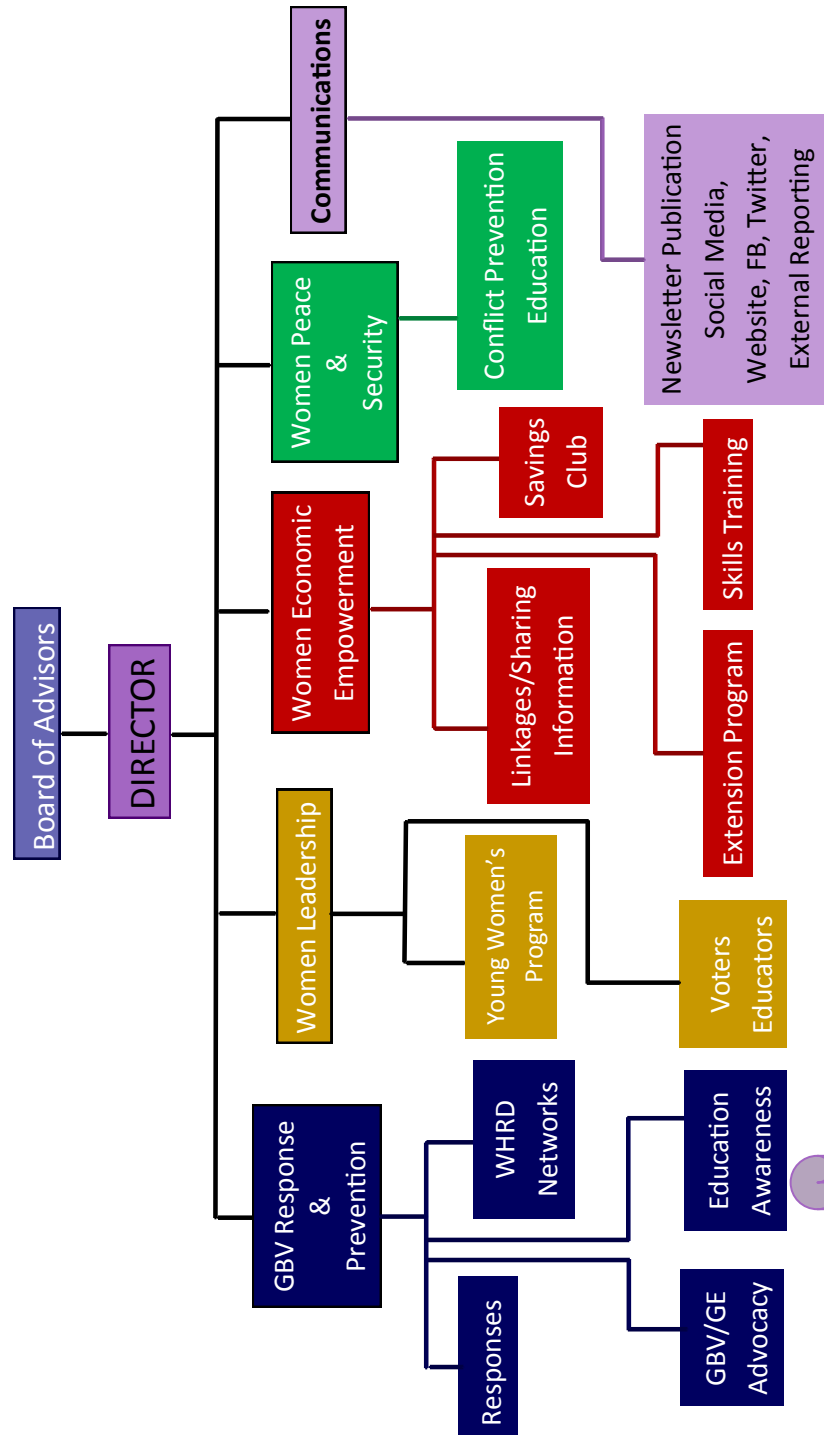




**Voice For Change Structure**



**Briefs**

- On the 3rd of November 2017 a new NGO team called PROMotion based in Madang made a courtesy visit at Vfc to see and know Vfc organisation work.
- A progressive and updates meeting was conducted by Vfc staff for the First Jiwaka Women's Forum on the 16th of October 2017.

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



# First Jiwaka Women's Forum 2017

*...more stories on page 2*

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3 Kings Mission, Horizon 3000

Oxfam PNG

Jiwaka Provincial Government

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**MESSAGE FROM DIRECTOR'S DESK**



Welcome to Voice for Change (VfC) fourth quarter edition of its newsletter for 2017.

In this edition, VfC is pleased to share with its partners and the people of Jiwaka updates about various activities it has carried out through this quarter of the year.

Two significant highlights VfC successfully undertaken were:

1. First Jiwaka Women's Forum



**Capacity Building on Livelihood Skills**

In this quarter under the Women Economic Empowerment Program (WEEP), **162** participants (88 females and 74 males) benefited from the following trainings; Piggery, Cooking & Nutrition, Fish, Duck and Vegetables Production.



**Nukmar and Milang communities with their Certificates**

The communities benefited were from Bune United Sister of Tombil, Kugar and Berepka and interested people from different communities of Minj, South Waghi. Among the participants were

2. New campaign approach on 16 Days of Activism

Enjoy Reading and God Bless!

**Lilly Be'Soer**

community leaders and church bearers.

Male participants received trainings which were once considered as female roles.

**Training on Family Teams and Family Goals**

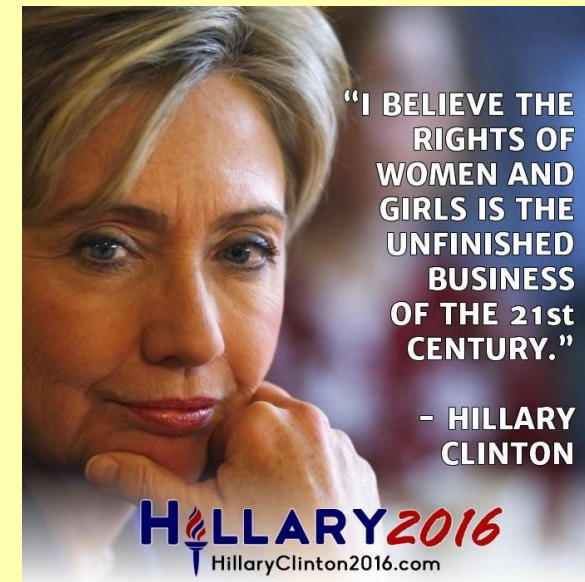
**F**or this quarter under the ACIAR Project, a training on Family Teams and Family Goals was conducted by VfC for Eka Community from the 21st to 22nd of November 2017.

A total of 48 participants consisting of 22 female and 26 male including community leaders and public servants benefited from the training.



**Eka Community group photo after the training**

**MESSAGE FROM EDITOR'S DESK**



**IWDA Finance Coordinator's Visit**

**M**s Suzanne Fletcher, Finance Coordinator, from IWDA made a visit to VfC from the 09th to 13th of October 2017.

Her visit was to:

- Get mid year financial report for VfC
- Check the progress of new financial management system that was set up last year

IWDA through Women's Action for Voice and Empowerment (WAVE) is funding VfC for four years and VfC has completed its second financial year.



**Ms Suzanne (right) with Ms Lilly and Ms Brenda from VfC**

The Editor wish to thank those who have contributed towards the publication of this fourth Issue 2017.

Hope you enjoyed reading this newsletter. Merry Christmas & a prosperous new year 2018

**Gideon Bare**



**ACRONYMS**

- EVAW** - Ending Violence Against Women
- FSVAC** - Family and Sexual Violence Action Committee
- FSVU** - Family and Sexual Violence Unit
- GBV** - Gender Based Violence
- HR** - Human Rights
- WAVE** - Women's Action for Voice and Empowerment
- WEEP** - Women Economic Empowerment Program
- WHRD** - Women Human Right Defender
- VAW** - Violence Against Women
- VCE** - Village Community Educators



### 13th Triennial Conference in Fiji

A team from Vfc attended the 13th Triennial Conference for Pacific Women in Fiji from the 2nd to 6th of October 2017.

For the first time Pacific Civil Society were allocated two seats at the conference to sit with the governments and participate during the sessions.

Vfc was given an opportunity to speak on the issues women encounter in Jiwaka and around the region.



The participants and Vfc team at the conference

### Young Women's Leadership Workshop in Melbourne

Ms Clara Opur from Vfc attended a Asia Pacific Young Women's Leadership Participatory Video & Advocacy Workshop in Melbourne from the 10th to 12th of October 2017.

It was to provide the opportunity for young women leaders, academic researchers, policy makers and the NGO community to share experiences and knowledge of supporting and understanding young women's leadership and the impact it has on building strong communities.

The workshop was hosted by the Monash Gender,



Ms Clara and other participants during the workshop

Peace and Security Research Centre and co-hosted by IWDA and the World YWCA.

### Active Citizen's Workshop in Samoa

On the 6th to 10th of November 2017, Ms Lilly BeSoer and Ms Sina Joe from Vfc attended an Active Citizen's Engagement Training of Facilitators Development Workshop in Samoa.

It was a Training of Trainers (TOT) workshop on social entrepreneurs and enterprises were participants will bring back what they learn and train their communities.



### Counselor's Workshop in Buka

Two counselors from Vfc attended a Counselor's Workshop facilitated by Nazareth Centre for Rehabilitation in Buka on the 9th to 20th October 2017.

Ms Regina and Ms Cathy learnt and enhance their knowledge and skills on how to do trauma and psychological counseling.



Ms Cathy (left) from Vfc with one of the participants

### Training on Basic Peace Building

Two weeks training on Basic Peace Building was conducted by Vfc for Malbanga Community of North Waghi District on the 13th to 22nd of November 2017.

A total of 28 youths comprised of 11 girls and 17 boys received the training on promoting and maintaining peace in the homes and community.

The participants expressed their understanding and appreciation and developed an action plan and made commitments to change their attitudes and behaviours. They pledge to work with their community leaders to uphold peace.



One of the male participant male giving a speech during the graduation

At the end of the training participants received Certificates of Attainment.

### Respectful Relationship Training for Young Women and Girls

A third module training for young women and girls under the Young Women Leadership and Empowerment Program was conducted by Ms Tessah Welsh, a freelance consultant for IWDA, on the 6th to 10th of November 2017.

A total of 25 participants from across Jiwaka received the training on Respectful Relationship. It was on how to maintain peace and good relationship within their families, friends, neighbours and communities



The young women and girls with Tessah (middle, back row) posing for group photo

### Paralegal Training

From the 25th to 29th of September 2017, a Paralegal Training was facilitated by Vfc for its network partners from 3 LLG of Jiwaka.

The one week training was grouped into sessions for the various trainers from:

- Minj District Court
- A Paralegal
- Ombudsman Commission
- Minj Health Centre
- Minj Police Station



Mr Bill Kapen, Highlands Regional Manager - Ombudsman Commission, speaking to the participants

A total of 40 participants received the training on the Basic Human Rights Law and the Referral Pathways for survivors.



## Young Women's Forum in Buka

Young girls from VFC were invited to attend young women's forum in Buka conducted by Bougainville Women's Federation from the 21st to 24th November 2017.

## Jiwaka women presenting of Forum Outcome Statement to Provincial Government

On the 27th of October, all the women across Jiwaka marched to the provincial headquarter and presented an Outcome Statement and Provincial GBV Strategic Plan to their elected MPs including the Governor of the province for endorsement.

The outcome statement was compiled by all women leaders from the province who have attended the provincial women's forum on the 25th to 26th of October 2017

Government officials and representatives were present to receive the women's grievances.



Mr Michael Wandil (right), Provincial Administrator receiving the outcome statement from two women leaders Ms Brenda Samson and Ms Getrude Andrias

## Counsellors Retreat in Banz, Jiwaka

A end of year Counselors Retreat was facilitated by Vfc for 26 Counselors including Vfc GBV Response Staff and its network partners from other highlands region at Maria Kwin on the 28th to 30th November 2018.

At the reflection it was revealed from the report that they also provide basic trauma counseling and mediate family conflicts.

## First Jiwaka Women's Forum - 2017

On the 25th and 26th of October 2017, Vfc facilitated the First Jiwaka Women's Forum in Jiwaka.

More than 120 Jiwaka women leaders from all works of life attended this provincial event including partners from:

- International Women's Development Agency (IWDA) - Melbourne, Australia
- Bougainville Women's Federation - Buka, AROB
- Nazareth Centre for Rehabilitation - Buka, AROB
- Wide Bay Conservation - Pomio, WNBP
- Young Women Rise Up - Madang

Funded by IWDA and supported by Jiwaka Provincial Government, the forum theme was "Jiwaka Women Uniting for Change, towards a Safer Jiwaka". They identified and discussed social issues like; drugs, sorcery, violence against women/girls, polygamy and market that are affecting the new province to move forward.



From left to right; Ms Getrude Andrias (Kingku Hightech), Ms Elena Leddra (PNG Program Manager, IWDA), Ms Lilly BeSoer (Director, Vfc) and Ms Donna McSkimming (Programs Director, IWDA)

## 16 Days of Activism - 2017

From the 25th of November to the 10th of December 2017, Vfc organized Volleyball and Novelty Games for 11 communities across Jiwaka to participate during 16 Days of Activism.

More than 1400 people from all age group including the disabilities participated to commemorate women and girls who are survivors of all forms violence.

Through the games the activism theme and messages were enlightened to the participants and the entire population of each



Bunowou community, one of the participating community

communities that were present during the finals days. The officials and community leaders urged the communities to uphold human rights for all including women and girls.