

REPORT ON MURAL PAINTED IN NDUGAMANO COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTRE FUNDED BY PAINTING A NEW WORLD TO CREATE COMMUNITY LEVEL AWARENESS ON COVID 19 AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT.



The mural was done through a generous donation from **Painting a new world** of 450 CAD \$ under the **Community Empowerment through Art Programme in November 2019**. The programme aims to transform artists and their communities through Art.

The mural was scheduled for the Christmas season but due to some minor construction work in the centre, we postponed the mural until this year 2020.

The Mural was conceived in March 2020 at the time when COVID was **hitting international headlines in Asia and Europe and America...** The Ministry of Health confirmed a **Corona virus disease (COVID-19)** case in Nairobi on the 12th **March 2020**, the first one to be reported in Kenya since the beginning of the outbreak in China in **December 2019**.

This to us was a looming Social –economic problem that needed to be addressed. We created this Mural in our resource centre to create awareness about the looming Pandemic and educate people on how to live with the disease. We dedicated our Murals in 2020 to fighting COVID 19 since it's a Public health problem that cuts across all sectors.

Using behaviour change communication strategy, the mural explores how people can continue with their lives normally if they observe the WHO health guidelines. It shows how rural and urban communities can manage COVID19. We highlighted bad practices that could spread the virus eg:

- a) Hand shakes
- b) Close contact
- c) Poor hygiene

It goes on to educate the public about the best practices that can stop the spread of the virus eg.

- a) Hand washing and sanitizing
- b) Wearing of face masks
- c) Observing social distance
- d) Maintaining basic hygiene at home and public.

The people have also maintained their good environmental practices meaning that continued sustainable environmental management can prevent catastrophies like COVID19.

Farmers and business people in the market are encouraged to observe these safety guidelines.

As long as the world has not found a cure or a vaccine for Covid-19, we may have to adjust to a “**new normal**”, meaning a **new** way of living and going about our lives, work and interactions with other people.



Through the grassroots alliance against Covid Program which aims at creating a community level awareness campaign in rural Kenya using mural art to enhance behavior change and reduce the

rising cases of COVID 19 due to ignorance and risky behavior, we have reached Over 3000 people with this mural alone who have been visiting our centre to seek support during the Pandemic.

We have been painting murals in public places as part of behavior change communication strategy to pass the message to the grassroots communities who are at risk of getting infected.

PNWM in 2020 has also supported our grassroots alliance against COVID Programme with 50 CAD \$ which went along way to support Artists affected by the pandemic with art materials such as paints to sustain their career. We supported 5 artists with paints which they have used to produce artworks for sale.

Once the Covid Pandemic spread subsides, we plan to hold an exhibition to help them market their works.

As the Pandemic continues to spread, we plan to continue reaching out to more people with our Mural work to help them build Resilience which is the key to managing COVID.

Kiangure Springs Environment initiative is grateful for the continued support from **PNWM** in our **Community through Art Programme**.

ASANTE SANA.

Report prepared by Joram Mathenge

Executive Director-Kiangure Springs Environment Initiative

www.kiangurespringsenvironment.org