

Safaricom Foundation Renovates Maternal and Newborn Units at KNH Branch In Othaya

The revamped facility will boost specialized care in Nyeri County and neighboring counties such as Laikipia, Nyandarua, Murang'a and Meru.

Nyeri, 7th May 2021.... Safaricom Foundation has refurbished and equipped the newborn and maternal high dependency units at Kenyatta National Hospital branch in Othaya at a cost of KES 15 million.

The renovated units which were officially opened by Health Cabinet Secretary Mutahi Kagwe will see the capacity at the Newborn unit increase from 10 to 20 infants and the introduction of a 4-bed maternal high dependency unit (HDU).

“Through these renovations, Safaricom Foundation aims to transform the lives of mothers and newborns in Nyeri and nearby areas through increasing access to quality health services. The revamped maternal and newborn units will see the reduction of maternal and infant mortality rates, encourage skilled deliveries and decrease maternal and neonatal complications”, said Joe Ogutu, Chairman, Safaricom Foundation.

The newborn unit has been equipped with ventilators, heaters and baby cots while the maternal HDU received patient monitors, cardiac monitoring equipment as well as furniture and stationery for medical staff.

“We strongly believe that accomplishing the important mission of affordable and quality healthcare for all requires robust collaboration between the government and private sector. Safaricom Foundation remains one of our strongest partners and we remain ever grateful for their tireless efforts, not only in maternal and child health, but in healthcare in general”, said Mutahi Kagwe, Health Cabinet Secretary.



The initiative is part of the foundation's KES 130 million maternal, newborn and child health (MNCH) programme which includes an KES 82 million MNCH programme in Baringo County. At the Coast, the foundation has invested over KES 30 million towards the construction and equipping of maternal and newborn facilities in Lamu and Mombasa.

The Foundation has also previously funded the renovation of the newborn unit at Kenyatta National Hospital in Nairobi at a cost of KES 56 million.

About Safaricom Foundation:

Building Communities, Transforming Lives.

Safaricom Foundation partners with Kenyan communities, organizations and institutions to improve and transform lives. With a footprint in all of Kenya's 47 counties, and a strong history of partnerships dating back to our inception in 2003, the Safaricom Foundation has worked with Speed, Simplicity and Trust to implement over 1,000 community projects, impacting over 3 million people, through our thematic areas of Health, Education, Environmental Conservation, Economic Empowerment, Water, Disaster Relief, and Arts & Culture.

Our current strategy builds on our strong history of results and partnerships, and will contribute towards Vision 2030 and the Sustainable Development Goals. We will leverage the power of innovation and technology to drive our projects forward; and will also offer a blend of grants, equity and ultra-low cost loans to our partners.

The participation of Safaricom staff in our projects will extend our personalized approach towards partnerships; and our project monitoring and our dissemination forms will provide platforms for technical assistance, learning and capacity building.