

HELP & SHELTER
UNIFEM GBV PROJECT M&E REPORT- APRIL 2009

TV STATIONS

TV Station	Topic	Date	Time	Pub Ed Officer
Channel 102	Alcohol Abuse & Child Neglect	16 th April	1 hr	Karen G.
	DV-Emphasis on Men & Helping Strategies	30 th April	1 ½ hr	Karen G. Kevin M.
TOTAL			2hr 30 min	

Our outreach public education activities for the month of March continued at Channel 102 in Georgetown. Topics discussed were Alcohol Abuse & Child Neglect, after the airing of the programmes one person who had been physically abuse and neglected as a child by an alcoholic father called Help & Shelter.

A 1½ hr programme on Domestic Violence - Emphasis on Men and Helping Strategies discussed by H&S public education officers was recorded by VideoMega, a media production unit for the programme Alliance the Move which is to be aired on TV channels 6 and 9

RADIO STATIONS

No radio programmes were done during the month

HEALTH CENTRES

Health Centres	Region	Topic	Date	# of Persons		Age	Time	Pub Ed Officer
				F	M			
BV	4	Domestic Violence	6 th April	112	10	12-55+	1 hr	Genevieve P.
Supply	4	Effects of Abuse on Women	15 th April	21		18-55	1 hr	Johnson O.
Queenstown	4	Self	21 st April	19	2	18-55	1 hr	Johnson O.
		Alcohol Abuse	28 th April	19	1	18-55	1 hr	
		DV Entrapment	30 th April	8	1	18-55	1hr	
East La Penitence	4	DVA & Cycle of Violence	21 st April	14		19-35	1 hr	Kevin M.
		Forms of Child Abuse	22 nd April	25	2	18-55	1 hr	Johnson O.
		Child Abuse	28 th April	18		18-35	1 hr	Kevin M.
Melanie	4	Domestic Violence DVA	22 nd April	106	4	18-55	1 hr	Kevin M.
South Road	4	DVA & Cycle of Violence	23 rd April	40		19-55	1 hr	Kevin M.
		Parenting	28 th April	14	4	19-55	40 min	Johnson O. Genevieve P.

TOTAL				396	24		10 hrs 40 min	
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Health Centres

Seven (7) health centres were visited for this month, all in Region 4. During these visits a total of thirteen (13) awareness sessions lasting for 1 hr-40 min. were held on Domestic Violence, Entrapment, Effect of Abuse on Women, Self, Child Abuse, Domestic Violence Act and Parenting. A total of four hundred and sixty six (466) persons, four hundred and forty one (441) women and twenty five (25) men between the ages of eighteen (18) to fifty five (55) benefited from these awareness sessions.

EVALUATION OF HEALTH CENTRES

Health Centres	Evaluation	Excellent	Very Good	Good	Fair
BV, Supply, Sophia, East La Penitence, Queenstown, South Road, Melanie	How would you rate participation?	X 1 sessions (9%)	X 4 session (36%)	X 4 sessions (36%)	X 2 sessions (18%)
“ “ “	Participants understanding of topics		X 5 session (45%)	X 6 session (55%)	
“ “ “	Facilitation of sessions		X 4 session (36%)	X 7 session (64%)	
“ “ “	Rating of overall sessions		X 4 session (36%)	X 7 sessions (64%)	

Evaluation of Awareness Sessions at Health Centres

Evaluation of thirteen (13) of the awareness sessions held, at 7 health centres, indicated that participation was assessed as excellent at one (1) of the sessions, very good at five (5) sessions, good at four (4) sessions and fair at two (2) and poor at one (1). Participants understanding of topics presented were assessed as very good at five (5) of the sessions and good at eight (8) of the sessions. Facilitation and rating of the sessions overall were assessed as very good at four (4) of the sessions and good at eight (8).

Feedback from Health Centres

- **BV Health Centre** - In discussing the topic of domestic violence they were opposing opinions expressed by male and female participants as to reasons for domestic violence. One man was of the view that domestic violence can be eliminated or decreased if during an argument the man is allowed to express his opinion while the woman remains silent until she is asked to give her opinion, preferably days later on the issue. This man felt that gender equality is the cause of lots of disagreements as God gave man dominion over woman. Another man felt that some women are themselves to blame for domestic violence as they marry or live with men who have no vision or goals to their detriment. Participants also expressed the view that it was males in villages who were abusers and all forms and types of abuse were prevalent in communities. Female participants felt that men need to be educated as many of them do not know what is expected of them in a relationship and would beat their women for sex and to cook and clean for them. According to female participants most Guyanese men consider women to be sex objects and maids and do not see women as human beings and partners to be loved and cherished.
- **Queenstown HC-** It was reported that the Nurses attached to health centre did not put up any of the posters received from H&S the week before. On the topic of alcohol abuse none of the

participants admitted to drinking alcohol except one nurse. The staff nurse in charge of the health centre said that almost every Guyanese drinks alcohol. Reasons given by participants for drinking alcohol were- to ease tension, to carry out certain tasks, for pleasure, to make them feel lively and in a good mood, to make them feel that they belong to a particular class of people. A staff nurse at the end of the session asked the facilitators to speak to a client who has a child abuse problem.

In discussing the topic of domestic violence entrapment one woman disclosed an incident in which her husband was abusing her and she felt she has to hit him with something to make him stop. Another woman spoke about her grandfather who was sexually molesting one of his granddaughters.

- **East La Penitence HC**-The discussion was centered around the cycle of violence, participants were encouraged to recall articles in the newspaper in which persons were killed due to domestic violence disputes and to remember the comments of neighbours who would have heard them often quarrelling, fighting and making up. It was stressed that often when two persons abuse each other and things seem fine afterwards, it does not mean that the problem is solved.

Participants asked if it was possible to change an abuser. The facilitator explained about the socialization of the individuals in an attempt to get participants to understand that abusive behaviour is often learnt behaviour or as a result of abuse the abuser faced as a young person. He also explained that the only available way to effect changes is through ongoing counseling. Persons spoke of being embarrassed to speak to other people about their problems and the issue of confidentiality, they were given the option of visiting H & S, and urged not to wait until problems reached the violent stage to deal with it but to nip it in the bud. The services of Help & Shelter were also discussed.

At another session on child abuse the facilitator and participants discussed the beating of children and the possible effects this could have on the child. The alternatives to beating or other forms of physical abuse of children was also discussed and it was stressed that here punishment is based on the crime committed rather than on the adult's feelings. The sexual abuse of children was another topic presented as another form of child abuse. The facilitator stressed the importance of listening to children and accessing help for children who are victims of abuse. Participants were not very outspoken but listened attentively and express gratitude for the information since many did not view the problem from this point of view.

One participant after the session had an issue in which she had one child, is pregnant with a second and have nowhere to go, she was considering abortion, I encouraged her not to abort the child but to visit the probation services where she can access support or place the child in the foster care program, she was also advised to talk to her doctor about family planning to prevent unwanted pregnancy.

Participation was excellent at the session of April 6th. There were not enough seating for the number of persons present A number of questions on alcohol use and responses were as follows. Out of the 24 mothers present 4 of them indicated that they drink alcohol. Almost all of the female participants said that their husbands use alcohol except the one male present. The female participants said they drink alcohol to socialize, when they have problems, when they are stressed out. They said that drinking alcohol helps them to forget about problems and makes them active. Participants said that they have made no real efforts to stop using alcohol except for a grandfather who quit alcohol when he was diagnosed with cancer. In relation to problems they had experienced as a result of alcohol, one woman said her husband would say foolish things to her when drunk, others said they suffered abuse from their husbands once in a while when he consumed alcohol. Three of the mothers who drink alcohol said they are happy

drinking while one said that she does not enjoy drinking but does this due to stress. All the participants said that alcohol leads them to do things they would not want to do under normal circumstances, it also changes their mood and affects the way they walk and talk. Participants disagreed that alcohol can cause less harm if it is diluted they felt that even if diluted it still will have the same effect. They also were of the view that alcohol sometimes can make them sadder or angrier. All the participants agreed that H&S should do awareness sessions on alcohol with schools and other organizations in Guyana.

- **South Road HC**-Persons listen attentively as domestic violence and the cycle of violence was discussed. Participants responded to questions asked, brochures were distributed and participants were encouraged to read them and share the information with family members and friends.

In discussing parenting at another session at this same clinic, the head nurse became upset with the information being presented by the H&S facilitators and commented that they were disrespecting her clinic.

On 30th April the facilitator reported that participation at this health centre was poor and that most of the HCs have not put up the H&S posters left with them.

- **Melanie HC**-The session was very good, issues discussed were domestic violence and H&S statistics on domestic abuses cases. Participants were encouraged to share their views as to why DV is a problem in our society and solutions to the problem. Persons spoke of the fact that men are also victims and there is need to deal with the issues of men through counseling and other services that cater to their needs. The recent domestic violence murders were discussed as were the socialization of boys and girls in our society and the importance of allowing both men and women boys and girls the chance to express feelings and emotions openly. Participants enjoyed the discussion and looks forward to continuous sessions.

SCHOOLS

School	Region	Topic	Date	# of Persons		Age	Time	Pub Ed Officer
				F	M			
Ketley Primary	4	Conflict Resolution	17 th April		19	6-12	1hr	Julian H.
Ascension CHS	4	Child Abuse	24 th April	34	21	13-18	30 min	Johnson O.
Samatta Point Nursery PTA	4	Parenting	26 th April	7	5		1 hr	Julian H.
TOTAL				41	45		2 ½ hrs	

Schools

A total of three (3) schools were visited during this month. A total of seventy four (74) students, 34 females and 40 males from two (2) Primary Schools, benefited from awareness sessions on conflict resolution, and child abuse. A total of twelve (12) parents and teachers of one PTA also benefited from awareness sessions on Parenting. Among these were 7 females and 5 males.

EVALUATION OF SCHOOLS

Schools	Evaluation	Excellent	Very Good	Good	Fair	Poor
Ketley Primary, Ascension CHS	How would you rate participation?		X 1 sessions (50%)	X 1 session (50%)		
“ “ “	Participants			X		

	understanding of topics			2 session (100%)		
“ “ “	Facilitation of sessions			X 1 session (50%)		
“ “ “	Rating of overall sessions		X 1 session (50%)			

Evaluation of Awareness Sessions at Schools

At the two (2) sessions evaluated at schools visited during this month, participation was rated very good at one (1) and good at the other. Understanding of topics presented was rated as very good at both sessions. Facilitation was assessed as good at one school the other school did not give a rating for this topic. Rating of the overall session was assessed as very good at one school and likewise no assessment of this area was given at the other school visited..

Feedback from Schools

- **Ketley Primary School** - The sessions on conflict resolution according to the facilitator was good in that there was a fair amount of participation.
- **Ascension CHS** - Even though the time allotted for this session on child abuse was very short students participated well. Students shared their experiences of boyfriends and girlfriends. One of the teachers disclosed that sometimes parents encourage their children to work as prostitutes.

NGOs/AGENCIES/ COMMUNITY OUTREACH/REGIONAL WORKSHOPS

NGO, Agencies, Community Outreach/ Regional Workshops	Region	Topic	Date	# of Persons		Age	Time	Pub Ed Officer
				F	M			
Nazarene Women's Group	6	Drug Abuse & DV	7 th April	28		18-20	3 hrs	Karen G.
Nazerene Women's Group	6	Sexual Abuse, HIV/AIDS	14 th April	18		19-55	3 hr	Karen G.
Republic Bank- Vreed-en-Hoop	3	Alcoholism & DV	15 th April	14	5	19-55	2 hr	Karen G.
Leguan Community	2	DV, DVA, Child Abuse, H&S Services	17 th April	74	79	16-55	6 hrs	Kevin M. Johnson O. Genevieve Linda H.
Republic Bank- Anna Regina	2	Alcohol & the Family	22 nd April	9	7	19-55	2 hrs	Karen G.
Ruimveldt Children's Aid Centre	4	DV, DVA, Child Abuse	25 th April	22	18		3 hrs	Kevin M.
Whyte Family	4		25 th April	2	2		1 hr	Julian H.
TOTAL				167	111		20	

NGOs/ AGENCIES/REGIONAL WORKSHOPS

During the month of April 2009 Help & Shelter public education officers facilitated six (6) awareness sessions of 1-6 hrs duration, focused on Drug Abuse and Domestic Violence, Sexual Abuse and

HIV/AIDS, Alcoholism and Domestic Violence, Domestic Violence the Domestic Violence Act, Child Abuse and the Services of Help & Shelter, Alcohol and the Family. A total of two hundred and seventy eight (278) persons, one hundred and sixty seven (167) females and one hundred and eleven (111) males benefited from the awareness sessions.

EVALUATION OF NGOS/AGENCIES/REGIONAL WORKSHOPS

NGO's	Evaluation	Excellent	Very Good	Good	Fair	No Response
Nazerene Women's Group, Republic Bank (Vreed-en-Hoop & Anna Regina), Ruimveldt Children's Aid Centre, Leguan Community,	How would you rate participation?	X 2 sessions (33%)	X 3 sessions (50%)	X 1 session (17%)		
“ “ “	Participants understanding of topics	X 3 sessions (50%)	X 2 sessions (33%)	X 1 session (17%)		
“ “ “	Facilitation of sessions	X 4 session (67%)	X 1 sessions (17%)	X 1 session (17%)		
“ “ “	Rating of overall sessions	X 4 sessions (67%)	X 1 sessions (17%)	X 1 session (17%)		

Evaluation of Awareness Sessions at NGOs/Agencies

Evaluation of six awareness sessions conducted with FBOs, NGOs etc, showed that participation was rated as excellent at two (2) of the sessions, very good at three (3) and good at one (1). Understanding of topics was rated excellent at three (3) sessions, very good at two (2) and good at one (1). Facilitation and the rating of the sessions overall were assessed as excellent at four (4), very good at one (1) and good at one (1).

Feedback from FBOs & NGOs

- **Church of the Nazarene, Women's Group, New Amsterdam, Berbice** - During session on sexual abuse and HIV/AIDS, concerns were raised by participants on what to do when husbands rape their wives and the use of prevention and protection method such as condoms if the husband doesn't agree to this. Four of the female participants disclosed being repeatedly sexually abused over a period of years, one woman said she had been sexually abused for 6 years, another for 10 years, another for 15 years and the other for 2 years. After the session two of the participants called about counselling services for themselves and their husbands. At the second session on drug abuse and domestic violence two of the participants asked about H&S Shelter services for battered women.
- **Republic Bank (Vreed-en Hoop)** - During this session participants raised issues on alcoholism as an addiction problem. Participants also shared their experiences about being able to quit drinking and being a child victim of abuse by an alcoholic father. Republic Bank (Essequibo) –Participants welcomed the information given on alcohol and the family and called for a rehab centre for substance abuse to be established in this region.
- **Leguan Community** - At Leguan a total of one hundred and fifty three (153) persons were reached at the following organizations - GPL, Legal Aid, Leguan Cottage Hospital, Rice Milling Co., Post Offices, Hindu Mandir, Muslim Mosque and the Police Stations. Brochures

and poster were distributed to all these organizations and the services available at H&S including referrals were discussed.

Some observations and responses from persons reached were as follows:

Child abuse is very prevalent on the island, particularly in the back dam area, this was disclosed by the head teacher of one school who express a desire to have persons work with the students as the issues affecting students are having a severe negative impact on their learning. Other residents disclosed an incident of sexual abuse where a grandfather was known to have been molesting his granddaughter. The H&S team were able to speak to this family, however, it was clear that even though the child was indeed assaulted she was very reluctant to speak as her female guardian tried to convince us that such things does not occur in their household and they are a happy family.

Another case brought to the attention of H&S involved a young lady who was raped as a teenager and became pregnant and to avoid trouble with the law the rapists proposed marriage and the couple were married. Now that the girl is over the age of 16 years, the age of consent, her rapist and husband is seeking a divorce. The girl is also being abuse physically and verbally by her husband. The young woman was told of possible options and encouraged to visit the legal aid office in the area or to visit H & S when in Georgetown for assistance and guidance.

Infidelity is also of interest, particularly for men, the men are complaining that when they are out working, their partners are entertaining other men in their homes, this was seconded by an elderly woman who claims that many times she is called upon to be mediator in many of these instances.

We also met with a number of families door to door, many of whom were very thankful for the gesture and the information received.

The police can be commended since they have in place a private room in which DV issues are dealt with, the community members also express gratitude in the way the police respond to such issues. It was also disclosed that the officers would often pick up the young men liming and lock them up until their parents turn up to collect them. Persons said that this has contributed to a big reduction in criminal activities in the area.

- **Ruimveldt Children’s Aid Centre** - Persons spoke of challenges they were having, however, these were not DV related, most of the persons at this centre had issues with their living situation and other health concerns. The youths were more interested in the information (brochures and posters) which they collected for their schools. Persons were also curious about TIPs, this was explained in some detail. Brochures were given out to all present.
- **The Whyte Family** - the facilitator reported that the family is responding well to counselling.

PRIVATE SECTOR/BUSINESSES

Business	Topic	Date	#of Persons		Age	Time	Pub Ed Officer
			F	M			
Sterling Products Ltd	Alcohol, HIV/AIDS	7 th April	2	4	19-35	1 hr	Karen G.
TOTAL			2	4		1 hr	

PRIVATE SECTOR/BUSINESSES

One private sector organization, Sterling Products Ltd, benefited from an awareness session on Alcohol, HIV/AIDS and Domestic Violence. A total of six persons, two (2) female employees and four (4) male employees benefited from this session, which lasted 1 hr.

EVALUATION OF PRIVATE SECTOR/BUSINESSES

NGO's	Evaluation	Excellent	Very Good	Good	Fair	No Response
Sterling Products Ltd.	How would you rate participation?		X 1 sessions			
“ “ “	Participants understanding of topics	X 1 sessions				
“ “ “	Facilitation of sessions	X 1 session				
“ “ “	Rating of overall sessions	X 1 sessions				

Evaluation of Awareness Session Private Sector Organization

- Evaluation of the session done showed that participation was rated as very good while understanding of topics, facilitation and the session overall were all rated as excellent.

Feedback from Private Sector Organizations

- Participants welcomed the information shared. One participant requested information on Alcoholics Anonymous and is now attending sessions. A further two participants who wanted to know their HIV status were referred for HIV counselling & testing.