



#### The Hybrid 'Chama' Agenda as Proposed by KEPSA Foundation



## Better Business Practices for Children

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# **CALL TO ACTION** Rights to family-based care for every child

Message From Ministry of Health State Department for Public Health and Professional Standards Principal Secretary

> The Hybrid Chama Agenda is a timely and strategic innovation that complements the Ministry's efforts to improve maternal and child health and nutrition. By integrating key health and nutrition messages into existing, trusted community structures led by women, it strengthens ownership, enhances sustainability, and ensures real impact at the grassroots level.

> > Empowering women with knowledge on nutrition and caregiving lays the foundation for a healthier and more productive society. When we combine economic empowerment with health and nutrition education—as this agenda does—we create a powerful, holistic model for transformative and lasting change.

> > > Mary Muthoni Muriuki, CBS.

### Hybrid 'Chama' Agenda



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#### Message from KEPSA Foundation Executive Director

In Kenya, nearly every woman is part of a self-help group or Village Savings and Loans Association (VSLA), commonly known as a 'chama.' For instance, over 157,000 groups were registered under the Women Enterprise Fund in 2024. These groups primarily focus on mobilizing savings and providing access to small loans among members, with meetings often revolving around financial discussions in an informal setting.

Given that women play a critical role in family nutrition decisions, KEPSA Foundation sees these chamas as an ideal platform for integrating child-friendly topics, ultimately enhancing the health and well-being of children, families, and communities.

> This hybrid chama agenda aims to guide groups in integrating key topics on maternal, child health and nutrition into their monthly meetings, ensuring that these crucial discussions become an integral part of their activities, thus expanding networks and champions for optimal children welfare.

We urge all chamas to integrate childcare and nutrition into their programs, becoming champions for the well-being of children, families, and communities. By incorporating these crucial topics, chamas can expand their impact, fostering healthier families and a stronger future workforce. Together, we can drive meaningful change and create a supportive ecosystem for mothers, children, and future generations.

MS. Gloria Ndekei, OGW