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Welcome to our first 2023 e-newsletter

January was swift, and that is precisely how we anticipate proceeding. However, we can't wait to start the new year with you and share our breathtaking journey with you once more. Enjoy!

## The Centre gets new Executive Director



Humphres Evelia  
Executive Director

Humphres Evelia was appointed late last year as the new executive director of Centre for the Study of Adolescence. Humphres succeeds Albert Obbuyi, who steered the Centre for 11 years before his departure on 31st March 2022 to pursue other interests.

Humphries is a seasoned researcher and adolescent health expert with over 20 years of experience working on the sexual and reproductive health and rights of adolescents and young people in Kenya and the Region. He brings back to the Centre a wealth of experience and expertise in fundraising, operations, program management, policy analysis, and Advocacy. Prior to his new role, Humphres worked on various assignments with UNFPA, UNESCO, WHO, Rutgers, Norwegian Church Aid, and Population Reference Bureau in multiple countries, including; Kenya, South Sudan, Uganda, Tanzania, Lesotho, and Ethiopia. He is not new to CSA - he served as Program Manager at the Centre for three years, from 2011-2014. He holds a Masters degree in Population studies from the University of Nairobi.

We are confident that his leadership will help to ensure that CSA remains at the forefront of adolescent research and development and continue the legacy of excellence that CSA is known for.

## Equal Rights Equal Access II in Homa Bay County

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With support from the Danish Family Planning Association, the Centre for the Study of Adolescence has been working diligently to improve the lives of LGBTIQ+ people between 18-35 years in the Ndhiwa and Homa Bay Town sub-county, to access justice and SRH services without discrimination and stigma. Our efforts have included identifying and mapping out ten health facilities each in Ndhiwa and in Homa Bay town that are LGBTIQ+ friendly, training 12 peer educators on SRHR advocacy, providing SRHR information to LGBTIQ+ people, while integrating a Gender Transformative Approach in Sexuality Reproductive health and right for the LGBTQ people, and promoting safety and security of sexual minorities.

In the last two months of 2022, we hosted community dialogues with the community and religious leaders to understand the diversity that is within SRHR. CSA also trained ten Ministry of Health (MOH) officers in charge each in Ndhiwa and Homa bay town on providing SRHR services to LGBTIQ+ individuals.

## Amplifying children's voices in Busia County

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Budalangi/ Bunyala Sub-County, children assembly officials joined fellow children officials from the other Six sub-county assemblies in a meeting to consolidate the plight and recommendations from children across the county towards the county children's policy development. The purpose of this meeting was to create a forum for children to express their views and represent the views of fellow children from their respective areas and meet with various stakeholders from the county and national government, including the Culture, Gender, Sports, and Social Service official and the directorate of Children Services.

With support from KNH, our donor partner CSA will conduct sensitization meetings for the county officials to create awareness of how much the current draft County Children policy will help children in the county if passed.

## Linking SRHR and Climate Change in Kilifi County

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Gender Based Violence undermines the health, dignity, and autonomy of its victims and violates human rights. It also interferes with people's development. SGBV affects all genders and should be addressed without corruption and delays.

In November 2022, the Sexual Reproductive Health Rights and Climate Change project convened community dialogues with the Beach Management Unit in Uyombo Kilifi county. The conversations were centered around the types of GBV in the community, their causes, prevention, and how those affected can be helped. Some causes of GBV identified include poverty, unemployment, retrogressive cultural practices, and influence by media.

## Pedalling Towards SRHR Information and services

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CSA secured a donation from World Bicycle Relief of 120 bicycles to be distributed to the trained peer providers, educators, and health workers to support their movement to the respective sites of operations. We have distributed 66 bicycles so far in Ndhiwa Sub-county and Rangwe sub-county. Plans are underway to distribute the remaining bicycles in Homabay.

## CSA hosts international RHRN II meeting to celebrate progress and learnings.



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RHRN partners, celebrate our joint progress and lessons learned, and identify priorities for the RHRN partnership in 2023. Ten implementing countries attended by National Coordinators, Youth country coordinators, and global consortium leads led by Rutgers, Netherlands

## RHRN II Trains Advocates on County Budget Process



RHRN II trained youth advocates in Nairobi, Kisumu, and Mombasa on the county budget process to help them to meaningfully engage in the development of county-integrated development plans 2023-2025 and advocate for increased focus on SRHR. We helped convene youth consultative forums in three counties to ensure that young people have a say in the budget process. These forums allowed young people to review budgets and develop a memoranda that reflect their priorities and related needs to SRHR. The great work continues this year in Kisumu, Nairobi and Mombasa as we hope to empower youth to be active and engaged citizens and ensure their voices are heard in developing county plans.

## Enhancing collaboration and teamwork



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and teamwork. Besides bonding over creative activities, the team reaffirmed the vision and mission of CSA and laid out their following plans for 2023. These plans include expanding our outreach to more communities and collaborating with more organizations to provide better services to adolescents and young people. Additionally, the team will continue to provide leadership in the SRHR sector in the country accurate and up-to-date information and education on adolescent development to ensure that young people have the tools they need to make informed decisions about their health and well-being.

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Thank you for a fantastic start this year! We appreciate you for growing with us and being part of the [@CSA\\_Kenya](#) family. We are looking forward to more meaningful conversations and milestones with you. [#CSAEngage](#)




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