



COME TOGETHER WIDOWS AND ORPHANS ORGANIZATION  
(CTWOO)

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# REPORT ON 3RD ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION FOR HOPE FOR WIDOWS CBO IN KAJIADO COUNTY

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*APRIL, 2023*



**JULY 7, 2023**

**COME TOGETHER WIDOWS AND ORPHANS ORGANIZATION**



**HOPE FOR WIDOWS CBO (OSILIGI LE NGOLIAEI)-3<sup>RD</sup> ANNIVERSARY  
CELEBRATION, HELD AT ST. LUKE CATHOLIC CHURCH, KUKU WARD-  
KAJIADO COUNTY.**

**INTRODUCTION**

Osiligi Le Nkoliaei widows' group is situated in Kimana-Loitoktok Town and was founded on 5<sup>th</sup> July 2020, during the Covid-19 pandemic by Elizabeth Seney (Mama Saitoti). The group is a beneficiary of Come Together Widows and Orphans Organization which started with 45 active members and registration of KES 300 from each member. The widows' group has benefitted from **Table Banking**, which is an Economic Empowerment program, conducted by Come Together Widows and Orphans organization (CTWOO). In November 2020, the group received Brook Bank training that was conducted by Come Together Widows and Orphans Organization's (CTWOO), Programs Manager Mr. Fredrick Onyambu. As a result, the group has grown from zero cash and now rotates hundreds of thousands amongst them through table banking after receiving support from Madam Dianah Kamande who gave them KES 10,000 to boost what they already had. This group has been under the watch of Hope Beyond Foundation, whose directors are Hon. Bishop John Parit and Mrs. Dorcus Parit. Hon. Bishop John Parit who was the aspiring Member of Parliament 2022 in Kajiado South supported the group by donating KES 100,000.

On 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023, Osiligi Le Ngoliaei (Hope for Widows) CBO Kajiado held its 3<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary Celebration at St. Luke Catholic Church in Loitoktok Town, Kuku Ward, Kajiado County to celebrate and reflect on the group's achievements for the past 3 years.

The celebration was made a success by the special appearance of The Spouse to our Deputy President H.E Pastor Dorcas Rigathi, H.E Edna Lenku Spouse to the Governor of Kajiado County, H.E Beatrice Martin Spouse to the Deputy Governor of Kajiado County, Member of Parliament Kajiado South Constituency Hon. Samuel Sakimba Parashina, County Woman MP Hon. Leah Sankaire, Women Representative for Kajiado County who is also the Chairperson for KEWOPA, Host MCA Kuku Ward and his MCAs colleagues from Kajiado County Assembly, State Department for Gender Affairs, Madam Dianah Kamande, Founder and Director CTWOO, National Government Affirmative Action Fund CEO Mr. Roy Sasaka Telewa, Commission on Administrative Justice (CAJ) Representative, Unclaimed Financial Assets Authority (UFAA) Representative Mr. Pascal Kirwa, Women Enterprise Fund Representative, The Uwezo Fund Representative, Flame Tree Group Representative, Madam Ruth Mwaura.

The main sponsors of the day were the amazing Hon. Bishop John Parit ole Sing'aru & his amazing wife Dorcus Parit Hsc who have been a great pillar of such a wonderful group through Hope Beyond Foundation in partnership with Just One Africa.





## **ACTIVITIES**

The event started at 8:30 A.M with the registration of over 300 widows and guests upon arrival by the CTWOO staff. In the process, there was an exhibition by Just One Africa where its staff demonstrated and educated those present on how to use water filter kits. The purpose of their exhibition was to provide sustainable solutions to communities that do not have access to clean water so that they could have access to cost-effective water filter kits. Osiligi Le Ngoliae widows group also displayed their designs. Among the products were; baskets, bangles, necklaces, Maasai Shuka, mats, and handbags.

The Master of Ceremony, Bishop John Ole Sing'aru Parit, later called the event into order and gave his welcoming remarks where he thanked those present for dedicating their time to join Hope For Widows CBO in their 3<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary Celebration.

## **RECOGNITION OF ADMINISTRATORS AND GROUP LEADERS PRESENT**

After the welcoming, Hon. Bishop John Parit gave the local leaders present the chance to introduce themselves and concluded by thanking everyone for honouring the call of Hope For Widows CBO. He also welcomed Tuinuane, Osiligi Le Ngoliae widow's group leaders who thanked widows for their large turn up indicating their great need for learning and support for each other. After the recognition, the MC went ahead and welcomed the speakers of the day.

## **SPEECHES**

The MC welcomed all the speakers of the day and began by inviting Ruth Mwaura who educated the widows on the importance of maintaining good and proper hygiene and later gave out the flame tree products which included body lotions, handwash, and glycerin to the widows who were very excited.

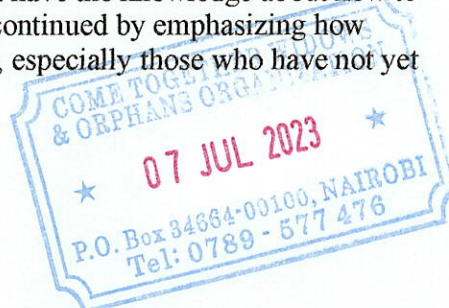
## **PASCAL KIRWA-REPRESENTATIVE UNCLAIMED FINANCIAL ASSETS AUTHORITY**

He began by creating and raising awareness about UFAA by explaining that UFAA is a government agency that was created to manage unclaimed financial assets. He mentioned that the role of UFAA is to reclaim financial resources from their holders, safeguard them, and eventually hand them over to their rightful owners.

He concluded by urging widows to consider making applications for the Wezesha Mjane proposal which is always called for on a yearly basis so that the successful applicants can be awarded grants that they can use to boost their projects and to help their projects to become sustainable.

## **REPRESENTATIVE OMBUDSMAN (CAJ)**

He started off by describing the CAJ's function as a commission under Kenyan law. In this regard, the Commission has the authority to look into complaints of delay, abuse of authority, unfair treatment or evident injustice. The Ombudsman's role, he stated, is to make sure that residents have equitable access to the necessary justice in cases involving inheritance, property ownership, and the advancement of individual rights. He said that the majority of widows in Kenya don't receive justice because they don't have the knowledge about how to do it, and as a result, they end up losing everything. He continued by emphasizing how important it is to educate widows about legal difficulties, especially those who have not yet joined a widow's group.





**ROY SASAKA TELEWA- CEO NATIONAL GOVERNMENT AFFIRMATIVE  
ACTION FUND (NGAAF)**



*Mr. Roy Sasaka Telewa addressing Widows of Hope For Widows CBO during their 3rd Anniversary Celebration in Oloitokitok, Kajiado County*

He began by extending his heartfelt congratulations to the founders, members, and supporters of Hope For Widows CBO for their dedication and commitment to uplifting widows in Kajiado County. He mentioned that their tireless efforts have not only brought hope to the lives of widows but have also created a sense of empowerment and solidarity within the community.

He mentioned that at NGAAF, their mission is to ensure that marginalized and vulnerable

groups, including widows, are given equal opportunities and access to resources for their social and economic development. It was therefore heartening for him to see that Hope For Widows CBO shares the same vision, working tirelessly to create a nurturing environment for widows to rebuild their lives.

He concluded by assuring the widows that NGAAF remains committed to supporting them in their efforts to empower widows. He stressed that NGAAF will therefore continue to provide financial support to empower widows and promote their well-being to help them realize Economic Independence.





## ELIZABETH SENEY-CHAIRLADY HOPE FOR WIDOWS CBO



*Elizabeth Seney, Chairlady Hope For Widows CBO speaking during Hope For Widows 3rd Anniversary Celebration in Kajiado County*

She began by mentioning how happy she was because of the privilege of their 3<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary celebration. She then welcomed all the widow groups that were present beginning with those from Rombo, Isineti, St. Luke, and the host group Osiligi Le Ngoliaei. She proceeded and welcomed their group secretary Ms. Catherine who gave a brief history of Osiligi Le Ngoliaei. Ms. Catherine also mentioned how the group has made several achievements including being joined by new members from Kimana, Illasit, Isineti, and Rombo resulting in a total of 250 members as of April 2023. She stated that the group has really performed well with its members engaging in a number of businesses such as operating beauty shops, and school uniform shops while others engage in livestock

farming. She mentioned that the group has 2 bank accounts and the members have attended several trainings and seminars which have enabled them to benefit from NGAAF Funds, UWEZO Funds as well as the economic empowerment program by Come Together Widows and Orphans Organization that has shaped them to become self-reliant and economically stable. Catherine stated that the group conducts a table banking program where a total of Sh. 419,300 had been issued to support their members and their group activities.

After briefing the participants about the group's history and performance, Elizabeth Seney informed those present that the group was planning to register a company under its name that would help them secure tenders within Kajiado County. She urged the First Lady, Kajiado County to support them in securing the tenders by offering the tenders to their company once it is registered. She later extended her gratitude to Kuku Ward MCA for supporting their children through the bursaries, she thanked WWF for giving them the 50 cows which has enabled them to gain a lot of benefits by selling 100,000 litres of milk in a month, and also thanked all their supporters including Equity, Madam Dianah Kamande, Bishop Parit and all the government offices that have supported them. She concluded by urging all widows to continue supporting each other and encouraging those who had not joined widow groups to do so that they could achieve self-reliance and become economically independent stating that achieving economic independence and self-reliance could help them earn respect in their various communities.





## **MS. DIANAH KAMANDE-FOUNDER AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CTWOO**



*Ms. Dianah Kamande giving a speech during Hope For Widows 3rd Anniversary Celebration in Kajiado County*

She congratulated Hope For Widows CBO for their great milestone and achievements stating that she was so excited that they embraced the idea that she shared with them back in 2020. She encouraged them to continue supporting each other and to unite together. She also thanked H.E Hon Pst. Dorcas Rigathi, First Lady, H.E Edna Lenku, NGAAF Officials, UWEZO FUND, CAJ, and UFAA for working closely with her to support vulnerable communities,

especially the widows, and for understanding that widows need to be respected and should live a life full of dignity.

## **MS. EDNA LENKU-FIRST LADY KAJIADO COUNTY**



*Ms. Edna Lenku- First Lady Kajiado County addressing widows during Hope For Widows CBO 3rd Anniversary Celebration in Kajiado County*

She began by expressing her deep admiration for the resilience and strength displayed by the widows in Oloitoktok, Kajiado County. She mentioned that the challenges they face, the burdens they carry, and the sacrifices they make are not unseen by Kajiado County Government. She informed the widows that it is the Government's responsibility, as a caring and compassionate entity, to extend its support and solidarity to them. She commended the leadership of Hope For Widows CBO for their vision, dedication,

and unwavering commitment to the cause. She also encouraged them to continue to work towards creating an inclusive and supportive society, where widows are not only respected and protected but also provided with opportunities to thrive and prosper.

She concluded by urging all the Government stakeholders who were present during the Anniversary to reflect on the work that lies ahead. She urged them to strive to create an environment where Widows are treated with Dignity and Respect, where their rights are protected, and where they are given equal opportunities to thrive.





## **H.E HON PST. DORCAS RIGATHI- SPOUSE TO THE DEPUTY PRESIDENT**



*Hon. Pst. Dorcas Rigathi addressing widows of Hope For Widows CBO during their 3rd Anniversary celebration in Oloitoktok, Kajiado County*

family but also needs to be supported to serve as a leader. She encouraged widows to think beyond owning small businesses so that they can make efforts to start and own sacco's, housing cooperatives, or even own rentals so that they can have huge benefits and gains that can make them become economically and financially stable which can give them the chance to support even men in their communities.

She promised to ensure that the government understands the plight of widows so that they can get support to run big table banking programs in their various groups. She also emphasized that widows need to be taken care of with respect and honour. She continued by saying that the policies that speak for widows should be supported and implemented. She also encouraged all those who have shown their commitment to serving widows to always serve them with respect explaining that widows entirely depend on them to ensure that they enjoy their full rights. She concluded by emphasizing that she will always stay committed to serving widows and ensuring that their plight is understood by everyone and later donated Ksh. 600,000 to six widow groups within Kajiado South Chapter to boost their table banking program. She also mentioned 500,000 tree seedlings will be donated to the Kajiado Chapter Widow groups so as to promote environmental conservation in Kajiado County.



## CONCLUSION

In conclusion, the 3rd Anniversary Celebration for Hope For Widows CBO, held in Kajiado County on 1st April 2023, was a resounding success and a testament to the organization's commitment to making a positive impact in the lives of widows.

Throughout the celebration, we witnessed the transformative power of collective efforts in supporting widows and promoting their empowerment. The event brought together various stakeholders, including government officials, community members and most importantly, the widows themselves who showed their commitment in walking with widows in their widowhood journey.

This 3rd Anniversary Celebration served as a platform to celebrate the achievements of Hope For Widows CBO and its impact on widows' lives. It was a moment of reflection on the challenges widows face, the progress made, and the work that lies ahead.

