# WELCOME TO OUR NEWSLETTER



Black Albinism is a youth led pro-disability organization at the forefront of advancing the rights of people with albinism through advocacy and implementation of inclusive programs for people with albinism.

CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE

### CLIMATE CHANGE ADVOCACY PROJECT

### **CATWALKS FOR CLIMATE CHANGE ADVOCACY**







On June 13th 2023, We successfully organized an impactful event in Machakos County, with a remarkable 95% of models being persons with albinism. The event saw active participation from both caregivers and friends of black albinism.

### **REFRESHER TRAININGS**



We perpetually conducted comprehensive refresher training sessions encompassing persons with albinism, their caregivers, friends, officials from county governments, and health workers. Notably, we focused on schools in Machakos, Kitui, and Kajiado, with a community outreach program and a manual developed to bridge the knowledge gap on Albinism.

#### **CLIMATE CHANGE ROUND TABLE**





We facilitated a collaborative review of climate change activities and projects involving prominent organizations such as UDPK, Media stations- KBC, PWANI, Andy, US Embassy, KISE, Kenya Youth Action, persons with albinism, their caregivers, climate champions, and friends of black albinism.

### **PROCESSION WALK**



We organized a procession walk to create widespread public awareness about climate change, emphasizing its impact and effects on persons with albinism.

#### TREE PLANTING

As part of the climate advocacy initiative, we engaged in tree planting activities throughout our climate change advocacy project.



#### **CLIMATE CHANGE DOCUMENTARY**



To further educate and raise awareness about climate change we produced and shared documentaries on the impact of climate change on persons with albinism.

# **UV SAFE ONLINE PLATFORM**

Black Albinism is proud to introduce the UV SAFE (Sunscreen Access For Everyone) Online Platform. This innovative initiative is designed to revolutionize the availability and accessibility of sunscreen for persons with albinism across the nation.

The launch of the UV SAFE Online Platform marked a significant step forward in providing a virtual space for information, support, and community building. This platform serves as a valuable resource for individuals with albinism, offering educational materials, expert advice, and a supportive network to help navigate the challenges they may face.

By leveraging technology and collaboration, the UV SAFE Online Platform aims to break down barriers to sunscreen access for persons with albinism. This initiative empowers individuals by giving them the tools and knowledge to take control of their sun protection, promoting both physical health and a sense of community.

Through the launch of this platform, we envision a future where every person with albinism in Kenya would have easy and affordable access to the sunscreen they need to thrive.

### EMPOWERING PERSONS WITH ALBINISM POST-COVID-19 IN MACHAKOS COUNTY



The Empowering Persons with Albinism Post-COVID-19 project in Machakos County was conceived in response to the unique challenges faced by individuals with albinism during the COVID-19 pandemic. Recognizing the disproportionate impact of the pandemic on vulnerable communities, particularly those with preexisting conditions such as albinism, our organization took proactive steps to address the socio-economic repercussions and promote the well-being of our community members in Machakos County.

So far, we have engaged persons with albinism, their caregivers, healthcare workers, various stakeholders and consultants for capacity building engagements to find out the gaps for persons with albinism in this post covid 19 era in terms of policies in different sectors.

### **BLACK ALBINISM CHAMA**



The primary objectives of this informal cooperative society include; fostering a sense of unity, providing support, and empowering its members to overcome challenges associated with albinism.

### **KEY FEATURES**

Social Connection – The Chama provides a social space for individuals with albinism to connect and build a sense of community.

Resource Pooling – Members of the Chama can pool their resources, whether financial or otherwise, to address common challenges or pursue shared objectives.

Advocacy and Awareness – The Chama became a powerful advocacy tool by collectively raising awareness about the rights and challenges faced by individuals with albinism.

Skill Development – Over the year members have engaged in skill-sharing and development activities within the Chama- workshops, training sessions and mentorship programs.

This year we are proud of our chama initiative whose farm managed to plant greens and consecutively sell produce worth 100\$.

### PARTERSHIPS AND COLLABORATIONS

This year, Black Albinism has entered into partnerships and collaborations alongside garnering lucrative funds from donors. Some of the organizations that we have worked with include: U.S Embassy, National Democratic Institute(NDI) and Global Greengrants Fund. With these organizations, we have catalyzed our projects and empowered persons with albinism beyond our expectations.

We extend heartfelt recognition and gratitude to our donors, partners, and collaborators for their unwavering support. Your commitment is the driving force behind our collective impact and we appreciate the difference you make in our mission.

# THANK YOU!!!







### **UPCOMING PROJECTS**



Black albinism is looking at blending in the aspects of apparel being protective and stylish.

We are looking at collaborating with fashion designers, brands, and retailers to create and showcase inclusive clothing lines stylishly.

recognize the importance We of creating spaces where children with albinism can come together to connect and support one another. project will bridge the gap This between children with and adults with albinism, whom these children can look up to. We aim to achieve this by incorporating sporting activities. which will not only promote physical health but also an opportunity for social interaction, teamwork, and a sense of community.



## SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR ADVISORY BOARD



RACHEL TEMOI, DIRECTOR EDUCATE



LUKE MULEKA, FOUNDER, MANAGING DIRECTOR, SIGNS MEDIA



SARAH MUTHONI, DISABILITY INCLUSION CONSULTANT

# SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR CLIMATE CHANGE CHAMPIONS



JERITA MUTINDA, MACHAKOS COUNTY



FAITH JOSEPH, KITUI COUNTY



ZIPPIE NTININIE KAJIADO COUNTY

### SHOUT OUT TO:



#### Brenda Nabututu

A true friend of Black Albinism! Your invaluable contributions to albinism advocacy, particularly in the realm of skincare, showcase your unwavering support and dedication. Thank you!



### **Meshack Sisenda**

A resilient mentee at Black Albinism who has learnt, grown and pivoted under the leadership and mentorship of Black Albinism. Keep shining and inspiring others with your remarkable journey.

### SHOUT OUT TO:



#### **Boniface Wambua**

Big cheers to you, the powerhouse of our Black Albinism Football Club! Your dedication to the game and tireless advocacy for all things Black Albinism activities is nothing short of inspiring. Your commitment to both the pitch and promoting awareness is making a real impact.



#### **Reverend Jacob Mativo**

A heartfelt shout-out to you for your unwavering commitment to advocacy and community outreach for persons with albinism in Machakos County. Your dedication is a beacon of inspiration, illuminating the path towards inclusivity and understanding. Thank you for being a true leader and champion for a more compassionate community.

# HOW YOU CAN HELP

You can help by donating, volunteering or spreading awareness. Your donation provides the crucial financial support, volunteering allows hands-on involvement, and spreading awareness amplifies our impact. Together these actions create a positive ripple effect in the advancement of our cause.

Embracing and supporting individuals with albinism, particularly those in the Black community, is a vital step towards fostering inclusivity and understanding. By raising awareness about the unique challenges faced by people with albinism, we can contribute to breaking down stereotypes and dispelling misconceptions. It is crucial to promote education and provide resources that empower individuals with albinism to navigate the world confidently. Additionally, fostering a culture of acceptance and appreciation for diversity within our communities can create an environment where everyone, regardless of skin color or physical appearance, feels valued and included. By championing empathy, advocating for equal opportunities, and celebrating the strengths and talents of individuals with albinism, we can collectively contribute to building a more inclusive and compassionate society.

# **CONNECT WITH US**





