

Kina Kontribution Fund

The Kina Kontribution Fund is an initiative taken by VfC to raise funds for a new police vehicle to be used purposely to attend to issues and acts of violence against our women and girls. The aim of this fund is to request a female to contribute K1.00 each. This idea developed because of the experience of waiting at the police station for police vehicles to be made available. The fund is to purchase a police vehicle purposely for the women and girls of Jiwaka Province. This vehicle will be parked at an identified police station to specifically respond to women's needs. A lot of positive response has been generated by the idea. Seen here are some pictures of the different people who have the same belief that any form of violence against a fellow human being is a crime.. If you would like to contribute a Kina, send an SMS/text to 70184984 ..We must create safer societies for our future generation..



"a woman brought you into this world; therefore you have NO RIGHTS at all to DISRESPECT one...Tupac "

MAN UP STOP VIOLENCE...

Voice for Change, PO BOX 1117, Mt. Hagen,WHP
Kilbang Station, Minj, Okuk Hi-Way, Jiwaka Province



SAFER HOMES—SAFER JIWAKA

Voice for Change, Jiwaka Province—Papua New Guinea 1st Newsletter 11th April, 2014



Team Leader's Desk



WELCOME !

It is my privilege to invite you all to read our organization's very first newsletter. I would like to take this time to acknowledge the many people who have been part of Voice for Change in its various developmental journey to where it is now. My deep appreciation goes towards many friends, family members and colleagues who believed in the organization's potential and capacity to create change and joined us on this journey over the years. I take this opportunity to thank those partners who took an interest in Voice for Change's work and provided us the funds to implement our activities towards fulfilling our dreams.

A warm thank you to the UN Women's desk from the Pacific Regional desk in Suva, Fiji Islands for support in capacity building, facilitating linkages and provision of resources. Voice for Change would also like to acknowledge Ms. Elizabeth Cox for her continuous support to the development of Voice for Change. A loud round of applause to my staff for their commitment to our organization. It is you who makes our work move.

Finally I acknowledge my beautiful children who have grown up with the organization and have contributed immensely in various ways towards the journey of Voice for Change.

In this very first edition, we take this opportunity to introduce our organization's mission, values and programs while highlighting our main activities of 2013 as well as introducing our partners and funders.

To truly promote safer homes and communities, we all as individuals and Jiwakans have a role to play.

"The world would not be destroyed by those who do evil... but by those who watch them without doing anything..."

Regards,
Lilly Be'Soer Kolts

Our Wonderful and Committed Staff

My responsibility is to ensure VFC is performing as expected by both our partners and funders AND most of all, I enjoy having coffee with those who visit our office here at Kilbang Station.

*Lilly Be'Soer Kolts
Team Leader VFC (2004 -2014)*



I have the huge responsibility to ensure that the funds are put to use accordingly. I am also learning about good financial management practices.

*Brenda Pukme
Finance Coordinator
VFC*



Our WEEP Programme is creating impacts and more women are joining our program. I enjoy meeting new members and telling them about the projects

*Sheena Joe
WEEP Coordinator*



PLEASE



I am excited to tell many people who visit our office about the work we are doing here at VFC.

*Mispar Tumbé
WEEP Project Staff*

Our UPCOMING Events

⇒ Financial Literacy Training—Vegetables & Fruit Project
April, 2014

⇒ Gender Training—May, 2014

⇒ Strategic Planning for Voice for Change 2014
Facilitator Yanny from Community Development Agency,
Simbu Province

⇒ Launching of Baseline Survey Report
June 2014

⇒ Gender & Human Rights Training for Ward Councilors,
Community Peace Mediators
May, 2014

Survey on Women Peace & Conflict Mediators
April 14th-15th, 2014

RRT Reflection—June 2014

Completion of Documentary Kondika Peace Mediation
& Survivors of Violence
April, 2014

Scoping Study on the Informal Markets in Jiwaka Province
October 2014

Continue Advocacy & Awareness on Safer Homes & Communities
& EVAW

TOKSAVE SOL

Invite

We at VfC would like to invite interested parties, business owners,
and community development agents that VfC newsletter will be willing

to publish your toksaves, advertisements and other notices in our
monthly newsletter. Do drop us a text on 70184984 or visit us at
Kilbang Station, Okuk Hi-Way, Minj, JP.

OPINION BOX

We will also have an OPINION BOX out in our next newsletter and

@ VfC would love to hear from you :) Do write to us !!

Counselling Service & paralegal Support to Women

VfC is also providing counselling services to individuals seeking a

listening ear or just someone to talk to.. Both men and women
are encouraged especially young married couples

The RRT Project also supports women who seek legal actions and advise
their partners/spouses/husbands.

The staff are always present at the office from Monday to Sunday :)

Our Wonderful and Committed Staff

I like assisting clients of all the projects under VFC as I am learning a lot and also I like doing the awareness to the clients of the influential work that VFC is doing in creating better and safer homes in our communities.

Christina Kelly
Advocacy to EAW
Project Staff

I like the fact that I get to work and meet so many people with completely different views and it makes you realize again and again that each individual is unique.

Leentje Be'Soer
RRT Project Staff

I take my job seriously. I see the work these women do and I know that they are at risk every time they try to help a woman.

Kumie Brown (DaddyBoss)
Driver/Bodyguard/Apai
ORI Tumas :)



I enjoy working with the org. facing challenges & gradually moving forward with confidence.

Ms. Cathy Wali
Associate Staff



VFC would like to take this time to say thank you to the hardworking and supportive help from the Minj Police Station Officers, Sergeants, Constables, our volunteers & human Rights Defenders and the baseline Survey team. You all ROCK!!!



Voice for Change, Jiwaka Province—Papua New Guinea

Voice for Change is an established provincial women's organization and has been working with rural communities in Jiwaka since 2004. It focuses on ending Violence Against Women and Girls, building alliances for safer communities and promotes the economic empowerment of rural women. VFC also responds and prevents conflicts and the displacement of many people.

Vision

Voice for Change's vision is for All Women and Girls in Jiwaka to be Respected and Protected of their Rights.

Mission

Voice for Change is promoting Equal participation of women and men through all aspects of development- socially, politically, economically and spiritually.

Our Values

We strive for equal participation at all levels and of development for transparency and accountability. We want communities to take ownership of its development changes.

Who We Are

Voice for Change (VFC) comprises of individuals who are committed to serving the organization through various capacities with community institutions involved in various developments in Jiwaka to collectively addressing the issues of violence against women and girls in Jiwaka Province.

Voice for Change is connected with and trained by national and regional organizations working to End Violence Against Women. VFC is also a committee member on the Expert Advisory Group for the Pogera Remediation Framework Association and a member to the UN Women Civil Society Advisory Committee for the Asia Pacific Region.

THE Helping Hands (over the years)

Recently added IWDA Tessa Walsh & Elizabeth Reid with Lilly. Elizabeth is analyzing the raw data collected from the baseline survey conducted by VfC.



One of our finest handyman—Rocky Yembe.....



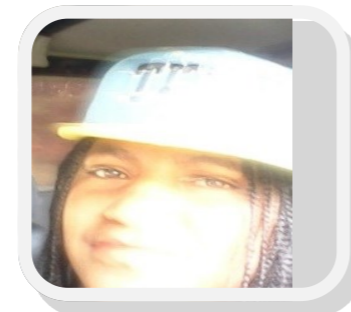
Sabet Cox— we thank you



Jason Koime



Sophie Kilipi Be'Soer
BOLA in your studies!
RRT Project Team misses u



Rose Kants
Yu best :)



Joe Fam "4ver"



Mary Gele & Agnes Kerrie
strong hands ...



Kumie Brown & Junior Tekil

VOICE for CHANGE— Programmes

VfC as an organization has two thematic program areas of focus:

i. Advocacy to End Violence Against Women

Under this thematic area the organization is currently engaged on two projects .

ADVOCACY TO END VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS

Voice for Change is a grantee of the United Nations Global Trust Fund to End Violence Against Women. The project is a 3-year project started in 2013. The funding is specifically for Voice for Change to work in partnership with the provincial and local level governments to create by-laws for our province.

This project was initiated upon the request of the then South Whagi LLG President Mr. Peter Hai in 2011. Mr. Hai was concerned about the increasing amounts contributed towards bride's price and compensation payments with a focus of financial violence against women in Jiwaka Province. He also pointed out the difficult burden these customary obligations placed on women to contribute towards these events. Upon his request Voice for Change as a human rights organization included his part of the request in to the funding proposal.

In 2012, VfC was one of the 3 organizations from the Pacific Region to be selected as a grantee for the funding. The first activity carried out under this UNGFT was the baseline survey on the prevalent forms of violence perpetrated in communities within Jiwaka. The baseline survey covered the 6 local level government areas within the province. The data collected from this baseline survey is currently being analyzed and a report will be presented to the Jiwaka Provincial Government and key stake holders for the request to enact by-laws.

UNGTF—Baseline Survey September 2013



The grant from the United Nations Global Trust Fund required VfC to facilitate intensive human rights trainings and workshops for community development workers in positions of influence. In May, 2013, 34 men and women attended a Human rights training at the Maria Queen resource Centre at Banz, Jiwaka Province. The session was facilitated by Elizabeth

Cox—a veteran advocate on VAW. The 2 weeks workshop assisted the participants to clearly understand and define what is human rights, women's rights, children's rights.

The participants spent two weeks familiarizing themselves with the United Nations Human Rights Declarations and the Papua New Guinea National Constitution. Emphasis was placed on the laws that protect the citizens of this nation. Interested individuals from this human rights training signed up to form a selected team to take part in the baseline survey. Another week was spent preparing the survey questionnaires and tools for the survey.

Seen here are a group of young men participating in the survey



A view of the different groups involved in the survey. Participants were separated into 4 groups—Young Men, Men, Young Women, Women.

RAPID RESPONSE

RAPID RESPONSE TEAM PROJECT

The Rapid Response Team Project is supported by our partners Oxfam International in Papua New Guinea under its Ending Violence Against Women Country Programme. The project is very unique in a sense that the funding is specifically for sorcery related accusations and murder of innocent people. Due to the alarming increase in the number of women (and men) being killed in relation to accusations of sorcery, this project is initiated to provide immediate and effective response to prevent the loss of innocent lives being taken away by community members. This project functions in partnership with the Jiwaka Provincial Police Force to reinforce the law in our communities.

Beginning in July 2013, the Rapid Response Team has assisted many women and men accused of SANGUMA in repatriation and resettling after being threatened and exiled from their birthright land and homes. The project also covers the paralegal aspect of sorcery related accusations. Victims of torture in relation to sorcery have access to seek legal actions against the perpetrators. The gross abuse of basic human rights in relation to sorcery/Sanguma has lasting impacts on victims.

Apart from the sorcery related responses, the project also assists women survivors and victims of domestic violence and other forms of violence to seek legal actions at the village and district courts with the assistance of the police officers. Many domestic violence perpetrators have been arrested and let out on bail awaiting court.

The Rapid Response team would like to take this time to thank Inspector Horim and his officers at the Minj Police Station for their tremendous support towards the women who have approached their front desk. We look forward to maintaining this working partnership to create safer homes for our daughters, sons, mothers, aunties, sisters and most importantly our wives - the peace makers and home makers.

Women's Economic Empowerment Programme (WEEP)

2. Village Savings and Loans Project

Under the WEEP Programme, VfC has 2 active projects. The Village Savings and Loans Project is a microfinance project targeting rural women. The project encourages rural women to save their small income. With assistance from the Associated Country Women of the World (ACWW) in 2010, women members have increased. The women are encouraged to create a passbook account with the project and can get small loans to engage in income generating activities. In the process of repaying their small loans they are encouraged to save one tenth of their money. The success of this project lies in the terms of the loan. A member is only allowed to withdraw their savings during the months of December and January only. Many women save for their children's school fees. Since the start of this project more women and men have joined and the number has increased to 500+ members of which 9 are matured men from the communities. Widows and women in polygamous marriages make up the most of the clients.

The bank fees are covered by the VfC which means the money deposited is entered into their passbooks and recorded. The success stories of women engaged with this project is the highlight of the work we are doing. The project is into its 4th year now and is serving rural women while at the same time improving the financial decision making power within households. We have seen our fair share of husbands wanting to withdraw their wives' savings to no avail. A statutory Declaration is signed by the client to prevent 2nd /3rd party withdrawals. This action and project has and is continuing to provide our rural women with a sense of financial security. Horray!!! to the project team for an awesome job serving these women and 9 men. Parents are encouraged to save!

Under WEEP, VfC has two active projects

1. Fruit & Vegetable

VfC is proud to say here that we are the only non-government organization in PNG to have 2 projects funded by Oxfam International in Papua New Guinea. Apart from the RRT Project, the Fruit and Vegetable Project is funded by Oxfam PNG under its Livelihoods Programme. This project targets rural farmers to encourage them to grow fruits and vegetables for household consumption as well as for income. Food security is now a primary concern for many PNGeans and especially rural communities. Each person is entitled to 3 meals per day however in the village we still resort to having one meal per day. This project engages Extension Workers (EW) like DiDi Meri working with interested farmers within Jiwaka Province.

The project currently engages 4 full time EW's with 8 zones leaders responsible for 25 farmers each. The number has increased since the introduction of this project. Farmers attached to this project have had the benefits of having financial literacy and vegetable farming trainings on how to produce quality produces for consumption and sales. Two of the current EW were previously trained by Fresh Produce Development Agency (FPDA).



Farmers attending a vegetable production training facilitated by Cathy Wali early January 2014.



Seen here are participants of the training for fruits and vegetables witnessing a practical demonstration on how to nursery management.

Our Advocacy Activities 16 DAYS!!!

On December 5th 2013 VFC was a core member for the organized drug and Alcohol abuse STOP Campaign in Jiwaka Province —part of the planned 16DAYS of Activism...



2013 Hi-Lights Through the Lens



Daddy Boss & his OAB216 toughing the Jimi Road Our NEW OFFICE YAY!!! Our greatest Achievement



Inspector Horim "We appreciate the Support"



man par-may, 2013



Hu-Rights training ticipants

The Baseline Survey Team—Jimi

2013 Highlighted through the LENS!!!

YAY!!! Wheels :) ta UNGTF



**Baseline Suvey
Tabibuga
Men Session**



Livelihoods—Our project in Focus fruits and vegetable training



Women will be explicitly targeted under this program. Every effort will be made to promote and support women's interests and initiatives in any enterprises.



Importance

The proposed Village Based Agricultural Extension Service Program will follow a village-based farmer to farmer extension approach in order to provide opportunity of skilled service providers to share and pass on their experiences and knowledge among and within the members of the community. The program utilizes the local expertise to train fellow men and women in own local dialect. This extension program is targeting rural women and their families to improving skills and knowledge in agricultural production to maintain food security, enhance cash income and sustain livelihood.

Current Extension Workers

There are four Extension Workers currently attached to VFC and two of them have served as Village Extension Workers for FPDA for more than five years. Mama Mai is based in Kukpa area in Minj, South Whagi Local Level Government and has an existing vegetable nursery shed. Currently she supports interested community members in gminating seedlings for them using her vegetable nursery shed. Roselyn is based in Warakar Village, Banz Local Level Government in the North Whagi District. She also served as a Village Extension Worker with FPDA. Roselyn has also been trained by NARI on sweet potato production and soil management and been training farmers.

The other two are Helen John and Amenda Wusik who are also farmers and been assisting client of VFC who are involved in income generating projects. Helen in Based in Kudjip, South Anglimb Local Level Government and Amanda in based in Tombil area, Minj, South Whagi LLG. Amanda has a certificate from Integrated Community Development Training in the Fiji Islands. She is also an active Women's Rights defender and advocate on women's issues.



National Haus Krai—Rotbung, Minj



Manda Peace 2013



Manda Leaders reading out their consent to maintain peace—Tsigmil EBC Church

The Real Peace Makers—the women :)



The words we are familiar with

VAW—violence against women
 EVAW—ending violence against women
 DV—domestic violence



GBV—gender based violence
 Gender — refers to culturally based expectations of the roles and behaviors of men and women in society.

Gender Equality—requires equal participation and enjoyment by men and women at all levels

Human Rights- the basic fundamental freedom to live a life with respect, integrity with the restrictions to one's freedom of movement, speech etc..

Gender Equity—fairness of treatment for women and men according to their respective needs...



Ole we do get visitors too ;)



New Zealand's Ministry of Foreign Investment & Trade representative Mr. Wilco Liebregts
 _Monitoring visit for Oxfam Project



Our donors & partners since.....

Voice for Change is working in partnership with the new Jiwaka Provincial and Local Level Governments of Jiwaka Province, with key law and justice institutions and agencies, government and church service providers, community and church leaders, women's network and various institutions to foster partnership on promoting safer homes for a safer Jiwaka.

Our Funding Partners

VFC's main funder is the UN Global Trust Fund and we are also supported by other smaller funding who are interested for women's development. We have

- ◆ International Women's Development Agency (IWDA)
- ◆ The German Committee For World Day of Prayer
- ◆ Global Fund for Women International
- ◆ Oxfam International funding 2 projects—the RRT & the Fruit & Vegetable
- ◆ Associated Country Women of the world (ACWW)

Introducing International Women's Development's Agency

IWDA is the only Australian development Agency entirely focused on Gender Equality and Women's Rights in Asia and the Pacific. IWDA has initially agreed to engage in a 2 year partnership with VFC and provide funding to primarily support VFC to implement the existing project with the UN Global Trust Fund to End Violence Against Women.



Yes, here are Our Board of Advisors...!



- ◆ Inspector Horim Piamia—Minj Police Station Commander
- ◆ Mr. Mathew Galman—Director, Community Based Health Care, Nazarene Health Ministries
- ◆ Mrs. Bertha Tongamp—First lady, Jiwaka Province
- ◆ Ms Agnes Kerrie—Coordinator, Jiwaka family Support Centre
- ◆ Sergeant Ronny Akim—Criminal Investigation Division (CID) Minj Police Station

Community 2013-2014

In our 1st newsletter, it is our greatest privilege to introduce 2 instrumental people that have taken ownership of improving their communities and homes to be safe and at peace

He is a very well known and is a popular face around his council ward. He has been elected unopposed in the recent 2012 council elections. He is the current councilor for the Kudjip Station Ward 1. Cr. Paul Ju needs no introduction. He was a participant at the Human Rights Training facilitated by VfC in May 2013. After the week long training Councilor Paul Ju put into practice what he learnt. It is indeed very inspiring to hear stories of a community leader taking stances



against his tribe in order for the law to address cruel crimes against others in his ward. He is now a classic example of what a true leader and an advocate to end all forms of violence and promote safer and peaceful communities. Councilor Ju is now working on drafting by-laws for his council ward. He has mentioned that ever since the human rights training last year in May, he has realized that in order to create safer homes and communities', people must be taught to respect each other and understand that we are all individuals who have the rights to live without fear and discrimination.

Change Makers

Mai Kelly is a farmer. More importantly Mai Kelly is a highly trained and committed Village Extension Worker attached with VfC's fruit and Vegetable project supported by Oxfam PNG. She was trained by the Fresh Produce



Development Agency (FPDA) in early 2000. Her role is to provide technical assistance to interested community members to do nursery at her green house.

She encourages community members to engage in fruit and vegetable farming for food security in house holds as well as an avenue to generate income. She works with approximately 30 farmers within her tribe. Her farmers have seen changes in their households since starting small scale vegetable farming. Many have stated that with the variety of "kumu" like broccoli, pakchoi, wombok etc grown for consumption and sales has provided them an avenue to earn a small income to provide for their basic needs. Mai's nursery shed is now also used as a learning resource tool for trainings...