

LOCAL

Mental health service tackles Covid effects

World Mental Health Day opportunity to raise awareness

KUWAIT CITY, Oct 9, (KUNA): The State of Kuwait has introduced new mental health services to address ramifications caused by the coronavirus pandemic in the past 18 months.

As life is returning to normal gradually with COVID-19 vaccination rates averaging over 70 percent, Kuwait Center for Mental Health (KCMH) succeeded in promoting the impor-

ance of mental health to everybody.

"The coronavirus pandemic forced countries of the world to close the borders and impose strict entry restrictions and quarantine, and restricted large gatherings in order to contain spread of the virus, which largely affected some segments specially those suffering from mental health issues," Dr. Khulood Al-Ali, Director of KCMH, said. Amidst devastating impact of COVID-19 on mental health, Al-Ali told KUNA, the World Mental Health Day, due Sunday,

was an opportunity to raise awareness about mental health issues.

COVID-19 affects the society in general, she added, and this could cause a growing anxiety. She said mental health cases could rise to 50 percent following coronavirus infections.

Al-Ali said the Ministry of Health (MoH) formed a team to provide therapy for health care workers and people infected with the virus. The ministry also provided video messages to help people overcome the pandemic and

how to think positively. There was also a support team to help people who were in quarantine or locked up during the lockdown periods, she said.

On the World Mental Health Day, Al-Ali said it aimed at raising awareness about importance of having a good mental health in order to address stress, depression, excessive anxiety and feeling of guilt. She said there were organizations that helped in raising awareness about mental health and how to improve the way society look at mental health patients.



KUNA photo
Bader Al-Daihani, the diplomatic attache to the permanent delegation of Kuwait to the United Nations

'Positive impact'

Kuwait stresses need to achieve '2030 UN SDGs'

NEW YORK, Oct 9, (KUNA): The State of Kuwait reaffirmed the need to achieve the objectives of the 2030 UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) despite the challenges posed by the coronavirus (COVID-19) global pandemic.

This reiteration came during a speech delivered by diplomatic attache Bader Al-Daihani at the second committee discussions of the UN General Assembly.

The State of Kuwait's leadership believed in the importance of achieving the SDGs, which will have a positive impact on the world economy, the environment and global climate, the diplomat said.

Al-Daihani commended outcome of the second summit on the SDGs Moment, held back in September, saying that it was a positive addition to march for sustainable development. On the coronavirus spread, the Kuwait diplomat reflected his nation's eagerness to combat the spread of COVID-19, revealing that his country donated a sum of USD 40 million to the COVAX scheme to deliver vaccines worldwide.

He also revealed that Kuwait had donated USD 327 million to WHO and other international organizations to curb the spread of the virus.

On Kuwait's economic contributions to the world, Al-Daihani pointed out that the Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development (KFAED) had helped various countries around the world to achieve development long-term soft loans.

The fund had contributed around USD 22 billion in loans and financial assistance since establishment, he revealed.

Children relish Kuwait's pavilion

By Shahd Kamal

Kuwait's pavilion at Expo 2020 Dubai welcomed Friday a large number of children who came to enjoy its fascinating exhibits and activities.

Those children listened to an interactive and exciting presentation and music, and enjoyed lights as well as watched stuffed wildlife animals inside the facility.

The children were delighted and amused while wandering inside the pavilion. (KUNA)



KUNA photos
Kuwait Pavilion at Expo Dubai impresses children and puts a smile on their faces.

Revamped to provide an exceptional and interactive experience for all visitors

stc opens the doors to its largest and most advanced branch in Kuwait



Kuwait Telecommunications Company – stc, a world-class digital leader providing innovative services and platforms to customers, enabling the digital transformation in Kuwait, opened the doors to its largest and most advanced branch in Kuwait at the Marina Mall. Designed to incorporate state-of-the-art technology with a compelling digitized and smart experience, stc's revamped branch falls in line with the Company's digital transformation and corporate strategies.

The grand opening of the new branch concept was attended by the Chief Executive Officer of stc, engineer Maziad Alharbi, in addition to other members of stc's executive management. The plan to introduce a new design that integrates both innovative

features and improved efficiency aims to showcase the deep understanding that stc enjoys in meeting the diverse needs of its growing customer base. With the gradual resumption to normalcy due to the increased number of vaccinated residents, the new branch welcomes visitors to an exceptional firsthand shopping experience.

The Marina Mall branch consists of two floors, each organized with customer convenience and simplicity in mind. The first floor will include numerous display stations featuring the latest smartphone and entertainment devices from some of the world's top tech-brands. Customers will get to experience the devices firsthand, while learning more about stc's special offers and exclusive plans. The second floor will

be dedicated to customer support and sales to address any concerns or queries regarding stc's products or services. Additionally, there will be a 24/7 self-service area dedicated to fulfilling customers' requests at their convenience.

Following its ongoing commitment to support the decisions taken by the Ministry of Health to overcome the pandemic, the new branch will apply the necessary precautionary measures such as social distancing, mandatory face masks and regular sanitization to ensure the safety of both customers and employees. stc also maintains the same safety standards in its headquarters, branches, and at any external initiatives it participates in to mitigate the risk associated with the current pandemic.

Commenting on the opening, Chief Consumer Officer (CCO) of stc, engineer Amer Atoui, said, "We consistently focus on enhancing the customer journey for our customers while providing them with ease of access to our products and services. The revamped branch aims to provide a simplified, yet more personalized experience, in which customers can explore the range of popular devices that we offer. With the new features incorporated into the customer-centric model that we applied when designing this branch, our goal is to offer an entertaining and interactive experience for our visitors, whether they are new or existing customers."

Atoui added, "We will continue to introduce new methods to engage our customers with our offerings and provide them with an

experience in line with some the innovations introduced in this digital era. Whether it is through one of our branches, digital platforms, or through our call center, our primary objective of enhancing the lifestyles of our customers remains consistent. This goes hand in hand with our corporate strategy that builds on our exclusive offers and promotions, strengthening our 5G network, and offering a range of solutions at affordable and competitive prices."

To find out more about stc's events, promotions, and sponsorships, follow stc's official social media platforms, visit one of stc's branches, download Mystic mobile application, visit www.stc.com.kw or contact the customer service center by dialing 102 for around the clock assistance.



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