



BUDGET MEMORANDUM

Regarding The Kisumu County Fiscal Strategy Paper
2019/2020

**Presented To The County Treasury And The County
Assembly Of Kisumu**

For **Right Here Right Now Kenya**



WE,The Right Here Right Now Kenya, a platform of 15 undersigned organizations working on Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights of young people in Kenya

DESIROUS of a world where Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights of young people are protected, respected and fulfilled with focus on freedom from stigma, discrimination and violence; access to comprehensive youth friendly services; access to comprehensive information and space for young people’s voices;

ACKNOWLEDGING the progressive policy and legal environment on health and sexual and reproductive health and rights espoused by the Constitution of Kenya 2010, the Health Act 2017, the Kenya Health Policy 2014-2030, the National Adolescent Reproductive Health policy 2015, The National Adolescent and Youth Friendly Services Guidelines 2017;

RECALLING Kenya’s regional and international commitments including the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), the Convention on Economic Social and Cultural Rights (CESCR), the Convention on Elimination on All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), African Charter on Women’s Rights and the Maputo Protocol;

UNDERLINING the Constitution of Kenya, 2010 which guarantees every individual the right to the highest attainable standard of health, which include the right to health care services including reproductive health care

INVOKING the provisions of Article 201 (a) under the Public Finance Management principles and Public Finance Management Act. 2012 which stresses on openness, accountability and meaningful public engagement in governance including finance management;

RECOGNIZING the efforts of Kisumu County to improve the health status in the county including through development of Kisumu Adolescent and Youth Policy and prioritization of health through budget allocation, meaningfully collaborate with partners in advancing SRHR in the county;

CONCERNED that adolescents and young people continue to post poor sexual and reproductive health indicators and are disproportionately affected by sexual and reproductive health challenges including teenage pregnancy, HIV/AIDS, maternal mortalities and unsafe abortions among others;

AWARE that young people below 24 years in Kisumu County occupy 66% of the total population as Per the National Census, 2009 and **CONVINCED** that their health is critical in realizing county goals and Vision 2030;

REAFFIRMING that young people and adolescents are not homogenous and have different needs and experiences; and that there are more vulnerable sub-populations within this group including young sexual and gender minorities;

CONSCIOUS that meaningful and long-lasting solutions to the recurrent youth challenges cannot be solved without the meaningful participation of the young people themselves

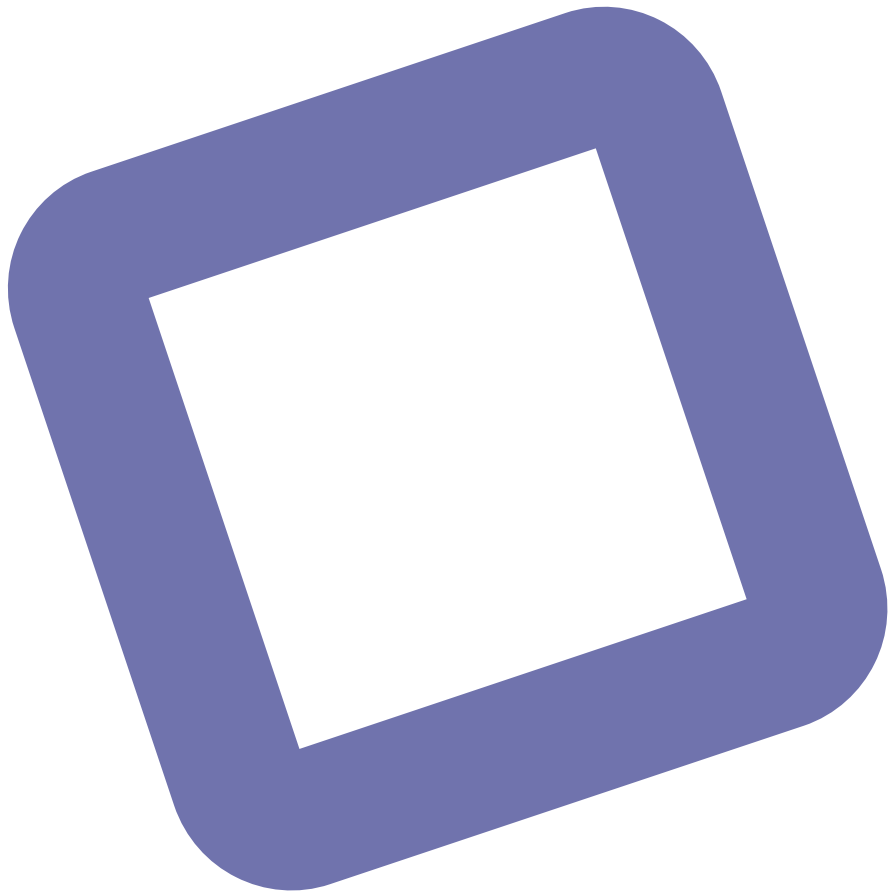
SUBMIT this memo highlighting the sexual and reproductive health challenges affecting young people and women and opportunities for realizing the right to the highest attainable standard of healthcare;

Key Policy Recommendations:



We therefore call upon the county executive and assembly:

- 1. Invest in Youth friendly services in line with County CIDP and National Guidelines on Adolescent and Youth Friendly Services, 2016** The county government committed to establish and equip at least 14 youth friendly centers in the County Integrated Development Plan 2018-2022. We further call for the integration of youth friendly centers within the already existing health facilities both at county level and the community level. The youth friendly services should be comprehensive and inclusive of all young people including those young People living with HIV/AIDS, LGBTIQ, young people with disabilities.
- 2. Develop a more program-based budget:** The budget document for all the three fiscal years did not have clear specific sub-programs and have an itemized budget to separately have the vote heads and allocations individually indicated. For example, under reproductive health, throughout the years the sub programs are lumped with maternal and child health care and thus there should be an itemized budget specifying the different allocations for the RMNCAH.
- 3. Align the fiscal strategy paper and the budget with key national and county documents** including the County Development Integrated Plan 2018-2022, the Kisumu County Adolescent and Youth Policy 2018, the Annual Development Plan
- 4. Strengthen public participation** for all including young people as per the Kisumu Public Participation Policy by availing key documents including the County Fiscal Strategy paper, informing the public in time through mediums most accessible by Kisumu residents and using available youth structures in mobilization for public participation. Further, there is need for the county to strengthen feedback mechanisms and provide justifications for decisions made.



Something Needs To Change

Right Here
Right Now