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**Botswana Gender Based Violence  
Prevention and Support Centre**

**CASE STATEMENT 2019**

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# CASE STATEMENT FOR BOTSWANA GBV PREVENTION AND SUPPORT CENTRE (BGBVC)

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## **WHO WE ARE**

The Botswana GBV Prevention and Support Centre (BGBVC) is a non-profit organization founded in 1998 by Kagisano Society, with the aim of preventing and responding to Gender Based Violence (GBV) in Botswana. Registration Number: **CR12981**

## **OUR MISSION**

The Mission of Botswana GBV Prevention and Support Centre is to support women, men, girls and boys experiencing and affected by GBV in Botswana by providing temporary shelter, counselling, clinical services, community outreach and education, and staff and volunteer development as well as conducting research. BGBVC intentions are to create a society that is well vested in the complexities of gender issues and is more tolerant and free from gender based violence as well as provide support to those many men, women and children who suffer gender based violence. BGBVC will continue to provide shelter to women and children who are in imminent danger as a result of gender based violence. We take pride in that we are not only responsive to issues of survivors of GBV, but are vigorously involved in enlightening communities on how to identify, prevent and respond to GBV with the ultimate aim of creating a society that is free from gender based violent.

## **WHAT WE DO**

### **BGBVC focuses on 3 major areas:**

1. Identification and demystification of gender norms that fuel gender based violence in different societies.
2. Promoting healthy families through education that will eventually lead to gender based free society
3. Creating awareness in communities and building their capacity to prevent and respond to GBV and HIV

## **OUR HISTORY**

BGBVC was founded by Kagisano Society, an organisation that has been doing humanitarian work in Botswana since the 1970s. At the time of formation of Kagisano Society, Botswana was receiving a high number of asylum seekers from neighboring countries due to the liberation wars. With the reduction of the refugee population in the 1990s, the organization did a needs assessment and found that addressing gender based violence was an under-served need in the country. In 1998, the Kagisano Society started the Women's Shelter Project and opened the first women's shelter

in Botswana in Gaborone. The organisation is now operating in nine sites in Botswana under the following programme areas; counseling, community outreach & education as well as an emergency and temporary shelter (only in Gaborone). It is the first and the only shelter for battered women in the southern part of the country that admits women and children fleeing Gender Based Violence from their homes.

Of the 3 main programme areas, Counseling is offered to GBV perpetrators, survivors/victims and their families. The shelter provides a safe environment for women and children in eminent danger; while through its outreach and education programme, BGBVC provides information to the community on the impact of GBV and ways to identify, prevent and respond to GBV and its nexus with HI V as well where to seek help.

Since its establishment BGBVC has been able to; construct a shelter and a Drop-In-Centre. It has since grown from a small staff complement to an organisation headed by a CEO and a staff component of over 20. It also has a 9 member Board of Directors with the responsibility of providing strategic oversight. In an endeavor to provide comprehensive services, BGBVC provides linkages to legal aid to the many indigent women whose cases would not be otherwise attended to. These legal services are provided through the government's Legal Aid Unit and three (3) law firms who give their services on a pro bono basis.

## **WHAT MAKES BGBVC DIFFERENT**

- We provide emergency shelter to women & children escaping GBV in their homes as well as to victims of human trafficking
- We assist both survivors and perpetrators of GBV.
- BGBVC has a 24/7 helpline at a minimal cost to GBV survivors.
- While at the shelter, clients are transported freely to other service providers (such as the Police, Health facilities, legal practitioners and Social Workers) for further case management.
- BGBVC accounts to its stakeholders and donors through annual financial audits and Annual General Meeting.
- We work with communities, enhancing their capacities to prevent and respond to GBV in their communities. With the formation of Community Gender Committees, it is envisaged that the communities will be able to sustainably continue the work even when BGBVC stops working with them.
- We operate from our own premises, both at the administration (Drop-In-Centre) and at the safe haven (Shelter)

## **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

1. What is BGBVC? We are a legally registered NGO operating in Gaborone, Charleshill, Gantsi, Kasane, Sebina, Selebi Phikwe, Serowe, Thamaga and Molepolole.
2. What services does BGBVC offer? Counselling for individuals, couples and families; temporary and emergency shelter for women and their children; community outreach and education (including presentations in schools, public places and workplaces).
3. What does BGBVC hope to accomplish? We aim for a country where there is respect of Human Rights and reduction in incidents of GBV.

4. How does BGBVC receive its clients? Through self-referrals and referrals from other service providers such as the Police, Health Facilities, Social Workers and other NGOs
5. Does BGBVC receive clients from different parts of the country? Yes. BGBVC admits women and children from all over the country. Immigrant women living in Botswana are also admitted
6. How is BGBVC funded? BGBVC is funded by various donors, an annual grant from the government, donations from charity organisations and individuals and revenue from rentals of its two apartments. There is also a cost sharing arrangement for clients referred by Social Workers from the Councils
7. What are the future plans of BGBVC? (1) Conduct operational research to provide evidence for programming, (2) Provision of integrated services to GBV survivors – legal, clinical and education for children admitted, (3) Provide training services to different groups at a cost to generate income

## **WHY WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT**

BGBVC has received international and local funding as shown above. Experience has shown that referring clients to other services creates lethargy in clients and discourages them from continuing seeking help. As a result, a number of clients are lost on the way. Cases referred at times also take long to be concluded as they are done at no cost. By recruiting the additional staff, we believe that clients will receive comprehensive services and will also be able to complete their therapy as they will have confidence in BGBVC.

## **WHY SHOULD YOU SUPPORT BGBVC?**

- We would like to invite you to be a part of supporting this worthy cause. The kind of work that we do changes lives of women, men and their families for the better and we would like you to be a part of this work.
- We are highly knowledgeable in our work
- We are a highly reputable organisation
- We believe that you have all it takes to support our cause.

## **HOW MUCH IS NEEDED TO SUPPORT BGBVC GOALS?**

- To successfully run its programs, BGBVC spends at least P500 000.00 monthly, totalling P6 000 000 annually. This amount does not come from one donor. We have different institutions and individuals who contribute towards this, both cash wise and in kind. We encourage an open dialogue between ourselves and our partners to establish their kind and level of support.

## **HOW BGBVC MEASURES ACCOMPLISHMENTS.**

- We have an effective Monitoring & Evaluation system in place, with tools to help us track and document our achievements.
- We regularly share progress and accomplishments with our partners and stakeholders.
- We have open conversations with our different partners with regards to content, frequency and platforms for sharing progress and accomplishments with them.

## **WHO ELSE SUPPORTS BGBVC?**

Our work at BGBVC is supported by various partners. These include:

### **1. Long-Term Partners:**

- Government of Botswana (Gender Affairs Department)
- Woolworths Phakalane
- Various Law Firms

### **3. International Development Partners**

- Finnish Evangelical Lutheran Mission (FELM)
- Amplify Change
- Family Health International (FHI360)
- Save The Children

### **4. Other Supporters**

- Individual community members
- Local businesses
- Civil Society Organisations like churches and social groups

## **HOW CAN YOU SUPPORT BGBVC?**

There are many ways through which you can support BGBVC depending on your circumstances. This can be through:

- Long - term cash, material donations or once-off donations. Donations can also be second-hand items in good usable condition
- Volunteering your time and sharing your expertise at BGBVC
- Link us up/recommend us to other possible partners.

This list is not exhaustive and we are open to innovative ideas that can help further advance our mandate.

To make a donation or for more information about our work, kindly contact Ms Lorato Moalusi, the Chief Executive Officer at **+267 3907659 / +267 71888993** or [lrmoalusi@gmail.com](mailto:lrmoalusi@gmail.com) .You can also refer to our Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) section on our website: <http://www.kagisanoshelter.org.bw> . We are also on Facebook: Botswana Gender Based Violence Prevention and Support Centre