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## TO WHO IT MAY CONCERN

## INTRODUCING BOTSWANA GENDER BASED VIOLENCE PREVENTION AND SUPPORT CENTRE

We would like to introduce "NEW US!" to you!! Kagisano Society Women's Shelter (KSWS) has grown and graduated by leaps and bounds to become "Botswana Gender Based Violence Prevention & Support Centre (BGBVC) which is now a legal entity registered in 2017 under Botswana Societies Act.

You will note that since its inception in 1998, KSWS operated as an arm of the mother organization-Kagisano Society (KS). However in the past year, KS decided to wean off the Shelter Component (KSWS) and afford it the opportunity to operate as a fully-fledged and independent entity. Based on this on 28 March, 2018, KS gave KSWS "the keys" to start running on its own. While we are cognizant of the challenges that come with this, we are equally excited about this latest development and ready to rise up to the challenge.

This latest development is not at all changing our current mandate. However, it allows us to serve our clientele better and in a more coordinated and focused way. The goal of BGBV-P&SC is to become a network of GBV service providers with the aim to become a one-stop centre where comprehensive GBV services can be provided for efficiency and effectiveness as well as being a hub for GBV resources.

The Specific objectives of BGVSC are to:

- 1) To provide integrated and comprehensive care and support services through shelter, counselling and legal support for survivors of Gender Based Violence, and Human Immunodeficiency Virus testing and management.
- 2) To offer community education for the prevention and management of Gender Based Violence and Human Immunodeficiency Virus /Tuberculosis through awareness raising, advocacy and employment of campaign strategies challenging gender norms, roles and behaviors.
- 3) To provide information for Gender Based Violence response and management through research, surveillance and best practices.

It is our view that in due course, we will call together all friends of the BGBVC to celebrate this development and map a concrete way-forward of how we want to move together as a network and how we can sustain ourselves and work together for the common goal of ending violence in Botswana.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at 3907659, +267 71 888 993, or <a href="mailto:lrmoalusi@gmail.com">lrmoalusi@gmail.com</a>.

Yours sincerely,

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Lorato Moalusi (Ms.)
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