

 

REPORT TO FSV ACTION COMMITTEE

26th July 2017

Hako Women’s Collective is situated and located at Hako Constituency ,we have a Resource Centre which caters for a library, an office and a bedroom for FSV clients & family referral. We also have an outdoor world vision toilet and a kitchen which we use when we have trainings and meetings.

Hako Women s Collective has 14 trained counsellors trained at the NCF , Our trained counsellors are involved in counselling in our villages within Hako Constituency., Now at the moment we are building an amenity block which will have wheelchair access for disabilities, a training centre ,a canteen and better kitchen facilities.

Hako Women’s Collective Impact-- We have organised trainings and run awareness programmes successfully on;

1, ENDVAC (End Violence Against Children Campaign) using UNICEF Resources and scripts prepared by the Bishops of PNG and Solomon Islands. The campaign ran for one month (June 2017) – We had 1440 participants with adults, youths and parents from 20 venues in the Hako Constituency.

2, SPLP (Stret Pasin blong Lukautim Pikinini) – a Positive Parenting Course designed in HAKU by HWC in collaboration with AVI HWC Program Mentor Marilyn Havini and FSC Charmaine McBrearty, This initiative fulfils a 10 year HWC Vision for transformation of families to address FASV, Child protection & nurturing, crosscutting social issues in post conflict Bougainville Society. Again, supported by UNICEF funding we are running the course as a PILOT PROJECT with acknowledgement from the Department of Community Development. The trials courses and training from 2015-2017 have culminated into into 3 parallel courses covering village assembly areas of Hako for 5 weeks Positive Parenting activities from July to August 2017 . We have 3 teams with 6 trainers for each course. This Positive Parenting Training has 90 participants . So far we have conducted Sessions 1and 2 and are partway through Session 3. The responses from the community are very encouraging. This program is being closely monitored and full data collection, analysis with M&E will be provided to our partners (COM DEV and funder UNICEF).

3, The Hako Women’s Collective has a team of Human Rights Defenders trained by another HWC Partner NCFR , who are committed to addressing FASV and involved in defending rights of families and clients suffering from sexual violence.

4. DISABILITY: HWC has initiated a new coalition of partner organisations under the Leadership of the Department of Community Development. With regard to all forms of disability (Physical, Intellectual, Sensory, Age related, the HWC has a very strong concern especially for young girls and children who are disabled and vulnerable to rape and exploitation. For example, we are currently caring for a young girl aged 14 full time awaiting the referral system to intervene (I personally took the girl 2 months ago through the Hospital, Family Support Centre, Police Station etc.! According to advice received, the perpetrator cannot be removed from the community until the election is over. Another case involving Disability is of a 20 years old physical disabled girl who has chosen to exercise her human rights for a relationship despite parental protection. She is happily in a relationship and pregnant. Support and guidance are needed to both the concerned family members and the young couple to enable genuine quality of life. Funding for this Community Government and CSO Coalition is provided by former MP for North Bougainville Hon Louta Atoi. The Departments of Community Development and Community Government have signed a consultation contract on behalf of the Disability Committee and its TWG with Sydney University School of Medicine CDS (Centre for Disability Services) who are assisting with this project on disability.

HWC –Successes- The HWC has received funding and assistance from UNICEF and from former Open member Mr Louta Atoi and the office of the prime minister for our programs addressing the rescue of young girls and mothers from sexual violence; The reform and transformation of families through trainings and awareness and counselling.

HWC –CHALLENGES—The HWC has had no Government funding .We have faced stiff challenges from male bullies trying to shut down the process and development of the HWC, Even the former Hako Council of Elders did not support us in anyway. We have been rated as having quote ‘ZERO capacity’ by just one significant leader. Now at the moment we are fighting preventive orders since March this year as a means to block infrastructure development for the HWC.

HWC – The way forward –HWC aim is to be sustainable and to provide easy access for community to training and educational awareness programmes, to rescue and assistance for clients of F&SV within the Hako Constituency more effectively .

REPORTED by Dorcas Gano,

 President Hako Women’s Collective