



Briefs..

• On the 11th of September 2020, Vfc hosted a brief luncheon to welcome the new Minj Police Station Commander Mr Gabriel Haus. Police is one of the core partner and Vfc is more than happy to work together.



• In this Quarter, Vfc has rolled out short term activities engaged under the Asia Pacific Law and Women Development to assess and report on UN 17 Sustainable Development Goals for highlands region of PNG.



*Watch out for the next Issue and more stories of change.

Corona Virus Awareness Preparations and Rollout across Jiwaka with Vfc staff networks.

...more stories on page 2

Inside this issue:

Directors remarks	p2
EVAW/GBV	p3
Meetings	p4
Trainings	p5
Workshops	p6
plus many more	

3 Kings Mission, Horizon 3000

International Women's Development Agency

"EMPOWERING RURAL WOMEN"

Voice For Change
P O Box 1117
Mt Hagen
Western Highlands Province,
Papua New Guinea

Phone: +(675) 546 5558
Fax: +(675) 546 5558
Email: voiceforchange@gmail.com
Website: www.voiceforchange.org.pg

www.facebook.com/VoiceForChangeJiwaka



MESSAGE FROM DIRECTOR'S DESK



Hello Everyone,
At this unprecedented time, I am saddened to share Voice for Change third quarter edition of its Newsletter for 2020.

As we all know, the Corona Virus has affected our work, however, this quarter VfC took a different approach and did clinical awareness across Jiwaka on what the country and the

world is facing at this time with Covid 19.

As a human rights organisation, communities were informed and advised to support each other as families and prevent themselves from this pandemic.

However, few activities were also undertaken through new normal protocols.

Enjoy Reading and God Bless!

Lilly BeSoer



Corona Virus pandemic community Awareness



One of the sites where awareness was rolled out

As Corona Virus Pandemic outbreak was getting fatal causing fear across the globe making it hard for local and international movements; VfC meetings, events and main activities were postponed and cancelled. This made it difficult for VfC to implement its activities, however, VfC took a different approach and made community Awareness on the Pandemic.

All staff were assigned to rollout the awareness and do information sharing sessions to inform general public including immediate families on this new deadly infection disease.

The awareness drive started last quarter and successfully ended this quarter with staff showing videos, sharing of information

pamphlets and tracts.

More than 5000 people were reached including children and disabled. Educated and literate people also benefitted from the awareness and were urged to share and relay the messages to others for wider the outreach.

During the awareness, the added struggles and challenges faced by women were also elaborated and stressed as planned to inform men and boys for better understanding and provide help and support to women and girls in such trying times.

MESSAGE FROM EDITOR'S DESK

Hi all,

Welcome to the third quarter of our newsletter for 2021.

VfC is very excited to share the work undertaken during this three months period. We have highlighted some of VfC main activities and would

like to share with our partners, stakeholders and fellow countrymen and women of what the organisation has done.

So enjoy reading this newsletter and learn for yourself.

Angela Mong

Newsletter Editor

Vision

Peace and Gender Equality For All

Purpose/Mission

VfC is a Provincial Women's Organisation based in Jiwaka, working to End All Forms of Violence against women and girls. The Organisation is building a Society that Promotes Women's Human Rights and Equal Participation

Principles

- Equality
- Women's Rights
- Accountability
- Transparency

Values

- ◆ Commitment
- ◆ Fairness
- ◆ Trust
- ◆ Partnership

ACRONYM

CSW - Commission on the Status of Women

EVAW - Ending Violence Against Women

FSVAC - Family and Sexual Violence Action Committee

FSVU - Family and Sexual Violence Unit

GBV - Gender Based Violence

GBVAW - Gender Based Violence Against Women

HR - Human Rights

IWD - International Women's Day

IWDA - Inter National Women's Development Agency

SPC - Special Parliamentary Committee

WAVE - Women's Action for Voice and Empowerment

WEPP - Women Economic Empowerment Program

WHRD - Women Human Right Defender

WLP - Women Leaders Pathway

VAW - Violence Against Women

VFC - Voice For Change

YWLEP - Young Women Leaders Empowerment Program

Gender, Gendering and Gender Based Violence Training

Under the Young Women's leadership Program, Vfc conducted a three days Gender, Gendering and Gender Based Violence Training for Parents and Guardians of the second cohorts young women of the Young Women Leadership Program from the 28th to 30th of September 2021.

The participants learnt how people are gendered through socially and customarily construed beliefs that leads to all forms of violence towards women and girls. They also learnt the level and amount of work done daily and are regarded has less value through stereotypes thinking and discriminatory act.



Participants with their certificates after the training

At the end of the training, participants made the regrettable remarks on how they are mistreating their girls using the traditional understanding and knowledge exercised within their society.

Peace Building Training

From the 7th to 11th of September 2021, Vfc conducted a Peace Building training for 20 second cohorts young women under the Young Women Leadership Program at Vfc Resource Centre.

The program aims to prepare Young women to lead and influence change in their communities and this week, they received another skills building on understanding ways of positive living within the families and communities. They also learnt knowledge on preventive measures before and after conflicts through mediation techniques to create a peace environment for both men and women to live.



Group presentation while Lead Trainer Mr Mark Pokil and other participants listening

Family Farm Team Goal Training

A training on Family Team and Farm Goal was conducted by Vfc from 13th to 14th of July 2020 at Vfc Resource Centre for 33 young women under the Life Skills Project funded by DKA, Austria.

Since the participants were comprised of young, single and newly married, the training was focused on setting goals and steps towards achieving them as individuals and families. It was to equipped them into the future with basic understanding of having short and long term plans using farming and financial skills to their journey of life.

At the end of session, each participant shared their dreams and plans and made appreciative remarks to put into use



Vfc FFTG trainer Mrs Helen Paulus conducting the training

the new learnings

Respectful Relationship Training

Under the Young Women's Leadership Program, Vfc conducted a training on Respectful Relationship for second cohorts of young women from the 24th to 28th of August 2021.

The 21 young women from across Jiwaka received the training to increase their knowledge and to enhance their skills in leading and making informed decisions within their families and the communities.

To build a peaceful relationship and become a role model among their peers and families, these young women were upskilled to understand the core values



Vfc Trainer Miss Angela Mong leading the training

of respecting others and been respected.

Gender Based Violence Response and Prevention Program (GBV Response)

Voice for Change Gender Based Violence Response and Prevention Program is one of the main focus area for the organisation that is providing the services of; Counselling, Referrals, Repatriations and Safe House, Legal Aid Supports, and Mediations.

Within the program, the full working team for this quarter of 2020 comprised of:

- ◆ A Coordinator
- ◆ Counsellors
- ◆ A support staff

The EVAW Response Desk has two office set ups that are located at:

1. Banz town (Old Provincial Building)
2. Kukpa main office

Under the program, Vfc has been working with key stakeholders such as Police, Health and Courts to help survivors and clients receive the needed services.

HIGHLIGHTS FOR THIS QUARTER

Below are summary of activities undertaken under the EVAW Response Desk:

- Received a total of 96 clients including both women and men for this quarter 2021
- 1 child maintenance
- 1 child custody cases
- 13 IPOs successfully obtained by survivors
- 3 medical support
- 1 police referral
- 23 SARV Survivors Repatriations and Reintegration
- 1 GBV Survivor Repatriation
- 4 received safe house service
- 246 Secondary survivors recorded

"This quarter, Response Desk received quiet a challenging clients with most cases relating to Covid 19. Women were faced with difficult situations onto already burdened life resulting in high level of violence. We found out that, many were not reported due to the restrictions imposed by the Government of the day to control the pandemic". Ms Cathy Wamil - Program Coordinator



Gender Based Violence Training in Hela Province

VfC is expanding its work into Southern Highlands and Hela Province with the support of UN Women under the Gender and Youths Inclusive Project. A 5 days Gender Based Violence training was conducted in Tari Hela Province by VfC from the 20th to 24th of July 2021.

A total of 21 participants benefitted from the training focusing on ending all forms of violence against women and providing equal opportunities and respect women and girls deserve. Participants were also urged to give space to women and girls to exercise their rights in doing any other work like men and boys.



Hela participants with their Certificates after the training

After the completion of the training, they all were awarded with Certificates.

Research interviews for women during tribal conflict

On the 30th of September 2020, VfC interviewed a group of women from Ramui tribe of Baiyer District in Western Highlands Province.

These women were survivors of tribal conflicts that lasted for over 25 years with much of their life been spent on unsettled and trouble life. During the interview, they shared how terrible their life was as a women and girls. The information were collected using; one to one interview, focus groups and all in one discussion.

The interview was to assist a Doctor of Philosophy student from Melbourne, Australia for her research on the impacts of tribal conflicts on women and girls of Papua New Guinea.



The group of Ramui women of Baiyer

Introductory meeting on MVF Project at Hotel Kimininga, Mt Hagen

On the 1st of July 2020, VfC was invited to attend an Introductory meeting on Market for Village Farmers Project in Mt Hagen.

The project under CEFI and FPDA partnership was to support rural farmers from six highlands provinces to access wholesale markets and rollout inclusive financial management education at micro level.

VfC and other CBOs within Jiwaka made brief introductions and shared their experiences on working with rural communities.



VfC team, CEFI and other CBOs group photo

YWLP Reflection on Life Skills Trainings

After rolling out four of life skills trainings for the last six months, VfC conducted a Reflection on the 5th of August 2020 for the young women participants under the young women leadership program that have benefitted from those trainings.

A total of 28 young women recipients shared their successes and challenges they have faced when putting into use the new learnings. They also suggested way forward recommendations and how best VfC can

These trainings were to equipped the young women with knowledge and skills on economical aspect of life.



Young Women participants filling out the post evaluation

Financial Literacy Training

A two days training on Financial Literacy was conducted by VfC for 33 young women under the DKA Life Skills Project from the 15th to 16th of July 2020 at VfC Resource Centre.

The training was to upskilled and equipped participants with basic understanding of doing budgeting and savings that will help them be financial sustainable in the future of their life journey.

This training was made available by funding support from DKA, Austria.



Participants presenting an exercise on Budgeting

Basic Cooking and Nutrition Training

From the 3rd to 5th of August 2020, VfC conducted a Life Skills training on basic Cooking and Nutrition at VfC Resource Centre for 35 young women under the Young Women Leadership Program.

The participants learn different ways of food preparation using locally available garden foods combined with manufactured ingredients for self consumption and selling for income.

It is one of VfC focus on healthy living through home grown nutritious diet and ensuring of food security.



Young women team with their prepared food display