

LIFELINE GBV PROGRAM IN RURAL AREAS OF KWAZULU-NATAL SOUTH AFRICA

NAME OF ORGANIZATION: LIFELINE

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MAIN GOALS OF THE GBV PROGRAM

- The program has two main goals:
 - ✓ To reduce Gender-Based Violence incidents in 5 district municipalities in KwaZulu Natal.
 - ✓ To turn victims of Gender-Based Violence into survivors through counselling and support.

CURRENT SITUATION IN SOUTH AFRICA

- South Africa has a population of 6.4 million and the majority of the population is women.
- 20 yrs after democracy women and children in South Africa are not free.
- Even though we have a good Constitution in South Africa women and children have many issues affecting them.
 - HIV and AIDS
 - Increasing rate of rape
 - Domestic violence
 - Sexual harassment
 - Human trafficking

HIV PREVALENCE

- 12.2% of the population is HIV positive nationally
- 16.9% of the population in KZN is HIV positive (one in three)

RAPE STATS IN SOUTH AFRICA



WISE 60 SEC SOLO VOCAL MIX

How big is the problem?

- South Africa has the highest reported incident of rape in the world.
- 1 in 3 women will be raped in South Africa.
- A women is raped every 8 minutes
- 60 000 rape cases reported in 2013
- More than 20 000 children are raped every year
- 1 in 3 girls are raped while still at school.

Women in South Africa has more chances of being raped than learning to read.

VICTIMS SUFFER DOUBLE TRAUMA

- A women being raped has 1 in 3 chances that her attacker is HIV+
- The danger from rape and sexual assault is compounded because of HIV prevalence in SA.
- Most perpetrators are known to the survivors

What support is available?

- Rape is an extreme violation and a life threatening attack
- A traumatic experience like rape or abuse is like an infected wound that will not heal unless treated.
- It can leave deep and lasting emotional scars
- There is life after rape or abuse, but most people need help to reclaim their lives.

LifeLine intervention

- **Is a whole community response to Gender-Based Violence (GBV)**
- **The model has two pillars:**
 1. **Psychosocial Support Services through counselling at the crisis centers**
 2. **GBV Prevention through community sensitization and dialogues.**

Community Entry

- All stakeholders (political, religious and traditional leaders such as Chiefs, Government officials and other NGO's) are involved in the project implementation from the beginning to the end.

Intervention continues

- LifeLine trains youth from the community to ensure that resources remain in the community



1. Psychosocial support services at the crisis center

- This is a one stop multidisciplinary service place for the victims.
- 4652 new rape victims were assisted in 2013 with the following services:

Counselling and emotional support



Counselling in progress



HIV counselling and testing for the victims



HIV TESTS



Medical treatment

- ✓ STI's prophylaxis
- ✓ Ovral 28 or morning after pill to prevent pregnancy
- ✓ Pain killers
- ✓ Sedatives and tranquilisers for upset and anxious
- ✓ PEP for 28 days if HIV negative (AZT and 3TC)
 - Full body count
 - Kidney function test
 - Liver function test
 - Syphilis test
- ✓ Tests are repeated at 6 weeks and 3 months

Assisted with legal processes

- ✓ South African Police Service are called to open a charge
- ✓ The victims are educated about their rights
- ✓ The victims are prepared for court
- ✓ Alternative shelter for the victim is arranged

Care packs are given to the victims



2.GBV Prevention through community sensitization and dialogues.

- The trained volunteers are paid a stipend to do prevention work through community dialogues
- During dialogue sessions community members discuss the root causes of GBV and are encouraged to come up with possible solutions to reduce GBV in their own communities.

Prevention cont....

- They challenge twisted cultural norms and discriminative religious practices.
- Community or group actions are taken to reduce incidents of GBV.
- Solutions are owned by the communities
- 15 773 participated on community dialogues in 2013.

Community members opposing GBV.



Youth taking a stand against abuse



GBV awareness activity in a school



Youth Participation



ACHIEVEMENTS!!!

- **At the Crisis centre level:**
 - ✓ Currently have 11 crisis centres in 5 district municipalities. Victims are supported.
 - ✓ Each Crisis centre has two full time employed counsellors.
 - ✓ On average 57 new rape cases are seen per month.
 - ✓ Has reduced HIV infection rate associated with Rape through Post Exposure Prophylactic

Achievements cont...

- ✓ Improved PEP adherence- 0% sero-conversion rate.
- ✓ The two counsellors advocate for the rights of the victims to correct treatment
- ✓ Access to shelters for victims of domestic violence.
- ✓ HIV and AIDS prevention and support program

ACHIEVEMENTS!!!

- **At the community level:**
 - ✓ Has empowered communities to change societal norms or to take actions against twisted cultural practices.
 - ✓ Has reduce the abduction (kidnapping and raping) of women and girls between the ages of 13- 25 in rural areas.
 - ✓ Involve indigenous groups as a “reference group”

Community supporting a raped women in Court



Community supporting rape victim in Court



Achievements cont.....

- ✓ Awareness raising played a critical role in improving reporting within 72hrs.
- ✓ Monthly radio slot to talk about Rape and GBV
- ✓ The program was a finalist in Women of the year run by Shoprite Checkers on Good neighbours against crime.

COMMUNITY IN ACTION



Community action.



ACHIEVEMENTS!!!

- **At a personal level:**
 - ✓ Trainings and Workshops has increased levels of knowledge, especially about their rights.
 - ✓ Has healed women who suffered severe GBV through Solution Focused Approach.
 - ✓ Training has created job opportunities for youth to be employed permanently by the state or other LifeLine programs/ other NGO's.

Achievements cont....

- ✓ 60% of the volunteers are currently studying Social Work degree.
- ✓ Opened opportunities for the victims to gain support through E-mail counseling:
www.chris@lifeonline.co.za

GUIDELINES FOR NGO's

- Have a good understanding of the law that protect victims.
- Have latest information on services available
- Know the procedure for accessing the services
- Good understanding of the legal processes and explain them in a simple language
- Give a pamphlet with important information for the victim to remember; for an example:
 - ✦ How to take PEP and side effects
 - ✦ Next hospital visits
 - ✦ Important contact numbers
 - ✦ Case number if the case was opened.

GUIDELINES

- **NB: Fear and Low self-esteem**
- Reassure her that she has rights to be:
 - ✓ Treated with respect
 - ✓ Not to take responsibility for anyone's bad behavior
 - ✓ To be angry
 - ✓ To say NO
 - ✓ To make decisions
 - ✓ To protest against unfair treatment or criticism
 - ✓ To decide on a different course of action



LifeLine

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by terre des hommes schweiz**

Thank you!!!