



KISUMU COUNTY

The County Review

Hope as Nyong'o Inspects Key Health Care Transformation Projects



Governor's Press Unit

Kisumu Governor, Prof Peter Anyang' Nyong'o is happy with the on-going works on key health transformation projects at the Jaramogi Oginga Odinga Teaching and Referral

Hospital, but wants contractors to ensure completion as scheduled.

Prof. Nyong'o made an impromptu tour of the multi-million projects last week and instructed the contractors to ensure the projects were done to

specification and completed on time.

He toured the multi-million ultra-modern Comprehensive Cancer Treatment Center, the Neurosurgery Recovery ward, the Burns/Plastic surgery ward, the completed Oxygen

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SNIPPETS



Fredrick Oluoch, Kisumu county Director of health and Sanitation addressing FP Sub-unit Technical working group, at Royal City Hotel.

Baby Friendly



Community Initiative Training for health care workers at Metropack Hotel. In attendance were Health Care Workers from Kisumu East and West. (Photo with fruits)



Kenya Red Cross Society workshop with County Health Management Team on Covid-19 uptake project which is intended to run for 8 months. The meeting was facilitated by the Kenya Red Cross Society at Ciala Resort.

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plant that produces 600 litres of oxygen per minute and the the new state of the Art JOOTRH Funeral/Farewell Home.

Prof Nyong'o expressed satisfaction at the level of work done but directed the contractors to complete the works within 30 days and hand them over for commissioning. He was particularly happy with the Oxygen plant which he noted will not only supply the entire JOOTRH but will be expanded to start producing extra 100 cylinders of oxygen per day for the Sub County hospitals.

"Very soon, in a matter of weeks, the entire County will be Oxygen sufficient to help us combat Covid-19 and other related ailments. We will buy a van to help deliver the gas cylinders in all our seven sub counties," said the Governor.

He congratulated the staff at JOOTRH led by the CEO. Dr. George Rae for their efforts to rebrand the region's largest referral hospital.

At the cancer center construction site, Prof Nyong'o inspected the on-going works and was shown the progress by the site staff. He said the cancer centre will offer high quality oncology, chemotherapy, radiotherapy

and palliative and preventive services.

The JOOTRH is a level 5 referral facility serving 14 Counties in Western Kenya Region; Kisumu, Siaya, Homa-Bay, Kisii, Migori, Nyamira, Bungoma, Kakamega, Vihiga, Busia, Kericho, Nandi, and Uasin Gishu, with an estimated population of 12 million.

Once fully operational, the centre will become the premier oncology management facility in Western Kenya therefore reducing the burden for patients travelling to Nairobi and or outside the country to seek cancer treatment and care.

The center, once complete will be a blessing to the more than 2000 cancer patients who seek cancer treatment out of Kisumu every year.

The Governor has also scheduled visits to all Sub County hospitals to inspect on-going projects there and address staff related matters.



Bereavement

Celebrating Prof. Nyunya

By Nancy Juma

At exactly 3.40 pm on the sunny Saturday, August 21, 2021, pall bearers carrying the remains of Prof. Boaz Otieno Nyunya, made their way slowly to the grave, at his forested home, marking the final journey of the bearded scholar.

Grief-stricken, Prof Nyunya's widow and children, watched as the shiny mahogany casket was rolled into the grave. Prof. Nyunya's colleagues battled with emotions as a Church choir from the African Inland Church sang a final chorus in his honour.

The service was over in a record twenty minutes. The pain was palpable. Those who loved him inconsolable. Gone, never to be

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Fare Thee Well Waziri, a True Medic and Scholar

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seen again. Prof. Nyunya's office on the Sixth Floor of Prosperity House remains empty.

Early during the funeral service at the Sinyolo Primary School, tearful mourners led by Kisumu Governor Prof. Peter Anyang' Nyong'o paid glowing tribute to a man described as a genius, medic and an avid researcher who started practicing surgery on frogs whilst attending the local primary School.

**“
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”**

“I have lost a friend and a fantastic Minister. He and his Chief Officer Gregory Ganda formed a fantastic team and were already turning round the health sector. He was a modest person whose acumen and commitment to serve the public in his medical profession was seen by the results of his work,” said Prof Nyong'o.

The Governor narrated how he plucked Prof. Nyunya from a well-paying job at the KEMRI/CDC to join the County Government as the Minister for health, a job he did with admirable zeal and patriotism.

“If I can make a difference and support you in serving our people, I am prepared to do so. You can count on me”, Prof Nyong'o recounted their conversations prior to the late Professor joining the County Government of Kisumu.

He would later live up to his words and serve the people of Kisumu with dedication and love.

Before joining the County Government of Kisumu, Nyunya worked as an Associate Director for Programmes at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in Kisumu, a position he held for over ten years. Earlier on, Prof. spent his better years at Moi University in Eldoret as a lecturer



in the Department of Reproductive Health where he shaped many lives. Here, he rose through the ranks of lecturer, senior lecturer, associate professor and head of department while serving as a Consultant Obstetrician-Gynecologist at Moi Teaching and Referral Hospital.

As a scholar, Prof. Nyunya had many publications under his name; Assessment of Knowledge Attitudes and Practices of Infant Feeding in the context of HIV/AIDS (2009), Outcomes of HIV-exposed Children in Western Kenya: Efficacy of Prevention of Mother-to-Child Transmission (2010), and Violence against Children Survey Team Perpetrators and Context of Child Sexual Abuse in Kenya (2010) among others.

According to the Governor, Nyunya contributed immensely in shaping the health policy in the country. In Kisumu, he shaped universal health coverage under the Marwa Scheme, a model community driven

insurance cover for the county's indigents. This model has since received a green light from the Health Cabinet Secretary Mutahi Kagwe and the National Hospital Insurance Fund to be replicated in other areas.

Prof. Nyunya together with his team at the department, championed the use of technology – informatics; in making healthcare systems manageable cost effectively. Some of the highlights of this include the Covid -19 Call Centre that has since transformed into a key cog in managing healthcare systems in the county.

The Governor also noted that Prof. Nyunya raised Kisumu's health profile internationally putting it on the world map.

“Through Boaz and his team, I have been called to address so many conferences via zoom to tell them what is happening in Kisumu”. Nyong'o said

His colleague in the Cabinet and Deputy Governor Dr. Ochieng' Owili also described Nyunya as a patriotic citizen who came back to serve his people with professionalism and dedication steading the ship at a time the county's health sector was on its deathbed; sentiments echoed by County Assembly Speaker Elisha Oraro who acknowledged his close working relationship with the County Assembly in matters oversight, development of health policies and legislations.

During his swearing in ceremony in July last year, Prof. joked that he was not a 'magician', but would instead embrace teamwork to transform the health sector in Kisumu. Indeed, he lived up to his words.

Prof. may have taken a bow on 29th July 2021, but he has left a lasting legacy in the Kenyan Medical arena. He was 65.

Rest in Peace Waziri.



Update on Kisumu County

Airlines Rush to Join Kisumu's Skyline as Africities Summit Looms

By Nancy Juma



Another Airline has started flights to Kisumu from Wilson Airport as the lakeside city continues to attract more investors ahead of two important activities- the international Investment Conference and the Africities Summit.

The Renegade Air made its maiden flight to the Kisumu International Airport late last week and flew into a warm and colorful reception by leaders who included Cabinet Secretary for Devolution and ASAL, Eugene Wamalwa, Kisumu Governor Prof Peter Anyang' Nyong'o and Kisumu West MP, John Olago Aluoch.

The new airline joined the Kisumu skyline at a time the Aviation Industry is slowly recovering from the effects of the Covid-19 pandemic that almost brought it to its knees.

Aboard the maiden flight were Prof Nyong'o, CS Wamalwa, who was the Chief Guest and MP Olago Aluoch among other dignitaries. This is the sixth airline that will be flying the Kisumu skyline.

It is a big win for Kisumu as this is the second destination for Renegade Air after Wajir, a pointer that Kisumu is the hub for investments in the region.

Speaking during the launch, CS Wamalwa expressed that the airline couldn't have come to Kisumu at a better time as the County is preparing to host the Kisumu Investments Forum in October and the 9th Edition of the Africities Conference scheduled for next year that's expected to bring in thousands of delegates.

He made a special announcement on postponement of the Africities conference by one

month from April 2022 to May 2022 to allow for more participation especially from the United Nations agencies who have another conference over the same period.

Acknowledging the impact of the Covid -19 pandemic on the tourism sector and the aviation industry, the CS is optimistic that the new entrant and other existing airlines will boost local tourism and the domestic aviation sector to tap into the huge potential within the 14 counties in the Lake Region Economic Bloc.

"We must improve on connectivity to make this region a magnet for investors", he said

Governor Nyong'o on his part acknowledged that the arrival of Renegade Air into the Kisumu airspace is indeed a powerful statement that the Lakeside City has become the East African Regional Business Hub.

"The time is long enough to change the face of this international airport". Nyong'o said

The Governor was categorical that for things to happen, counties must up their game to make a difference.

"Counties and the Nation of Kenya must go out aggressively internally and externally to invite business to come to us" he stated

Kenya Airports Authority Managing Director Alex Gitari expressed that the launch marked a distinct recovery of the aviation sector amidst the pandemic.

He was happy with the increased number of passengers plying the route from 101,000 between January to July 2020 to 296,000 this

year. This surpassed the 2019 figures of 270,000. The improvement is a clear reflection of the recovery of the domestic aviation sector.

To address concerns raised on the deplorable status of Wilson Airport, Gitari said they are working closely with the Ministry of transport to carry out the necessary upgrade on Wilson Airport. Also being renovated were airstrips such as Migori, Suneka, Kitale and Kakamega to improve connectivity.

Renegade Air Managing Director Kennedy Maina said their choice for Kisumu as the second destination was due to the rising passenger demand and also ideal in serving the western region.

The airline will be charging only Kenya Shillings 5000 airfare for flights between Nairobi and Kisumu with return tickets selling at Kenya shillings 10,000.

The Governor was joined by County Executive Committee Member for Tourism, Sports and Culture Achie Alai, the CEC Member for Lands Judith Atyang' and the Kisumu International Airport Manager Celina Gor among others guests.



Update on Covid-19

Kisumu Experiencing High Uptake of Covid-19 Vaccine

By Matilda Atieno

Health officials in Kisumu County have reported a high uptake of COVID-19 vaccine in the county after Kisumu vaccinates over 70 thousand people and counting.

The ongoing county vaccination outreach targets all persons above 18 years old, both for the first dose and those due for second dose of the AstraZeneca vaccine.

The County Director for public health and sanitation Fred Oluoch lauded the health personnel and the people of Kisumu whilst clarifying that Kisumu has opted for community outreach that targets to vaccinate the elderly and other vulnerable members of the community.

“The uptake is very high and so far, we have a large number of people coming out to get the jab even in the health facilities designated for the admission of the COVID -19 Vaccine across the County.

This current trend follows a strong and visible commitment demonstrated by the Governor of Kisumu County Prof. Anyang’ Nyong’o who took the lead by being publicly vaccinated at the outset of the campaign.

Director Oluoch also ascertained that the county expects many more doses from the national government in the coming weeks adding that the exercise is also moving to facilities closer to remote communities.

The vaccine is currently available in the following facilities;

In Kisumu Central; Jaramogi Oginga Odinga Teaching and Referral Hospital, Kisumu County Referral Hospital, Migosi Sub County Hospital, Lumumba Health Centre, Avenue Hospital, Aga Khan Hospital (Kisumu) and Nightingale Milimani hospital.

Kisumu East at Gita Sub County Hospital, St. Elizabeth Chiga and St. Monica Hospital.

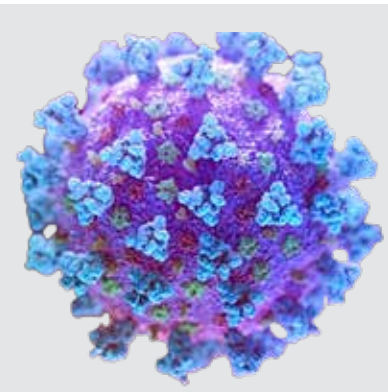
In Kisumu West; Nyahera Sub County Hospital, Chulaimbo County Hospital, Ober Kamoth Sub County Hospital, Maseno mission and St. Jairus hospital.


In Muhoroni; Muhoroni County Hospital, Nyang’oma Sub County Hospital, Masogo Sub County Hospital, Koru Mission Hospital and St. Vincent De Paul.

In Nyakach; Nyakach County Hospital, Katito Sub County Hospital, Sondu Sub County Hospital, Nyamarimba Sub County Hospital and Nyabondo Mission.


In Nyando; Ahero County Hospital, Nyangande Sub County Hospital, Rabuor Sub County Hospital and Awasi Mission

In Seme; Kombewa County Hospital, Miranga Sub District Hospital, Manyuanda Health Centre and Kolenya Health Centre.





Kisumu County Covid-19 mass vaccination outreach on going



The vaccination is targeting all persons above 18 years old, both for first dose and those due for second dose of the Astra Zeneca vaccine

“Visit any designated health facility near you for your jab”

Visit any of these health facilities in Kisumu County for your COVID-19 vaccine.	
Sub County	Facility Name
Kisumu Central	Jaramogi Oginga Odinga Teaching and Referral Hospital Kisumu County Migosi Sub County Hospital Lumumba Health Centre Avenue Hospital Aga Khan Hospital (Kisumu) Nightingale Milimani hospital
	Gita Sub County Hospital St. Elizabeth Chiga St. Monica Hospital
Kisumu East	Nyahera Sub County Hospital Chulaimbo County Hospital Ober Kamoth sub county Hospital Maseno mission St. Jairus
Kisumu West	Muhoroni County Hospital Nyang’oma Sub County Hospital Masogo Sub County Hospital Koru Mission Hospital St. Vincent De Paul
Muhoroni	Nyakach County Hospital Katito Sub County Hospital Sondu Sub County Hospital Nyamarimba Sub County Hospital Nyabondo Mission
Nyakach	Ahero County Hospital Nyangande Sub County Hospital Rabuor Sub county Hospital Awasi Mission
Nyando	Kombewa County Hospital Miranga Sub District Hospital Manyuanda Health Centre Kolenya Health Centre
Seme	

The vaccination drive continues.

Sustainable Energy

Validation Exercise of Baseline Emission Inventory and Access to Energy Assessment of Kisumu County Undertaken by UHAI Lake Forum

By Matilda Atieno

The county government in partnership with Expertise France under the Sustainable Energy Access and Climate Action (SEACAP) project, organized a validation workshop of the Baseline Emission Inventory (BEI) and Access to Energy Assessment (AEA), carried out by Uhai LAKE FORUM set for publication.

The study forms the basis for the three main pillars of SEACAP including adaptation, mitigation, and access to sustainable energy in Kisumu which is the only county benefiting from the deep dive support through the Expertise France in collaboration with the Covenant of Mayors in Sub-Saharan Africa (COMSSA).

The objective of the workshop was to validate the results of the BEI AND AEA study, receive updates on the studies progress, challenges, opportunities and recommendations and agree on the sustainability and as well as continuity of the project.



UHAI Lake Forum Facilitator during the validation workshop of the BEI and AEA study

The assessment is set to provide guidelines to the stakeholders on the SEACAP project, highlighting the role of managers and key stakeholders in the SEACAP process as well as sharing the update on the data collection progress and reports since its inception.

Well known for its flooding challenges, Kisumu now faces an invisible enemy known as climate change. Heavy rainfall and extreme weather patterns expose the county to increased cost of living and food security challenges. Kisumu is one of the counties after Nakuru to undertake the survey on Kenyan baseline emission information that will reflect on the local situation in terms of energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions in the county, having ratified a commitment to addressing climate change through the SEACAP Project.



CEC Member for Water, Environment, Climate Change and Natural Resources, Mr. Salmon Orimba during the validation workshop of the BEI AND AEA study

In his official remarks, the CEC. Member for Water, Environment, Climate Change and Natural Resources, Mr. Salmon Orimba stated the departments commitment towards the climate actions undertaken by the county through the SEACAP project, adding that Kisumu is geared towards zero waste management in carbon emission reduction.

The Mr. Orimba pointed out that the project is timely as it supports climate action and energy access plans for the county through the ongoing data collection process that will provide evidence for the development of Climate Change Action Plan as a means to maintain low carbon emission and other mitigation plans.

The CEC applauded Expertise France and UHAI Lake Forum for their exemplary support both technical and financial. He urged the

department to put in more effort to ensure the realization of sustainable energy and access to climate action by committing to put more money towards the project.

The workshop brought together multi-sectoral partners who expressed their commitment to the findings of the study that will support the realization of policy documents and strategic approaches in prioritizing climate change actions.

The idea of strong governance and stakeholder involvement was also discussed as a key component to achieving SEACAP in the county.

The chief Officer for environment and climate change Madam Maryline Agwa also called on stakeholders support to ensure community sensitization towards climate change actions.



Participants during the stakeholder's validation workshop at the sovereign Hotel

An Oasis of Livelihood: The Holo Orucho Water Pan to Ease Water Stress for the Community

By Emily Mikwa



The county government of Kisumu has commissioned a Kenya Shillings 7 Million water pan project to benefit the Holo Orucho community in Nyando – a first after decades of dry wells and the plight of women and girls trekking for long distances in search of water.

The water pan that holds up to 15,000m³ of water is expected to serve 600 farmers, Holo orucho Primary School and the Catholic Church in the area. It is a reprieve to the community as it will ensure water availability throughout the seasons.

Previously, the community's only source of water was a seasonal river which runs dry during dry season and resurfaces during the rainy season.

The project is equipped with a portable solar powered pump, two taps, two storage tanks each holding 10,000 liters, two cattle troughs, intake draw off point in case the pump breaks down,

**15,000m³
of water to benefit
600 farmers**

ablution block and a store.

The commissioning took place at East Kano Wawidhi Ward, Nyando Sub County, and was officiated by the County Minister for Finance and Economic Planning, George Okong'o and the County Minister for Agriculture Gilchrist Okuom.

While commissioning CECM. Okong'o, noted that the water pan is part of the Governor's ten-point agenda in ensuring increased access to water by every household.

"This water pan will benefit households but I urge you to use it to irrigate your lands and invest in horticultural crops that will be a source of income to you", he said to members of the community whilst pledging support on matters development at the grass roots.

According to the County Executive

Member for Agriculture, Irrigation, Livestock and Fisheries Gilchrist Okuom, the project was initiated to boost agricultural production among the farmers. He challenged them to make good use of the water pan by doing agribusiness; planting local vegetables and keeping livestock.

The water pan is an investment under the Climate Smart Agriculture project (KCSAP) that harvests rain water to improve the lives and livelihoods of small holder farmers. It is funded by the World Bank and the County Government of Kisumu whose contribution is 30% of the donor's fund.

CECM Okuom reiterated that the people have not only benefited from the water project but the KCSAP project has also supported farmers with machinery, farm inputs such as cassava and millet seeds and poultry.

Chief Officer for Agriculture and Irrigation' Dr. Paul Omanga said Climate Change issues has necessitated the construction of water pans to improve irrigation efficiency in the County.

Dr. Omanga further outlined some of the key ongoing projects in Nyando Sub County including, a 56million shillings allocation to revive the stalled rice irrigation scheme that is to be completed by September this year. Already 3.6 kilometers of lined canals has been done, 11million has been allocated for Kagari water pan with the contractor already on site and 27 million allocated to the local groups to plant cassava, millet, vegetable, bee keeping and poultry keeping.

The event was graced by the area MCA Hon. John Kennedy Ageng'o, the Sub County Admin Mr. Peter Abiero, Director Governance and Administration, Mr. Leonard Kwama, Assistant Chief from Katolo Sub Location Mr. John Otieno, Engineer Billiard Obingo, The area Chief, Ward Administrator, Village Administrator, County Officials and the community members



Education

County dispatches Sh 42M Worth of Learning Materials and Foodstuff to ECD Schools

By Matilda Atieno

The Deputy Governor Dr. Mathew Owili flagged off learning materials worth Kenya Shillings 25 Million and assorted food stuff worth Kenya Shillings 17 Million meant to benefit at least fifty thousand ECD learners in the public ECD centers.

Speaking during the flagging off ceremony at the Governor's office, Dr. Owili affirmed the county government's responsibility to ensure quality education and accessibility to the children adding that the initiative will go a long way in improving the children's learning and performance in school. The learning materials and the foodstuffs are essential in meeting the county's consistent and assured commitment in supporting early childhood education in Kisumu.

In 2015, the Kisumu county government set up a sustainable county ECD feeding program to encourage enrollment and facilitate school

retention; a program that supports and benefits 673 centers with a total enrollment of 51,408 pupils of whom 25,266 are girls and 26,142 are boys.

Of the 673 ECD centers, 660 are anchored in primary schools and 13 are stand-alone public ECD schools.

The school feeding program plays a key role in helping children realize their potential both for themselves and for their community. This strategic move is anchored in the Early Childhood Education Act 2021 that outlines the involvement of the county governments in terms of health and rights to early childhood education.

This official ceremony was led by the Deputy Governor, the CEC member for Education Mr. John Awiti and the Chief Officer Madam Penina Onyango among other county officials.



Aquaculture

Boost to Aquaculture Production as Groups Get Fishing Materials

By Collins Owuor



Aquaculture Production in the county is set for a major boost following the distribution of fishing materials to 28 cooperatives groups.

Kisumu is one of fifteen counties implementing the aquaculture business development programme, an initiative expected to increase food production in the region.

Plans are already underway to revive the Kabonyo Kanyagwal fish farm following a joint intervention between the county and national governments.

The developments will open up access and linkages supplementing local agricultural production.

Kisumu Deputy Governor Dr. Mathew Owili last week joined Livestock & Fisheries CAS

Lawrence Omuhaka during the distribution of fishing gear to smallholder aquaculture groups.

Materials distributed included pole lines, fishing nets, pond liners, quality fish feeds, three laptops and five motorbikes to be used by extension officers.

Additionally, three community dams in Kere (Nyakach), Buoye (Kisumu East) and Huma (Kisumu West) were each stocked with twenty-two thousand fingerlings to boost community nutrition initiatives.

Also present were Dr. Lawrence Owino PS State Department of Fisheries and Agriculture CEC Gilchrist Okuom among other officials.



Travelling With....

By Harriet Chausiku

One More for the Skyline!

Traveling to Kisumu?

Introducing a touch of difference in Kisumu International Airport is Renegade Air the 6th and newest Airline in the city, crafted with ideals of class and affordability.

Kisumu County has proven to be ripe for investments due to its central geographical placement and is also advantaged on its proximity to regional towns in and out of the country using Lake Victoria as a maritime link.

It is also the headquarters of Lake Victoria Basin Commission for East Africa and Lake Region Economic Block.

“This lake side city has indeed become the regional business hub as it is serving 13 more counties in the domestic markets around us”, said Governor Nyong’o during the launch of Renegade Airline.

Renegade Air launched their first flight in the city making them part of six airlines that fly to Kisumu daily from other parts of the country.

There’s more! The Kenya Airports Authority have specific plans in place in regards to the Kisumu International Airport improvement and expansion. These are infrastructure upgrades in three elements;

- Rehabilitating an apron to allow for parking of aircraft
- Creating additional launch space within the terminal building for VIPs.
- Construction of additional parking spaces for vehicles

According to the Managing director Kenya Airports Authority Alex Gitari the entire project will be completed in a span of 2-3 months.

Indeed, travel just got easier with plenty of options for you!

#TembeaKisumu



This plaque commemorates the unveiling of the Fly Renegade Air check in lounge.

By
H. E, Hon. Prof Peter Anyang' Nyong'o, E. G.
Governor, Kisumu County
on 26th August 2021.



SPORTS

Go ye and Make us Proud!



Governor Nyong'o this week flagged off 6 basketball players from Kisumu while Men were runners up selected to join the National Basketball team as Kenya prepares to host the East African Deaf Basketball Championships next month.

high when they won the National Championships while Men were runners up in their category.

The regional games will be held at the Nyayo Indoor Gym Arena from September 17th -24th next month.

The players, two men and four women were selected from the Kisumu County Deaf Basketball team that represented the county during the National Deaf Basketball Championships in Nairobi last month.

The 6 that will represent Kisumu are Mercyline Nekesa, Lydia Akinyi, Maureen Anyango, Christine Nyambeki, David Ogogo and Kevin Otieno.

In June this year, Kisumu's Women Deaf Basketball team raised Kisumu's flag

