and discrimination to less than 25% and increase domestic financing of the HIV response to 50%. All this is paramount and requires collective action and accountability.

## PHDA'S PARTICIPATION AT THE INAUGURAL AFRICAN WORKSHOP ON HIV & WOMEN

PHDA was privileged to participate in the first-ever African Workshop on HIV & Women, held from the 22nd to the 23rd of February. Aligned with the prestigious International Workshop on HIV & Women, the event operated in a hybrid format. Serving as a pivotal platform for healthcare professionals, researchers, government officials, and other pertinent stakeholders, the workshop offered a dynamic forum for local and international participants to delve into the latest research, advancements, and practical approaches in addressing HIV-related challenges affecting women within the African context.

Represented by our esteemed colleagues, Joyce Adhiambo (pictured below) and Mary Kungu, PHDA showcased its innovative initiatives aimed at bridging gaps in HIV prevention among the female demographic within Key Populations, a segment catered to by our organization. Spearheading discussions on digital health for Key Populations, PHDA's representatives effectively realized one of the primary objectives of the workshop: fostering transformative changes to enhance the overall quality of life for women living with HIV in Africa.



*Joyce Adhiambo representing PHDA*

## WHAT NEXT AFTER THE STRATEGIC PLAN LAUNCH? THINKING THROUGH THE IMPLEMENTATION PROCESS

Partners for Health and Development in Africa (PHDA) Senior Management Team (SMT) convened a pivotal meeting on the 22nd of February. This meeting marked a crucial moment following the launch of the organization's strategic plan for 2023-2027. With the commitment to Reimagine the health equity agenda for marginalized populations, the team engaged in extensive discussions regarding how to implement the strategy by recognizing the importance of translating strategic objectives into actionable plans by 2027. The SMT demonstrated its commitment to steer PHDA towards successfully realizing its strategic goals.



*PHDA Senior Management Team (SMT) and Board Members at Strategic Plan Launch*

# February Newsletter



*Tony Kariri, PHDA Acting Data Protection Officer conducting session*

## PHDA'S COMMITMENT TO UPHOLDING DATA PRIVACY

In line with its commitment to safeguarding the fundamental right to privacy, PHDA continues to strive to implement measures meant to uphold and protect the confidentiality and privacy of program and organizational data. Adhering to the stipulations of The Data Protection Act 2019, PHDA has developed its comprehensive Data Protection Policy (DPP) to ensure the appropriate safeguards are in place in handling all client information.

As part of its compliance efforts, PHDA was finally granted registration as a Data Controller by the Data Commissioners Office as required by the Data Protection Act 2019. To effectively integrate the DPP into everyday practices across all branches and departments, PHDA conducted a second round of community sensitizations across all facilities.

The acting Data Protection Officer, Tony Kariri, oversees these sensitizations. These initiatives aim to raise awareness among all staff members regarding the provisions outlined in the Data Protection Act and the consequences of non-compliance with the DPP.

Through these proactive measures and ongoing educational initiatives, PHDA remains steadfast in its commitment to upholding patient privacy rights and maintaining the highest standards of data protection across its operations.