



KNH Gets New CEO!

Kenyatta National Hospital has a new Chief Executive Officer following the appointment of Mr. Richard Leresian Lesiyampe by the Minister for Medical Services Hon. Prof. Anyang' Nyong'o on 23rd June 2011.

Mr. Lesiyampe takes over from Dr. Charles Kabetu who had been serving in an acting capacity since December 2010 when he took over from Dr. Jotham Micheni who had served for one term of three years plus an extension of one year that ended on 31st November 2010. Mr. Lesiyampe who contested against 20 candidates to emerge top position, joins KNH with over twenty one (21) years wealth of experience having worked in senior management positions in both the public and private sectors.

Prior to his appointment, he was the Deputy Director, Finance & Administration at the Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS). His management career is founded on the public sector where he served as a District Officer (DO) in the Department of Public Administration Office of the President, as well as in senior management positions at the Co-operative Bank of Kenya and Kenya Airways.

The 13th holder of the Chief Executive Officer's position at KNH, Mr. Lesiyampe holds a Master of Business Administration (MBA) in Strategic Management & Human Resource and a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science from the University of Nairobi. He is currently pursuing a PhD in Strategic Management at the Kenya Methodist University.

Mr. Lesiyampe has won several outstanding awards key among them is the Head of State Commendation (HSC) for leading implementation of the Strategic Plan for KWS. Outside his professional career, Mr. Lesiyampe is engaged in various community services which includes the Chairman, Samburu Professionals Association and a Member in the Board of Directors, Sunshine Secondary School, Nairobi. He was also a one-time Chairman, Board of Governors, Kirisia Secondary School, Maralal.

He is focused on providing visionary leadership not only in resource mobilization and management, but also in financial management that will guarantee positive and desirable change in Kenyatta National Hospital.

Mr. Lesiyampe will need the support of all members of staff in his endeavors to steer Kenyatta National Hospital



The newly appointed KNH Chief Executive Officer Mr. Richard Leresian Lesiyampe

towards the realization of the vision of becoming a world class referral Hospital in the provision of innovative and specialized healthcare.

He has broken the tradition as the only non-medic CEO and joins a long list of KNH CEOs who include Dr. Oduor M. L, Dr. F. M. Mueke, Dr. N Agata, Mr. Bob Wilcox, Prof. Julius Meme, Dr. A. K. Muita, Dr. H. W. Waweru, Dr. M. Onguti, Dr. F. Musau, Dr. J. Kibosia, Dr. J. N. Micheni, and Dr. C. E. Kabetu.

Congratulations and on behalf of KNH fraternity, *Newsline* Crew wishes you success and God's speed in transforming Kenyatta National Hospital.

Ray of hope for needy patients

A ray of hope has set in among poor parents and guardians with inpatients who take long in the ward following the introduction of an income generation program. The program which is jointly facilitated by Kenyatta National Hospital and Daisy Eye Cancer Fund target relatives tending children diagnosed with cancer and admitted in the Hospital. The project involves relatives in activities such as branding of T-shirts, making environmentally friendly disposable paper bag, making necklace and earring from bead and other decorations using locally available materials which are later facilitated for marketing.

The income is shared to the participants, part of it goes to pay medical bills and a small portion goes back to the project to buy additional raw materials. Relatives who participates in the project are paid KES. 200 per day for the labour and the profits from the sales are used to procure chemotherapy drugs, pay or open National Health Insurance Fund for the children and buy raw materials for the project. Said Ms. Faith Barafa, the project coordinator.

The project has probed worthwhile by preoccupying idle relatives while children are receiving treatment. The relatives therefore use this time to

empower themselves with skills that would support them in income generation as well as entrepreneurship that would enable them become financially independent during and after their children are discharged from the Hospital. The 'cycle of light' is currently being piloted in ophthalmology (eye) ward 9D.

For 31 year old Edith Wanjiku, the earnings from the project has enabled her open medical insurance cover (NHIF), buy drugs and basic necessities

National Bank of Kenya supports renal patients

The National Bank of Kenya (NBK) has joined the support to alleviate myriad of challenges faced by patients diagnosed with Kidney failure by making a donation of three dialysis machines towards the cause. The bank also made a donation of 575 plastic chairs for use in paediatric wards which together with the dialysis machines worth KES. 5,800,000. The donations were presented to the Hospital by the Chairman NBK Board of Directors Mr. Mohammed A. Hassan in a colorful ceremony graced by the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Medical Services Ms. Mary Ngari on 17th June 2011 on behalf of the Minister for Medical services Hon. Prof. Anyang Nyong'o.

While receiving the donation, the Chairperson KNH Board of Management, Mrs. Margaret Wanjohi, said that the additional



Ms. Mary Ngari, Permanent Secretary Ministry of Medical Services (standing L) and Mohammed A. Hassan Chairman NBK Board of Directors cut a ribbon during the hand-over ceremony. Mrs. Margaret Wanjohi, Chairperson KNH Board of Management, (Standing 2nd R) and the then Ag. KNH CEO Dr. Charles Kabetu look on.

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for her 5 year old daughter, Gloria Mukami, who is undergoing eye cancer treatment in the ward. This would have otherwise been an uphill task for the



A mother at Ward 9D weaving a kiondo alongside her baby

mother of one whose daughter receives chemotherapy treatment after every three weeks for the required six courses. "I have registered with NHIF, and I also buy my daughter fruits and toiletries with the money I get from the project" she said.

According to the Chief Executive Officer of the Daisy Eye Cancer Fund, Mr. Brian Ouma, the project is run by volunteers who dedicate their time to teach these relatives how to make the items and impart them with business knowledge and skills that would enable them become self reliant and in the long run comfortably meet their basic needs including cost of healthcare. After their

children are discharged from the Hospital, the project extends soft loans to them to start their own businesses at their area of residence.

This project is indeed beneficial not only for the parents but also for the Hospital that has to bear the burden of medical bills for poor patients through waivers and credit facility. This is in view that majority of the patients seeking treatment at the Hospital are of low socio-economic status and cannot afford the cost of medical treatment. The hospital is currently owed over 1.8 Billion from these patients and there is little likelihood of recovery.

machines would improve dialysis services by allowing nine (9) more patients to undergo dialysis daily. "The unit has thirteen (13) machines that dialyze at least 40 patients in a day, I wish to thank National Bank of Kenya for the generosity which allows nine (9) more patients to undergo dialysis daily" said Mrs. Wanjohi.

The Permanent Secretary appealed to individuals and corporate institution to support the government's efforts to provide quality medical services. "I call upon the corporate sector to emulate the good example set by NBK and equally contribute to this (healthcare) cause," Ms. Ngari said. She added that specialized medical services remain a key government concern and the Ministry of Medical Services reviewing healthcare services to be tandem with the requirements of the new constitution.

The KNH renal unit has for a long time been the only centre offering dialysis services within the country and in the region. This has led to overworking of the limited machines resulting to frequent breakdown and extended patient waiting time.

The donation brings the number of dialysis machines in the Hospital to thirteen 13 providing dialysis to an average of 40 patients in a day. This will equally give a relief to over 250 patients receiving dialysis services in the hospital.

NBK Managing Director Mr. Reuben Marambii reiterated that health issues are rated top in the NBK's CSR. Mr. Marambii added that the donation was part of the Bank's Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) programme and stressed that it will continue to support KNH as part of the Bank commitment to support Kenyans to access specialized quality healthcare.

To contribute or report on news-worthy item,
please contact Editorial Crew;

Public Relations Department

Tel. +254 20 2726300-9 Ext. 43121 or 43969

Fax. +254 20 2725272 Email: knhr@knh.or.ke

Editorial Team – S. Ithai, F. Moraa, K. Mengich Typesetting – V. Wanyande

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Quotable Quote!
"You don't lead by pointing and telling people some place to go. You lead by going to that place and making a case".
Ken Kesey

KNH Newsline: *Uniting Staff*