

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

TV STATIONS

TV Station	Topic	Date	Time	Pub Ed Officer
Channel 102	What Parents Should know about Addiction and DV	16 th June	1 hr	Karen G.
TOTAL			1 hrs	

Our outreach public education activities continued at Channel 102 in Georgetown. There was one hour long programme on the topic –What Parents Should Know About Addiction and Domestic Violence aired this month. Four hot line calls were received by Help & Shelter counsellors as a result of the airing of this programme.

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			
La Grange Health Centre	4	Teenage Pregnancy, DV, Sexual Abuse	2 nd June	23		18-55	1 hr 20 min	Genevieve P.
		DV and Sexual Abuse	8 th June	24	3	19-55	1 hr 15 min	Genevieve P
		Healthy/Unhealthy Relationships	9 th June	12	4	19-55+	1hr 25min	Genevieve P
		Parenting	15 th June	47	3	18-55+	1 ½ hrs	Genevieve P
		DV & DVA	16 th June	29		19-55	55 min	Genevieve P
		DV	29 th June	5		18-55	45 min	“ “
East La Penitence	4	Sexual Abuse	2 nd June	14		18-55	1 hr	Kevin M. “ “
		Effective Discipline	9 th June	13		19-35	1 hr	
Mocha	4	Assertiveness	3 rd June	21		18-35	1 hr	Johnson O.
		Smoking	10 th June	19		18-35	1 hr	Johnson O.
		Economic Abuse	17 th June	5	2	18-35	1 hr	“ “
			19 th June	23	4	18-35	1 hr	“ “
David Rose	4	Forms of DV	15 th June	34		18-55	1 hr	Johnson O.
Albuoystown	4	Domestic Violence	15 th June	15		18-35	1 hr	Johnson O.
Leonora Hospital	3	Domestic Violence	19 th June	25	9	18-55	1 hr	Johnson O. Genevieve P.

		DV & DVA	26 th June	38	8	18-55	40 min	“ “
TOTAL				364	35		18 hrs	

Health Centres

Five (5) health centres were visited during the month in Region 4 and one (1) hospital in Region 3. During these visits a total of 17 awareness sessions lasting between 1 ½ hrs - 45 minutes were held on teenage pregnancy, sexual abuse, domestic violence, healthy/unhealthy relationships, parenting, DVA, effective discipline for children, assertiveness, and economic abuse. A total of 399 persons, 364 women and 35 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	Poor	No Response
La Grange, East La Penitence, Mocha, David Rose, Albuoystown, Leonora Hospital	How would you rate participation?	X 2 sessions (12%)	X 8 session (47%)	X 2 sessions (12%)	X 4 sessions (24%)	X 1 session (6%)	
“ “	Participants understanding of topics	X 1 session (6%)	X 9 session (53%)	X 6 session (35%)	X 1 session (6%)		
“ “ “	Facilitation of sessions		X 3 session (18%)	X 10 session (59%)			X 4 sessions (24%)
“ “	Rating of overall sessions	X 1 session (%)	X 9 session (%)	X 7 sessions (%)			

Evaluation of Awareness Sessions at Health Centres

Evaluation of 17 of the sessions conducted at 5 health centres and 1 hospital indicated that participation was excellent at 2 of the sessions, very good at 8, good at 2 and poor at one session. Understanding of topics presented was rated as excellent at 1 session, very good at 9, good at 6 and fair at one session. Facilitation was rated as very good at three sessions and good at 10, there was no response to this question at four of the sessions. The overall rating of the sessions was assessed as excellent at 1 session, very good at 9 sessions and good at 7 sessions.

Feedback from Health Centres

- **La Penitence HC** - Session was very good. After the session a parent who had an issue in which her daughter is a victim approached the facilitator and was referred to H & S for counselling.

At the second session participants responded well to the information presented and were able to learn of alternatives to beating children. Parents confessed that many times they punish children causing them physical harm or say hurtful things to their children, in many cases they recognized that their behaviour is a result of their personal problems and has absolutely nothing to do with the child/children's behaviour. This issue was discussed in depth to show parents the negative impact of this on the individual child as he/she grows older. The exercising of control over a child because of the power one has as a parent was also discussed. Participants also examined how their treatment of children contributes to the DV issues in our society.

At the end of the session, there was a sense that some change was forthcoming as persons claimed they have never before seen it in this light. Participants were encouraged to use non violent ways to discipline their children and also to not expose their children to violence. They were also encouraged if they are having difficulties with their children or partners or spouses to visit H & S or call the hotline for help.

- **Mocha HC** – Four awareness sessions were held at this health centre this month. At the first sessions the topic of assertiveness was discussed including the differences between aggressive behaviour and assertive behaviour, situations in which assertiveness skills could be used or applied and some of the pitfalls of failing to use assertiveness skills.

At the second session the issue of economic abuse was discussed. Not many persons were present due to extremely heavy rainfall. In discussing economic abuse one woman who is married spoke about her situation in which her husband refuses to assume any financial responsibility or financial decision making despite the fact that he is working. She complained that this situation has been going on for 2 years. She has not reported this situation to anyone in authority and says she does not see the need to and does not mind making all the financial decisions. She did say that she has spoken to her husband about this but there has been no change. The facilitator encouraged her and any others to visit Help & Shelter for counselling if they are experiencing any form of abuse.

At the awareness session on domestic violence participation by the 4 men present was very encouraging. Aspects of domestic violence were discussed and all participants responded well.

- **La Grange HC** – A total of 7 awareness sessions were held at this health centre for the month. At the first session on teenage pregnancy, domestic violence and sexual abuse, a mother disclosed that she was distraught as her son drinks alcohol and beats his wife. Her husband and other family members have made several attempts to intervene but the boy attacks them. She said she is married for 35 years and has never exposed her children to violence. They are thinking of notifying the police the next time a domestic violence incident occurs. In another case a pregnant teenager claimed her mother's lack of attention and supervision is the reason she became sexually active. She said her mother left their abusive father and he refused to maintain them, as a consequence her mother was forced to work long hours to provide for them (3 children). She (teenager) said she needed someone to show her love which her boyfriend did. She plans to love and spoil her baby, parenting skills, in her opinion, her mother did not possess

During discussion on domestic violence and sexual abuse at the second sessions held, a male participant said there should be consideration and education for males in domestic violence situations, he said his neighbour's wife abuses him (all forms) and her lover visits the home too. He wanted immediate intervention and was appealing for me to visit the home. He said he is afraid the situation may become tragic. In another incident a young female participant spoke of her friend who is an alcoholic and whose husband who also drinks beats the young woman, allows his friends to sleep with her and takes money and gifts from his friend for this exploitation. The participant said she is exploited by the villagers too. She was referred to GPHC drug rehab section.

At the third session, the mother of a 17 year old spoke of her daughter's disobedience. The child left her mother's home and married an unemployed young man who gambles and abuses her. The neighbours assisted her to escape. The mother has discovered her daughter is pregnant, is very sad and depressed and seems suicidal. She was referred to Help & Shelter's crisis centre. In another case disclosed, an aunt said her niece seems to have an agenda to break up homes and engage in prostituting, the aunt feels the child's mother is condoning the behaviour because she thinks God sent her daughter to make the best use of her "treasure". The aunt is however worried and appealing for help. She was referred to the crisis centre.

At the session on parenting and step-parents most of the participants shared their experiences growing up with step parents. It was very emotional. A young woman said her stepfather abused her and she told her mother who never believed her. She said the man's biological daughter told her mother too, but she trusted her man and said he was not capable of such monstrous acts. She said she hates her mom for allowing her man to destroy her life. Another male participant said the abuse he suffered at the hands of his stepfather caused him to delay fatherhood and prepare himself mentally and financially so that he would not leave his children in hands of a stepfather or step mother. Another young woman said her stepmother has not spoken to her since the day she married her dad, the young woman said she is the only child for her father and her stepmother is jealous of their relationship.

In discussing domestic violence and the DVA, women asked a lot of questions, they were curious about the shelter, where it is, how long they were permitted to stay, is there school for their children to attend and are we sure that someone from the organization would not disclose their location Questions were answered based on the facilitator knowledge.

At the fifth awareness session held at this health centre the discussion was based on the recent case in which a teenager was killed by her boyfriend. They were just 5 mothers present on this day. All the mothers felt that the parents of the boyfriend should be jailed for harbouring the teenager and the teenager's mother should have involved the police initially. One mother said one has to protect their children at any cost and she intends to do just that. She thought Help & Shelter's public education programme is excellent but more parents in villages need to be educated.

At the seventh and last awareness session held at the La Grange Health Centre on parenting and abuse, most of the participants spoke about their relationship with their parents. Some said their parents never showed them affection, or very little communication and the input of their fathers were minimal. Another participant said that her neighbours' 14 year old son watches "blues" (X rated pornographic films) when his parents are asleep. She wants to warn the family but is afraid they may become hostile. A social worker who was present said the authorities have difficulty in accepting the TIP reports. She said she was summoned by some villagers to intervene in a case of an Amerindian girl who is working for a woman, the child broke something and the woman beat the child in her head. She also reported that there are also young boys who are being sexually abused by the man they are working with or for, they cannot return to the interior so they are left to endure the maltreatment. She thinks the focus should be concentrated on the Amerindian children because they do not have a voice.

- **Leonora Hospital-** At the first of the 2 sessions held participation was reported as being very poor. Most of the questions asked on domestic violence were not answered. Participants just listened.

At the second sessions participation was much better and a number of incidents of domestic violence were disclosed. One young woman said she is very worried about her friend who told her that she enjoys her husband's beatings and initiates the quarrels so that he will become angry and beat her. The facilitator gave the young woman a DV brochure and advised her to encourage her friend to read it. A family spoke of their daughter whose husband is abusing her, the sister said he brutalizes her, they have made several attempts to rescue the young woman but she has refused to leave her husband. She took her inheritance and purchased a car, household appliances etc. everything in her husband's name. The family is frustrated at the situation; the mother said she is prepared to bury her daughter as she feels this is where her daughter will end up. Another woman said she recently left her husband of 35 years due to "dissatisfaction", she feels the marriage is suffocating her while her husband is contented. She refused to elaborate so I told her seek counseling at Help & Shelter. Another young woman related how her Christian sister backslid from her church and engaged a deportee who subsequently killed her.

- **Albuoystown HC** – Participants in response to questions on domestic violence were of the opinion that domestic violence referred to persons suffering abuse. The form of domestic abuse which participants identified was verbal abuse which they defined as using indecent language to a persons or calling them names. The session will continue the following week.
- **David Rose HC** – In discussing domestic violence participants saw this as one of the important issues in Guyana and could take place anywhere, on the road, in homes, workplaces, schools, markets, inside mini buses etc. Perpetrators were identified as anyone including spouse, parents, children, friends, neighbours, boyfriends, girlfriends, your boss, co-workers etc. Subsequent session will continue on other aspects of domestic violence.

SCHOOLS

School	Region	Topic	Date	# of Persons		Age	Time	Pub Ed Officer
				F	M			
Berbice High School PTA	6	Parenting Skills	5 th June	20	7	19-55	1 hr	Karen G.
“ “ (Teachers)		DV & Effects on Children	2 nd June	7	6		1 hr	Karen G.
Ascension CHS	4	Assertiveness	5 th June		28	13-18	40 min	Johnson O.
		Assertiveness	12 th June	20		12-18	40 min	Johnson O.
Agricola Primary PTA	4	Domestic Violence	9 th June	35		18-55+	2 hr	Kevin M..
Ketley Primary	4	Be Safe Campaign	12 th June	15	10	4-6	1 hr	Julian H.
		Be Safe Campaign	19 th June	16	8	4-6	2 hrs	“ “
		Be Safe Campaign	26 th June	17	13	4-6	45 min	“ “
Palmville Nursery PTA	4	Child Abuse & Parenting	18 th June	17	3		2 hr	Kevin M.
Kuru Kururu Parents	4	DV, Self & Stress Management	25 th June	16		19-55+	1 day	Kevin M. Johnson O Dennis C. Linda H.
Samatta Point Nursery	4	Self Test on Parenting/Violence	27 th June	7	5	19-55	1 hr	Julian H.
TOTAL				170	80		1 day 12 hrs 5 min	

Schools

Six schools were visited during the month. 127 students, 68 females and 59 males from one primary school and one community high school (CHS), benefited from awareness sessions on assertiveness and sessions on the be safe campaign. A total of 124 parents and teachers from 5 schools (103 females and 21 males) also benefited

from awareness sessions and a one day workshop on parenting skills, stress management, child abuse, effects of domestic violence on children, domestic violence and a self test on parenting and violence.

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 2 session (25%)	X 4 sessions (50%)	X 2 session (25%)		
“ “ “	Participants understanding of topics	X 2 session (25%)	X 1 sessions (13%)	X 5 session (63%)		
“ “ “	Facilitation of sessions	X 2 session (25%)	X 4 sessions (50%)	X 2 session (25%)		
“ “ “	Rating of overall sessions	X 2 session (25%)	X 4 session (50%)	X 2 sessions (25%)		

Evaluation of Awareness Sessions at Schools

At the 8 sessions evaluated at schools visited during this month, participation was rated excellent at 2 sessions, very good at 4, and good at 2 sessions. Participants’ understanding of topics was rated excellent at 2 sessions, very good at 1 and good at 5. Facilitation and overall assessment of the sessions were rated as excellent at 2 sessions, very good at 4 and good at 2.

Feedback from Schools

- **Berbice High School**-As a result the first awareness session on the effects of domestic violence on children, teachers said that they received new insight into how and why some students behave the way they do. A request was made for additional sessions to be held in the new school year.

At the second awareness session held with parents of Form 3 students, information presented on parenting skills was welcomed. After the session 2 parents enquired about follow up counselling for their teenage sons.

- **Ascension CHS** – In discussing assertiveness the facilitator posed a number of questions to students on how they would respond to situations of sexual touching or fondling. On fondling of male students by female students the majority said they would not resist this. Only one male student disagreed and said he would resist this by saying “No”. Seven (7) other students also said they would not allow any girl to touch sensitive parts of their bodies, while five (5) students said they would allow fondling because it makes them feel good. In confronting another situation, where a male student grabs another male student and kisses him on the lips, the response from all the students was that this was wrong and they would resist such an action. In responses to the use of indecent language in their presence, students said they would get angry but not say anything to the persons doing this. In response to being awakened by a female cousin stripping you of your underwear while sleeping, students said they would do the following- tell their mother, make a report to authorities, hit her, push her off the bed, allow her to do this. The session ended with a discussion on assertiveness and students were encouraged to make use of assertiveness skills in confronting potentially risky situation.

The second session on assertiveness targeted female students at the same school. Four out of twenty students or 20% disclosed that they had experienced being touched, fondled or kissed, three out of the

four did take any action to stop this while one student said she tried to push the person away. Two female students said they also experienced males in minibuses trying to press their bodies next to theirs, one student said she pushed the guy away. Only one female students out of the twenty said that they had experienced someone trying to spy on them while undressing. In responding to a scenario, wherein their mother was asking for a cutlass to be used on their father to assist her from being physically abused by their father, some students said they would fight back with the cutlass, call a neighbour or relative or try to separate them. In response to cheating on an exam paper by asking to copy answers students said they would report this to their class teacher, other said they would hit them in the face, beat the person up, turn down their paper or tear up the paper of the person cheating. The session ended with a discussion on assertiveness and students were encouraged to make use of assertiveness skills in confronting potentially risky situation.

- **Agricola Primary PTA**-The session was set to target males, however the males failed to show and as usual the majority of participants were women. The recent statistics on DV were discussed, persons were of the view that the murders were bad, however it was evident that many persons do not read their newspaper, as many persons hadn't the slightest idea of the number of women killed for this year or previous years. The suppressing of male emotions and the negative effects this is having on our society was also discussed and the gender socialization of our youths.

The session also looked at the importance of children having positive role models and the importance of fathers being a part of the lives of children in spite of the relationship between parents. What was disclosed by participants was that many of the women were single parents.

Also examined were the developmental processes which individuals go through, this helped participants to analyse the impact of their childhood experiences on their life whether positive or negative.

One mother said she use to beat her children for everything and now they are so fearful of her that they cry as soon as they do something wrong even if she does not hit them, she is very worried about this situation as she feels something is wrong, she was encouraged to visit or call crisis centre for assistance.

- **Ketley Primary** – Three awareness sessions were held with students at this school in the “Be Safe Campaign” project. During the three session the topic- watching someone you care about being hit is unsafe was discussed with students. What came out of the discussion was that children tend to be aggressive to each other when this is what they observe in their home environment. The feelings which accompany the witnessing of physical abuse by persons who claim they love you were also explored. The discussions was stimulating and good for students and it taught new behaviours of how to respond to corporal punishment even at home.
- **Palmville Nursery PTA**-Topics discussed include reasons why children are abused, emotional abuse of children and its effects, sexual abuse of children and disclosure and reporting of sexual abuse. Discipline methods, and the importance of allowing children to have a voice were also discussed. There was excellent participation by the group and participants were very grateful for the information shared. This was evident as many persons were able to relate to what was said. During the discussions a grandmother revealed that she had gained a lot from the session [the longer you live, the more you learn]. She said she plans to use the skills learned and encouraged her children to do the same. Some mothers related that they spoil their children because of their childhood experiences. These parents were told of the possible consequences this could have for the future also the difficulty it would pose for teachers. They were told of the developmental process of children, the importance of given them correct information and instilling ideal values from very early if the expect their children to become the kinds of individuals who will make a vital contribution to society later on. It was reinforced that spoiling a child is not the best of options.

- **Samatta Point Nursery PTA-** The session went well. There were a lot of contributions made by participants. However the attitude of parents that their children have to get some lashes, because they were beaten and they came good, is still prevalent.

NGO/AGENCIES/ COMMUNITY OUTREACH/REGIONAL WORKSHOPS

NGO, Agencies, Community Outreach/ Regional Workshops	Region	Topic	Date	# of Persons		Age	Time	Pub Ed Officer
				F	M			
Ladies Group			2 nd June	33		19-55	2 hrs	Karen G.
Jesus new Covenant Ministries	4	Spousal Abuse	5 th June	50	5	19-55+	1 hr	Julian H.
Lutheran Church (Men's; Group)	6	Substance Abuse & DV	6 th June		15	19-55	1 hr	Karen G.
Lutheran Church	6	Domestic Violence	7 th June	30	2	19-55+	4 hrs	Karen G.
Regional Workshop Mission Chapel Family Life Centre--New Amsterdam	6	DV, DVA, Child Abuse, Child Sexual Abuse, TIPS, Substance Abuse	11 th - 12 th June	18	7	19-55	2 days	Karen G. Kevin M. Margaret K.
Regional Workshop Lake Mainstay	2	DV, DVA, Child Abuse, Alcohol Abuse	20 th June	22	4	14-55+	1 day	Karen G. Margaret
Cancer Society- Berbice	6	DV, Signs & Symptoms	25 th June	28		19-35	3 hrs	Karen G.
Regional Workshop- Sophia	4	DV, DVA, Child Abuse	27 th June	22	1	19-55	1 day	Kevin M. Karen G.
Support Group St. George's Church	4	Effects of DV on Children	30 th June	10	6	19-55	1 hrs	Karen G.
TOTAL				213	40		4 days 12 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. Three 1-2 day regional workshops were also held in Regions 6, 2 and 4. A total of 253 persons (213 females and 40 males) benefited from the awareness sessions and workshops.

EVALUATION OF NGO/AGENCIES/REGIONAL WORKSHOPS

NGO/Agency	Evaluation	Excellent	Very Good	Good	Fair	No Response
Jesus New Covenant Ministries, Lutheran Church, Cancer Society (Berbice), Support Group St George's Church	How would you rate participation?	X 5 sessions (83%)	X 1 sessions (17%)			

“ “ “	Participants understanding of topics	X 5 sessions (83%)	X 1 sessions (17%)			
“ “ “	Facilitation of sessions	X 5 session (83%)	X 1 sessions (17%)			
“ “ “	Rating of overall sessions	X 6 sessions (100%)				

Evaluation of Awareness Sessions with NGOs/Agencies

Evaluation of 6 awareness sessions conducted with NGOs, businesses etc, showed that participation, understanding of topics presented and facilitation were all rated as excellent at 5 of the sessions and very good at 1 session. Rating of the 6 sessions overall were all assessed as excellent.

Feedback from Awareness Sessions with NGOs/Agencies

- **Jesus New Covenant Ministries-** Participants responded overwhelmingly to the presentation on spousal abuse, the role of the Church. A request was made for more sessions with this Church and other affiliated Churches.
- **Ladies Group** – This was the last scheduled sessions held with this group and as a result of the sessions 7 women were able to leave the domestic violence situations they were previously living in. Three of the women reported the abuse they were experiencing to the police for the first time.
- **Lutheran Church, Men’s Group-** The men participated fully at this session and appreciated the information shared on substance abuse and domestic violence. They requested more follow up sessions and sessions for youth also.
- **Lutheran Church, NA-** At this session the women church members organized a candle lightning event to commemorate all those women who lost their lives at the hands of their loved ones. Requests were made for sessions to be held once a month with each Church in the Region.
- **Cancer Society, Berbice-** After the sessions on domestic violence was held, 3 hot line calls were made to Help & Shelter and two out of the 3 calls received requested further counselling sessions. Requests were made for further awareness sessions and for a Help & Shelter counsellor to visit this region once a month.
- **Support Group, St. George’s Church-** During the session on the effects of domestic violence on children, persons shared their own experiences with children who witnessed DV in the family. Two mothers shared stories of their grown male children who are now very violent to their wives and children. Counseling with 1 perpetrator has started as a result of the sessions.

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