

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

TV STATIONS

TV Station	Topic	Date	Time	Pub Ed Officer
Channel 102	Role of Fathers ,Substance Abuse, DV	12 th May	1 hr	Karen G.
	Role of Fathers (cont)	19 th May	1 hr	Karen G.
	Child Abuse	28 th May	1 hr	Karen G.
TOTAL			3 hrs	

Our outreach public education activities continued at Channel 102 in Georgetown. Topics discussed included the role of fathers, substance abuse & domestic violence and child abuse. Each of the programmes lasted an hour. During one of the programmes members of the public were invited to join in a picketing exercise to stop sexual violence against children and to have new sexual offences legislation passed as soon as possible. This picketing exercise forms part of ongoing activities of the Coalition to Stamp out Sexual Violence against Children.

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	Child Abuse & DV	4 th May	55	10	18-55+	1 hr	Genevieve P.
		DV, Entrapment, DVA	11 th May	60	14	18-55+	1 ½ hrs	Genevieve P
South Road	4	Domestic Violence	6 th May	10	1	19-55	40 min	Genevieve P
		Healthy Relationships	20 th May	11	1	19-35	50 min	Genevieve P
East La Penitence	4	Healthy/Unhealthy Relationships	19 th May	14		19-35	1 hr	Kevin M.
Melanie	4	Domestic Violence DVA	13 th May	127	3	19-55	1 hr	Kevin M.
Goed Fortuin	3	Distribution of Leaflets	27 th May					Genevieve P
TOTAL				277	29		6 hrs	

Health Centres

Five health centres were visited during the month, all in Region 4. During these visits a total of 7 awareness sessions lasting between 40 and 90 minutes were held on child abuse, domestic violence, entrapment, the Domestic Violence Act and healthy/unhealthy relationships. A total of 306 persons, 277 women and 29 men, between the ages of 18 and 55 benefited from these awareness sessions.

EVALUATION OF HEALTH CENTRES

Health Centres	Evaluation	Excellent	Very Good	Good	Fair
BV, East La Penitence, South Road, Melanie, Goed Fortuin	How would you rate participation?		X 2 session (33%)	X 4 sessions (67%)	
“ “ “	Participants understanding of topics		X 2 session (33%)	X 4 session (67%)	
“ “ “	Facilitation of sessions		X 2 session (33%)	X 4 session (67%)	
“ “ “	Rating of overall sessions		X 2 session (36%)	X 4 sessions (64%)	

Evaluation of Awareness Sessions at Health Centres

Evaluation of 6 of the sessions held at 5 health centres indicated that participation, understanding of topics presented, facilitation and the sessions overall were rated as very good at 2 of the sessions and good at 4 sessions.

Feedback from Health Centres

- BV Health Centre** - In discussing the topic of child abuse domestic violence and the recent case of a 17 year teenager who is charged with killing her step-father; participants were of the view that some women love their men more than their children and so condone the abuse their children suffer at the hands of their male partners or husbands. In discussing the case of the 17 year old charged with killing her step father, participants said that the 17 year old female teenager was abused by her step father and her mother encouraged this behaviour. Female participants felt that the mother should be jailed because even in death she continues to defend the man who abused her daughter and is not attempting to reconcile with her daughter.

Other experiences of domestic violence were also shared at the second awareness session held at this health centre. One young woman spoke of being severely beaten by her husband until she took the decision to leave her husband after being diagnosed with cancer. Another middle aged woman tearfully spoke of being subjected to all forms of domestic abuse from the age of 17 to 45 which was when her husband died. She also disclosed that her daughters were presently being brutalized by their husbands. The telephone numbers of Help & Shelter's Crisis Centre were given so she could pass them on to her daughters. On leaving the health centre the facilitator was approached by another young woman who had just come from the probation officer, she complained of being emotionally abused by both her husband and relatives. The abuse has forced her to sell at the market to maintain her children. She also said that her husband would never visit the probation office and her children are suffering as a result of all of this. The facilitator advised her to seek counselling at Help & Shelter.

- South Road HC** - Feedback from participants in discussing the topic of domestic violence identified the need for women to learn independence and empower themselves through seeking employment so they would be able to maintain their children and themselves. Other comments identified constant nagging of partners and husbands by women who then resort to violence. One young woman spoke of a friend whose husband ridicules her in front of his friends and who also encourages his friends to do the same to her. The husband also stopped his wife's family from visiting her and is reported to be on the

verge of a nervous breakdown. The facilitator advised the young woman to take her friend to Help & Shelter for counselling.

During the other awareness session the one male present spoke of women who are lazy and remain in abusive relationships even though resources and help are available to them. Such women allow men to dominate their lives. This man also expressed his disgust at some of the reasons women stay in relationships such as sex, children, clothes, alcohol etc.

- **East La Penitence HC** - During this session aspects of healthy relationships were discussed, participants were given handouts to guide them in understanding their relationships with their partners better and they were encouraged to work on personal issues within their relationships which may be unhealthy and also to seek counseling where necessary. Most women said they were in healthy relationships but after going through the handout changed their minds. Persons were also told not to just look at where their partners are wrong but to also examine their own behaviours, take responsibility for their actions and to know they have an equal responsibility to make changes in their relationships Participants were reminded that Help & Shelter counsels both males and females.
- **Melanie HC** - Participants were given information on DV and the benefits of using the Domestic Violence Act (DVA) All the various orders were explained in detail, how they can access the orders and who can benefit from the DVA. It was evident that many of the participants were glad for the information and requested Help & Shelter numbers since they explained that they have family members who may be able to benefit from our services. So far for the month, there have been thirteen (13) persons counselled as a result of being at the session or through referral from a relative/friend present.

The nurse in charge sought to have continuing sessions since she said she knows that many of the persons visiting the centre are abused but are ashamed/afraid to seek help, she said she often tries to convince them to seek help but does not succeed so she was really glad that they are receiving the info from Help & Shelter and that they are told of the help available to them.

- **Goed Fortuin HC** - There was not enough time for an awareness session to be done so the facilitators just spoke briefly to participants and distributed brochures. One young woman was identified as needing help, however, her husband who is controlling would not allow her to be spoken to privately since he held the view that she is illiterate and cannot speak for herself.

SCHOOLS

School	Region	Topic	Date	# of Persons		Age	Time	Pub Ed Officer
				F	M			
GTIC	4	Domestic Violence, Cycle of Abuse	4 th May	4	120	16-35	1 hr	Kevin M.
		Conflict Resolution	19 th May	4	104	18-35	1 hr	KM, JO, GP
		Dating /Healthy Relationships	25 th May	4	109	18-35	1 hr	KM, JO
Ascension CHS	4	Alcohol Abuse	8 th May	15	19	12-18	45 min	Johnson O.
		Teenage Pregnancy	15 th May	19		13-18	1 hr	Johnson O.
		Teenage Pregnancy	29 th May		27	12-18	1 hr	Johnson O.
Berbice High School (Parents)	6	Child Abuse & Drug Abuse	14 th May	20	10	36-55	1 hr	Karen G.
Greenwich Park	3	Rape & Child Sexual	21 st May	43	79	19-	2 hr	KM, JO, GP

Primary PTA		Abuse				55+		
Ketley Primary	4	Communication	25 th May	13	12	4-12	1 hr	Julian H.
TOTAL				122	480		9 hrs 45 min	

Schools

Four schools were visited during the month. 450 students, 59 females and 391 males from one primary school, one community high school (CHS) and one technical school (the Government Industrial Training Centre), benefited from awareness sessions on domestic violence, teenage pregnancy, conflict resolution, dating/healthy & unhealthy relationships, alcohol abuse and communication. A total of 172 parents and teachers from 2 schools (63 females and 89 males) also benefited from awareness sessions on child abuse, drug abuse and rape & sexual abuse of children.

EVALUATION OF SCHOOLS

Schools	Evaluation	Excellent	Very Good	Good	Fair	Poor
Ketley Primary, Ascension CHS, Berbice HS, Greenwich Park Primary, GTIC	How would you rate participation?	X 1 session (11%)	X 5 sessions (56%)	X 3 session (33%)		
“ “ “	Participants understanding of topics	X 1 session (11%)	X 5 sessions (56%)	X 3 session (33%)		
“ “ “	Facilitation of sessions	X 1 session (11%)	X 5 sessions (56%)	X 3 session (33%)		
“ “ “	Rating of overall sessions	X 1 session (11%)	X 5 session (56%)	X 3 sessions (33%)		

Evaluation of Awareness Sessions at Schools

At the 9 sessions evaluated at schools visited during this month, participation, understanding of topics, facilitation and overall rating of the session was assessed as excellent at one session very good at five sessions and good at three sessions.

Feedback from Schools

- **GTIC** - During the first awareness session participants were divided into 4 groups and given tasks to do-these were to identify the causes of teenage pregnancy the effects, consequences and measures taken to reduce, or curb teenage pregnancy.

During the second session, facilitators covered the different forms of conflict resolution. It was evident from the responses received that about 87% of the participants resort to using violence or fighting to resolve conflicts. The young men claimed it was very difficult for them to walk away from disagreements since this is often taken as a sign of weakness and opens oneself to be taken future advantage of such as teasing or humiliation from peers. Participants were given alternatives for dealing with conflict and even though they personally felt it was a long process, many agreed to try these methods when dealing with conflicts in the future. Students were given examples of the results of dealing with conflict in violent ways and how this can affect them and others for their entire lifetime.

At the third session students participated very well in the discussions on dating and healthy relationships. Some views expressed included having both persons agree on the period dating would last for.

Some students felt it was OK to lie to their partners either to protect them or because that may be the only way to make them stay with them.

Students felt that sex cannot be avoided during dating.

It was said that older women are paying young boys to have sex with them: the young men believed that they are using the women and don't see it as a form of abuse of them.

Some students felt that their likes and dislikes should be shared by their partner as otherwise this could create problems.

Students were given a handout on healthy relationships and urge to read and share with others.

- **Ascension CHS** - Issues discussed included-what is alcohol, if they had friends drinking alcohol, if they themselves drink alcohol, what quantity, whether they enjoy it, why they enjoy it and the effects of alcohol.

Students identified the different types of alcohol, distilled and home made. About 15 students testified that their friends drink alcohol and the majority of students confessed to drinking alcohol themselves. Responses from students to the quantity of alcohol consumed were "just a small glass", "one shot", while others failed to disclose the quantity they consumed. Those consuming alcohol said that they enjoy sipping it because it makes them feel good, some take it in the company of their friends while others said they drink when they are stressed and this helps them to clear their minds. Some students said the alcohol causes them to sleep for hours; they are often drowsy and even cause them to do bad things and become physically unsteady on their feet. Other effects of alcohol identified by students were- use of indecent language, violence, drowsiness, poor judgement, sickness and headaches, vomiting, shakiness, skin problems, liver and brain damage and loss of memory. At the end of the session the students were invited to visit H & S for counselling especially those who are consuming alcohol. When asked if they would give up drinking alcohol just a few students put up their hands while most just kept quiet.

During the second awareness session on teenage pregnancy, girls were asked if they have boyfriends and were having sex. Some confessed to being sexually active while others denied being sexually active. However almost everyone admitted to having boyfriends. Some admitted to taking pills to prevent pregnancy. Participants were divided into 2 groups with each group being given the task of discussing the effects of Teenage Pregnancy on girls. Responses included physical symptoms such as- morning sickness, body changes including breast enlargement, belly pain, missing monthly periods- psychological/emotional effects such as- your life is ruined, feeling ashamed, being embarrassed, dropping out of school, needing to find a job-health effects such as- contracting HIV, transferring HIV to the baby. Participants were told that during this period of their life as students they should concentrate on their studies instead of boyfriend/girlfriend relationships. The consequences of teenage pregnancy were stressed such as the risk of contracting a STI and or HIV and having their academic life being disrupted. The risk of exposure to HIV when having sex with only one person or failing to use a condom just once was also clarified for students.

At the third awareness session for male students it was noted that participation was good and students were commended for sharing their views and experiences so openly. Out of a total of 27 students 56% admitted they had girlfriends, 48% disclosed that they were sexually active and only 30% of those who were sexually active reported using condoms. 19% of students said they were still virgins as of the 29th

of May 2009, 11% said they were sure that they would marry their girlfriend while 22% were not sure they would marry the girls they are dating and 30% admitted having more than 1 girlfriend, In addition 41% of students were of the view that their parents would assist them if their girlfriend got pregnant by mistake, 26% of students also confirmed that their parents knew that they have girlfriends and were not against this. Only one student admitted that his parents did not have the means to take care or financially support a baby if his girlfriend got pregnant and wanted to keep the baby. The other students were not sure of what to do if such a situation arose. None of the 27 male students felt they were ready to be a father or wanted to be a father when this question was asked of them.

When asked about their HIV status, only 3 students knew their blood group and none of the students had ever had an HIV test done. None of the male students said they had attempted to abort a pregnancy and all of them agreed that teenage pregnancy is a big problem in Guyana. Students were asked to identify ways to prevent teenage pregnancy and identified the following:

- Use condoms
- Be faithful to one partner
- Abstinence
- Get tested for HIV
- Parents should talk to their daughters about the risks of teenage pregnancy
- School counselling

Students also identified some of the dangers of sex as being contracting syphilis, STDs, HIV, gonorrhoea

- **Berbice HS** - This session was facilitated for parents of Form 3 students. Participation was excellent on the part of parents they asked many questions including questions on the beating of children in school and the influence of alcohol and drugs on students. A request was made for a workshop to be held to address these topics.
- **Greenwich Park Primary** - At this session for the PTA, teachers continuously requested alternatives for corporal punishment as they complained that they are seeing increasing difficulties being manifested in students and need solutions to address these problems. Many of the difficulties children were experiencing were based in the home and the recommendation was for increased teacher/parent collaboration since only through this means can the problems be effectively dealt with. Teachers shared some of the problems affecting their students such as the case of a 9 year old child being sexually active, and students attempting suicide among other issues.

It was clear that they are many stipulations with regards to how much help teachers can give if they suspect abuse of a child

Teachers were advised to invite H&S to their PTA meetings so parents can benefit from the information and for teachers to be able to discuss their difficulties with the parents and find solutions.

NGO/AGENCIES/ COMMUNITY OUTREACH/REGIONAL WORKSHOPS

NGO, Agencies, Community Outreach/ Regional Workshops	Region	Topic	Date	# of Persons		Age	Time	Pub Ed Officer
				F	M			
Republic Bank -Linden	10	Alcohol & the Family-HIV/AIDS, DV	6 th May	16	8	19-55	2 hrs	Karen G.
		Alcohol Abuse	20 th May	15	7	19-55	2 hrs	Karen G.

Region 3 Workshop- Wales Comm. Centre	3	Self, Gender, DV, Child Abuse, DVA, SOA etc	13-14 th May	6	6	19-55+	2 days	Karen G. Kevin M. Margaret K.
Republic Bank- Georgetown	4	Alcohol & You	13 th May	18	5	19-55	2 hr	Karen G.
Republic Bank-New Amsterdam, Berbice	6		14 th May	10	1		1 hrs	Karen G
Obama Youth Group	4	Domestic Violence	23 rd May	17	10	18-35	1 ½ hrs	Kevin M Johnson O.
Ms Guyana Renaissance Pageant	4	Domestic Violence	28 th May	10		19-55	2 hrs	Karen G.
TOTAL				92	37		2 days 10 ½ hrs	

NGO/AGENCIES/REGIONAL WORKSHOPS

During the month Help & Shelter public education officers facilitated 6 awareness sessions of 1-2 hrs duration, focused on alcohol & the family, HIV/AIDS and domestic violence. A total of 129 persons (92 females and 37 males) benefited from the sessions.

EVALUATION OF NGO/AGENCIES/REGIONAL WORKSHOPS

NGO/Agency	Evaluation	Excellent	Very Good	Good	Fair	No Response
Republic Bank (Georgetown, Linden & New Amsterdam), Obama Youth Group, Ms Guyana Renaissance Pageant	How would you rate participation?	X 5 sessions (83%)	X 1 sessions (17%)			
“ “ “	Participants understanding of topics	X 4 sessions (67%)	X 2 sessions (33%)			
“ “ “	Facilitation of sessions	X 4 session (67%)	X 2 sessions (33%)			
“ “ “	Rating of overall sessions	X 4 sessions (67%)	X 2 sessions (33%)			

Evaluation of Awareness Sessions with NGOs/Agencies

Evaluation of 6 awareness sessions conducted with NGOs, businesses etc, showed that participation was rated as excellent at 5 of the sessions and very good at 1 session. Understanding of topics, facilitation and the rating of the sessions overall were similarly rated excellent at 4 sessions and very good at 2.

Feedback from Awareness Sessions with NGOs/Agencies

- **Republic Bank (Linden)** - Participants welcomed the information on alcohol and the family. One participant shared her experience with domestic violence at the hands of an alcoholic husband. Referrals were made to AA meetings in Berbice. Participants requested additional sessions.

At the second session participants asked many questions about alcohol, helping the alcoholic and help for the family of an alcoholic. One family is presently seeking counselling from the Transitional House and H&S for alcoholism as a result of these sessions.

- **Republic Bank (Georgetown)** – Participants were very outspoken on the topic of HIV/AIDS and alcohol. After the session one participant followed up with a phone call to the facilitator requesting additional information on a rehab centre for a family member.
- **Obama Youth Group** - Participation was very good: participants shared their views, asked questions and even objected when they did not agree with some things. During the session participants were given information in relation to what is DV, forms, causes, possible prevention methods and the cycle of violence etc. The group organizer sought collaboration between the two groups. He thinks the information received will benefit the membership of the groups given their backgrounds and present circumstances.
- **Region 3 Workshop, Wales Community Centre** - Even though the numbers were relatively small the facilitators welcomed the full participation of all those present even though for 6 participants, this was their first workshop. Each of the participants also represented different areas/communities in the region. Participants were encouraged to share the information received with their friends, loved ones and others.

The human resource department of Guyana Sugar Corporation’s Wales Estate requested that H&S conduct a session with the staff and Mr. Nolan Chetram, Health & Safety Officer, asked that sessions be done with the policing Group in Region 3.

(Please see separate workshop evaluation report for more details of the workshop)

PRIVATE SECTOR ORGANISATIONS

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 ORGANISATIONS

One private sector organisation, Sterling Products Ltd, benefited from one awareness session on alcohol, HIV/AIDS and domestic violence. 6 employees (2 females and 4 males) benefited from this session which lasted for an hour.

EVALUATION OF PRIVATE SECTOR ORGANISATIONS

Business	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 Organisation

- 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 Organisation

- 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.
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