

April - June 2024

HAKI NEWS

NEWSLETTER, ISSUE 3 - 2024





DEFENDERS
COALITION

Hello,

Friends and Supporters of Human Rights Defenders in Kenya!

We champion the safety and security of Human Rights Defenders in Kenya

WHAT WE DO



Supportive Policy, Legal and Institutional Frameworks



Human Rights Defenders Safety and Security.



Enhancing The Socio-Economic Wellbeing of HRDs



Institutional Excellence



States can and should do more to protect defenders. They can start by publicly celebrating the work of defenders in their own country, and in other countries. Twenty-five years on from the declaration, defenders are right to expect more support and protection than they currently receive

*-Mary Lawlor -
UN Special Rapporteur on Human Rights Defenders*

Follow and interact with us on our social media handles

PILLAR 1

SUPPORTIVE POLICY, LEGAL AND INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORKS

who is a human rights defender?

“Human rights defender” is a term used to describe people who, individually or with others, act to promote or protect human rights in a peaceful manner. Human rights defenders are identified above all by what they do and it is through a description of their actions

Human rights defenders address any human rights concerns, which can be as varied as, for example, summary executions, torture, arbitrary arrest and detention, female genital mutilation, discrimination, employment issues, forced evictions, access to health care, and toxic waste and its impact on the environment.

In accordance with this broad categorization, human rights defenders can be any person or group of persons working to promote human rights, ranging from intergovernmental organizations based in the world’s largest cities to individuals working within their local communities. Defenders can be of any gender, of varying ages, from any part of the world and from all sorts of professional or other backgrounds.

24/7 Emergency Support Line
0716 200 100

A. Bridging the Gap between Grassroot Human Rights Defenders in Kilifi, Samburu, Machakos, Makueni and Kitui Counties.

In May and June 2024, the Defenders Coalition held community-led round table engagements with relevant duty bearers in Samburu, Kilifi, and Machakos Counties.

The forums facilitated dialogue between Court Users Committees and HRDs to reduce restrictions and identify areas of collaboration to realize the full implementation of the Constitution of Kenya.

Some of the state agencies that have been part of the conversation circles include the Judiciary, Office of the Director of Public Prosecution (DPP), the National Police Service, Kenya National Commission on Human Rights (KNCHR), the County Commissioner, the Department of Children Services, National Gender and Equality Commission (NGEC), County Genders and Children Department, Independent Policing and Oversight Authority, and the State Department for Social Protection.

During the conversation circle, human rights defenders from the county stood united in reaffirming the critical importance of international and national human rights frameworks. They noted that human rights abuses and violations continue to persist despite robust frameworks being put in place. These include harassment, intimidation,

corruption, impunity, discrimination, sexual gender-based violence (SGBV), limited access to information, stigmatization, harassment and intimidation of HRDs, and discriminatory land practices. Harmful cultural practices such as female genital mutilation (FGM), child marriages, and beading worsen these issues, resulting in severe physical and emotional harm, loss of lives and livelihoods, and the denial of dignified living standards.

Throughout the meeting, HRDs highlighted a dire human rights situation in the counties with harmful cultures being a catalyst to the abuses and violations. Additionally, attitudes and perceptions from both the community and duty bearers greatly influenced how human rights defenders experienced their safety, security, and well-being. During the meeting, it was a cross-cutting concern that certain state agencies instigate systematic harassment and stigmatization of HRDs, undermining their legitimacy and fostering negative public perceptions towards human rights work. HRDs are frequently labeled troublemakers and face intimidation and threats from both state and non-state actors.



The forums have been a resounding success as all stakeholders held the discussions with high regard. Defenders Coalition looks forward to working closely towards the implementation of meeting outcomes and strengthening partnerships with the grassroots human rights defenders within the county for a better and prosperous Kenya.

Speaking at the Machakos County Conversation circle held between 6-7 June 2024, the Head of Programmes and Strategic Partnerships Gloria Madegwa emphasized the significance of creating linkages and partnerships between duty bearers HRDs.

“There is a general acknowledgment that HRDs work towards offering services that the community dearly needs. It ensures that the voiceless people have a voice and their rights are safeguarded and this is the case with the various government agencies. The Defenders Coalition recognizes this fact and is deliberate in bridging the gap between HRDs and the state agencies to enhance collaboration for the communities but also for a conducive environment for HRDs.”

B. Enhancing Journalists With Skills On Human Rights-Based Reporting



In commemoration of World Press Freedom Day on May 3, 2024, the Defenders Coalition trained 20 journalists in Nairobi, equipping them with skills in human rights-based approaches to reporting. The journalists also received digital security tips and participated in a group debriefing exercise. Through this training, the Defenders Coalition established a network of human rights journalists who continue to support the work of human rights defenders (HRDs) at the grassroots level and highlight human rights concerns at the county level. The Defenders Coalition remains committed to linking these trained journalists with grassroots networks to foster collaboration in advocating for human rights.

Journalism is not just a career or profession, its a crucial pillar in protecting justice and democracy in our society.

C. The Public Order Act, 2013 comes to operation

In May, the Defenders Coalition participated in the first-ever United Nations Civil Society Conference held in Africa.

Both the UN Secretary-General António Guterres and Kenya's President William Ruto recognized the efforts of civil society and underscored their indispensable contributions in democracy and rule of law in all parts of the world.

Both equivocally acknowledged the the enormous impact of civil society in every corner of the world; easing suffering, pushing for peace and justice, standing for truth, and advancing gender equality and sustainable development, with many working at great personal risk.

The Conference presented a progressive advocacy point for civil society in Kenya following a sustained campaign to operationalize the 2013 PBO Act. During the conference, President Ruto announced the operationalization of the law. The PBO Act replaced a thirty-year-old one-party state NGO Coordination Act (1990).

The law affirms the critical role of PBOs and provides for the new enabling legal, regulatory, and institutional environment for the sector. Among other benefits, the PBO Act will provide a favorable environment for the setting up, growth and running of PBOs; put in place a useful system of rules, laws and institutions that support efficient

registration and functioning of PBOs; trigger a re-birth of values within the sector by strengthening self-regulation; put in place an independent complaint and redress mechanism – The law provides for The PBO Disputes Tribunal – to give PBOs and members of the public access to remedies where the dispute resolution mechanisms have failed and specifically allowing PBOs to take part in income earning activities in order to support their public benefit objectives. The Defenders Coalition and other human rights organizations have been holding awareness creation forums for CSOs at the national level to ensure acquaintance with the new law.

D. Advocating for the elimination of enforced disappearances and extrajudicial killings in Kenya

The Defenders Coalition continues to advocate for the elimination of enforced disappearances and extrajudicial killings in Kenya.

During the period, the Defenders Coalition under the auspices of the Missing Voices Coalition launched the 2023 Annual Report on 24 April 2024. The report highlights the number of police killings in 2023 were 118 in total compared to 130 in 2022. This represents a reduction of 9.2%. Further, the number of enforced disappearances recorded were 10 in 2023, compared to 22 in 2022. This represents a reduction of 54.5% in recorded cases.

In total, 128 people were killed or forcefully disappeared in 2023. This is a 15.8% drop compared to a total of 152 cases recorded in 2022.

Most of the killings occur during police anti-crime operations by state security agencies. In 2023, 58 people were killed because of anti-crime operations compared to 91 cases during the same period in 2022.

Anti-riot killings, however, increased in 2023 due to the Maandamano protests against high cost of living in March and

July. Anti-terror related killings decreased from 18 in 2022 to 1 in 2023. Either the government has implemented a softer approach to dealing with terror-related cases or they have found more discrete ways of executing victims, which do not raise alarm in the wider public. In terms of gender, men continued to be more vulnerable to police killings and impunity. The proportion of men killed in 2023 remained high, at 94% of all victims, compared to 95.3% in 2022. The proportion of women was recorded at 4.7% in 2022, compared to 6% in 2023, a slight increase.



The President's efforts to address police abuse and protect urban youth have fallen short, and Kenya Kwanza has performed dismally on matters concerning the protection of fundamental human rights and the rule of law.

After the Kenya Kwanza got into government, President Ruto ordered Directorate of Criminal Investigations (DCI) boss Amin Mohamed to disband the Special Service Unit (SSU), which was linked to extrajudicial killings and the dumping of bodies in rivers and forests.

However, the trend of people disappearing and their bodies being discovered later has not stopped as noted from the report from missing voices. These statistics paint a grim picture of the current state of human rights in Kenya. Despite official efforts to reform, the persistent occurrences of enforced disappearances and police killings highlight the urgent need for more effective measures. It is imperative for the government to take decisive and transparent actions to protect its citizens and uphold the rule of law, ensuring that justice and human rights are prioritized in practice, not just in rhetoric.

[Read the Full Report here](#)



E. Advocacy campaigns with women networks on ending femicide

The Defense Hearing of Elizabeth Ekaru's Murder Case

The Defenders Coalition continues to stand in solidarity with the family of Elizabeth Ekaru, a WHRD who was murdered in January 2022. The Defenders Coalition has been facilitating a legal representative to watch a brief of the proceedings at Meru High Court. Additionally, the Defenders Coalition has ensured WHRDs from Isiolo – including friends, family and colleagues – attend the court sessions.

The case has progressed well and judgement will be held on 25 July 2024 at the Meru High Court.

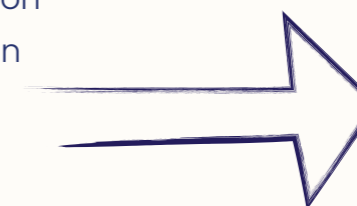
F. A call for nominations for the Human Rights Defenders Award is open, Closes on 31 July 2024

The Defenders Coalition and the Working Group on HRDs in Kenya has announced the call for nominations for the ninth edition of the Human Rights Defenders Awards. The call for nominations is open until 31 July 2024 where nominees will be publicly honored at an awarding ceremony set to take place on November 29, 2024.



The HRD Awards aim to honor and publicly recognize the vital work of HRDs in Kenya. We will present awards to individuals who have demonstrated exceptional courage, innovation, and impact in promoting and protecting human rights and fundamental freedoms.

The Working Group on HRDs calls on you to help us identify your human rights champion at the grassroots by nominating them now. Fill the nomination form here



Nominate Now

PILLAR 2

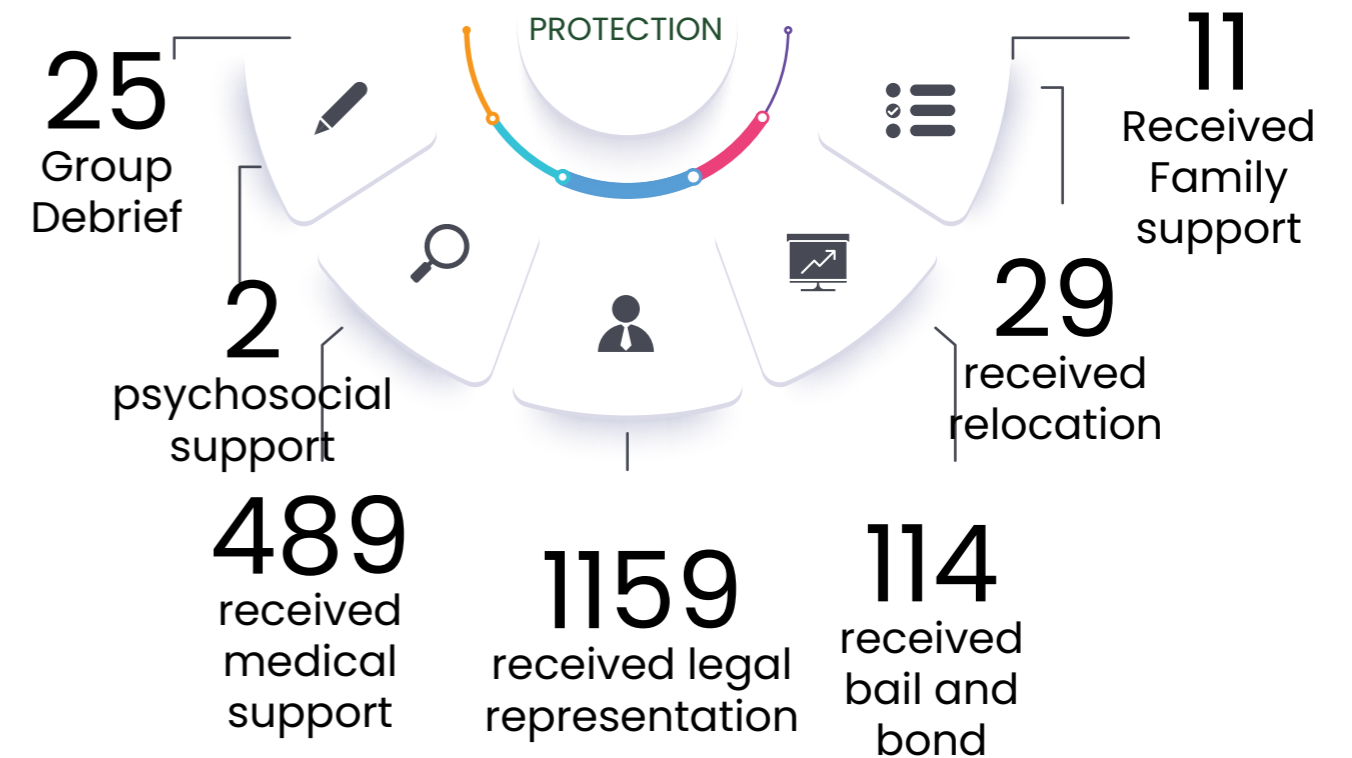
TOWARDS THE SAFETY AND PROTECTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS IN KENYA

The main aim of this pillar will be to facilitate timely and appropriate responses to all forms of threats or insecurities to HRDs.

This will be achieved by strengthening the capacities of HRDs and other service providers, more so, duty bearers, lawyers, medical personnel and counsellors among others.

Defenders Coalition intervenes in a timely way whenever HRDs are at risk and deliberately establishes strategic partnerships with complementary referral systems in order to ensure a systems approach to HRD support.

OUR WORK IN APRIL, MAY & JUNE





A. 20 human rights advocates trained on Security Management

Physical and Digital Security Management

Trainings:

- The Defenders Coalition continued to equip HRDs with critical skills on personal and organizational security management.
- Over the period, 19 HRDs have directly benefitted from this initiative. The Defenders Coalition organized a three-day security management training for HRDs from Nairobi, Machakos, Kajiado, Nakuru, Uasin Gichu, Kilifi, Kisumu, Siaya and Nyandarua Counties between 18th and 20th June 2024.

The skills gained from the trainings enhances the confidence among HRDs regarding personal and organizational safety and security.

B. 7 Organizations receive Security Audits and enhancement

Additionally, the Defenders Coalition conducted 7 security audits and 6 enhancements for organizations in Kajiado, Kiambu and Nairobi with the aim of identifying existing security gaps and vulnerabilities.

Through this process, the Defenders Coalition provided implementable solutions to fortify the audited organizations' security infrastructure.

This proactive approach ensures that HRDs and their organizations are better prepared to withstand potential threats/risks and continue their essential human rights work.



C. A retreat for 13 digital security trainers in Kenya held

The Defenders Coalition's Strategic Plan, a comprehensive Defenders Coalition hosted a training camp from the 13th to the 14th of June 2024 designed to enhance the capacities of digital security practitioners

among trainers. In attendance were various stakeholders, including the Secretariat, allies, Human rights defenders, partners, beneficiaries and the Board of Trustees

.The camp successfully brought together digital security trainers from social justice centers, community-based organizations, and coalition partners who support HRDs in digital security, resulting in a transformative and impactful training experience.

The outcomes were significant, with improved expertise in digital security topics, enhanced digital security audit tools through the SAFETAG Framework, and strengthened mental well-being





D. Support To Human Rights Defenders affected by the excessive long rains in April and May 2024

In the wake of heavy rainfall that wreaked havoc on communities nationwide, human rights defenders (HRDs) faced immense challenges. The severe flooding, coupled with government demolitions in Nairobi's informal settlements, resulted in forced evictions, widespread displacement, and, tragically, the loss of lives among HRDs.

The Defenders Coalition received numerous requests for humanitarian aid in response to the crisis. Acting swiftly, the Coalition provided essential support to affected communities and committed to assisting HRDs impacted by the floods in Kajiado, Kisumu, Nakuru, Turkana, and Murang'a counties.

E. Gender Impact of Floods In Mathare

The month of May and June has seen Kenya grappling with heavy rains and devastating floods, affecting numerous counties. Among the hardest-hit regions is Mathare, where the overflow of the Nairobi River has resulted in significant loss of life, including that of the respected Women Human Rights Defender (WHRD) Benna Buluma, affectionately known as Mama Victor.

In response to the crisis, the Kenyan government has opted to evict survivors under the pretext of renovating homes and constructing more affordable housing. However, this decision fails to acknowledge the vulnerability of women and children within these communities. Single mothers and those in marriages bear the weight of providing comfort and reassurance to their families, adding immense pressure as they strive to care for both their loved ones and their own mental well-being.

Decent housing remains an elusive right for many Kenyans, despite heavy taxation purportedly allocated for such initiatives. The government's failure to provide adequate and affordable housing, coupled with poor drainage infrastructure, forces women to endure unsanitary living conditions, heightening

their vulnerability to infections in the floods. Access to essential reproductive health services and products becomes even more challenging during such crises, compounding the hardships faced by women.

Moreover, the heightened risk of Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV) looms large during these difficult times. Women and children, already vulnerable due to societal dynamics, face increased risks due to lack of proper housing, limited access to reproductive healthcare, and heightened stress levels. They are left to navigate these challenges while shouldering the responsibility of being the soul caregivers and themselves.

Continued flooding exacerbates a myriad of issues, including an alarming increase in police brutality and arbitrary arrests. The peaceful protests on May 8th

by (W)HRDs and community members, highlighting governmental neglect and ongoing demolitions, were met with undue force from law enforcement. The subsequent detention of 27 individuals, nine of whom are women, without proper charges, is deeply concerning. These women in custody do not have access to proper hygiene and with their gendered nature this is paramount to their wellbeing and survival.

In conclusion, the plight of women and children in Mathare and similar flood-affected areas underscores the urgent need for comprehensive action. The government must prioritize the protection and support of vulnerable communities, ensuring access to safe housing, healthcare, and essential services. Furthermore, meaningful engagement with affected communities is essential to address systemic issues and build resilience in the face of future crises.



Kenya
at the Precipice

RejectFinanceBill2024

OCCUPY PARLIAMENT

**CITIZENS, RISE AGAINST
OVERTAXATION BY
ZAKAYO!**
#REJECTFINANCEBILL2024

TUESDAY **JUNE 18**
2024

DRESS CODE: BLACK

CARRY: PLACARD, HANDKERCHIEF, & A BOTTLE OF WATER

MEET UP: OUTSIDE PARLIAMENT AT 12:00PM.

WE SHALL GATHER TO KEEP VIGIL AS MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT VOTE AT 2:30PM.

SECURITY: IG KOOME TO PROVIDE POLICE TO PROTECT US AS HE RESPECTS

ARTICLE 37 OF THE CONSTITUTION: THE RIGHT TO PROTEST AND PICKET.



What Kenyans Want

Kenyans have been lauded globally for being actively engaged politically and having a vibrant civil society that have withstood efforts to neuter it. However, the June 2024 protests that were triggered by widespread opposition to the finance bill that sought to increase taxes on a range of items including everyday essentials on a population already reeling from high rates of inflation and unemployment have elicited global interests and commentaries.

Led by its youthful population of Gen-Zs and Millennials who overcame historical divisive affiliations of tribe, social class and leadership structure, the group mobilized around issues like the imposition of high taxes at a time when the cost of living was unmanageable, corruption was entrenched in government and the leadership was inept, corrupt, and disconnected to the people. The youth that constitute more than 80% of the population engaged in civic education on governance and their rights. They adopted modern technology such as mobile phones and social media platforms to engage in peaceful protests – on the internet and offline – across major cities and towns in Kenya.

The daring action by Kenyans presents Kenya and indeed Africa an opportunity



towards the hopeful path for reform, affirming democratic institutions, rule of law and addressing grievances surrounding unemployment, government corruption, high cost of living and revisit economic reform strategies and relook into the impact of external borrowing from world finance bodies such as the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and World Bank. Specifically, Kenyans want the following addressed in the long run:

1. Respect human rights and enhance access to Justice for victims.

Kenyans want genuine steps taken to promote, protect and uphold freedoms and rights provided for in the constitution such as freedom to assemble, associate and express oneself.

Additionally, Kenyans expect independent, thorough and quick investigations into all abuses by security forces, both past and present, and ensure that all those found culpable are promptly prosecuted in accordance with the law. They are also calling for the urgent end to state abductions, disappearance, torture and killing of government critics, including those associated with recent protests and a commitment to the protection of civic space, media and thriving civil society in Kenya.

2. Independent institutions

Kenya has adequate institutions with capacity to deliver on their mandates. Kenyans want an end to the abuse of offices and any forms of interference by the executive, particularly the presidency, in other arms of government – The Judiciary and Legislature.





3. Rule of law

Corruption in Kenya has been undermined by interference of the justice process including poor investigations of corruption cases, acquittal or dropping of criminal and corruption cases against political cronies and other senior government officials close to the Kenya Kwanza government. These cases need to be reinstated for personal responsibility for this blatant obstruction of justice. Kenyans also want respect for the constitution, laws of Kenya and respect for human rights. Additionally, political appointments of individuals with questionable track records such as having numerous criminal cases in courts of law have worked in defeating justice and rule of law.

4. Good governance

Kenyans have lost confidence in the Head of State and Government as both have demonstrated inability to connect with the realities of many Kenyans. Kenyans are calling for an immediate radical departure from the past and are keen to start all over on the right path.

5. Land and Environment

Kenyans have also called for the protection of land which is a valuable resource on which many communities depend for livelihoods. As part of the reform, Kenyans have called for an independent audit into how land belonging to communities is being appropriated by various external interests, and have called for the revocation of all leases among pastoralists/communal territories and public lands, forests and other natural resources illegally leased to foreign and private interests who are benefiting

from carbon credit trading on account of the ignorance or manipulation of the communities.

Worryingly, the governments' s response to the protests has been nothing but the use of force and brutality against peaceful protestors. The state's human rights body, the Kenya National Commission on Human Rights (KNCHR) has released data highlighting several critical issues including :

1. Deaths of 45 people including minors;
2. 1270 arbitrary arrests where 9 of them were journalists, 20 staff of various human rights organizations and 41 minors; and
3. 487 Injuries - 482 injuries of adult citizens, 4 journalists and 1 staff of a human rights organization.
4. 44 incidents of abductions or enforced disappearances.
5. Trauma, and anxiety for the kidnapped and their families

Further, the commission stated that 32 cases of enforced disappearance and 627 protest-related arrests were documented. KNCHR also expressed concern over the excessive and disproportionate force used against protestors, medical personnel, lawyers, journalists, and safe spaces such as churches, medical centres among others.



45 Deaths including death of 1 minor.



487 injuries which includes 4 journalists and 1 staff of a human rights organization.



1270 arbitrary arrests where 9 of them were journalists, 20 staff of various human rights organizations and 41 minors



44 incidents of abductions or enforced disappearances

A Champion for the Voiceless: The Inspiring Journey of Hanifa Farsafi



From a young age, Hanifa has always felt a deep-seated drive to stand up for those who cannot speak for themselves. “I can’t pinpoint the exact moment that inspired me to become such an active citizen,” she recalls, “but it’s something that has always been there ever since I was young.”

Even in primary school, she found herself defending her peers, both in and out of the classroom. Growing up surrounded by injustices, particularly towards women, only strengthened her resolve.

“I’d say I’m allergic to injustices. It doesn’t matter the risks involved or the weight of the situation; I would always intervene.”

Her dedication to advocacy is particularly focused on voiceless individuals in low-income areas and slums. “It started with advocating for their right to a decent environment and evolved into fighting for their equal rights as deserving Kenyans,” she explains. Over a year ago, she spearheaded a campaign to address a raw sewer that

had plagued the Korogocho slums for over 30 years, posing significant health risks to local children and a nearby school. “I ran the campaign on Twitter for three months until the place was fixed,” she recounts.

Her efforts extend far beyond this single campaign. Along with her team, she reclaimed land for a children’s home in the Ridgeway Area Garden Estate that had been unlawfully grabbed. Recently, she led a fundraising campaign for flood victims across Nairobi, raising over 1 million Kenyan shillings. “We bought mattresses, blankets, food, clothes, uniforms, accessories, and shoes for flood victims in various slum areas. I also sent rent and money for essentials to 20 families.”

Despite her successes, Hanifa acknowledges the challenges that come with her role. “Harnessing and drawing the line between taking in others’ opinions of me and the situations I raise can be difficult,” she admits. Criticism and praise are part of the job, and she handles both with grace.

“Others would call me a heroine while some would say I’m nosy. But knowing who I am, why I do this, and who I’m doing it for is what keeps me here and keeps me going.”

Her dedication has paid off, as she has

built an environment where everyone can connect and resonate with different injustices.

Collaboration is also a key component of her work. She frequently partners with other activists and organizations to raise issues and find solutions. “Whether it’s to raise an issue or to solve one, we approach each other to bring attention to it,” she explains.

One of the most pressing human rights issues she faces is the handling of cases involving women and young girls. “I have felt helpless in many situations, but the most heart-wrenching is how rapists and pedophiles are not being handled as they should.” She recounts a recent case involving a 10-year-old girl who was raped by her Quran teacher in Mandera. “The case is in court after we fought for it months ago when they were trying to solve it through ADR. It’s still ongoing, but the perpetrator is still free, trying to intimidate the mother.” Such cases are all too common, and many never see the light of day. “It’s utterly heartbreaking how we have failed our children by giving grace to pedophiles.”

Her frustration with local authorities led her to take her activism online.

“Lobbying on the ground has never worked for me. Local authorities are either compromised or want to be bribed. People come to me when they want justice because the local authorities have failed them. We have solved a lot of issues online where people share the anger and the attention.”

Her message to others is simple but powerful: “You should care. Care about what’s going on around you. Care about people around you and the human race in general. If this is the path you have chosen, looking back is never an option. If anyone has trusted you to bring justice or attention to their issues, you have to follow everything through. Just care enough to stand up or defend anyone. You have to feel the injustice as well.”

Despite the intensity of her work, she understands the importance of self-care. “This has been a bit hard, but I have been able to take a week’s rest after being overwhelmed and fatigued for months.

It feels refreshing, and as much as I want to help, I understand that I cannot help everyone at once. There are limits. I do what I can in my own capacity and address what’s needed. Taking breaks and resting and not being everywhere all at once is the way.”

Looking to the future, she remains hopeful.

“I hope we get to live in a country where it’s not a crime to be poor. A country where everyone has an equal opportunity and where criminals pay for their sins, not buy their way out of it.”

Her unwavering dedication to justice and equality is an inspiration, demonstrating the profound impact one person can have when they choose to stand up for the voiceless.

J.Support To Human Rights Defenders who lost their lives to the excessive long rains in April and May 2024



May 17, 2024, marks an important date as Woman Human Rights Defender Mama Victor and her nephew were laid to rest in Seme, Kisumu County. They were the final two of seven victims claimed by the ravaging floods in Mathare on April 23rd, 2024 .

On that tragic night, Mama Victor was hosting her family and that of fellow WHRD Esther Adhiambo when the floodwaters surged through their home.

Only one elderly woman managed to survive.

Defenders Coalition has stood by Mama Victor's and other Human Rights Defenders (HRDs) since the disappearance was reported. Executive Director, Kamau Ngugi, along with staff and other HRDs, attended the burial to offer their support.

Kamau Ngugi has commended the HRDs from the social justice movement for their true comradeship in recovering the bodies of Mama Victor, Jacinta Adhiambo, and their children from the water and mud, coordinating their stay at mortuaries, and ensuring a dignified send-off for all seven victims.

PILLAR 3

ENHANCING THE SOCIO-ECONOMIC WELLBEING AND CAPACITIES OF HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS



A. Psychosocial Group Debrief Session for First-Line Flood Responders

In response to the May and June devastating floods, the Defenders Coalition organized a psychosocial group debrief session for first-line flood responders on the 7th and 8th June 2024. This vital two-day session brought together 20 participants, primarily Human Rights Defenders (HRDs) from areas directly impacted by the floods.

A poignant candle-lighting ceremony was held to honor those who lost their lives in the floods. This solemn moment

allowed the HRDs to pay their respects and find some solace amidst their grief. In addition to the discussions, the session included various outdoor activities designed to promote relaxation and camaraderie. These activities provided a much-needed respite from the intense stress and emotional burden that comes with being on the front lines of disaster response.

The Defenders Coalition remains committed to supporting HRDs through initiatives like these, recognizing the crucial role they play in their communities and the immense challenges they face.

You Can Talk to Someone

CALL OUR TOLL FREE NUMBER
0800 724 280

CALL US FOR FREE COUNSELLING AND PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT

KCPA DEFENDERS COALITION

Defenders Coalition has an active partnership with Kenya Counselling and Psychological Association to ensure that HRDS and families who experience traumatic experiences access professional services.

Our toll-free Dial-a-Counselor line - 0800 724 280 is open

Connect with a professional counselor for your mental and psychosocial needs today.



A. Scaling mountains and hills to set up Haki Village

Supporters of Climb for Justice Initiative continue to exhibit an unrelenting attitude and resilience in their pursuit for justice and a state founded on human rights

Climb for Justice Campaign offers an opportunity for all Kenyans to be part of cementing human rights into the country's national culture. It also highlights the critical but often difficult work of human rights defenders.

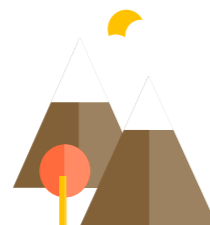
We have conquered Iveti Hills for Justice !!

Our team of human rights defenders recently took an exciting hike up Iveti hills. The beautiful peaks and green valleys were the perfect setting for important conversations about the issues they fight for.

This hike was more than just a physical activity; it represented their ongoing commitment to their mission. The journey up the mountain was a powerful reminder of their dedication to creating positive change.

JOIN US AT THE NEXT HIKE

Destination: Torok Falls Day Hike
Date: 25th July,2024



Payment to:

Mpesa Paybill - 810896
Account: Your Name



Mt.Kilimanjaro Prep Hikes for the Year,2024





Photo Gallery from April, May June



Feedback from our beneficiaries during the period

“
 Ahsanteni sana HRD team under the leadership of DK. You make us really proud to be part of HRD Coalition. This learning trip was huge and awesome. I came back with immense amount of knowledge. I trust we can all build on this.

Thank you defenders coalition and NEST CBO for the invite. Thank you also to all the Human rights defenders who attended the training. It was a great forum meeting and interacting with y'all, I learnt some inspiring stories.
 -collins -



“Great work, through you the community has learnt to fight for and enjoy their rights, congratulations”
 - Mwanasha -



SIGRID
RAUSING
TRUST



Sweden
Sverige

**URGENT
ACTION
FUND +
AFRICA**
FOR WOMN'S HUMAN RIGHT



FORD
FOUNDATION