

NSAMBYA

By Ibrahim Ruhweza

The Rotary Club of Kiwafu Breeze has partnered with St Francis Hospital Nsambya to construct a sh22.5b sickle cell centre aimed at improving treatment, awareness and mobilisation efforts against sickle cell disease in Uganda.

The land has already been secured at the hospital and construction is expected to commence in September this year.

The newly installed president of the club, Wilberforce Nsubuga, said the project is part of Rotary's commitment to addressing one of Uganda's most pressing health challenges.

CREATING AWARENESS

He noted that Uganda remains among the African countries heavily burdened by sickle cell disease, adding that the centre will play a critical role in creating awareness and reducing the number of people affected.

"We need more partners; there is a need to embrace the magic of working as a team and create new ideas to see everyone fighting sickle cell," Nsubuga said, during an event on Friday evening on Muyenga Zimwe Road in Kampala.

Nsubuga explained that sickle cell awareness and mass testing campaigns will remain one of the club's signature projects as they intensify efforts to encourage Ugandans to know their status.

The development comes at a time when the burden of sickle cell disease continues to weigh heavily on communities across Uganda.

According to the Ministry of Health, more than 500,000 children have been tested for sickle cell disease over the past decade, with over 34,000 confirmed positive.

In Bukedea district, school health screenings conducted by the Pharmaceutical Society of Uganda (PSU) in 2024 identified 249 cases of sickle cell disease out of 1,871 students tested, while Budaka District recorded 914 cases during the same period.

LATE DIAGNOSIS

Dr Stephen Lutoti, the secretary general of PSU, described sickle cell disease as one of the most prevalent genetic conditions in Uganda. He said an estimated 25,000 babies are born with the disease annually, but about 80% die before reaching the age of five, leaving only 20% surviving.

According to Lutoti, the high mortality rate is largely driven by late diagnosis, limited

Rotary to construct sh22.5b sickle cell centre in Nsambya

PHOTO BY EDWARD LUYIMBAZI



Former finance minister, Maria Kiwanuka with newly installed president of Rotary Club of Kiwafu Breeze, Wilberforce Nsubuga on Friday

Uganda is ranked fifth in Africa in terms of sickle cell burden with 20,000 babies born with the disease each year.

access to healthcare services, and inadequate public awareness. He added that many Ugandans living with the condition continue to face stigma, emotional stress and limited treatment options.

SICKLE CELL BURDEN

Globally, sickle cell disease affects approximately 7.7 million people and accounts for about 34,000 direct deaths annually, while contributing to an additional 376,000 deaths. Around 80% of all cases are found in Sub-Saharan Africa, making the region the epicentre of the disease burden.

The World Health Organisation ranks Uganda fifth in Africa in terms of sickle cell burden. National statistics indicate that 13.3% of children carry the sickle cell trait, while between 5,000 and 20,000 babies are born with the disease each year. Most of these children die before the age of five.

A national sickle cell survey conducted in 2014 by the Ministry of Health in partnership with Makerere University College of Health Sciences and Cincinnati

Children's Hospital revealed major regional disparities in prevalence. Northern Uganda carries the highest burden, with the sickle cell trait prevalence standing at 18.6%. The East-Central region is at 16.7%, while Mid-Eastern and South-Western regions recorded 16.5% and 4.1%, respectively.

TARGETING YOUNG PEOPLE

Cynthia Baitwa, the past president of the Rotary Club of Muyenga Breeze, said many Ugandans still do not understand how dangerous the disease is.

She urged stakeholders to extend awareness campaigns to schools, particularly targeting young people before they enter relationships and start families.

Jameal Kasujja Muwanga, director of BMK Group, which runs the Uganda Sickle Cell Foundation, said that despite 10 years of advocacy, many Ugandans still associate the disease with witchcraft.

Former finance minister Gerald Ssendaula also called on all Rotary clubs across Uganda to adopt sickle cell disease as a signature project.

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KALIRO DISTRICT LOCAL GOVERNMENT

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

P.O. BOX 56, KALIRO

INVITATION FOR PRE-QUALIFICATION, FRAMEWORK AND REVENUE CENTERS FOR FY 2026/2027 & 2027/2028

BID NOTICE NUMBER: 01, FY 2026/2027

Kaliro District Local Government wishes to invite applications for Pre-qualification, Framework Contracts and Revenue Centers from suitably qualified and competent firms/individuals to undertake the following works, supplies and services in the District for the FY 2026/2027 & 2027/2028 as described below:

CATEGORY A: PREQUALIFICATION FOR FY 2026/2027 & 2027/2028

1. Drilling of Boreholes
2. Construction of Piped Water Systems
3. Construction of New Buildings
4. Renovation of Buildings
5. Feasibility study and Preparation of detailed Engineering designs
6. Siting of Boreholes in the District
7. Preparation of Detailed Physical Plans, Tilling of Land and Road Demarcations
8. Supply and Installation Computers and other related Supplies
9. Supply, Installation and Repair of Solar Systems
10. Construction of Micro Irrigation Systems
11. Supply of Planting Materials, Animals, Birds, Agro-Vet Chemicals, Inputs, Equipments and Seedlings
12. Collection of Property Tax/Ground Rate in the District
13. Supply of Motorcycles and Bicycles

CATEGORY B: FRAME WORK CONTRACTS 2026/2027 & 2027/2028

- KALI847/SUPLS/2026/2027/00001 Supply of Borehole Spare parts to the District
- KALI847/SUPLS/2026/2027/00002 Supply of school furniture, filing cabinets and Executive Office furniture to the District
- KALI847/SUPLS/2026/2027/00003 Supply of Printed and Assorted stationery to the District
- KALI847/SUPLS/2026/2027/00004 Supply of Desktop Computers, Laptops, Printers, Electricals and Overhead Projectors to the District
- KALI847/SRVCS/2026/2027/00005 Provision of Security services to the District Headquarters
- KALI847/SUPLS/2026/2027/00006 Supply of Tyres and Tubes to the District
- KALI847/SUPLS/2026/2027/00007 Supply of Fuel and Lubricants to the District
- KALI847/SUPLS/2026/2027/00008 Supply of Culverts and other Road Construction Materials to the District
- KALI847/SRVCS/2026/2027/00009 Provision of Catering Services to the District
- KALI847/SRVCS/2026/2027/00010 Repair and Servicing of District Vehicles, Motorcycles and Plants

CATEGORY C: REVENUE CENTERS 2026/2027

- KALI847/SRVCS/2026-2027/00011 Management of Rice Hauler

in Bulumba Town Council

KALI847/SRVCS/2026-2027/00012 Collection of Merchandise Market dues in Bulumba Town Council

KALI847/SRVCS/2026-2027/00013 Collection of Market dues in Busanda and Kasokwe Market

KALI847/SRVCS/2026-2027/00014 Collection of Market dues in Namukooke Trading Centre

KALI847/SRVCS/2026-2027/00015 Collection of Market dues in Kiranga and Budaba/Mudoke Trading Centre in Buyinda S/C

KALI847/SRVCS/2026-2027/00016 Collection of Market dues in Namiwira Town Council weekly and Daily Market

KALI847/SRVCS/2026-2027/00017 Business License and Loading and offloading in Namiwira Town Council

KALI847/SRVCS/2026-2027/00018 Business License and Loading and offloading in Namiwira Town Council

KALI847/SRVCS/2026-2027/00019 Collection of Public Advertising fees in Kaliro Town Council

KALI847/SRVCS/2026-2027/00020 Collection of street parking in Kaliro Town Council

KALI847/SRVCS/2026-2027/00021 Collection of parking fees for passenger vehicles in Kaliro Town Council

KALI847/SRVCS/2026-2027/00022 Collection of Market dues in Central Market in Kaliro Town Council

KALI847/SRVCS/2026-2027/00023 Offloading and loading fees in Kaliro Town Council

Terms and Conditions

1. Bidding will be conducted in accordance with the PPDA Act Cap 205 and 2023 PPDA Regulations and Guidelines as Amended

All bids/applications must be sealed and envelope clearly marked with the category applied for and should be addressed to the:

Head Procurement and Disposal Unit
Kaliro District Local Government

P.O. Box 56, Kaliro

Bid documents will be issued upon payment of a nonrefundable fee from Finance Department

CATEGORY A: 50,000=

CATEGORY B: 80,000=

CATEGORY C: 30,000=

Proposed Procurement Schedule (Subject to Change)

No	Activity	Date
01.	Public bid Notice	18 th May, 2026
02.	Bid Closing	08 th June, 2026
03.	Evaluation Process	09 th - 12 th June, 2026
04.	Display and Communication of BEB	15 th June - 26 th June, 2026

ACCOUNTING OFFICER/KALIRO