

UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE APPLICATION FORM

NAME OF ORGANIZATION: Help & Shelter

NAME OF CONTACT PERSON: Margaret Kertzious

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LEGAL STATUS OF ORGANIZATION (attach proof of registration): Company limited by guarantee

PROJECT TITLE: Enhancing the awareness of gender-based violence and its effects through community-based awareness work

PROPOSED PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD: From 01/10/12 to 31/7/13

Instructions: *Please complete the attached log frame template.*

1. ORGANIZATION INFRASTRUCTURE, EXPERIENCE AND CAPACITY

Brief description of the organization submitting the application. (e.g.: date of establishment, mandate/objective, membership e.g. males/ females, activities involved in, source of funding, how often meetings are held, what experience does the organization have in GBV- include any previous work by the organization in this area, and existing resources like training materials, etc.)

Help & Shelter is a non-governmental organisation formed as a response to the high incidence of violence, alcoholism and poverty in Guyana, the increase in family instability and the lack of support for victims wishing to leave abusive situations and/or in need of counselling and crisis services.

Help & Shelter was registered as a non-for-profit company in November 1994 and the organisation was formally launched on 26 November 1995 (International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women).

The crisis service became operational in January 1996 in an office kindly provided by the Georgetown (now Guyana) Legal Aid Clinic. It relocated on 1 March 1997 to the bottom flat of a building in the then Ministry of Labour Compound on Homestretch Avenue, Georgetown, provided courtesy of the government.

The shelter for abused women and their children was built in 1999 with funding provided by the Basic Needs Trust Fund on land donated by the government. First opened in November 2000, the shelter was shut for 3 months in 2003 and from February 2004 to March 2006 due to the lack of funds. The re-opening on 7 March 2006 was made possible through an arrangement with the government for the shelter to be used as both a place of safety for victims of domestic violence and as a temporary home for female and under-14 male victims of trafficking in persons. The shelter is staffed by a manager, deputy manager and counsellor.

Help & Shelter has become a recognised leader in the fight against violence in Guyana, particularly in the areas of domestic and sexual violence and child abuse and has a strong

reputation for efficient management of and accountability for all funds received. We have received a national award (Medal of Service) in last year's national honours list. Although based in Georgetown, we are a national organisation in view of the extent of our outreach work and networking.

Since the crisis service opened, we have provided counselling and other support to over 9,000 clients, 86% of whom have been female and most them victims of physical violence. Through the counselling process, our clients are empowered to develop the necessary coping skills and build their confidence and self esteem so that they can rebuild their lives free from violence and the threat of violence.

In our public education work, we raise awareness of the issues of violence with a view to bringing about changes in attitudes and behaviours. Since November 1995, have directly reached over 30,000 people and tens of thousands more indirectly through our wide variety leaflets, posters and radio and television public service announcements.

Information about and past and current work, including annual reports and audited accounts, is available on our website – <http://www.hands.org.gy>.

A board of directors elected annually by the members (currently 11 female; 1 male) manages the affairs of Help & Shelter and meets at least once a month. Our current company membership stands at 69 and we have approximately 60 active volunteers (who may or may not be members of the company) (over 90% women in each case). We contract the services of counselling, public education, M&E, administrative and accounting personnel as are provided for by project and/or other funding.

Our Mission

Our mission is to contribute to bringing about a society where attitudes to the use of violence and practices of violence have been transformed.

Our Goals

1. To work to build respect for the rights of women, children, youth and men to live free of violence and threat of violence.
2. To assist women, children, youth and men to develop alternative ways of handling power and resolving conflict.
3. To widen options for victims of domestic violence.
4. To establish a resource base to ensure the sustainability of Help & Shelter.

Our Objectives

For Goal 1: To actively foster a high level of awareness among all sectors, both governmental and non-governmental, about the prevalence, causes and costs of violence, including violence in the home and in other personal relations, and about alternatives to the use of violence.

For Goal 2: To provide progressively enhanced counselling for women, children, youth and men who are the victims or perpetrators of violence.

For Goal 3: (1) To provide temporary (6 months) shelter for abused women and their children, with training that can develop psychological and practical skills needed for increased self-sufficiency.

(2) To contribute to improved legal recourse for victims of domestic, sexual and child abuse.

For Goal 4: (1) To work towards the economic self-support of the shelter.

(2) To develop and implement a well-articulated fundraising plan.

Ongoing Major Activities

- (i) Public education, advocacy and networking with like-minded individuals and groups, including men, youth and children/children's advocates organizing against violence;
- (ii) Provision of counseling services, including a 24-hour crisis hotline;
- (iii) Running the shelter for abused and trafficked women
- (iv) Lobbying for the strengthening of the relevant laws and implementation mechanisms where necessary; and
- (v) Fundraising

Help & Shelter's vast experience in GBV-related work, includes:

- (a) Project aimed at intensifying efforts directed at the implementation of the

- Domestic Violence Act through financing from the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) through the gender equality fund (CIDA/GEF); from September 2002 to March 2004.
- (b) Training of counselors, police and magistrates with specific reference to the Domestic Violence Act (DVA) supported by UNICEF and CIDA-GEF.
 - (c) Public education/advocacy outreach project supported by CIDA, which resulted in increased awareness of family violence as a problem and the demand for the services offered at Help & Shelter; from November 2004 to April 2006.
 - (d) Train the Trainers: Perpetrator Rehabilitation Project funded by the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM); from 2002 to 2005.
 - (e) UNICEF Peace Education Pilot Project in 3 communities (Beterverwagting, Lodge and Covent Garden) from 3rd July to 29th August 2004. As one of the coordinating agents we were responsible for targeting frontline workers (police officers, teachers, nurses and agricultural workers), health clinics and religious groups in the communities.
 - (f) UNICEF- research on Orphans & Vulnerable Children Project, December 2003 – April 2004.
 - (g) Canada – Caribbean Gender Equality Program project addressing domestic violence through advocacy, crisis counseling, court support, research, analysis and public education; November 2004 to April 2006.
 - (h) Training and advocacy on HIV/AIDS and Domestic Violence Projects funded by USAID/GHARP; July 2005 to September 2008; included the production of a training manual, counseling, referrals, public education and advocacy and working with in and out of school youths
 - (i) Increasing awareness of domestic violence and child abuse at health centres funded by the Canada Fund; 1 year from March 2007; G\$2,624,000
 - (j) Public education regional outreach program with forms 4 students funded by the British High Commission; April 2007 to July 2008; G\$3,710,000
 - (k) Reducing gender-based violence within selected communities pilot project funded by United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA); 6 months from October 2007; G\$1,600,000
 - (l) Ending domestic violence in Guyana's administrative regions- capacity building project with 3 NGOs funded by United Nations Fund for Women (UNIFEM); 1 year from August 2007; US\$19,932.00
 - (m) USAID/Guyana HIV/AIDS Reduction & Prevention Project (GHARP) 1 October 2008 to 30 September 2009; Prevention Community Outreach Program covering face-to-face, hotline and court support counseling and referrals; Prevention Program with the in school youth (ISY) in 3 identified schools (Cummings Lodge Secondary, Kingston Community High and St. John's College); Prevention A & B (Abstinence and Be-faithful) sessions with out of school youth (OSY) with youths from 3 communities in Region 4.
 - (n) Strengthening policy frameworks and social services, public education & advocacy to reduce gender-based violence project; funded by UNIFEM; 2 years from December 2007; US\$125,190.00
 - (o) Gender-based violence reduction capacity building project in 4 identified communities funded by World Women's Day of Prayer German Committee; 3 years from April 2008; €77,670
 - (p) Counselling training (Hope for All, Suddie); capacity building (FACT & Comforting Hearts, Berbice); counselling in Leguan and Moruca; G\$8,476,500; 6 months 15/7/09-15/1/10
 - (q) Community-based (Zeelugt & Hague) gender-based violence projects; UNFPA; 1/1/09-31/12/11

2. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The purpose of the proposed project is to enhance the awareness of gender-based violence and its effects by conducting awareness and training activities in two communities in Region 3, namely Stewartville and Uitvlugt, with primary and secondary school students, teachers, PTA members, out of school youth, members of FBOs, CBOs, youth and sports clubs, etc.

This will be achieved by: a series of 10 sessions of one hour each with 16 classes in 4 schools (one primary and one secondary in each of the two communities) with students in grade 6 at the primary level and form 4 at the secondary level; community awareness work with out of school youth, members of FBOs, CBOs, youth groups and sports clubs in the two identified communities; a two day peer educator training workshop for 32 students ; a two day peer educator training/facilitator workshop for 20 teachers and 4 PTA members and a two day community leaders workshop for 16 leaders from the 2 communities.

3. JUSTIFICATION OF NEED

In Guyana, gender issues contribute to the broader social, economic, and political problems. Women carry a disproportionate burden relative to men, in economic and social terms. Gender roles and relations powerfully influence the course and impact of gender-based violence and the HIV/AIDS epidemic. Gender-related factors shape the extent to which men, women, boys and girls are vulnerable in situations related to the social ills such as intimate partner relationships and HIV infection and the ways in which these ills affects them. Women's roles are socially defined as care-givers, wives, mothers and grandmothers which mean that they bear the greatest part of the care burden. They also bear the brunt of the problem in other ways too, since they are most likely to lose jobs, income and schooling.

The project is necessary in view of the continuing – indeed apparently increasing – high level of gender-based violence, that permeates Guyana at all socio-economic levels and among all ethnic groups.

Although a Domestic Violence Act was passed in 1996 and a National Policy on Domestic Violence adopted in 2008, domestic violence continues to be a leading cause of injury to females between the ages of 15-44. Domestic violence is mostly perpetrated by male partners or spouses towards women and is still all too often regarded as a cultural norm. A large number of children are also directly and indirectly exposed to and affected by domestic violence in the home. This leads to the perpetuation of a cycle of abuse, where children exposed to violence in the home are at far greater risk to themselves becoming perpetrators of abuse or victims of abuse as adults.

The overwhelming majority of sexual offences are gender-based. A 2005 Guyana Human Rights Association study on sexual violence in the criminal justice system in Guyana found that only 1% of rapes reported to the police resulted in convictions. This study also found that in 2007 92% of sexual assault victims were female, of whom 69% were girls aged 16 and younger. A new Sexual Offences Act was passed in 2010 but is yet to be fully implemented.

There have been three main studies conducted on violence against women in Guyana. The first study, by Seeprasad & Danns (1989), found that 2 out of 3 women in Guyana had been beaten at least once by their husband or partner.

The second, conducted by Red Thread in 2000 found that 1 out of every 3 women experienced some type of physical abuse with 21% of women experiencing this in their current relationship and 42% in a previous relationship. The third study, by Roxanne Myers (commissioned by the Ministry of Human Services & Social Security with assistance from UNFPA) in 2010, found that 3 in every 5 women reported lifetime experiences with physical violence by an intimate partner. and nearly 2 in every 5 women experienced one or more acts of violence within the past 12 months.

Over the past several years there has been an upsurge in the number of women killed as a result of domestic violence incidents in Guyana. Police figures released in late 2011 indicated

that 23 murders between 1 November 2010 and 31 October 2011 were ‘domestic related’ and that there had been a 21% increase in domestic related murders.

The project communities of Stewartville and Uitvlugt, with a shared multi-ethnic population of approximately 6,825 persons, would be exposed to many of the problems associated with GBV referred to in the above mentioned surveys. An informal assessment done of some of the issues affecting project communities indicates: high levels of unemployment particularly among young males, which leads to engagement in risky and delinquent behaviour; high levels of domestic violence, similar to that experienced in the nearby community of Hague which showed, through a 2008 Help & Shelter KAP survey, that 50% of women experienced physical abuse and 45% experienced emotional abuse in current intimate partner relationships; widespread alcohol and drug abuse which fuel gender-based violence and also lead to child abuse and neglect at the level of the family; poverty, large families, lack of jobs, under-employment and illiteracy, which are factors that affect truancy, relatively high school drop-out rates, particularly among males; teenage pregnancies and other social problems including suicide. Within the two project communities there are also a number of persons who are living with HIV.

Over the past 5 years, Help & Shelter has been engaged in community-based centred work towards the prevention and reduction of gender-based violence at the community level in 5 communities, 3 of which are located in Region 3 and some in close proximity to Stewartville and Uitvlugt. Our successful community-based approach includes not only raising awareness levels but also building the capacity of stakeholders to be active participants in GBV detection and prevention within their own communities and organizations. Such an approach is, we feel, an important investment not only towards safer and healthier communities but towards sustainability of the programme.

Additionally, our extensive experience in working with in school youth, including many schools in Region 3, has made us familiar with many of the challenges facing students. We recognize that working with young people, in particular students, is a key component towards changing harmful and destructive attitudes and behaviours. As such we place emphasis on equipping them to be agents of change in their respective peer groups, families and communities.

Against this background, there is a clear need for Help & Shelter to continue its work towards encouraging women and girls, boys and men to adopt a peaceful and healthy lifestyle through stimulating their awareness of the means of communicating in a non-violent way and of the issues that relate to gender-based violence

It is indisputable that women and girls subjected to or at risk of gender-based violence are at greater risk of HIV transmission.

Help & Shelter provides counselling, referral and shelter services to victims/survivors of gender-based violence and this project will perfectly complement those services.

4. PROJECT OBJECTIVES

- To increase knowledge and understanding of gender-based violence and the relationships between boys and girls, men and women, placing emphasis on male norms and behaviours
- To raise awareness of the relevant legislation and the roles and functions of existing agencies working towards the reduction of GBV
- To identify the linkages between GBV and HIV/AIDS and the effect of GBV on the spread of HIV/AIDS
- To encourage beneficiaries to adapt to non-violent behaviour and to encourage peaceful means of resolving conflicts and stimulating healthy life styles
- To build the capacity of students, teachers, PTA members and community leaders to raise awareness of and respond to GBV and to advocate for GBV prevention within their respective organisations and peer groups, thereby leading to the sustainability of GBV prevention and alleviation activities
- To introduce age-appropriate and culturally sensitive training and education materials

5. BENEFICIARIES

As indicated, the project will be conducted in the communities of Stewartville and Uitvlugt in Region 3.

Beneficiaries will be:

1. 200 male & female grade 6 primary school students (2 schools; 4 classes per school; average 25 students per class)
2. 200 male & female form 4 secondary school students (2 schools; 4 classes per school; average 25 students per class)
3. 20 male & female teachers (5 from each of 4 schools)
4. 4 male and female PTA members (one from each school)
5. 16 community leaders
6. Estimated 200 other beneficiaries, including out of school youth, members of FBOs, CBOs, youth and sports clubs and parents, including estimated 50 males

6. PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

We anticipate significant collaboration with community-based civil society partners, namely schools, PTAs, CBOs, FBOs, youth and sports clubs.

To achieve project objectives:

- To increase knowledge and understanding of gender-based violence and the relationships between boys and girls, men and women, placing emphasis on male norms and behaviours
 - (1) A series of 10 sessions of one hour each with 16 classes in 4 schools (one primary and one secondary in each of the two communities) with students in grade 6 at the primary level and form 4 at the secondary level
 - (2) Community awareness work with out of school youth, members of FBOs, CBOs, youth groups and sports clubs in the two identified communities
- To raise awareness of the roles and functions of existing agencies working towards the reduction of GBV.
 - (1) A series of 10 sessions of one hour each with 16 classes in 4 schools (one primary and one secondary in each of the two communities) with students in grade 6 at the primary level and form 4 at the secondary level
 - (2) Community awareness work with out of school youth, members of FBOs, CBOs, youth groups and sports clubs in the two identified communities
 - (3) A two day peer educator training workshop for 32 students
 - (4) A two day peer educator training/facilitator workshop for 20 teachers and 4 PTA members
 - (5) A two day community leaders workshop for 16 leaders from the 2 communities
- To identify the linkages between GBV and HIV/AIDS and the effect of GBV on the spread of HIV/AIDS.
 - (1) A series of 10 sessions of one hour each with 16 classes in 4 schools (one primary and one secondary in each of the two communities) with students in grade 6 at the primary level and form 4 at the secondary level
 - (2) Community awareness work with out of school youth, members of FBOs, CBOs, youth groups and sports clubs in the two identified communities
 - (3) A two day peer educator training workshop for 32 students
 - (4) A two day peer educator training/facilitator workshop for 20 teachers and 4 PTA members
 - (5) A two day community leaders workshop for 16 leaders from the 2 communities
- To encourage beneficiaries to adapt to non-violent behaviour and to encourage peaceful means of resolving conflicts and stimulating healthy life styles.

- (1) A series of 10 sessions of one hour each with 16 classes in 4 schools (one primary and one secondary in each of the two communities) with students in grade 6 at the primary level and form 4 at the secondary level
 - (2) Community awareness work with out of school youth, members of FBOs, CBOs, youth groups and sports clubs in the two identified communities
 - (3) A two day peer educator training workshop for 32 students
 - (4) A two day peer educator training/facilitator workshop for 20 teachers and 4 PTA members
 - (5) A two day community leaders workshop for 16 leaders from the 2 communities
- To build the capacity of students, teachers, PTA members and community leaders to raise awareness of and respond to GBV and to advocate for GBV prevention within their respective peer groups, thereby leading to the sustainability of GBV prevention and alleviation activities.
- (1) A two day peer educator training workshop for 32 students
 - (2) A two day peer educator training/facilitator workshop for 20 teachers and 4 PTA members.
 - (3) A two day community leaders workshop for 16 leaders from the 2 communities
- To introduce age-appropriate and culturally sensitive training and education materials
- (1) Development, production and dissemination of training and education materials covering relevant topic areas and placing emphasis on changing male norms and behaviours

For effective project implementation:

- (1) A two day training workshop for facilitators
- (2) Identifying and contracting community mobilisers (one for each community)
- (3) Community mapping and schools assessment
- (4) Reproduction and dissemination of relevant public education materials.
- (5) M&E of all project activities
- (6) Regular review of project activities by project management committee
- (7) Project coordination and administration

7. PROJECT TIMELINE

Activity	Start Date	End Date
2 day facilitating training	October 2012	October 2012
Introduction to communities by facilitators	October 2012	October 2012
Community mapping	October 2012	October 2012
Community work	October 2012	June 2013
Development, production and dissemination of training and education materials	October 2012	June 2013
Schools assessment (focus groups)	October 2012	October 2012
Programme delivery in schools	October 2012	June 2013
Peer educator training	March 2013	March 2013
Teachers/PTA workshop	April 2013	April 2013
Community leaders workshop	May 2013	May 2013

8. CHALLENGES

The following issues may affect the progress of the project:

1. Approval of the Ministry of Education to deliver the programme in schools – approval has been granted for previous actual and planned projects and it is anticipated that there will be no

problem in obtaining it for this project

2. Cooperation of schools' head teachers– we already have good relations with some of the head teachers do not foresee a problem is securing the cooperation of the others

4. Attendance of teachers and PTA members & community leaders at training – we are confident that the payment of travel expenses and a small stipend and the provision of lunch will ensure target attendance

3. Buy-in to the project from leaders of CBOs, FBOs etc.- given our previous experience with community-based work, we are confident that this will not pose a problem

4. The current political environment, which may lead to snap national elections

9. SUSTAINABILITY

The benefits of the project will be sustained through the capacity that will be built through the project activities that will enable beneficiaries to work towards the prevention and alleviation of and reduction in GBV in their organisations, peer groups and communities.

10. PROJECT MANAGEMENT

List the names and responsibilities of the key individuals to be involved in the implementation of the project.

Name	Responsibility
Margaret Kertzious	Project coordinator
Linda Hustler	Facilitator/peer educator/ community mobiliser
Ebeth McIntosh	Facilitator/peer educator/community mobiliser
Kevin Massiah	Facilitator/peer educator
Colin Marks	Facilitator/peer educator
Danuta Radzik	M&E officer
Donna Taylor	Accounting officer

11. PROJECT COST BREAKDOWN:

Organizations are required to provide a line item budget and narrative justification for all requested costs that are consistent with the goals, objectives, and proposed program activities.

Within the budget, include the following:

- a) A detailed line item budget and justification with the application (including labor, materials, travel and other expenses) and other sources of funding. See Table 1. Project Cost Breakdown by Funding Sources.

Table 1. Project Cost Breakdown by Funding Sources (in G\$)

	USAID Contribution	Organization Contribution		Third Party Contribution		Third Party Names	TOTAL
		Cash	In-kind	Cash	In-kind		
Labor	3,420,000						3,420,000
Materials/ Supplies	438,000						438,000
Travel Expenses	794,000						794,000
Other Lunches/snacks	270,000						270,000
New pub ed materials	700,000						700,000
Camera	60,000						60,000
Office space (10%)			140,000				147,000
Furniture & equipment (10%)			20,000				21,000
Voluntary services (directors & project management committee)			139,053				140,053
Total Budget	5,682,000		299,053				5,981,053

b) A line item breakdown and justification for all personnel (i.e., name, position title, actual annual salary, percentage of time and effort, and amount requested). See Table 2: Personnel Budget and Justification

Table 2: Personnel Budget and Justification:

Personnel Names	Position Title	Annual Fee (100%) G\$	Percentage of Time	Amount Requested (10 months) G\$
Margaret Kertzious	Coordinator	2,160,000	50%	900,000
Linda Hustler	Facilitator/peer educator/community mobiliser	960,000	70%	560,000
Ebeth McIntosh	Facilitator/peer educator/ community mobiliser	960,000	70%	560,000
Kevin Massiah	Facilitator/peer	960,000	50%	400,000

	educator			
Colin Marks	Facilitator/peer educator	960,000	50%	400,000
Danuta Radzik	M&E officer	1,440,000	25%	300,000
Donna Taylor	Accounting officer	1,440,000	25%	300,000

c) Please specify what the grant from the United States Agency for International Development will be used for. See Table 3. Project Cost Description.

Table 3: Project Cost Description:

Category	Description
Labor	Conduct of project activities: coordination & administration; training; facilitation; programme delivery; M&E; accounting; community mobilisation
Materials/Supplies	Purchase of stationery and other materials for workshops and programme delivery; reproduction of training manuals and public education materials
Travel Expenses	For facilitators for training, workshops, programme delivery; for trainees attending workshops and peer educator training
Other items (please specify)	Meals and snacks for facilitators and participants in training & workshops; stipends for participants in teacher/PTA and community leaders workshops; development and reproduction of new public education materials; administration fee

Name of person submitting application: Margaret Kertzious

Signature:

Designation: Coordinator

Date: 5 September 2012