

Tuesday, December 10, 2024

**Statement from the Executive Director of Watu Center for Health and Advocacy (WACHA
HEALTH CBO)**

On Ending Femicide and Fighting for the Rights of Women and Gender Diversity

Today, as an organization, Watu Center for Health and Advocacy (WACHA HEALTH CBO) stands in unwavering solidarity with the women and gender-diverse individuals of Kenya, and with those around the world, to demand an end to femicide. The tragic and senseless killings of women, transgender, and non-binary individuals based on their gender are a daily reality that we cannot, and must not, ignore. We raise our voices today to call for justice, for accountability, and for the immediate cessation of all forms of violence against women and marginalized genders.

Femicide is not an isolated issue but a symptom of deeply rooted systemic gender inequality, toxic masculinity, and patriarchal structures that continue to permeate our society. It is profoundly disturbing that in Kenya, as well as globally, the lives of women and gender-diverse people are cut short simply because of who they are. Every life lost represents not just a tragedy, but a violation of fundamental human rights.

As we demonstrate on the streets across 27 counties, with men standing at the forefront of this movement, we declare that the fight for women's rights is not only the responsibility of women but of every individual who believes in equality, justice, and human dignity. Men have an essential role in transforming societal attitudes, challenging harmful stereotypes, and creating a world where all people, regardless of gender, are free from violence and discrimination.

WACHA HEALTH CBO calls upon the Kenyan government, law enforcement agencies, and all key stakeholders to take immediate and decisive action to end femicide and violence against women. This must include stronger laws, effective enforcement, and comprehensive support for survivors. We also demand that gender education be prioritized in schools, workplaces, and communities to foster respect, equity, and a culture of non-violence.

Our call to action extends beyond our borders. The struggle to end femicide is a global issue, and we stand with the international community in demanding an end to gender-based violence everywhere. The fight for the dignity of women and gender-diverse individuals must be relentless, and we commit ourselves to this cause with unyielding determination.

Together, let us break the silence, challenge the status quo, and work toward a future where femicide is eradicated, where all women and gender-diverse individuals are empowered, and where their rights to live safely, with respect, and dignity are fully realized.

End femicide. Stand up for women and gender diversity. Stand up for justice.
Together, we will prevail.

Sincerely,



Ezekiel Amenyah
Executive Director
Watu Center for Health and Advocacy (WACHA HEALTH CBO)