## MUSASA NEWSLETTER



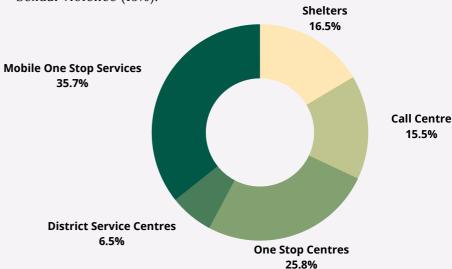
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#### ZERO TOLERANCE TO GENDER BASED VIOLENCE

Musasa is committed to providing quality post Gender-Based-Violence (GBV) services across the country by offering a survivor-centered case management approach and distinguished care. In this quarter which featured the women's month, March 2022, We continued to work towards ending Gender-Based Violence as we also celebrated milestones and achievements in the respective work towards ending GBV.

Psychological violence is the most frequent form with (33% of total cases) followed by physical violence (31% of total cases), Economic violence (21% of overall total cases) and Sexual violence (15%).







## THE DIRECTOR'S DESK

#### Statement on International Women's Day 2022 | #womansmonth # BREAKTHEBIAS



Vimbainashe S. Mutendereki Executive Director | MUSASA

IT'S
POSSIBLE
TO HAVE
A LOVING
AND
VIOLENT FREE
HOME

"..as we celebrate the women's month in 2022,

we want to break the bias.

Let us hold each other up.

Let's Celebrate the successes, Let's Celebrate the strength that is in each one of us..

..and for me,
I want to see women flourish
as leaders, as change makers,
with a voice that is powerful,
a voice that can bring about
the needed change
that we need in this world.

So as we celebrate, and as I hope you will join us to celebrate the women's month.

Look for the women around you.

Celebrate them.

Make them feel that they can,

Make them feel that they are able

and that they are enough.

Thank you.

## SPOTLIGHT INITIATIVE

## **GBV Mobile One Stop Centres - (Supported by UNFPA)**



#### INCREASED PROTECTION AND ACCESS TO GBV RELATED SERVICES FOR WOMEN AND GIRLS

Women and girls remain disproportionately affected by increased risks of rape or sexual assault, physical violence and exploitation.

This has been worsened by a series of emergencies which include drought and the Covid-19 pandemic.

The economic situation of the country has not provided a smooth platform for communities to navigate the mentioned crises.

The project's districts of implementation are mostly affected by drought and starvation. These include (Umzingwane, Mbire, Muzarabani, Shamva, Mt Darwin, Hopley, Epworth) During such times, women and girls are vulnerable to abuse and exploitation.

Multi-sectoral GBV services remain scattered in rural districts whilst for the districts in urban areas, accessing GBV services is difficult because of transport and financial challenges.









IT IS AGAINST THIS BACKGROUND THAT MUSASA IS IMPLEMENTING GBV MOBILE ONE STOP CENTRES WITH SUPPORT FROM UNFPA UNDER THE SPOTLIGHT INITIATIVE TOGETHER WITH GOVERNMENT PARTNERS TO BRING SERVICES CLOSER TO VULNERABLE COMMUNITIES. SINCE THE BEGINNING OF THE YEAR, THE TEAMS HAVE BEEN WORKING TOGETHER TO BRING HOLISTIC GBV SERVICES TO THE VULNERABLE COMMUNITIES

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## **Door Step Service Provision Activities**





Musasa, supported by TDH, (terre des hommes) conducted The Door Step Service Provision activity in Mazowe ward 5. During the door to door household visits MUSASA was informing community members about the available SGBV services offered by Musasa and educating children on issues around their rights and abuse.

Findings from the door to door activities indicated that a significant number of community members had heard about organisations offering GBV support services but were not really sure of the actual services offered and were also not not fully aware of the exact procedure to access those services.

One of the Headmasters from one local school highlighted that there was much need to sensitize the community on the available GBV services as there are a number of GBV and child marriage cases rising in the community.

MUSASA visited household by household in ward 5 reaching out to 293 young people in March.

terre des hommes
Help for Children in Need

ROTINA, MUSASA STAFF CONDUCTING A SGBV AND SRHR SESSION WITH SECONDARY PUPILS IN #CHIWESHE RAISING AWARENESS AND CREATING SAFE COMMUNITIES AND SCHOOLS.

PUPILS WERE TAUGHT ON DIFFERENT TYPES OF GBV, SAFE REPORTING CHANNELS, SEXUAL VIOLENCE, PREP AND PEP SUPPORTED





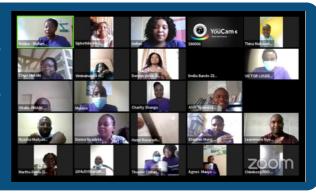
Raising the MUSASA flag higher celebrating the International Women's Day. Musasa joined the rest of the world in celebrating the International Women's Day Participated in a March which was organised by the Ministry of women affairs, Community, Small and Medium Enterprise Development



#### **COFFEE MEETING #IWD2022**



MUSASA HELD #BREAKTHEBIAS
COFFEE MEETING #IWD2022
WERE THINK TANKS DISCUSSED
BIASES ON POLICY MAKING
ISSUES, CHILDREN'S
PARTICIPATION, GBV AND MALE
ENGAGEMENT. IT WAS
HIGHLIGHTED THAT PERSONAL
PREJUDICES AND BIASES OFTEN
CLOUD POLICY MAKING
PROCESSES.SUPPORTED BY
TROICAIRE @SPEAK\_CAMPAIGN



#### INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY COMMEMORATIONS



MUSASA disseminating
Information at Harare Gardens
during the International
Women's Day
commemorations
(On Picture) Deputy Minister at
MUSASA stand witnessing the
life transforming work being
done by MUSASA in the fight
against GBV.

## **ANTI-GBV SONG**

in closing the #Women's Month, March 2022, MUSASA released an Anti-GBV Song featuring influencer Kae-Chaps and encouraging families to live in harmony.

Song Production was done by MUSASA in partnership with CHILDLINE Zimbabwe under The UPLIFT/SIMUDZA program supported by @USAIDZimbabwe and @GOALZimbabwe

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# Featured: GOKWE SHELTER (Supported by the Stephen Lewis Foundation)

Support from the Stephen Lewis Foundation enabled Musasa to strengthen the support for survivors at the community-based shelter in Gokwe, and build life skills capacity among survivors. Activities to strengthen the community referral systems were also done building the capacity of community-based clubs and the traditional leaders who are usually the first port of call at community level.

Musasa offered critical psycho-social support interventions that had a positive benefit for survivors. This saved the lives of many women and girls who escaped very violent situations together with their children.

MUSASA thus made efforts to offer strong GBV response services through the Gokwe shelter but also conducted a some community activities to raise awareness on GBV prevention and available GBV services aimed at protecting women, girls and children.

Cognizant of the linkages between HIV and GBV, Musasa played a role in encouraging survivors to get tested and those that were already positive got support to continue with treatment and messaging on adherence plus consistency was also emphasized during individual counselling sessions.

In order to complement GBV response services the survivors also participated in livelihoods trainings which aimed to empower women by increasing their income-generating skills resulting in economic independence and thereby reducing gender inequalities in their intimate relationships.







Number of clients sheltered between January 2022 to March 2022		
Month	Number of Women & Girls accessing services	Number of children accessing services
Month	Women & Girls	Children
January	24	5
February	29	5
March	21	5
GRAND TOTAL	74	Activate Window

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JAN-MAR 2022

## FEATURED I - STORY: GOKWE SHELTER

#### IN HER OWN WORDS



My name is Rizo. I am a double orphan who lost both parents at a very young age and I don't know them. The only close relatives I know are my grandparents but only my grandmother is still alive, I was sent by my grandmother to my uncle's place to collect chickens and when I arrived there I entered the house and was told that he had gone to brew beer. There was this young boy named Takudzwa at his place who immediately locked the door when I was inside. He took advantage of the fact that there was no one around and forced me on the ground and raped me. I went back home and he threatened me not to disclose what had happened and out of fear I did not say anything to my grandmother. Days went by whilst I was suffering in silence. After some months my grandmother asked me if I was pregnant because it was now visible but I was naive, I did not even know that what Takudzwa had done to me would lead to pregnancy. I confided in her and she reported the matter to the Police and I was referred to Musasa.

THE COUNSELLING AND CARE THAT SURVIVORS RECEIVED FROM MUSASA RESULTED IN IMPROVED PSYCHO-SOCIAL WELL-BEING, ABILITY TO COPE, PROTECTION, A LIFT UP FROM PAINFUL EXPERIENCES, INDIVIDUAL POSITIVE THINKING, DREAMING AGAIN, ACTIVE PARTICIPATION IN GROUP PROCESSES. CLIENTS WHO WERE AT THE VERGE OF COMMITTING SUICIDE WENT THROUGH INTENSE COUNSELLING AND PSYCHOLOGICAL SUPPORT. ON CASE FOLLOW UPS, THEY WERE IN A MUCH BETTER PLACE.

ONE CLIENT SAID, "I CAN NOT BELIEVE THAT I ALMOST KILLED MYSELF,
COUNSELLING CHANGED THE WAY I SEE LIFE AND I WANT TO LIVE AGAIN"
COUNSELLING SESSIONS AND PEER TO PEER GROUPS ALSO CREATED SPACE
FOR SELF-INTROSPECTION GIVING CLIENTS A CHANCE TO ALSO MAKE
EFFORTS TO IMPROVE THEIR COMMUNICATION SKILLS. THIS HELPED THEM
TO COMMUNICATE BETTER WITH THEIR FAMILIES AND STRENGTHEN
EXISTING RELATIONSHIPS.

When I arrived at Musasa I received counselling services and at first I had not revealed everything that had happened to me because I was scared and thought no one would genuinely listen to me or believe me.

The counsellor was so patient and I started opening up without fear. I even explained that when I was younger I was also raped but had never told anyone until now. This was a second rape incident and I wanted to kill myself because there was no way it could happen to the same person twice unless they are cursed. The counsellor helped me to realize that it's not my fault and that self-destructive behavior was not the way out. Accepting my HIV positive results was also another difficult thing but the therapy gradually helped me and I gave birth to healthy baby boy due to adherence to my medication. Musasa reintegrated me to the school system and I will be writing my exams this year. My grandmother is being very supportive towards me and the baby. I was so relieved when the perpetrator was sentenced to 12 years in prison.

I want to focus on school so that I become a nurse.

Thank you Musasa.

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1ST QUARTER 2022

#### RAISING MBERENGWA AND MUDZI PROJECT

MUDZI AND MBERENGWA DISTRICTS ARE CHARACTERIZED BY HIGH LEVELS OF POVERTY, AND FOOD INSECURITY WHICH PRESENTS CHALLENGES TO HOUSEHOLDS. THE ECONOMIC CHALLENGES ARE RESULTING IN INCREASED VULNERABILITIES TO GBV FOR WOMEN AND GIRLS AS CASES OF GBV ARE INCREASING.

OF GIRLS BY TRUCK DRIVERS HAS BEEN NOTED TO BE ON THE INCREASE. POVERTY CONTINUES TO FUEL ABUSE OF THE YOUNG GIRLS IN THESE AREAS AS WELL AS IN MBERENGWA WHERE GIRLS ARE FORCED INTO CHILD MARRIAGES AND PROSTITUTION FOR THE BENEFIT OF VULNERABLE HOUSEHOLDS. AGRICULTURAL AND NUTRITION RECOVERY PROGRAMS TO REDUCE WOMEN AND GIRLS' VULNERABILITIES TO GBV AS WELL AS TO PREVENT AND RESPOND TO GBV. MUSASA CONDUCTED VARIOUS GBV SENSITIZATION SESSIONS, MOBILE COUNSELLING SESSIONS AS WELL AS MONITORING AND EVALUATING TO ASSESS PROGRESS MADE IN THE WITH 379 FARMERS ON GENDER AND GBV

MUSASA ALSO CONDUCTED MOBILE
COUNSELLING SERVICES IN MUDZI AND
MBERENGWA PROVIDING PSYCHOSOCIAL
SUPPORT TO GBV SURVIVORS.
ASSISTANCE PROVIDED WAS IN THE FORM
OF COUNSELLING, LEGAL AND REFERRALS
TO THE POLICE, THE COURTS, AND
HEALTH SERVICE PROVIDERS

DURING HOE DISTRIBUTION IN THE





Musasa with the support from USAID, World Vision and the Government is partnering with Padare Men's Forum on Gender as they continues to conduct Needs Assessment activities on Gender issues in Mudzi and Mberengwa. The activities aiming to generate information on gender needs, constraints and opportunities of women and men in areas of:

- (i)Participation in agricultural production
- (ii) Access to markets- Identifying what women need to have to access to the markets, constraints in accessing markets
- (iii) Livelihood opportunities. This includes identifying what women and men do to sustain their livelihood, and their needs, constraints and aspirations in accessing and utilizing resources to move out of poverty. To what extent the practical needs of women and men are addressed?
- (iv) Participation in the decision-making processes. Do women take part in the decision-making processes that affect them at the local level? Are women represented?
- (v)Access to financial services and savings groups (credit, saving, etc.). Can women in the target districts access financial services (credit and saving)? What are challenges faced by women and women head of household in accessing financial services? Do they have control over finance, and a basic understanding on financial management?
- (vi) Access to nutrition activities/information- identifying participation of men and women in nutrition related activities





## **UPLIFT / SIMUDZA PROJECT**











#### **Promobile Static Campaigns**

With support from USAID and Goal MUSASA conducted Promobile static campaigns which aimed at disseminating information, raising awareness and integrating GBV and Child protection services through promoting the use of toll-free lines. The campaign also targets to reach out to the unreachable to increase access to services.

#### Capacity Building of Government and Community Groups

Government stakeholders and community group members were trained on GBV services responses and best practices at Mai Musodzi Hall, Mbare. Representatives present were from the Victim Friendly Unit of the Police (VFU), Department of Social Development, Ministry of Women Affairs, Community, Small and Medium Enterprise Development (MWAGCD), City health officials, social workers from the city council and other organizations working in Mbare.

#### **Community Dialogues**

Community Dialogues were conducted. Stakeholders that were present included members from the VFU,MWAGCD, Childline and Goal.

THE PROJECT AIMS TO REDUCE NEGATIVE COPING STRATEGIES BY PROVIDING BASIC NEEDS ASSISTANCE, CHILD PROTECTION, GBV PREVENTION & RESPONSE INTERVENTIONS TO VULNERABLE HOUSEHOLDS.

MUSASA IS PARTNERING CHILDLINE ZIMBABWE TO IMPLIMENT THE SIMUDZA/UPLIFT PROJECT, SUPPORTED BY USAID ZIMBABWE, GOAL ZIMBABWE, THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AFFAIRS, COMMUNITY, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES DEVELOPMENT

IN THE QUARTER, SURVIVORS OF GBV WERE PROVIDED WITH SERVICES THROUGH THE TOLL-FREE LINES.

FROM THE HARARE ONE STOP CENTRES AND FROM MOBILE ONE STOP CENTRES.

COMMUNITY DIALOGUES WERE CONDUCTED.

CAPACITY BUILDING TRAININGS
FOR GOVERNMENT AND
COMMUNITY GROUPS WERE
CONDUCTED.

FEEDBACK SESSIONS WITH CP INFLUENCERS WERE HELD



#### MOBILE COUNSELLING SESSIONS UNDER URGENT ACTION FUND

Musasa, under the Urgent Action Fund program held Mobile counselling sessions were conducted in hot spot areas around Bulawayo.

Case Care Workers in communities where also instrumental in making referrals of clients to Musasa. clients were provided with counselling services and referred for other services on site at the Victim Friendly Unit desk, the Department of Social Development desk or the Ministry of Women Affairs, Community, Small and Medium Enterprise Development (MWAGCD) desk.

Noted was that there is a high number of clients without birth registrations within Bulawayo, A significant number of clients were reporting cases of economic abuse however without documentation to enable further services to be rendered.







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1ST QUARTER 2022

## **COMMUNITY VISIONING SESSIONS**

PATHWAYS PROJECT















COMMUNITY VISIONING SESSIONS WERE IMPLEMENTED SUCCESSFULLY DURING THE FIRST QUARTER OF 2022. ESSENTIALLY, COMMUNITY VISIONING INVOLVES A PLANNING PROCESS THROUGH WHICH THE COMMUNITY CREATES A SHARED VISION FOR ITS FUTURE AND BEGINS TO MAKE THAT VISION A REALITY. IT PROVIDES AN OVERLAY FOR LOCAL PLANS, POLICIES, AND DECISIONS, AS WELL AS A GUIDE TO CONCRETE ACTIONS IN THE WIDER COMMUNITY AROUND GBV AND HIV.

IT ALSO TRIES TO ENGAGE THE ENTIRE COMMUNITY AND KEY STAKEHOLDERS IN THE CONVERSATIONS. THROUGH COMMUNITY VISIONING SESSIONS, COMMUNITIES IDENTIFIED ITS CORE VALUES WHICH WILL INFORM THE IDEALISTIC NATURE OF CV AND PRODUCES A VISION STATEMENT DESCRIBING THE COMMUNITY'S FUTURE.

COMMUNITIES BROUGHT OUT HIV AND GBV RELATED ISSUES IN THEIR COMMUNITIES, CAME UP WITH THEIR VISION STATEMENTS AND CAME UP WITH ACTION PLANS ON HOW TO ADDRESS THESE ISSUES USING THEIR OWN HOME-GROWN SOLUTIONS.



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## SASA!

#### **COMMUNITY REACH AND FEEDBACK MEETINGS**





Musasa continues to reach out to community members with SASA messaging on the prevention of HIV and violence against women.

The community Activists are now on the Awareness Phase in all the Districts implementing SASA!, that is, the (Contemplation stage) where the community is now aware of power imbalances and the negative effects of VAW.

The expected outcome for this phase is to have a shift in attitudes and behaviors. SASA activists used various platforms such as food distribution gatherings, church gatherings, community meetings, water collection points and other day to day interactions.

Topics that were covered include Power over, breaking the silence on violence against women and girls and how religious beliefs perpetuate violence against women and girls

#### PILLARS OF HOPE

DURING QUATRTER MUSASA CONDUCTED PILLARS REVIEW AND FEEDBACK SESSIONS WITH PILLARS OF HOPE MEMBERS.

THE REVIEW AND FEEDBACK MEETING WAS MEANT TO HAVE A RECAP ON THE PILLARS OF HOPE MODEL, REFLECT ON IMPLEMENTATION AS WELL AS ENCOURAGING PILLARS TO CONTINUE WORKING HARD IN THE NEXT QUARTER SO AS TO MEET THE TARGET GOAL OF ENDING GBV AGAINST WOMEN AND REDUCING HIV INCIDENTS.

IT WAS A PLATFORM TO DO A RECAP ON HOW TO IDENTIFY AND REFER CASES OF GENDER BASED VIOLENCE. THE YOUNG BOYS AND GIRLS WERE ALSO TAUGHT ON THE RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN GBV AND HIV. THE SESSIONS WERE FACILITATED BY PILLARS OF HOPE MENTORS TRAINED IN WHO ARE SUBSEQUENTLY BEING MENTORED BY MUSASA AS PART OF CLOSE OUT INITIATIVE





Musasa conducted feedback meetings with SASA! Activists in Mazowe and Gweru in order to review progress in program implementation as well as highlighting the challenges that they are facing in implementation. The meeting was also meant to provide a recap on the SASA model focusing more on the awareness phase which they are currently implementing.

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# ECORYS SAFE Program

THE PROGRAM AIMS AT REDUCING THE PREVALENCE OF GBV IN SAFE FOCAL WARDS AND IMPROVE THE WELL-BEING OF FAMILIES, ADDRESSING THE HIGH PREVALENCE OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS AT HOUSEHOLD LEVEL.

HE PROGRAM WHICH IS BEING IMPLEMENTED IN CHIREDZI ,CHIKOMBA AND MWENEZI ALSO ADDRESSED THE NEW NARRATIVE POSED BY THE EMERGENCE OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC WHICH HAS INCREASED THE PREVALENCE OF GBV IN COMMUNITIES.

THE SAFE 2020 GBV RESEARCH REVEALED THAT THE MOST COMMON FORM OF VIOLENCE WAS PHYSICAL VIOLENCE ACROSS THE COUNTRY AND THE KEY DRIVERS OF GBV IDENTIFIED WERE ECONOMIC INSECURITY AND SOCIAL NORMS.

Musasa conducted Safe Space meetings and trainings during the quarter covering issues to include:

- What are safe spaces
- Why women and girls require safe spaces
- Issues to be considered when establishing safe spaces
- Causes and consequences of GBV
- GBV referral pathway
- Sexual Reproductive health and rights
- Economic empowerment for women and girls



#### **GBV Sensitization for ISAL Field Agents**

Musasa conducted GBV sensitization for ISAL field agents in the district to ensure that they coordinate with the GCBCs and effectively report as they encounter GBV cases. Topics covered included Definition of GBV, Types of GBV, Consequences of GBV and the referral pathway. The field agents were also provided with lists and contacts of GCBCs in their respective wards as a well of strengthening the referral pathway. It was implored for them to also refer clients to the shelter where there is need as well as to share GBV information





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## International Women's Day 2022 #BreakTheBias



































SPACES"



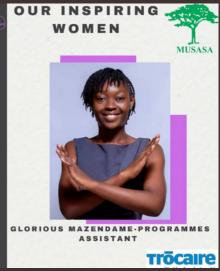












## THE ADVOCACY DESK



Rotina Mafume Musara - ADVOCACY AND COMMUNICATION OFFICER - | MUSASA

> NEED FOR A DEDICATED SEXUAL **OFFENCES COURT** FOR TIMELY **CONCLUSION OF** CASES

> > 11

Advocacy work remains critical to the work that Musasa does. In 2021 Musasa strongly advocated for the Minimum Mandatory Sentence on Rape and the parliament of Zimbabwe held public hearings on the same. In the same petition Musasa motivated for Reform Act that provides a Minimum Mandatory Sentence on Rape.

- i) Need for detailed sentencing guidelines which take into account all factors listed under s65(2) of the Criminal Law (Codification and Reform Act) Chapter 9:23 Such guidelines may need to be statutory to ensure that they are implemented. Guidelines on sentencing are also important to ensure high sentences for sexual offences and at the same time promote consistency and proportionality.
- ii) It is also recommended that in order for high penalties for sexual offences to be effective, there is need for legal, institutional and societal reforms. The whole criminal justice system would require strengthening and be well resourced in order to improve the process leading to convictions and sentencing.
- iii. There is therefore need to improve the Victim Friendly System in our country as well decentralize it to all courts.
- iv.Need for dedicated sexual offences court

v. An increased jurisdiction / special jurisdiction for Regional Magistrates in respect of sexual offences should be considered.

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## Reach out to MUSASA

### in cases of Gender-Based-Violence

Get Professional Help



## Toll free lines

08080074 - Free to Econet Subscribers

08010074 - Free to Netone Subscribers 0731080074 - Free to Econet Telecel WhatsApp 0775442300

Twitter & Facebook: @musasazim



www.musasa.co.zw















