

Ndathi issues cheques to ex alcoholics

BY NJOROGE KABURO.

Kirinyaga Governor Joseph Ndathi has issued cheques to groups of former alcohol takers in an effort to help them improve their businesses and boost their farming activities.

The eight groups drawn from across the county benefited from sh. 50, 000 each.

“These are people who require our backing because they have shown commitment to reform and piece up their lives together after wasting their prime years in alcohol and other substances,” pointed out the Governor when he issued the cheques at Kutus yesterday.

The Governor reiterated the Government’s commitment to improve youth wellbeing in the County saying that the Ministry of Gender and youth was formulating massive programmes to improve youth-led initiatives.

Further the Governor urged residents to vote with a sober mind in next year’s polls advising them to distinguish truthful leaders from crooked unrealistic aspirants who only come with empty talks to rip-off voters.

Ndathi said his track record was speaking for himself and challenged the new entrants in the gubernatorial race to enumerate their past achievements.

Kirinyaga County Assembly majority leader Kinyua Wangui hailed the move by the youth for shunning alcohol and drugs abuse and called more youth to register as voters to vote in the Jubilee administration in next year’s general elections.

“I want to ensure you that our youths have now reformed from inglorious drinking and are ready to vote even more soberly in the next polls,” said the youthful leader addressing the Governor.

Kinyua said instances where greedy individuals enriched themselves by putting up storey buildings at the expense of youth deaths after consuming illicit drinks had since reduce thanks to the ‘timely crackdown.’

“The production and sale of illicit liquor which had become big business with some packaging the deadly brews for sale in licensed bars is now over, it is so unfortunate that most partakers of these brews died while others were rendered blind, it is however now gone cases, and our youth are more healthier and ready to work to grow our economy, said Mr. Kinyua who is the Mutira Ward MCA.

President Uhuru Kenyatta ordered a crackdown on the production and sale of illicit liquor in central Kenya last year July.

The directive came amidst a growing concern and revelation that youth in central Kenya had taken to excessively indulging in the brews, making the region the worst hit hence contributing to its stunted economic productivity.

Following the order from the president, the County Government of Kirinyaga revoked all licenses for all wines and spirits outlets.

“...this move saw reduction through suspension of 578 out of 1350 permits of illegally licensed joints,” noted Nyamu Wamwara, the chairman of Liquor licensing Board in Kirinyaga.

Recovered alcoholics who attended yesterday’s meeting hailed President Kenyatta’s move against consumption and production of illicit liquor.

“I thank President Uhuru for bringing to an end the illegal beer, it had become a major problem in our backyard because it had tormented us, our children, families and many young people,” said a reformed mother of two who is now running a kiosk at Ngurubani market.



Governor Joseph Ndathi arrives at Kutus accompanied by Youth & Gender Executive Magdalene Nduta, Communications Director Joseph Murimi third right and ward Administrators



Governor Joseph Ndathi admires some of the items made by recovered alcoholics.



Governor Ndathi issues cheques to recovered alcoholics.



Governor Ndathi shares a light moment with a recovered alcoholic.