

HELP & SHELTER
in collaboration with
WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER GERMAN COMMITTEE

NARRATIVE REPORT
April 2010 – March 2011

REDUCING GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE
in
Den Amstel, Good Hope, Covent Garden and Kaneville
Guyana

Project # 5302

August 2011

TABLE OF CONTENTS

SECTION	PAGE
1 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY/OVERVIEW.....	2-3
2 PROJECT ACTIVITIES & OUTCOMES	3-11
3 PEER EDUCATOR & RELIGIOUS LEADERS WORKSHOPS	11-16
4 MANAGEMENT & MONITORING & EVALUATION	16-17
5 PRODUCTION & DISSEMINATION OF MATERIALS.....	17
6 FINANCIAL REPORT.....	17
7 SUCCESSES & CHALLENGES.....	17-18

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1(a): Total # of Persons Reached in the Four Communities.....	4
Figure 1(b): Female/Male Ratio of Total # of Persons Reached.....	4
Figure 2(a): Total # of Persons Newly Reached in the Four Communities.....	5
Figure 2(b): Female/Male Ratio of Newly Reached	5
Figure 3: Total # of Persons Reached through House-to-House Visits.....	5
Figure 4: Number of Steering Committee Meetings.....	6
Figure 5(a): Number of Awareness Sessions.....	7
Figure 5(b): Female/ Male Ratio for Awareness Sessions.....	7
Figure 5(c): Total # of Persons Reached Through Awareness Sessions.....	8
Figure 5(d): Number of Awareness Sessions by Organizations.....	8
Figure 6: Number of Counselling Visits.....	8
Figure 7(a): Female/Male Ratio at First Peer Educator Workshop.....	12
Figure 7(b): Female/Male Ratio at Second Peer Educators' Workshop.....	12
Figure 8: Female/Male Ratio at Religious Leaders' Workshop.....	14

SECTION 1: EXECUTIVE SUMMARY/OVERVIEW

With a view to realizing the project aim and objective, the third project year April 2010 to March 2011 was one of consolidation of gains made during the first 2 years of the project as well as expansion of work in communities with individuals, groups and organizations. During Year 3 a total of 6,258 persons were reached directly through project activities and programmes.

Between April 2010 and the end of March 2011 2,989 persons, 2146 women and girls and 843 men and boys benefited from awareness session held in the 4 project and adjoining communities. Schools and health centres replaced FBOs as institutions which received most of the awareness sessions as these were extended to additional schools and health centres in nearby communities. In Year 3 increased emphasis was placed on reaching youth in order to inculcate a culture of non violence and healthy life styles as they progressed through life. Topics covered a wide range from GBV, domestic violence and child abuse to sexual harassment, dating violence, anger and stress management, friendship & healthy relationships, substance abuse and suicide.

During this year 67 house to house/community and 146 counselling visits took place with house to house visits reaching 642 residents. The communities of Kaneville and Good Hope benefited numerically the most from house to house and community “walkabout” visits while Covent Garden clocked more house to house visit than any other community. These visits been a very effective way in which project team members were exposed to the many shared challenges and problems that residents of communities faced on a daily basis. In Year 3 community educators and community mobilizers intensified their effort to reduce incidents of domestic violence, gender based violence and child abuse through home counselling visits and referrals. These counselling sessions were very effective in bringing tangible relief and assistance to many individuals, families and children at risk as further documented in this report.

Steering committees met regularly in Year 3 and executed a number of community based activities. In total 24 steering committees were held across the 4 project communities with an average of 6 meetings per community. The success of the community based steering committees are best reflected in the fact that they have transformed themselves into registered independent community based organizations, CBOs, who we hope will continue to work and advocate for the reduction of gender based violence within their communities.

A total of 8 two day peer educator workshops were held between the months of October – November 2010 for residents of project and adjoining communities. Mostly youth were targeted for peer educator workshops this year except for the community of Covent Garden where participants were community based. As a result of these workshops peer educators facilitated 10 awareness sessions reaching a total of 184 persons including students, parents, women and faith based youth groups and also disseminated information

on gender and gender based violence, domestic violence, self, child abuse and anger management.

A 2-day joint workshops for Religious Leaders was held in - March 2011. The workshop incorporated 13 religious leaders from the project communities of Covent Garden, Den Amstel and Good Hope. During the course of the workshop action plans agreed on included facilitating short talks at religious functions about DV, counselling for survivors and abusers, community walkabouts, forming support groups for survivors, reporting of all matters of abuse, assisting in skills training for women and educating women in prison on DV and GBV.

There have been some successful attempts to target men within communities to be willing advocates for the reduction of gender-based violence within communities. Please see more details in the section on Activities and Outcomes.

A number of other community based activities and events were also successfully initiated during this Year including A Walk Against Domestic Violence, a Candle Light Vigil, cultural show and release of helium balloons with messages against GBV, Movie Nights, health outreach activities, pampering and grooming sessions etc. These activities allowed the project team to reach and engage a larger pool of residents and also bring other needed services and recreational activities to residents while at the same time delivering messages about GBV, DV and child abuse.

Successes in Year 3 included increased awareness sessions for students PTAs and teachers, alleviation of cases of abuse and neglect among women and children in project communities through lay counselling, steering committees transformed into independently functioning community based organizations, increased reporting of domestic violence and child abuse incidents to police and relevant agencies and improved basic services for residents in communities through community advocacy.

Challenges in Year 3 have included lack of basic infrastructure within communities resulting in flooding and power failures, neutral venues to host community based activities, lack of male involvement in project activities and the ability of peer educators to maintain peer education work on a sustainable basis.

SECTION 2: PROJECT ACTIVITIES & OUTCOMES

The third project year April 2010 to March 2011 was one of consolidation of gains made during the first 2 years of the project as well as expansion of work in communities with individuals, groups and organizations. Following the trend set, numbers of persons reached increased between Year 2 and Year 3. Between April 2010 and March 2011 a total of 6258 persons were reached directly through project activities and programmes as compared to 5116 for the corresponding period last year reflecting an increase of 1,142 persons.

Disaggregated data shows that in Year 3 direct contact was made with 4297 women and girls as compared with 3,462 for the previous year, an increase of 835 females. Similarly, direct contact with boys and men increased from 1,654 in year 2 to 1,961 in Year 3. The community of Covent Garden was the closest to an equal number of males (364) reached to females (611) at 37% even though it recorded the lowest number of persons reached as against the other communities. Kaneville recorded the highest number of females (1,594) and males (786) reached with males representing 33% of all those reached. In Den Amstel 1196 females and 421 males were reached and accounted for the second highest number of persons reached with males representing 26 % of the total. There was significant improvement in number of persons reached this year in Good Hope from 370 females in Year 2 to 896 in Year 3 an increase of 526 and 180 males in year 2 to 390 in Year 3 an increase of 210.

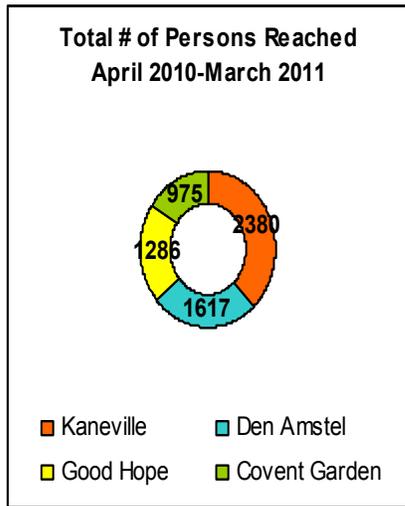


Fig. 1 (a)

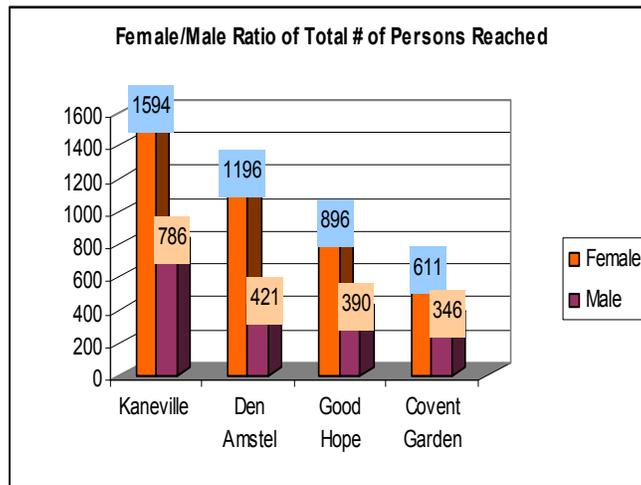


Fig. 1. (b)

The M&E system for tracking new and previously reached persons in each of the four project communities showed that a total of 2,955 persons were newly reached during this project year as compared to 3246 for last year, a decrease of 291 persons. This is not unexpected as after working for 2 years in communities residents are relatively well accessed. Based on the total of 2,955 persons newly reached during the third project year, Figure 2 below illustrates that Kaneville recorded the highest number 1158 or 39% of all newly reached persons; Den Amstel recorded the second highest number 699 or 24%; Good Hope recorded 658 or 22% and Covent Garden recorded the lowest number 439 at 14% for the period.

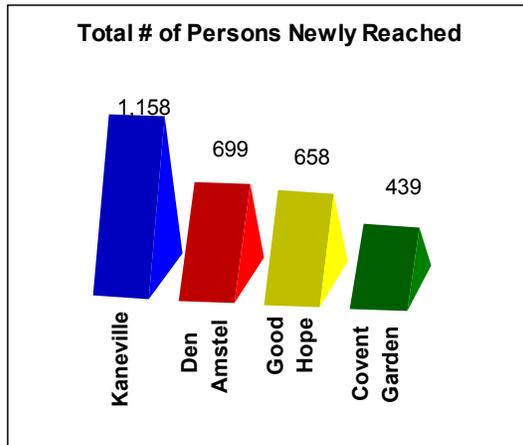


Fig. 2 (a)

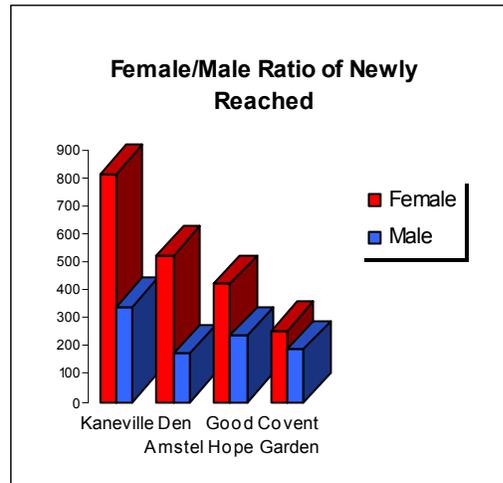


Fig. 2 (b)

House-to-House Visits

This was used as an effective strategy to continue the process of sensitizing community residents of the existence of the project within the communities and raising awareness on issues of GBV. Through house to house visits, community educators, mobilisers and peer educators on many occasions received reports or witnessed actual incidents of domestic violence, child abuse and neglect that occurred within in the various project communities. Such incidents and reports have necessitated counselling and other types of interventions. House to house visits have also been a very effective way in which project team members were exposed to the many shared challenges and problems that residents of communities faced on a daily basis. For Year 3 a total of 67 community house to house/community visits took place. In total 645 residents, 454 females and 191 males across the 4 project communities were visited and sensitized. The communities of Kaneville and Good Hope benefited numerically the most from the house to house and community “walkabout” visits while Covent Garden, even though reaching fewer residents clocked more house to house visit than any other community.

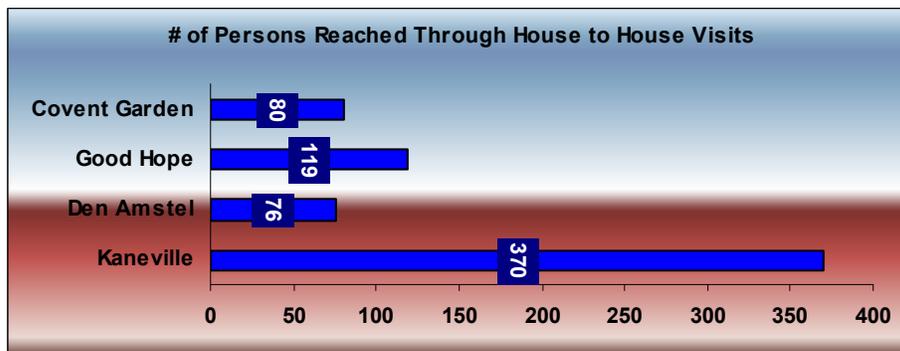


Fig. 3

Community Steering Committees

During Year 3 steering committees continued to meet on a regular basis planning and executing a number of activities in their communities. In total 24 steering committees were held across the 4 project communities with an average of 6 meetings per community. This reflects a decrease from Year 2 mostly in the numbers for Kaneville who moved from 2 monthly steering committee meeting to a more manageable and sustainable number during this year. Covent Garden steering committee on the other hand increased the number of meetings held as this committee became more active. In Good Hope there was a slight decrease in meetings while Den Amstel's remained the same.

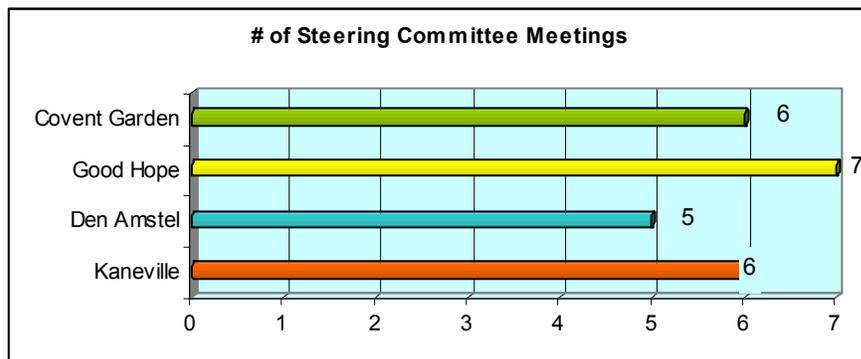


Fig. 4

The success of the community based steering committees, (CBSCs) are best reflected in the fact that three of these steering committees transformed themselves into registered independent community based organizations expanding their mandate to other areas outside of the project's aim and objective. This development has been a very heartening one for Help & Shelter's project team as there is now a body of people who we hope will continue to work and advocate for the reduction of gender based violence within their communities. The communities which now have their own independent CBSCs are Den Amstel, Kaneville and Covent Garden. The Den Amstel CBSC was successful in accessing their own funding for implementing a parenting project in their community and 2 other adjoining communities.

Awareness Sessions

In Year 3, a total of 135 awareness sessions were held during the second project year compared to 122 for the previous year indicating an increase of 13 sessions. Den Amstel, which is the community that has the largest number of organized groups, held the most awareness sessions at 61 or 45% of the total. Kaneville was second with 32 or 23% and has continued to extend sessions to nearby schools and health centers also serving the residents of Kaneville. Good Hope, in Year 3, also targeted schools and health centers in nearby communities in order to better serve the needs of its residents and was the community that registered the highest increase in awareness session compared to last year, moving from 7 in Year 2 to 23 for this year.

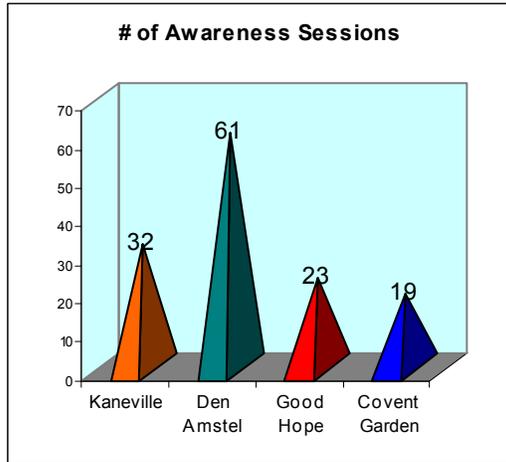


Fig. 5 (a)

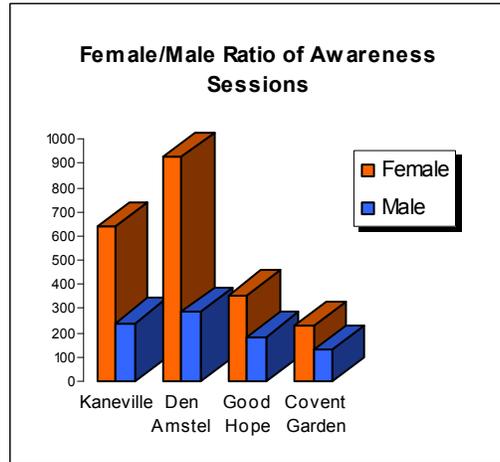


Fig. 5 (b)

In Year 3 a total of 2,989 persons, 2146 women and girls and 843 men and boys benefited from awareness session in the 4 project and adjoining communities. The community of Den Amstel recorded the highest number of participants at 1,214, Kaneville was second with 880, Good Hope reached 540 persons and Covent Garden 355. The major beneficiaries of awareness sessions were schools, health centres, youth groups and Faith Based Organizations (FBOs). Other groups which also benefitted were community groups, a privately run children’s home for abandoned and at risk children, and an adult educational programme. In Year 3 schools and health centres replaced FBOs as the groupings which received most awareness sessions as visits were extended to additional schools and health centres. A total of 60 sessions, or 44% of the overall number of awareness, were done at schools targeting students at primary and secondary levels, nursery school teachers and PTAs. Health Centres mostly targeting pre natal parents and guardians received the second highest number of sessions followed by youth groups and Faith Based Organizations. In Year 3 increased emphasis was placed on reaching youth in particular in order to inculcate a culture of non violence and health life styles as they progressed through life. Topics covered at awareness sessions covered a wide number of topics including GBV, domestic violence, various forms of child abuse, healthy relationships, substance abuse, communication, leadership skills, sexual harassment, dating violence, anger and stress management, conflict resolution, peer pressure, friendship and healthy relationships, decision making, sex and gender, self, parenting, teenage pregnancy, health and hygiene, suicide etc.

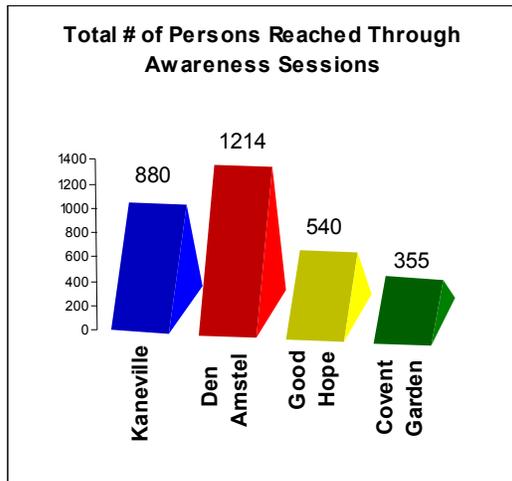


Fig. 5 (c)

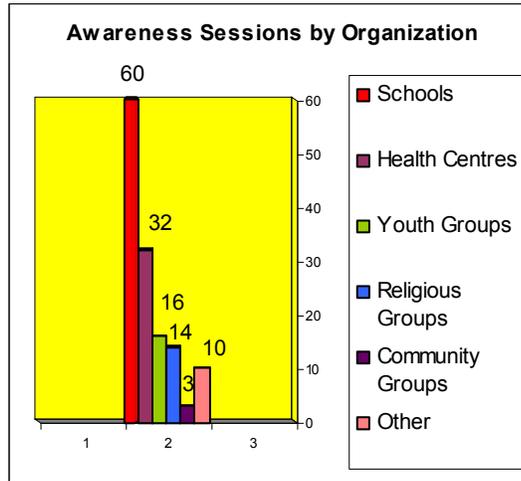


Fig. 5 (d)

Counselling

In Year 3 a total of 146 counselling visits were made to families in the project communities as both community educators and community mobilisers intensified their effort to reduce incidents of domestic violence, gender based violence and child abuse through home counselling visits and referrals. These counselling sessions were very effective in bringing relief to many individuals, families and children at risk. In Covent Garden counselling and house to house visits allowed the community mobiliser to unearth many problems and challenges that residents were suffering in silence from. In Good Hope successful counselling interventions and referrals saw a number of children experiencing chronic and severe neglect and abuse being removed to places of safety for their well being. Collaboration with governmental agencies and support of the community was vital for these successful interventions. In Kaneville counselling visits were also successful in not only reducing incidents of domestic violence and child physical abuse in the community but at schools where the community educator was asked to counsel students displaying behavioural problems. For this period Covent Garden recorded the highest number of counselling visits at 80, Good Hope had 32, Kaneville 19 and Den Amstel 15.

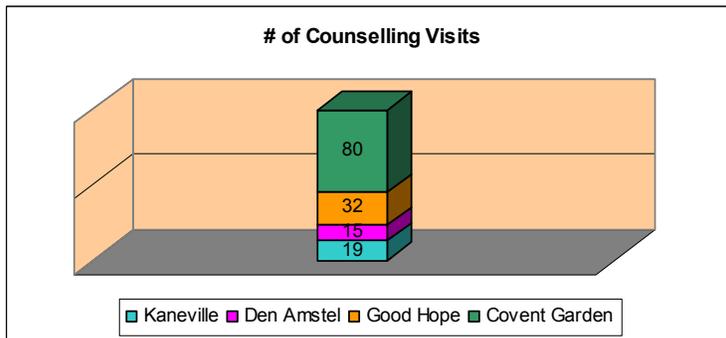


Fig. 6

Focus Group Discussions with Men

Focus group discussions for men were held in 2 communities Kaneville and Good Hope among a total of 36 men of varying ages and backgrounds. In the discussions on perceptions of the gender roles of men and women, the majority of men saw themselves in traditional roles such as being financial providers and protectors for the family. Men also saw them selves as having the responsibility for setting a good example for the family to follow. Women were seen in the traditional role as housewives with responsibilities for housework and the care of the children. However it was recognized that these traditional roles were changing with more women now working outside of the home and taking on the responsibilities as also being providers or co-providers with men for the family. Men also felt that women were more employable as they were prepared to accept lower wages than men for work opportunities. More men were now undertaking responsibility for the care of children. Changing gender roles were also leading to some negative behaviour changes such as women also consuming alcohol.

In discussing reasons for conflicts or problems in the home men identified Unfaithfulness and accusations of unfaithfulness as one of the main reasons for conflict, lack of money, the perceived misuse of finances and lack of openness about financial earnings were another major cause for conflict among couples. Other causes cited were alcohol and verbal abuse, power struggles in relationships, lack of love and a lack of communication between couples. Men also cited same sex relationships among both men and women and the disrespectful attitude of wives to husbands including the belittling of spouses in public as contributors to conflict.

Discussing problems and seek advice of family and friends were identified as one of the main strategies used to resolve marital and family conflicts. Other strategies used were consuming alcohol and beating their wives, leaving the relationship or seeking religious counselling.

When men were asked to pinpoint some of the things that might be examples of wives treating their husbands badly they referred to not preparing meals on time, going outside of their relationships or marriage to satisfy their needs, not sharing finances, showing dislike for husband's friends, being secretive about finances, and mother-in law problems. In relation to domestic violence occurrences in their community and how often these take place most men concurred that domestic violence was occurring some saying on a daily basis other saying this was occurring in 80% of households and other sometimes. In one community all of the men in the focus group discussion said they knew of more than one situation and in another about 30% of the men knew at least one person experiencing this. It was agreed that women more than men were experiencing domestic violence, especially physical, verbal and financial abuse. Men on the other hand were experiencing mostly verbal and emotional abuse. Causes for domestic violence occurrences in the home included women not having meals prepared, not taking care of the kids, watching TV all day. Other causes identified were lack of finances, alcohol consumption, unfaithfulness, unemployment. Strategies suggested for the prevention of GBV and other

forms of abuse in the family included counselling sessions, workshops/seminars, ongoing awareness sessions for both men and women, emergency contacts for survivors, educating police/policing groups on adequate counselling methods, setting up of counselling centres, more involvement from the churches and FBOs, police to be part of the education process, police should respond to the first reports of abuse.

Other Community-Based Activities

A number of other community-based activities and events were also successfully initiated during this Year. A Walk Against Domestic Violence, a Candle Light Vigil, cultural show and release of helium balloons with messages all formed part of activities to mark International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women and were held in the months of November through to March in the community of Kaneville.

During the Candlelight Vigil residents lined the street in front of about 20 houses and could have spread out even more, but the street was very dark and everyone wanted to keep an eye out for the children who were also participating. The Pastor of the Full Gospel Church and a few taxi drivers also participated in this activity. During the vigil short discussions were also held on the importance of reducing and eliminating DV in the home and community. The route for the Walk Against Domestic Violence traversed one of the main highways and bordered 6 communities. Participants included students and teachers from schools that the project had worked with and residents of Kaneville and surrounding communities. Help & Shelter leaflets were distributed to all along the way including motorists and passengers in vehicles. The cultural show and release of helium balloons with message about the prevention of GBV and other forms of abuse, coincided with the distribution of certificates to residents in Kaneville who had successfully completed training workshop programmes for peer education, counselling, religious leaders and M&E and advocacy over the past 3 years. Other community based activities which were successfully carried out were 'Grooming and Pampering' sessions for residents in the communities of Den Amstel and Covent Garden which allowed the project team to interact and also spread message about healthy lifestyles while rendering hair, nail, facial and massage services to many women who often never take the time or have the opportunity to look after themselves in this way. One of these sessions was also held to celebrate Father's Day and was a male only event with deserving males identified by residents and steering committee members. The use of Movie Nights to show films which featured forms of GBV and then discussions was a successful strategy used in Year 2 and continued this year in the communities of Covent Garden, Den Amstel to highlight and sensitize residents about such issues as these were well attended activities.

Distribution of clothes, footwear, foodstuff and toiletries to vulnerable and needy families and disabled persons in the communities of Good Hope, Kaneville and Covent Garden were welcomed and well appreciated as many of these individuals and families were themselves victims of abuse and neglect. The community of Kaneville in Year 3 saw the successful results of its continuing advocacy for rehabilitation and improvements in basic services with the repairing and repaving of their main access road and installation of a potable water service to residents during this year. Hosting of a Games Evening in the

community of Covent Garden was another event organized to reach out to members of the community with activities which were family oriented, fun but at the same time

competitive but which did not include the use of alcohol. Other community event organized included a Health Outreach where residents has access to healthy tips and information and high blood pressure, diabetes and other types of testing.. award ceremony for children who did well at national Grade 6 examinations. inter field community races etc.

SECTION 3: PEER EDUCATOR & RELIGIOUS LEADERS WORKSHOPS

1. Peer Education Workshops

A total of 8 two day peer educator workshops were held between the months of October – November 2010 for residents of project and adjoining communities. Two 2 day workshops were held in each of the communities of Kaneville/Diamond, Den Amstel, Good Hope and Covent Garden. The workshop objectives and programme followed the same format as those in Years 1&2.

Objectives

- To explain the nature and dynamics of gender based violence and its relevance to the communities
- To demonstrate confidence in the ability of participants to implement a plan of action for their community
- To use appropriate facilitation skills to educate community members about gender based violence and their role in promoting its reduction
- To evaluate community plans of action
- To examine the dynamics of peer education, healthy relationships and child abuse
- To sharpen the facilitation skills of potential peer educators

Workshop Programmes

The workshops were successful in sensitizing and educating participants about topic areas such as self, gender, gender based violence, healthy relationships understanding self and child abuse as well as teaching facilitation skills and types of methodologies than can be used by peer educators to create awareness of GBV, child abuse and other related issues. Issues such as qualities, work and skills of peer educators were focused on at both the first and second workshop as this was seen as a key aspect in ensuring that the communities are given the skills and support so as to increase their capacity to deliver awareness programmes to reduce GBV within their communities.

Attendance/Age Range

A total of 61 participants attended the first 2 days of workshop, 39/64% were female and 22/36% male. At the second 2 days of workshops there was an overall drop in participants from 61 to 43 of these 29/67% were female and 14/ 33% male. As a result of

the fluctuation in the exchange rate, the number of participants at peer education workshops were cut from 22 in Years 2 & 3 to 15 this year.

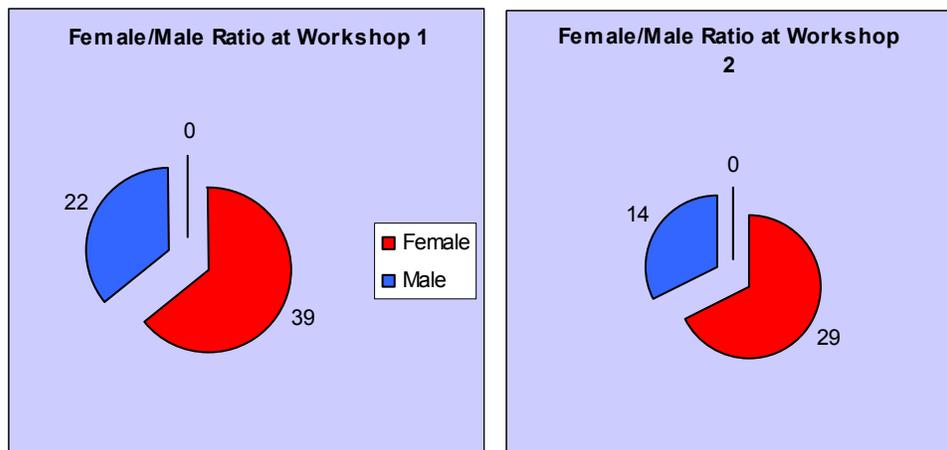


Fig. 7 (a)

Fig. 7 (b)

The age of participants ranged from 14 to 45 with the majority of participants 85% between the ages of 14-19. Like Year 2 mostly students were targeted for peer educator workshops this year except for the community of Covent Garden whose participants once again were community based.

Results of Community Action Plans

As a result of the peer educators' community actions, approximately 184 persons were reached. Activities included:

- Facilitation of 6 awareness sessions with students from schools on anger management, forms of violence, self, gender and GBV
- Facilitation of a further 4 awareness sessions on child physical abuse, domestic violence, physical and emotional abuse and sexual abuse with parents, FBO women's group and youth group.
- Dramatization of a skit performed by student peer educators, on different forms of abuse including DV and child abuse
- Distribution of leaflets on sexual abuse

Participants' Evaluation

Based on the overall response 100% -99% of participants said the workshops increased their knowledge and understanding of child abuse, healthy relationships, the role and qualities of peer educators and information presented was definitely understood. 98%-97% said they learnt new ideas and skills, definitely increased their knowledge and understanding of domestic violence, liked the way in which the workshops were facilitated and thought their plan of actions were good and would support them. A further 96% also indicated that the workshops increased their knowledge and understanding of gender and gender roles.

Additionally 94-92% felt they gained new knowledge and understanding of self, gained greater insight into ways in which persons get entrapped by domestic violence and that the workshops were definitely successful in promoting positive action to reduce DV and GBV.

A total of 90% were of the view that they learnt ways in which they could assist persons who were being abused whilst 87% felt that not enough time was allotted for group work and sharing of information.

Participants in assessing the workshop found that information shared and the way the facilitators presented and explained topics in a very practical and interesting way made it easy to follow and understand. The use of personal experiences and testimonies of how persons overcame different types of abuse was found to be particularly useful in understanding the dynamics of different types of abuse. Interaction and team work also helped participants to be more open in expressing themselves and understanding the importance of establishing communication channels for the prevention of abuse. Participants also found the workshop to be useful as it empowered them to teach others and to be more supportive and understanding while at the same time providing information which would be beneficial. The workshop helped participants in deepening their understanding of self and addressed some of their own personal problems and challenges. Participants also felt that the use of skits and drama were very effective in expressing the complexity of GBV and child abuse.

Suggestions for improving workshop included increasing the numbers of participants among schools, students and fathers and using videos and more visual and teaching aids and increasing the time allotted for group activities and interaction.

Extending the days for workshops and holding more workshops on a regular basis were also recommended. Making available to participants workshop materials like cardboard, markers, flyers was also recommended so that they can continue the work of raising consciousness about GBV, child abuse and related issues.

Topic areas which participants found to be most useful were self including ways to develop and increase self esteem, domestic violence - learning about the different types, forms, how to respond effectively to situations of abuse, healthy and unhealthy relationships and child abuse.

2. Workshop for Religious Leaders

A 2 day joint workshops for Religious Leaders was held in the month of March 2011. The workshop incorporated religious leaders from the project communities of Covent Garden, Den Amstel and Good Hope. The objectives and programme of the joint workshop followed the same format as in Years 1 & 2.

Objectives

The objectives of the workshop were:

- To explain the nature and dynamics of gender based violence and its relevance to the community
- To commit to facilitating change among members of the FBO and within the wider community with respect to the knowledge, attitudes and behaviours relating to gender based violence

Programme

The programme for the workshops focused on the following main topic areas:

- Exploring Self
- Sex & Gender
- Gender Based Violence/Domestic Violence
- Sexuality, Violence & Sexual & Reproductive Health,
- Promoting Positive Action to Reduce GBV

Attendance, Age & Gender of Participants

A total of 13 religious leaders and members of FBO attended the 2 day workshop. Out of the 13 religious leaders who attended the workshop, 10/77%) were female and 3/23% were male. The age range among participants was between 27 – 54 years

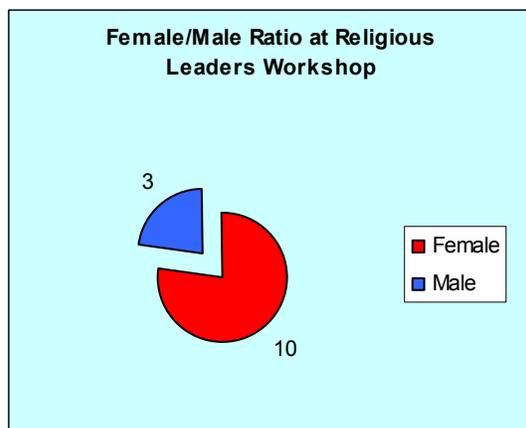


Fig. 8

Community Plan of Action

Participants went into small groups and came up with the following action plans for reducing DV and GBV at a collective and individual level

- Educate people through short talks at religious functions about domestic violence
- Highlight DV issues in Church to make members aware that DV is wrong and persons do not have to stay in abusive relationships
- Report all DV matters that come to your attention at Church and in the community

- Seek out those who are willing to form a support group to help survivors and invite both survivors and abusers to seek help
- Speak out against DV at Churches, Mosques and Mandirs
- Have community walkabouts where flyers and information on DV and GBV are shared out and relevant information given on how to get help
- Assist those in need by listening and offering emotional support, reporting matters to the police, trying to find jobs for persons in need of financial assistance, if in danger having the victim (s) removed to a safe place
- Open up computer training classes originally for children to female survivors of DV
- Become a loud voice in prison against DV and GBV especially the New Amsterdam Women's Prison

Participants' Evaluation

The overall response showed that all of the participants felt that the information was presented in a way they understood, they learnt new ideas and skills and increased their knowledge and understanding of self, sex, gender, gender roles and domestic violence.

Similarly all participants also felt that that the workshop was successful in promoting positive action to reduce domestic violence and other forms of GBV in their communities and committed themselves to supporting activities in their communities to reduce DV and other forms of GBV.

Facilitation of the workshop was assessed as definitely good and handouts were found to be both useful and informative by all of the participants.

A total of 92% were of the view that their plan of action was good and assessed the venue, food and arrangements as also good. 83 % indicated that their understanding of sexuality, violence and sexual and reproductive health was definitely increased and 75% felt that there was adequate time for group work and sharing of information while 17% felt that time was somewhat adequate.

One participants said that the workshop empowered him with the requisite knowledge and know how on how to engage and deal with issues of DV through the Church and as a religious leader in order to impact the community of Den Amstel positively

Participants also found the information, style and knowledge in presenting information by facilitators as useful and empowering and would certainly help them as "drivers" to stop DV. The workshop was also assessed as well timed, well toned and at the right place.

The openness and participation at the workshop was seen as helpful to the process of deepening insight on gender based violence and domestic violence. Participants also felt that understanding that men and women are different in their personalities and ways of expressing love, language, expectations etc will make it easier to understand and relate to

both the abused and abusers. Similarly learning about the differences and similarities of the two sexes would also help them positively in their own personal relationships

Participants said they would use the information gained to educate Church members first and foremost then help and counsel the abused and abusers. Others said they would reach out to the wider community through activities highlighting domestic violence and offer help to those in need. One participant said he would join with the already active group in their community and share information gained from the workshop as well as make himself available to help others. Another participant indicated that he would try his best to teach what he has learnt in his mosque and village where people are suffering from different types of abuse. Participants also said that they would inculcate the knowledge gained to improve their life, the life of their families and the lives of persons living in their community especially survivors of abuse.

Recommendations were made that Help & Shelter hold more such workshops and invite not only leaders but others so they can also benefit from this information and develop a power point presentation on Domestic Violence to help workshop participants propagate knowledge about this issue.

SECTION 4: MANAGEMENT & MONITORING & EVALUATION

Management

Monthly Management Committee meetings chaired by the project coordinator were held with project team members including community educators. Attendance at these meetings were extended to community mobilisers during Year 3 as a means of getting them to assume more responsibility and leadership as the project wound down to its last year. At these meetings both community educators and mobilisers were given the opportunity to share successes, challenges, issues of concern and upcoming planned project activities and events in their respective communities.

The Management Committee also met regularly during the third project year to review budgetary and project activities. The agenda for these meetings varied as specific to project activities each month. Nonetheless the agenda included matters from community educators' reports, the project coordinator's report, the financial report and M&E officer's report.

Monitoring & Evaluation

Monitoring and Evaluation was done throughout all communities during the period April 2010 – March 2011. The various M&E tools were used in communities. These include Monthly Reporting Forms; Monthly Awareness Forms; Registers; Workshop Registers and Reporting Forms for Community Peer Educators. During Year 3 community mobilisers were required to also report monthly on activities implemented as they assumed a more prominent role in assisting in implementation of project activities in their respective communities.

Monthly M&E reports were prepared based on activities implemented. These reports are available on Help & Shelter's website

SECTION 5: PRODUCTION & DISSEMINATION OF MATERIALS

Brochures & Leaflets

A total of 5,562 leaflets and brochures were distributed during the period 1 April 2010 to 31 March 2011.

SECTION 6: FINANCIAL REPORT

The following financial documents are attached to this report:

1. Statement of expenditure for the period April 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011
2. Balance sheet as of June 30, 2011
3. Bank account reconciliation as of June 30, 2011
4. General ledgers & trial balances April 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011
5. Bank statements April 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011
6. Payment vouchers & receipts April 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011

Although the project officially ended on 31 March 2011, a project evaluation was carried out in the communities, as a result of which some payments were made in June. The evaluation report will be submitted in the near future.

A donation of G\$20,000 received from the Diamond Community Group was the only variance in income and expenditure and was allocated and expended.

SECTION 7: SUCCESSES & CHALLENGES

Successes

Some of the major successes during Year 3 were as follows:

1. An increase in the number of in school students and teachers schools who have benefitted from awareness sessions and peer educator workshops during Year 3.
2. The incorporation of lay counselling through house-to-house, school and community visits resulted in the improvement of life and ending or reduction of abuse and neglect for many vulnerable, abused and at risk children women and families in project communities
3. Networking with state social service agencies contributed to an improvement in the lives of domestic and child abuse survivors
4. The steering committees of Kaneville, Den Amstel and Covent Garden were all able to formalize their groups and are now registered with the Ministry of Culture,

- Youth and Sports as “Kaneville Development Group”, Den Amstel Residents for Change and Covent Garden Development Group
5. There was an increase the number of reports of gender based violence and child abuse in communities to community educators and mobilisers as awareness of GBV and child abuse has resulted in decreased levels of tolerance and acceptance of this violation of human rights.
 6. Awareness sessions and peer educator workshops on GBV, DV and child abuse benefited students in preparing for and writing their school based assignments for national and regional school examinations
 7. Ongoing work with FBOs was successful in the sensitization of members especially youth groups and women’s groups in some communities
 8. Walks against domestic violence and candle light vigils as consciousness-raising events were successful, as were a number of other community based recreational and cultural events

Challenges

As expected, Year 3 was also not without its challenges some of these being the same as during Year 2 as necessary infrastructural changes did not occur:

1. Lack of neutral and adequate places to hold meetings. The community of Kaneville is particularly disadvantaged by this as the church building in which meetings were normally kept has been affected by internal church problems.
2. Power failures and flooding in communities affected the delivery of activities
3. Maintaining and keeping the interest and ability of peer educators to carry out voluntary/ non paying work on a regular basis. Due to financial and family time constraints it was difficult for many community residents to engage in voluntary work for the project.
4. Implementing a strategy for more male involvement including awareness sessions and focus group discussions for males only facilitated by men was challenging for two reasons: it was difficult to find suitable male facilitators to conduct such sessions and men were still found to be reluctant to attend and take part in such discussions hence only a small number were engaged in these activities.
5. Delays in assistance for survivors of violence due to the heavy case load of state social workers