



COUNCIL OF GOVERNORS



Community-Led Response Stops Measles Outbreak in Ilula Central, Uasin Gishu County

A measles outbreak in Ilula Central, a rural community in Cheboin sub-location, Kapsoya Ward, Uasin Gishu County, threatened the lives of children, with 26 zero-dose cases identified in a single month. For years, the community faced ongoing challenges in achieving adequate vaccination coverage, often falling below the County's average of 70.1%. Deep-rooted resistance, fueled by religious opposition and misinformation, kept many families from seeking immunization.



Figure 1: An award given to Chebuon Community Health Unit (CHU) for the Best Performing Community Health Unit

To combat the outbreak and improve vaccination rates, a community-driven intervention was initiated. The response began with a multi-stakeholder consultative meeting involving local administration (NGAO), education officers, healthcare workers, security personnel, and religious leaders. This effort strengthened outbreak awareness, planning, and implementation.

Under the leadership of an Assistant Chief, a former Community Health Promoter, and supported by Community Health Committees (CHCs)

and Community Health Promoters (CHPs), the team organized community *barazas* and dialogue days to educate residents on immunization. Household visits helped identify unvaccinated children, while special outreach sessions provided catch-up immunizations for children under five, including school-based campaigns. Immunization cards were used to efficiently track and vaccinate defaulters.

To sustain progress, a requirement was enforced for preschool participants to present valid immunization cards. Monthly CHP meetings ensured ongoing monitoring, including follow-ups on the 26 zero-dose cases detected during household visits.

What initiative has your County taken to manage immunization uptake?

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