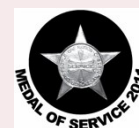


**A LIFE FREE OF VIOLENCE
IS EVERYBODY'S RIGHT**



HELP & SHELTER



2017 Annual Report

CHILDREN ARE NOT FOR UNSAFE TOUCHES

TOUCHING OF PRIVATE BODY PARTS, OTHER TYPES OF SEXUAL TOUCHES,
BEING FORCED TO TOUCH SOMEONE ELSE IN A SEXUAL WAY.



**YOUR BODY IS YOUR BODY AND IT BELONGS TO YOU. IF SOMEONE TOUCHES YOU
IN A SEXUAL WAY-SAY NO, GO TO A SAFE PLACE, TELL AN ADULT YOU TRUST**

SEXUAL ABUSE IS A CRIME AND MUST BE REPORTED



HELP & SHELTER
MINDA-CAREER-COUNSELOR-TEACHING-ASSISTANT-2013-2014

If you or someone you know is being abused contact; Help & Shelter at:
225-4731, 227-8353, 227-3654. Childcare & Protection
Agency at: **227-0979** or THE NEAREST POLICE STATION

With kind funding from United Nations Trust Fund



Services Offered

- **Face-to-face and hotline counselling**
- **In-court support to clients during legal proceedings**
- **Referral of clients**
- **Strengthening existing networking and developing new linkages**
- **Training & upgrading of volunteers**
- **Public education & advocacy**
- **Shelter for abused women & their children and female victims of human trafficking**

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HANDS ARE NOT FOR:

HITTING, SLAPPING, PUSHING, CUFFING, PULLING, PINCHING



HANDS ARE FOR:

WAVING, CLAPPING, WASHING, WRITING, DRAWING, HELPING, COUNTING, PLAYING, GREETING, PRAYING, PROTECTING



HELP & SHELTER
Francis Indoch Avenue, Georgetown, Guyana

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INTRODUCTION

Help & Shelter is a non-governmental organisation established in November 1994, that has become a recognized leader in the fight against violence in Guyana, particularly in the areas of domestic and sexual violence and child abuse.

We are a company limited by guarantee with charitable status. The members in a general meeting elect our board of directors annually and day-to-day operations are carried out by a combination of paid staff and volunteers.

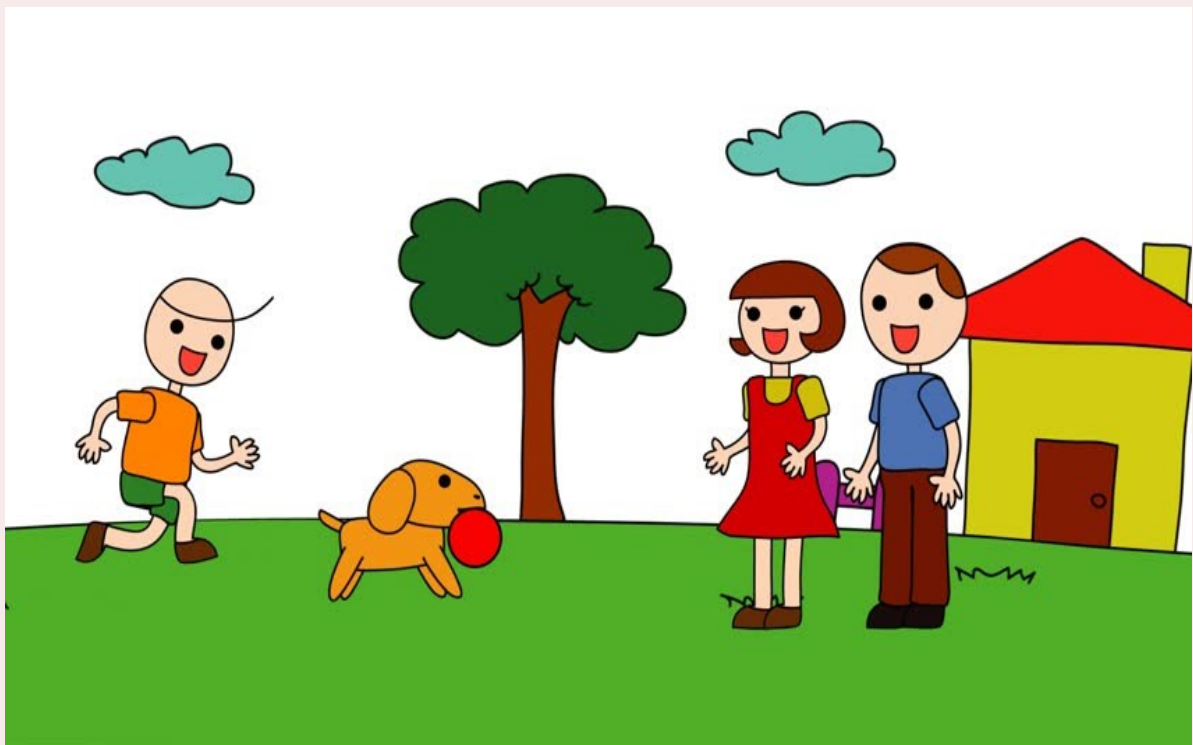
Our philosophy

We believe:

- that the culture of tolerance of violence must and can be changed through education
- that everyone is a unique and valuable person
- that everyone has the right to take control of their own life
- in equal human rights
- that no one has the right to be violent to another person

Our Mission

Our mission is to work towards the elimination of violence in all its forms by helping to create a society where attitudes to the use of violence and practices of violence have been transformed.



Our Board of Directors



Josephine Whitehead



Denise Dias



Gaitrie Shivsankar



Danuta Radzik



Colin Marks



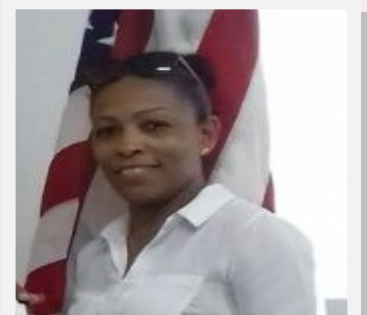
Desiree Ramdeen



Yvonne Quintin



Linda Hustler-Gray



Selina Lepps



Shondelle Branche



Kevin Massiah



Niveta Shivjatan

Our Chairperson's Remarks

Dear friends and supporters of Help & Shelter,

Despite long years of diminishing funds and endless challenges, the board, staff and volunteers of Help & Shelter continued to provide essential support services to survivors of domestic and sexual violence, child abuse and human trafficking.

However, during 2017 the doom and gloom that had hovered over our existence changed. Government thankfully increased our subvention, and together with an extremely successful fundraising effort, we were able to complete significant maintenance and repairs to our shelter for abused women and their children and victims of human trafficking.

I wish to take this opportunity to thank Mrs. Rosaura Holloway and her team from the U.S Embassy, the British High Commissioner, H.E Mr. Greg Quinn and his wife Mrs. Wendy Quinn, and the many individuals and businesses who have continued to support us. You have all made a critical difference.

Due to the lessened financial crisis, we begin our next fiscal year with a clearer vision for Help & Shelter. We hope to collaborate with partners throughout Guyana, strengthen our crisis intervention, public education and shelter services and will continue to assist our clients in transforming their lives.

None of the above is possible without the continued dedication of our staff, board members, and volunteers. Together you define our unswerving commitment to stopping the abuse.

I thank you all.



Denise Dias
Chairperson

MOUTHS ARE NOT FOR:

INSULTS, NAME CALLING, CURSING, THREATS, BULLYING,
SHAMING, TELLING LIES, TEASING, SEXUAL COMMENTS



MOUTHS ARE FOR:

KIND, RESPECTFUL, POSITIVE, TRUTHFUL WORDS & LANGUAGE



HELP & SHELTER
Huzarokrekh Area, Durgam Cheruvu, Gurgaon

If you or someone you know is being abused contact; Help & Shelter at:
225-4731, 227-8353, 227-3654, Childcare & Protection
Agency at: **227-0979** or THE NEAREST POLICE STATION

With kind funding from United Nations Trust Fund



Projects & Activities

Summary Report

UNICEF - Child Protection Project (Phase 3) October 2016-March 2017

Communities : Kwakwani / Stewartville / Uitvlugt / Good Hope

Project Funds : G\$5 million

General Objectives:

1. Training for community-level leaders (including faith-based leaders) with capacity to lead in the prevention of, and response to violence (especially sexual violence against children)
2. Signed CRC-friendly agreement outlining the faith-based organisations' (FBOs) stance in preventing, responding to, and reporting child sexual violence
3. Expanding community and national level awareness on local actions to reduce child sexual abuse through sensitisation campaigns and human interest stories
4. Providing counselling and psychosocial skills to community FBOs and stakeholders for stronger networking responses to violence against children and the family.

Synopsis of Phase 3

Help & Shelter completed Phase 3 of the Child Protection Project in March 2017. The previous phases of the project commenced in November 2014 and ended February 2016. In Phase 3 there was a change in the specific objectives of the project as stronger emphasis was placed on the faith-based organizations' engagement at the community level in citizens' response to child sexual abuse.

At the culmination of the project activities in March 2017, 14 FBOs across the 4 target communities signed a pledge to work to eliminate the scourge of child sexual abuse and to provide coordinated intervention to their members and the general community populations.

Significant Project Outcomes

- Parenting and public education forums for both parents and adults completed in all 4 target communities. 456 persons directly reached.
- Be-safe engagements for children directly reached 101 children of primary school age (grades 5 & 6)
- 24 teenage students benefitted from sensitization sessions on child abuse/child sexual abuse and 4 posters were created by this groups of students
- 121 children received counselling and psychosocial support
- 31 FBOs and community stakeholders were trained in core areas of child counselling, and identifying, reporting and responding to child sexual abuse/child abuse in the target communities
- Skills and competency training programs were launched in 2 of the target communities to support and build the capacity of girls who had dropped out of school due to pregnancy or who were victims of child sexual abuse, whose education and training was interrupted due to the trauma of abuse
- 14 faith-based groups signed the Pledge of Honour and Commitment to protect children from child sexual abuse and all other forms of abuse via active networking at the community level
- Faith-based leaders and community stakeholders received tools and skills to sustain a network of response, advocacy and support for child victims of abuse.
- Human interest stories were captured from all 4 target groups and provided the anecdotal backdrop for sustained and continuous work in the communities that benefitted from the project action
- The project commenced a roll-out of activities in another rural community nestled on an Amerindian reservation where there is need for extended work for safeguarding children from sexual and other forms of abuse
- Project team members were able to boost the confidence and resolve of community stakeholders to become proponents of child protection and family violence prevention as a key strategy for community development and enhanced safety
- The Information, Communication and technology materials produced by the project were used as teaching aids for discussions among class groups, at staff development sessions and at health centres within the target communities.
- Community members made reports and initiated referrals in a show of support for vulnerable families and individuals in the target communities.

Constraints

- Slow response from the child protection system which is managed by the Childcare & Protection Agency was a key gap, especially with regard to community confidence and access to justice for children and families who experienced abuse in the communities.
- Kwakwani and its riverain communities require an extended level of project intervention to maintain the level of buy-in and consensus achieved by the project strategy. This is key for long term success of the project outputs, which was able to break new ground in the community, especially with regard to some cultural mores that seemed to normalize child sexual activity.
- Law enforcement commitment was a front burner issue for the emerging community network, as many persons had reservations about the level of support given to child victims of violence and abuse. This, persons pointed out leads to reduced reporting and matters being settled outside of the law and with no regard to the child victims.

Follow-up

Help & Shelter continues to offer some limited counselling and referral support to all the communities that were beneficiaries of the project.



UNTF Project

A number of sessions were completed with some 48 teachers of Beterverwating secondary and primary schools and Mon Repos primary school.

Sensitization and creative arts sessions continued in the schools. 141 girls and 125 boys were reached through sensitization sessions and 45 students participated in peer education activities. Ninety-one students received counselling for various issues and 104 parents were engaged through PTA meetings.

Three new posters were created, reproduced and disseminated. The artwork for the posters was produced by the school students. A student booklet on school-related gender-based violence was also developed.

The project continues until January 2019.



Public Education

Apart from funded project work, the public education department continued to provide facilitation upon request to youth, community and faith-based groups, schools and PTAs, technical institutes and health centres.

Public education personnel participated in a diversity and inclusion workshop and social cohesion workshops organized by the Ministry of Social Cohesion and exhibitions organized by the government, NGOs and other agencies, where the work of Help & Shelter was discussed and information shared on gender-based violence and other related issues. Resource materials were shared with individuals and groups where necessary.

Help & Shelter afforded interviews to various print and electronic media personnel and assisted students of the University of Guyana and Institute for Distance and Continuing Education, local and overseas students, individuals and interest groups.



Our Men's Sessions Continued

In 2017, twenty two men were referred to the men's sessions. Those who attended were referred by the courts and in-house counsellors. Ninety-five per cent of the men attended three or more sessions and one individual attended all but two sessions between January to October.

During the year, the approach was to address the specific requirements of those attending the sessions. Participants displayed a fair level of accountability for their part in the issues/problems experienced and displayed a willingness to act differently. This was evidenced by the fact that persons who had previously participated visited during the year on their own accord to share experiences and for advice/suggestions on how to handle new situations that had arisen in their relationships.

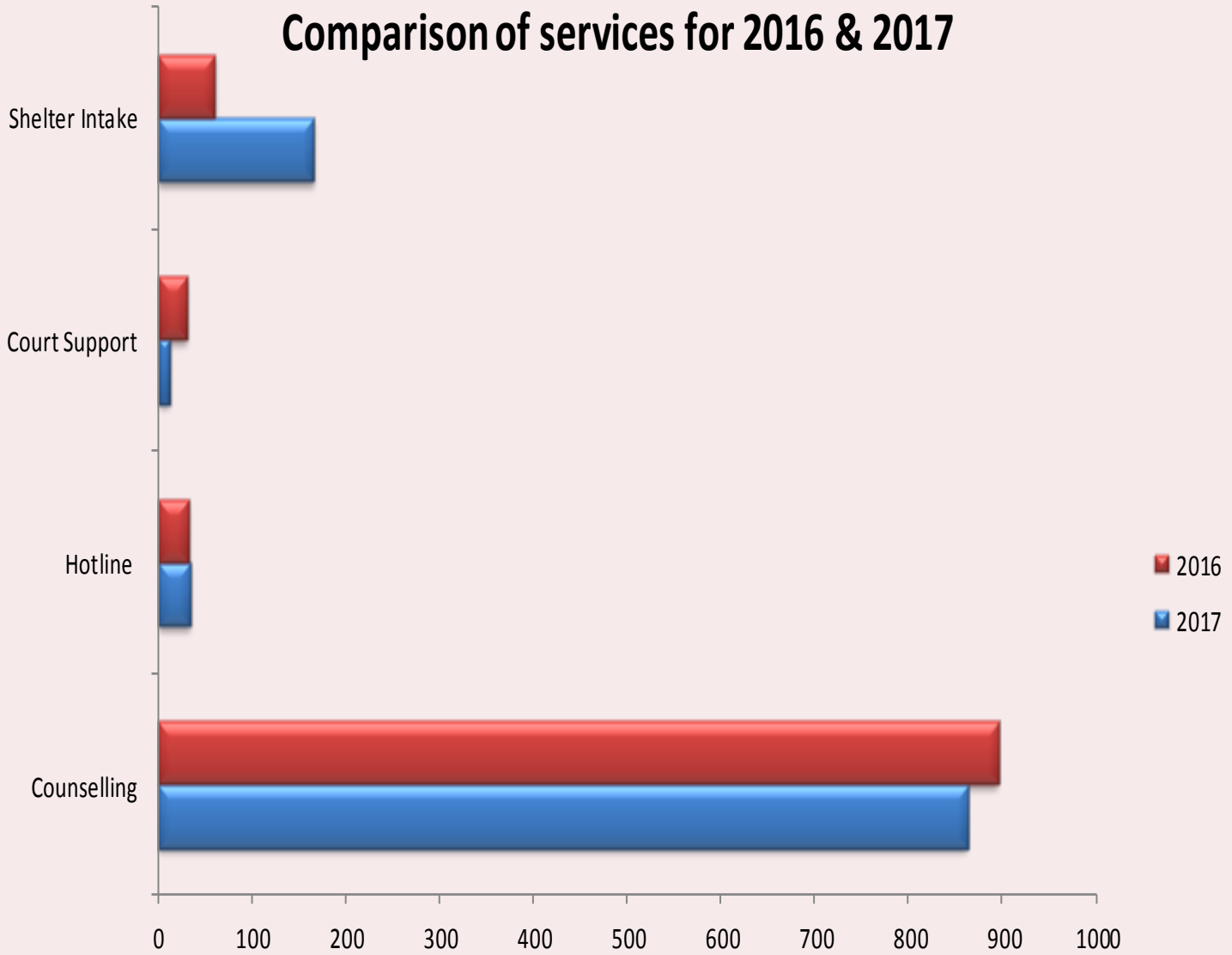
In addition to expressing their appreciation of the programme, participants said that they felt it was really necessary and should be expanded.

Apart from the usual implications that exist in abusive situations, the facilitators observed certain trends in the reported abuse cases, namely, that persons who had age differences of over seven years had greater difficulty connecting with each other in resolving conflict situations and that those with two or more children under thirteen years were more likely to be physically violent to their partners/spouses.

It was also observed that men are not addressing stressful situations effectively.

Sessions continue on Thursdays at 5:00 – 6:00 pm at the Help & Shelter board-room.

Comparison of services for 2016 & 2017



	Counselling	Hotline	Court Support	Shelter Intake
2016	895	32	30	60
2017	862	34	12	166

Axis Title

Our Shelter

Shelter operations continued to be supported by the government with a subvention.

The shelter managers continued to receive the advice and guidance of the shelter committee in the running of the shelter, and residents' evaluations continued to be administered with a view to improvements in shelter operations being made when necessary.

During 2017, 166 persons - 45 women and 121 children - were given refuge at the shelter. They were victims of domestic violence and their children and female victims trafficking in persons.

The length of stay ranged from 1 to 181 days.

Efforts continued to be made to keep expenses to a minimum by soliciting regular donations of foodstuffs and other supplies from private enterprises, planting fruits and vegetables in the garden and through the hydroponic project supported by Partners of the Americas. Small—scale poultry rearing was also continued with the aim of producing chickens and ducks for own use.

Shelter Activities

Residents continued to be encouraged to make use of the gym and the library and to participate in educational and skills training sessions conducted by volunteers and one shelter counsellor.



Our Finances

As is our strict policy and practice, we continued to maintain a high standard of financial transparency during 2017.

There were no substantial changes in fixed assets during 2017.

The increased government subvention of \$31.224 allowed us to breathe easily for perhaps the first time since our establishment in 1995. The subvention allowed us to continue to provide our core services at the crisis centre and the shelter, and for that we are extremely grateful.

We also continued to receive regular donations in cash and kind from a number of long-standing supporters and we remain as grateful as ever for this tangible expression of support.

Donation boxes placed in various supermarkets raised \$464,200, so kudos go to Desiree Ramdeen for her initiative and dedication in regularly checking the boxes.

The Italian dinner held on 3 November 2017 at the British High Commissioner's residence was our most successful fundraising event ever, bringing in nearly \$2.2 million from ticket sales, an auction and a lottery. Our sincere thanks to the British High Commissioner, His Excellency Mr. Greg Quinn, and Mrs. Wendy Quinn for opening their home to us, to Dominique Dias for the wonderful décor and to Beverley Harper for her inimitable conduct of the after-dinner events. Denise Dias, with the increasingly able assistance of Niveta Shivjatan, once again showed us all how an effective fundraising event should be organised and run.

We continued to look for donor-funded projects throughout the year and to submit proposals. No proposals had been successful by the end of the year but we were hopeful that some would come to fruition during 2018.

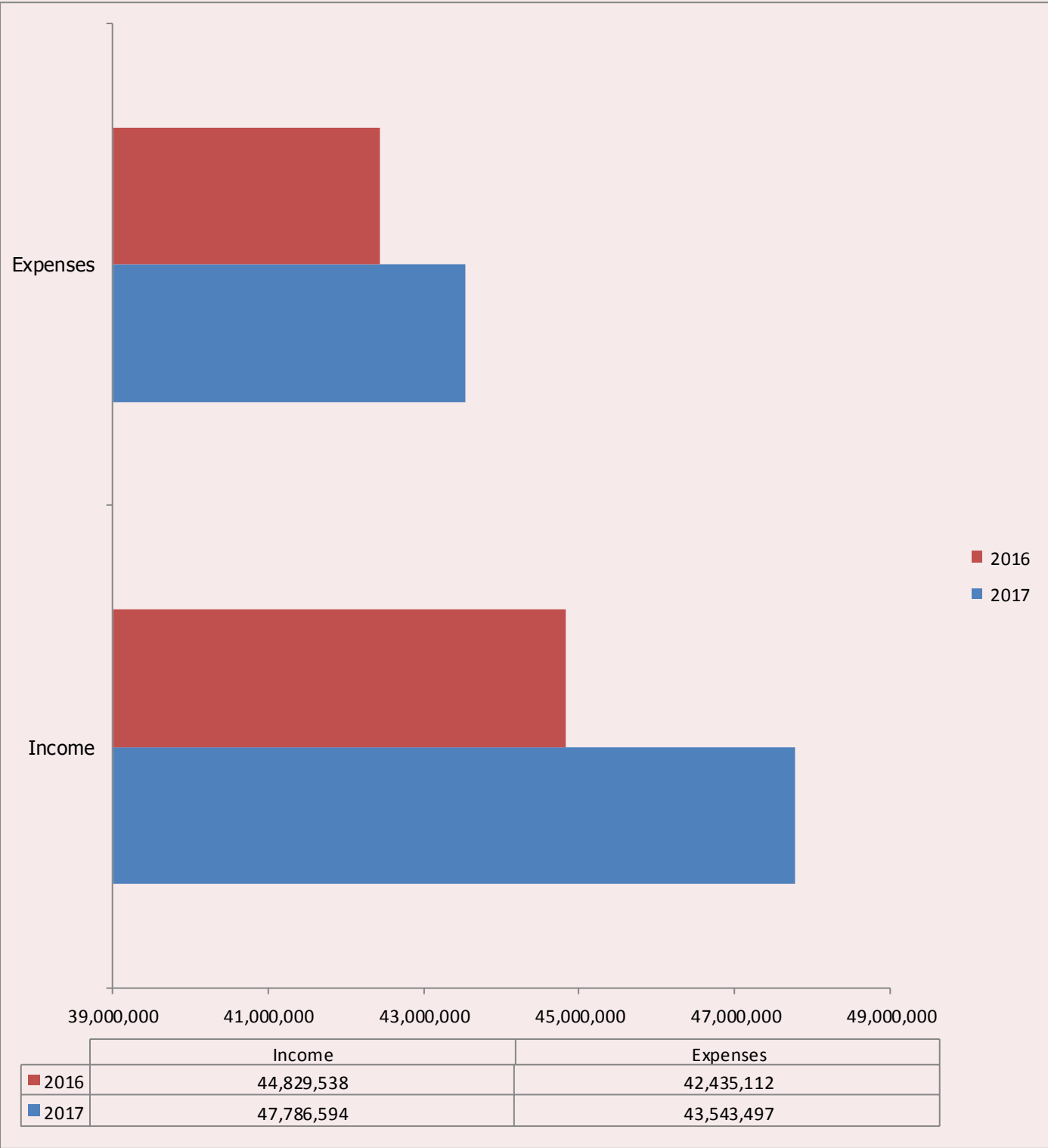
We were vastly relieved and happy to learn towards the end of the year that we would again receive a government subvention of \$31.224 million for 2018.

Our audited financial statements and auditors' report thereon are on pages 14 to 21

Our Statistics

As usual we kept our statistics on our website at <http://www.hands.org.gy/> regularly updated.

Comparison of Income and Expenses



Conclusion

While we greeted 2017 with a great sense of relief in that we would – thanks to our increased government subvention and ongoing support from many businesses and individuals – be able to maintain fully functional services at both the crisis service and the shelter, we recognised that despite all the efforts by ourselves and others, the task that continued to face us was as daunting as ever.

Tragically, but not unexpectedly, the levels of domestic and sexual violence and child abuse during 2017 remained as high as ever and required our unwavering commitment to do our utmost to both prevent violence and provide effective and high quality services to survivors.

At the end of the year, we looked forward to the arrival of 2 CUSO International volunteers, one to assist us in enhancing our counselling skills and the other to guide us in the development of a strategic plan. Particularly in relation to a strategic plan, the timing would be fortuitous as for the first time in our existence, we could think beyond being simply able to keep our crisis service and shelter doors open.

As ever, we extend our sincere thanks to all those who helped us in any way during 2017.

Help and Shelter Inc.
Statement of Financial Position
As at December 31, 2017
With comparative figures for 2016
(Expressed in Guyana dollars)

	Notes	<u>2017</u> \$	<u>2016</u> \$
ASSETS			
Current Assets			
Cash resources	3	14,842,091	15,091,210
Other assets	4	<u>497,000</u>	<u>135,000</u>
Working Capital		15,339,091	15,226,210
Property, plant and equipment	2	<u>69,708,209</u>	<u>69,551,143</u>
		<u>85,047,300</u>	<u>84,777,353</u>
REPRESENTED BY:			
General fund			
Balance - January 1		76,416,458	75,894,956
Transfer from other fund		(1,917,023)	(764,539)
Surplus		<u>5,351,482</u>	<u>1,286,041</u>
Balance - December 31		<u>79,850,917</u>	<u>76,416,458</u>
Other Funds			
Government Subvention		-	-
UK Project		77,737	318,799
UNTF		1,673,455	1,331,899
UNICEF		5,494	2,750,500
MOE		237	520,237
USAID		<u>2,373,277</u>	<u>2,373,277</u>
		<u>4,130,200</u>	<u>7,294,712</u>
Current liabilities			
Other payables		66,183	66,183
Loan		<u>1,000,000</u>	<u>1,000,000</u>
		1,066,183	1,066,183
		<u>85,047,300</u>	<u>84,777,353</u>

The accompanying notes form an integral part of these financial statements.

Help and Shelter Inc.
Statement of Income and Expenditure
For the year ended December 31, 2017
With comparative figures for 2016
(Expressed in Guyana dollars)

	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>
	\$	\$
Income:		
Grant income	5,723,615	17,733,132
Government subvention	31,223,636	10,000,000
Transfer from fund	5,081,535	6,691,902
Donations	2,996,930	4,468,042
Digicel shelter repairs	-	514,090
Other income	-	366,100
Fund raising dinner	2,055,475	4,159,180
Deed of covenant	500,000	400,000
Bank interest income	67,383	213,592
Volunteer's trust fund	138,020	283,500
	<u>47,786,594</u>	<u>44,829,538</u>
Deduct		
Expenditure:		
Employment costs	26,130,010	22,520,365
Stationery and office supplies	2,944,236	4,094,470
Meals and refreshments	3,187,295	3,757,820
Travel and transport	3,808,881	5,239,750
Mobilisation fees	260,000	605,000
Training materials	390,615	1,847,132
Telephone	855,110	786,656
Security	667,300	529,948
Insurance	198,260	324,442
Bank Charges	180,615	106,805
Fundraising expenses	122,812	1,309,210
Repairs and maintenance	3,689,978	2,421,899
	<u>42,435,112</u>	<u>43,543,497</u>
Surplus	<u>5,351,482</u>	<u>1,286,041</u>

The accompanying notes form an integral part of these financial statements.

Help and Shelter Inc.
Statement of Cash Flows
For the year ended December 31, 2017
With comparative figures for 2016
(Expressed in Guyana dollars)

	2017	2016
	\$	\$
Cash flows from operating activities		
Net surplus before taxation	5,351,482	1,286,041
Adjustments for:		
Working capital changes		
Transfer from general fund	(1,917,023)	(764,539)
Change in other payables	-	66,183
Change in other assets	<u>(362,000)</u>	<u>107,400</u>
Net cashflow from operating activities	<u>3,072,459</u>	<u>695,085</u>
Cash flows from investing activities		
Purchase of equipment	<u>(157,066)</u>	<u>(1,240,163)</u>
Net cash used in investing activities	<u>(157,066)</u>	<u>(1,240,163)</u>
Cash flow from financing activities		
Decrease in other funds	<u>(3,164,512)</u>	<u>(8,724,563)</u>
Net cash from financing activities	<u>(3,164,512)</u>	<u>(8,724,563)</u>
Net decrease in cash and cash equivalent	(249,119)	(9,269,641)
Cash and cash equivalent - January 1	<u>15,091,210</u>	<u>24,360,851</u>
Cash and cash equivalent - December 31	<u>14,842,091</u>	<u>15,091,210</u>
Comprised of:		
Cash at bank	<u>14,842,091</u>	<u>15,091,210</u>
	<u>14,842,091</u>	<u>15,091,210</u>

1.1 Incorporation

Help and Shelter was incorporated on November 24, 1994 under the Companies Act 89:01 as a company without share capital.

The principal activities of the company is the provision of social services. Funding for the company is derived primarily from annual government subvention and ongoing contributions from various funding agencies.

These financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis, under which the company is assumed to be able to realise its assets and discharge its liabilities in the normal course of operations. The company's ability to continue as a going concern is dependent upon its ability to secure funding to finance its current and future operations.

1.2 Significant accounting policies

(a) Basis of preparation

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards for Small and Medium Sized Entities (IFRS for SME's) issued by the International Accounting Standards Board. They are presented in Guyana Dollars, which is the functional currency.

These financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The preparation of financial statements in conformity with IFRS for SMEs requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosures of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and reported amounts of revenue and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed by on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which these estimates are revised, if the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods, if the revision affects both current and future periods.

These financial statements were authorised for issue by the Board of Directors on.....

(b) Property, plant and equipment

No depreciation is charged on property, plant and equipment since the company is a non-profit organisation.

(c) Income

Income is recognised on the cash basis.

Help and Shelter Inc.**Notes to Financial Statements**

As at December 31, 2017

(Expressed in Guyana dollars)

2.	Property, plant and equipment	Land	Buildings	Office furniture & equipment	Total
		\$	\$	\$	\$
Cost					
	January 1, 2017	3,500,000	54,250,000	11,801,143	69,551,143
	Additions	-	-	157,066	157,066
	December 31, 2017	<u>3,500,000</u>	<u>54,250,000</u>	<u>11,958,209</u>	<u>69,708,209</u>
Net Book values					
	December 31, 2017	<u>3,500,000</u>	<u>54,250,000</u>	<u>11,958,209</u>	<u>69,708,209</u>

3.	Cash resources	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>
		\$	\$
	Petty cash- Shelter Subvention	42,972	24,012
	H&S Current A/C # 651-741-1	77,737	318,799
	MOE Cash at Bank A/C -651-116-6 and Cash	237	520,237
	Unicef A/C 651-526-6	5,494	2,750,500
	H&S Current A/C # 653-128-9	862,801	546,533
	H&S BCM # 484-185-4	1,471,116	1,968,517
	Curr A/C 651-795-7	773,454	1,331,898
	NBS Save and Prosper A/C	11,608,281	7,630,714
	H & S BCM A/C - 484-185-4	-	-
		<u>14,842,091</u>	<u>15,091,210</u>

Help and Shelter Inc.

Notes to Financial Statements

As at December 31, 2017

(Expressed in Guyana dollars)

	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>
	\$	\$
4. Other receivables		
UK Project	345,000	-
MOE	30,000	-
Unicef	22,000	-
Staff Loan	<u>100,000</u>	<u>135,000</u>
	<u>497,000</u>	<u>135,000</u>

5. Loan

This represent a loan from one of the Directors of the company. There is no fixed repayment term and no interest is charged on this loan.

6. Financial Instruments

The company's financial instruments comprise of cash and bank balances, accounts receivable, accounts payable and accrued charges

(i) Credit Risk
Credit risk on the other recievables is limited as other receivables are shown net of provision of bad debts. Management believes that there is no additional risk beyond amounts provided for collection losses.

(ii) Liquidity Risk
Liquidity risk is the risk that the company is unable to meet its payment obligations associated with its financial liabilities when they fall due. Prudent liquidity risk managment implies maintaining sufficient cash and cash equivalents and availability of funds through an adequate amount of committed credit faciltites.

(ii) Fair values
The fair values of cash and bank balances, other receivables , accounts payable and accrued charges are not materially different from their carrying amounts.

Help and Shelter Inc.**Statement of Other Funds****For the year ended December 31, 2017****(Expressed in Guyana dollars)**

	Balance at 1/1/2017	Funds received during the year	Expenses paid during the year	Transfer	Balance at 31/12/2017
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Government Subvention	-	31,223,636	(32,853,659)	1,630,023	-
UK Project	318,799		(586,062)	345,000	77,737
MOE	520,237		(550,000)	30,000	237
UNTF Fund	1,331,899	5,723,615	(5,282,059)	(100,000)	1,673,455
Unicef	2,750,500		(2,757,006)	12,000	5,494
USAID	2,373,277	-	-		2,373,277
	<hr/>				
	7,294,712	36,947,251	(42,028,786)	1,917,023	4,130,200



Help & Shelter

Homestretch Avenue

Durban Park

Georgetown

Guyana

Tel: +592-225-4731

227-8353

Email: hands@networksgy.com

Web:

<http://www.hands.org.gy/>

Facebook:

[https://www.facebook.com/](https://www.facebook.com/handsgy/)

handsgy/

If you or someone you know is a victim of:

- ★ Domestic Violence
- ★ Child Abuse
- ★ Sexual Violence
- ★ Human Trafficking

Call our

24

**HOUR
HOTLINE**

227- 3454



HELP & SHELTER

or

225- 4731