

Safaricom Foundation Rallies Partners to Create Awareness on Non-Communicable Diseases

The forum brought together players in NCDs field to deliberate the issues of prevention and management of type 1 diabetes in Kenya.

Nairobi, 12th November 2021.... Safaricom Foundation has rallied partners from the government, public and private sectors to invest in prevention and management of non-communicable diseases in the fight against Type 1 Diabetes, with a main focus on children.

The forum, which included Ministry of Health, Kenya Diabetes Management and Information Centre (DMI Kenya) and Goldstar Kenya, identified early detection and early screening of diabetes in children as well as creating awareness in children on healthy lifestyle habits as a key areas of investment. The public and private sector was encouraged to build capacity in community health workers to enable efficient service delivery in diabetes management.

“The mission of this forum is to share ideas on how to halt and reverse the rising burden of NCDs through effective multi-sectoral collaboration and partnerships. We want to ensure that Kenyans receive the highest attainable standard of NCD continuum of care that is accessible, affordable, quality, equitable and sustainable. Safaricom’s interest in health is anchored on our adoption of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in our business operations. We have incorporated SDG 3 into our operations which calls for good health and well-being,” said Joe Ogutu, Chairman, Safaricom Foundation.

The partners also committed to commission research that will put together a database of the number of children living with Type 1 diabetes in Kenya.

Globally, NCDs are the world’s leading cause of death, with Kenya standing at 42.8% of deaths annually according to the Kenya Health Information System.



Safaricom Foundation has a KES 42 million Children with Diabetes Programme in Garissa County where about 3,000 children have been screened and 737 children have received free medication including insulin and syringes. The Programme has also reached over 60,000 residents of all seven sub-counties of Garissa.

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.

Take Action is informed by the decision to have a discussion around prevention and control of Type 1 diabetes in Kenya.

The event's objective is of knowledge exchange and Taking Action with special focus on Children.

Event's topic will entail sharing learnings and best practices with partners and players in the NCD and management of Type 1 Diabetes area.