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Your health was assured in the 5th Tobong’u Loree cultural festival

Raila leads dignitaries, leaders and the media in visiting the Afya Yetu stand

More than 500 benefits from Beyond Zero services at Ekalees

Health program partners supports county MoH at Tobong’u Loree festival
YOUR HEALTH WAS ASSURED IN THE 5TH TOBONG’U LOREE CULTURAL FESTIVAL

The county MoH had put measures in place to ensure the safety and health needs of all the persons attending the 2019 Tobong’u Loree were adequately catered for. The ministry secured more than six tents to act as dedicated service delivery points for all health care needs. All services were offered at no cost at all.

The services offered were; outpatient services, ophthalmic, laboratory, emergency services, blood donation services, admission services, first aid, HIV/AIDS care and treatment services, HIV/AIDS testing and counseling among others. The emergency services were highly boosted by the presence of two standby ambulances and specialized staff and equipment to attend to emerging cases.

Additional services included cancer screening and awareness creation on issues relating to good health seeking behaviors. Away from the routine health programs, the ministry acted pro-actively to ensure control and regulation of alcohol use through the Alcohol and Substance Abuse division.

Officers of the county NACA-DA inspected all business outlets dealing with alcoholic drinks for compliance over the period. While speaking during the press briefing, the head of communication also confirmed that the ministry had established about 50 hands washing sites and placed more than 100 officers to ensure adherence to waste management and food safety standards.
African Union (AU) high commissioner for Infrastructure Development Rt. Hon Raila Odinga graced the fifth annual Tobong Loree festival by visiting the Afya Yetu stand. Raila who was the chief guest at the festival was received by the Chief Officer for Health and Sanitation in Turkana County Dr. Roberts Abok. Raila was accompanied by H.E Governor Nanok, other leaders and international delegations visiting the county. The envoy was briefed by Governor Nanok on the recent advancements in the Ministry of health in relation to the improved quality of services. The Governor further noted that the county is very committed in ensuring Universal Health Coverage has been attained. Governor Nanok reiterated the significant role that has been played by the CHVs and the various innovations that they have come up with geared towards improving the health sector.

Other notable persons who visited the Afya Yetu stand included; the Governor for Kapoeta state H.E Loius Lobong Lojore, the leader of minority at the senate Hon. James Orengo, member of parliament for Suna East constituency Junet Mohammed, senior news anchor of radio citizen Christine Ojiambo, producer of the culture quest TV program Lewis Musumba, senior news anchor of KTN Ali Maanzu among others.
More than 500 people benefited from the beyond zero services at the 5th Annual Tobong’u Loree festival held between 14th and 17th August 2019 at Ekalees grounds in Lodwar. The beyond zero clinic which was officially launched in 2014 by Her Excellency Margaret Kenyatta the First Lady of the Republic of Kenya, was handy in providing the highest attainable free health services.

The Turkana County Beyond Zero clinic is one of the forty-seven fully kitted mobile clinics with the capacity to offer a wide range of integrated services. The services include antenatal and postnatal services; HIV testing, treatment and care; immunization, basic treatment for common ailments, reproductive health cancers screening and treatment (where applicable). Immunization of children is in demand in the Beyond Zero mobile clinics. The beyond zero clinic was used to support provision of HIV/AIDS testing and counseling services as well as health education on exclusive breast feeding for the first six months as well as the benefits of ART adherence.

During the five days period, the hospital handled cases in respect to minor injuries resulting from boda boda accidents and exhaustion. Cases of malaria and problems of the Upper Respiratory Track Infections (URTI) were also reported alongside insect bites. The hospital was manned by a medical officer and a total of six nurses working on shift basis to ensure delivery of service on a round the clock basis. The ministry ensured presence of drugs and personnel to handle cases of pregnancy and delivery services in the event that they occurred. Fortunately, no case of delivery was experienced in the entire period of the festival.

Beyond zero clinics served as the main referral unit to the LCRH.
HEALTH PROGRAM PARTNERS SUPPORTS COUNTY MOH AT TOBONG’U LORE FESTIVAL

The county ministry of health was supported by a host of health program partners for different services during the 5th annual Tobong’u Loree festivals at Ekalees center in Lodwar. The partners who were present during the five days exercise included; AHF, world vision, save the children international and EGPAF. AHF and the world vision teams supported HIV/AIDS testing and counseling services on a 24 hour basis during the festival. The services were accessed by more than 400 persons were significant part of social mobilization in helping the community realize their HIV status. On the other hand, EGPAF supported care and treatment component as well as health education of HIV prevention. The EGPAF stand which was manned by more than five members of staff ensured that people attending the festival were sensitized on stigma reductioion, livelihood during the disease among others.

The Turkana chapter of the Kenya Red Cross come along with staff of the Red Cross Action Team (RCAT) whose main function was to facilitate emergency response services, health education, and advocacy at Ekalees. RCAT placed measures and infrastructure to facilitate blood donations exercise, emergency response team on standby and showcased KRCS programs in Turkana County. More than 400 persons directly benefitted from the services.

Additional services of the red cross team included education on Kangaroo Mother Care and Gender based violence. Save the children supported 10 CHVs to showcase their skills, activities and tools to the public. The team also used the opportunity to interact with the public on the services they offer at their Turkana office.

“12 Refferals, 300 tested and 500 sensitized”
MoH Communication Team, Alex Chamwada and Cyprian Kandie

AFYA YETU SPECIAL PULLOUT
TOBONG’U LOREE EDITION 2019

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