

HELP & SHELTER

COUNSELLING, COUNSELLING TRAINING & ORGANISATIONAL CAPACITY BUILDING PROJECT

(Funded by CIDA's Gender Equality Program)

Narrative Report 5

Report by: Margaret Kertzious, Project Coordinator

Reporting period: 1st to 31st December 2009

Submission date: 26th February 2010

Project activities comprise:

1. The expansion of our counseling services originally to Moruca, Region 1 and Leguan, 3 (the latter changed to New Amsterdam, Berbice Region 6 in October 2009)
2. Building the organisational capacity of 2 Berbice-based NGOs, namely FACT and Comforting Hearts
3. Providing counseling training to the Essequibo Coast-based NGO, Hope for All at Suddie (completed)

Activities Report

Counselling in Moruca

The scheduled counseling activity was conducted by the counselor who did one-on-one interaction with a grand-father who needed the skills to cope with his 16 year old and two other granddaughters, since he believed that his son and his wife were not showing enough interest in the children's lives. Group counseling continued as individuals were not visiting the centre.

Counselling in New Amsterdam, Berbice, Region 6

Counselors saw 5 new clients: 4 adult females and 1 adult male. The 4 female cases were related to domestic violence and the one adult male case to depression. There were two referrals - one male and one female, to the police station and health centre respectively.

Building the organisational capacity of 2 Berbice-based NGOs, namely FACT and Comforting Hearts (1x3 days and 1x2 days workshops)

The last workshop was conducted with FACT organization on 8th and 9th December 2009 in Corriverton, Berbice, with 22 staff and volunteers as reflected on the register. The participants, who were presented with certificates at the closing ceremony, indicated how effective the training had been and the need for counselling training given the high levels of DV and suicides in their communities.

Monitoring & Evaluation

Analysis of completed forms was done by the M&E officers.

Project Management

Project personnel comprises three counselors, an accounting officer, joint M&E officers and the project coordinator.

The project coordinator made several visits to New Amsterdam to manage the counselling there and to advertise the service through a press release on Little Rock TV station.