



# Alpha Monthly

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## SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Message from UN Secretary General on WAD
- OF excels in capacity assessment
- Ecobank donates to KFC lighting
- CHW trained on Home and Community Care
- Equity Bank throws party at St. Anne's Mwangaza
- Tis a season to be jolly...

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## Message from UN Secretary General on WAD

The Millennium Development Goal for HIV/AIDS is clear: to halt and begin to reverse the epidemic by 2015. Thanks to the determined efforts of government and civil society, success is in sight.

The UNAIDS *World AIDS Day Report* for 2012 reveals significant progress in preventing and treating HIV/AIDS in the past two years. The number of people accessing life-saving treatment rose by 60 per cent and new infections have fallen by half in 25 countries – 13 of them in sub-Saharan Africa. AIDS-related deaths have dropped by a quarter since 2005.

Half the global infections in the last two years have been among new born babies. I urge Member States to intensify their efforts to eliminate mother-to-child transmission, and to work to ensure all HIV-positive mothers can survive and thrive.

I also urge stronger efforts to eliminate the stigma and discrimination that increase risk for vulnerable populations.

The *Report of the Global Commission on HIV and the Law: "Risks, Rights and Health"* emphasizes how outmoded laws, misguided judiciary systems and punitive policing practices – based not on science but on fear...

We must make information, testing and treatment available to all, so every man, woman and child can enjoy their fundamental right to the medical care and essential services that will end this devastating epidemic.

Zero new HIV infections, zero discrimination, and zero AIDS-related deaths by 2015 are achievable. On this World AIDS Day, let us commit to build on and amplify the encouraging successes of recent years to consign HIV/AIDS to the pages of history .

**BAN KI MOON,**

**UN SECRETARY GENERAL** on the occasion of the *World AIDS Day, 2012.*

## OF excels in capacity assessment

OF's organisational growth process is healthy; this was confirmed recently during the Rapid Organisational Capacity Assessment conducted by FANIKISHA with flying colours. The assessment aimed at establishing the institutional strength of FANIKISHA-supported CSOs was conducted by a team of FANIKISHA staff led by Henry Kilonzo the MERL Director. This is good news for OF as it pushes it a step closer to accessing full USAID granting.

The categories assessed included among others: Communication, M&E, Governance and Finance . OF scored an aggregate 4 Points the highest possible.

## Ecobank donates to KFC lighting

Ecobank Kisumu recently came to the aid of Kochocho Feeding Centre by donating KES. 100,000 to help in the electrification of the centre.

The cheque was presented to the centre's board Chairman Mr. John Adhier by the bank's United Mall Branch Manager Mr. Douglas Okiring. The donation will go into the centre's electrification kitty as OF continues to mobilise for more resources to help in the electrification.

"It is my hope that this is the beginning of a mutual partnership between Ecobank and OF," said Mr. Okiring.



*OF staff poses with the FANIKISHA team during the rapid assessment*



*Ecobank Branch Manager (United Mall) Mr. D. Okiring presents a dummy cheque of KES. 100,00 to KFC board Chairman Mr. John*

## CHWs trained on Home and Community Care



*A Community Health Worker from Murundu Community Unit in Bondo District addresses the participants during the training in Mageta Island.*

Omega Foundation recently facilitated an HCBC training funded by the National Aids Control Council through the Total War Against AIDS initiative.

The training which took place in Mageta Island of Siaya County saw over 50 Community Health Workers from 3 community units in Mageta and Usege equipped with knowledge and skills to provide care and support to PLWH.

The week-long training also aimed to build the capacity of the CHWs to provide community level HIV/AIDS services as well as strengthen the community level referral system.

The facilitators for this training were drawn from the Ministry of Public Health– Bondo District Because CHWs perform an array of duties such as conducting community health education, treating common ailments and offering first aid services, promoting care seeking and compliance and conducting home visits, such training play a great role in sharpening their skills.

“Knowledge on the KEPH cohort acquired during this training will help me to effectively communicate and intervene with different groups of people,” acknowledged Milton Obote a CHW in Mageta Island.

*“Service to others is the rent you pay for your room here on Earth.”*

*-Muhammad Ali*

## Equity Bank throws party at St. Anne’s Mwangaza

It was all song and dance at St. Anne’s Mwangaza CBO when Equity Bank– Kisumu threw them a Christmas Party.

The CBO which also runs a nursery school were treated to delicacies courtesy of the bank that wanted the children most of whom are orphans to experience the festive season.

The Equity team led by Phelix Ochieng’-Relationship Manager (SME&Corporate Banking) appreciated the work done by the CBO in ensuring sustainability through farming and tailoring. The bank also donated stationery and kangas to the CBO and talked of prospects for future partnership and collaboration.

Elsewhere, Kochogo Feeding Centre and Koballa Nursery School also held a Christmas parties where the beneficiaries enjoyed sumptuous meals and danced to great tunes as they bid farewell to 2012



*Equity Bank’s Phelix Ochieng gives a gift to one of the St. Anne’s Mwangaza’s beneficiary during the End Year party.*

## Tis a season to be jolly...

After a long and fruitful year 2012, OF staff and Board finally got to relax and appreciate the year’s good work and successes with an End Year party to usher in 2013.

The event which is held annually acts as an avenue for bonding for OF staff and board members and involves the participation all.

During the party, CEO Wilfred Owuor appreciated the commitment shown by all the staff during the year expressed hopes for more dedication in the new year.

Training and Organisational Development Coordinator George Onyango also applauded the work done by all the staff in the year. “You are all, whatever your role and responsibilities very important to OF,” he said.



*OF CEO Wilfred Owuor and other staff sample delicacies during the End Year party held in Kisumu.*