



March 2012

# Mo'ui Ke Fiefia

WOMEN AND CHILDREN CRISIS CENTRE NEWSLETTER

*Creating a Kindom that is Violence free*

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## Malo e Leleli!

### 'Ofakilevuka Guttenbeil Likiliki - WCCC Director

I attended a meeting hosted by the Fiji Women's rights based Crisis Centre (FWCC) looking at the possibilities of f r a m e w o r k developing a program for perpetrators specifically isn't used when designed for the context of the Pacific. developing it

Whilst there are many programs available glob- including a gen- ally, including closer to home in NZ and Australia, the Pacific Network Against Violence Against the gender critique, Women Male Advocacy Handbook specifically de- the program signed by the FWCC, network partners (including will most prob- the WCCC) and masculinities consultant Stephen ably fail. So I Fisher, the Male Advocacy Handbook proved the look forward to working yet again with the critical importance and need for programs to be FWCC and the designed by the pacific for the pacific, whilst draw- PNAVAW in de- ing from best practices from around the world. veloping yet again a ground breaking program for

While I question the effectiveness of perpetra- tor programs I also acknowledge that if the human

## March 2012

In Mar 2012

12 Women

1 male

9 Children

(7 girls, 2 boys)

= a total of 22 clients

sought refuge from

violence at WCCC

[Full story](#)

## Outreach Program to women's group

WCCC's CET, Lesila To'ia and Male Advocate 'Usaia Hemaloto carried out an awareness program to a women's group in Kolomotu'a. This was more o a dialogue and a conversation on the issues that the Centre is addressing. Topics such as Domestic Violence, Rape, and Child Abuse were covered. Kathy Mafi from TFHA also talked about STI/HIV. Discussions were also around on how Domestic Violence, Child Abuse and Rape and how these issues are highly linked to STI/HIV.

The group of women was very happy to discuss and share their views and opinions on regarding these issues.

Personal experiences were also shared and the group's main concern was a substitute for hitting, smacking and other form of domestic violence. One woman asked, "What else to do instead of using the stick as a way of disciplining her children." There was no direct answer. We all agreed to stop it and we believed that we had to have time with our children. Talk to them nicely; explain to them the reasons for doing things, and why something is stopped from them. Also the need to have a closer relation-



**Above: WCCC Community Education Team conducting an awareness program to the women's group of Kolomotu'a Village.**

ship with a specific time spends with your children. After the program, which were held in the evenings of March 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>, this group of women were

[Full story](#)

## WCCC's conduct awareness program in ten schools at Eastern District of Tongatapu

In March, the Community Education and Awareness Team carried out awareness program in ten



Above: One of the government primary school in the Eastern District of Tongatapu where WCCC conduct an awareness program.

schools in the Eastern District of Tongatapu. They were Government Primary Schools of Afa, Lapaha, Niutoua, Talafo'ou, Nukuleka, Kolonga, Navutoka and Hoi.

Awareness Program were also held in Talafo'ou Middle School and Mo'unga'olive College.

The Principals of these schools were very happy after they heard the programs. One of the Principal said, "thank you very much WCCC for the great works that you are doing, you are helping us teachers and parents too in taking care of our children."

"The children are aware of the importance of keeping, maintaining and promoting peace which violence and abuse has no place there", said Lesila To'ia, WCCC's Community Education Trainer.

We are looking forward to carry out more awareness programs in the upcoming months and we ac-

[Full story](#)

## WCCC's Male Advocate commence Faikava Programs in various male groups in villages

WCCC's Male Advocate 'Usaia Hemaloto carried out a Faikava programs to various male groups. This was more o a dialogue and a conversation on the issues such as Domestic Violence, advocating for Women's Human Rights and how this issue highly linked to STI/HIV.

There were 6 groups of Faikava Hema-loto conduct his programs, includes Kolomotu'a, Ma'ufanga, Kolofo'ou, Halaleva, Ta'ehaloto and the new recruitments team to the Ministry of Police, with an average of 25 participants in every Faikava.

According to Hemaloto

he said, "70% of those were in the Faikava Programs they support the work to eliminate violence against women and children in Tonga, and 30% they said, just minimize and avoid it, but overall, they were all happy to discuss and share on the issue."

**Below: Male Advocate, 'Usaia Hemaloto during his faikava session on Domestic Violence and advocating for Women's Human Rights and how it's linked to STI & HIV.**



WCCC's Male Advocate are looking forward for more Faikava Programs and his next target are the school teachers, Sunday school teachers, Tonga defense and other male groups.

After these Faikava programs, these group of men were thankful for the knowledge that they gained and they

[Full story](#)

## Case Study 1

### I don't know who to trust anymore!

*A firsthand account of reporting domestic violence from a client at WCCC.*

I am 19 years old; I was adopted to a family of nine with eight boys and one girl. I was meant to be a sister to their only daughter who is what I was told, but it was different now as I grew up. I am the one who does all the housework at home.

My adopted parents separated when I was in class 5 and my adopted mother married again to a Pastor.

This year my adopted mother went overseas for two weeks. I and my sister were to spend the night at our neighbour as usual when our mother travels.

My mother left on a Thursday night and on Friday night I went home about 10:00pm to get a blanket and my adopted father call me from his room to get him his pills. When I gave him his pills he hold my hand and told me to sit down and take my clothes off, but I didn't do it, and all of a sudden he hit me with a piece of wood at the back of my head and I black out until I wake up on the next morning lying naked on his bed. He walked into the room and told me he already took my virginity.

I went back to the neighbour's house and they asked me where I have been and I explain them everything, and the lady at the neighbour call my mother and tell her everything but she didn't believe it.

From then onwards, everyday my adopted father tie my hands and feet to the bed and do whatever he wants with me whenever I go home to clean up the house and cook their food in two weeks.

When my mother came back, my adopted father lied that he didn't do anything to me, but after two days he admitted to my mother that what he did to me was true. My mother blames me that it was my fault and my brothers chase me out of the house when they knew what happen.

[Full story](#)

## Case Study 2

### "I just don't have the cuts to tell anyone"

*A firsthand account of reporting domestic violence from a client at WCCC.*

I use to work to one of the government department before and we had some problem in which they took me to court.

One of the government agents was working on my case and suppose to take me to the police station to take down my statement, but he took me to some bush and rapes me.

It has been four years since then; I just can't have the cuts to tell anyone about what happen to me, even my mother. I can't get to report it to the police as he's a government agent; I assume that they'll just wipe it away.

I was ashamed of myself to even tell anyone that I have lost my dignity, my worth of being a woman, the one thing that you live for as being a woman.

I was working together with one of the lawyers concerning my case and I told him about what happen to me for the first time hoping that the lawyer will brought it up to be known, but he didn't.

I have to see one of the government offices concerning the sentencing of my case and I have to explain my case from the beginning, I mention something about what happen to me and this person encourage me to seek help from the centre and I did.

At the moment we have a deal with the police, they are always there beside me to help and to go through everything, and I am more at ease at home feeling good

[Full story](#)