

KINGA AFRICA NEWS

"Enhancing Communities' Health"

kinga africa

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30 Day In-School Brushing Brings Excitement and Revolution



Behavior Change is a process that needs commitment, time and resilience to attain. One-off encounters with new knowledge may not be enough to inculcate new habits. After a review of the impact made by one day lessons and brushing demonstration in schools, a need to change approach was birthed.

Children in 56 primary schools were given an opportunity to do In-school brushing, together with their teacher and monitored brushing at home with the help of the parents.

This has brought out excitement and desire to keep it going among the teachers, community and the children. There are notable improvements on their oral health and brushing of the teeth has become a must do activity, three times a day. This calls for more toothbrushes, toothpaste and toothbrush storage kits. At a cost of \$50 you can sponsor in-school brushing for a class of 50 children for 30 days. Our one-off school health program is still going on, reaching 100,000 children this year.

A teacher brushing with class three pupils in one of the schools

Criminalize Infant Oral Mutilation!!!

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our project
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IOM is still causing many deaths among children, and also inflicting many with different infections. We have voiced the dangers of this practice for years now; we have trained teachers and community health workers since 2015, to combat IOM. Kinga Africa has trained over 1,400 teachers in

the last three months. Many people are abandoning IOM and yes there is great impact. However, criminalizing the practice would save many children from the deaths and dangers posed by this practice. We have the will and the means but lack data to present to the County and national assemblies here in Kenya. A partner doctor is ready with a proposal for IOM data collection in Kenya. We need a partner or partners to help make this a reality. You can help criminalize it, you can help save the children. Please Join the fight.



Teachers and other Opinion leaders in an anti-IOM training in Kisumu County

Half of Kenya toothless in 2063

It sounds disturbing, but yes, if we don't intervene now, we may soon catch up with this sad reality. With the Agenda 2030 and 2063 shaping up, we will then, have all roads tarmacked, no one dying of HIV, malaria or TB, universal access to clean water, fast internet and markets for farm produce. If these dreams come true, we will have an almost toothless population with a lot of food and good environment to enjoy because oral health is greatly sidelined by many states in Africa. As we build rural economies, push for agricultural development and many other great ideas in the above visions, let us appreciate that the population will need teeth to eat the food. There is a need to prioritize oral health in Kenya and Africa as a whole. (Francis Muthama –Founding director, Kinga Africa)