



FAMILY SUPPORT TRUST

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REACH OUT:

Harare Central Hospital,
Children's Rehabilitation Unit, 1st
Floor
P.O Box ST 506,
Southerton,
Harare
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Harare Sunday School teachers after receiving their certificates for completion of the training

We would like to officially introduce you to our first of many quarterly newsletters that are yet to come. It may be our first, but surely not our last. We have had a lot of activities running in the past 3 months.

FST is an organisation that provides medical and psycho social support to survivors of sexual and gender based violence. It also builds the capacity of different stakeholders on the prevention and management of sexual and gender based violence.

Despite the COVID-19 pandemic, FST did not close and continued to provide its services to survivors of sexual and gender violence. It however adjusted the way it operates and came up with innovative ways of assisting people. It utilised social media to disseminate information.

CAPACITY BUILDING OF FAITH AND COMMUNITY LEADERS IN THE FIGHT AGAINST SEXUAL VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN



Harare Junior Councillor participating in a presentation

The organization implemented a project targeted towards the training of faith and community leaders using the Sexual Violence Against Children model (SVAC) in Harare, Goromonzi, Zvimba, Mazowe, Umguza, Lupane and Tsholotsho districts. 80 workshops were conducted in these places, and over 2000 faith and community leaders were trained. The project intended on building their capacity to fight child sexual abuse in their communities.

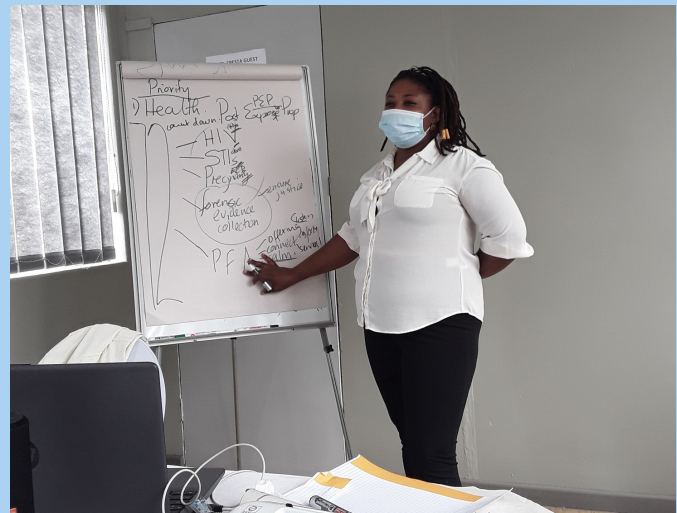


Mazowe traditional leaders attending SVAC workshop



Umguza Pastor's wives during the SVAC training

Faith and religion shape our everyday beliefs and the way we live in our community. Religious activities and beliefs frame the daily behaviours and attitudes of many people including on issues of HIV and AIDS, child sexual abuse, child marriages and access to justice. Therefore it was important to train faith community leaders as they hold power and influence in the society. They are also authoritative and are expected to lead people in a responsible way. However, it is important to note how some religious practices increase women and girls' vulnerability to sexual abuse and contracting HIV. It was therefore important to engage faith, traditional and community leadership so that they take the lead in fighting child sexual abuse as they have the power to influence change in their followers.



Alice Muridzo (psycho social support officer) facilitating the workshop



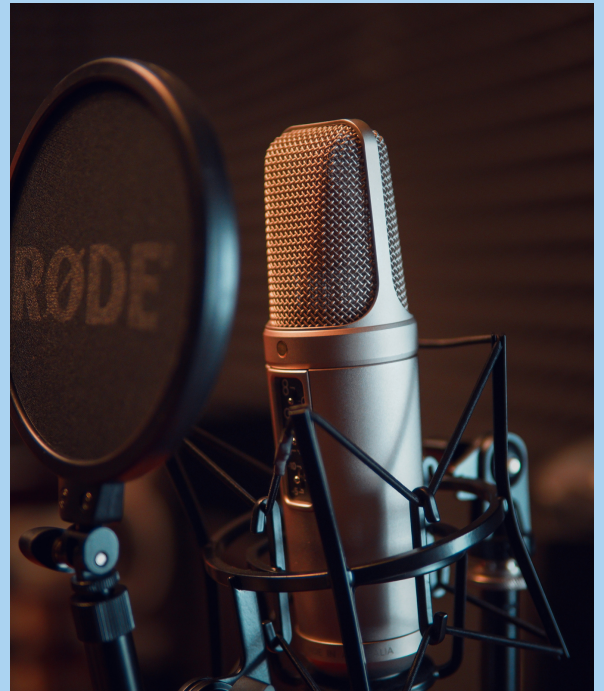
Headmasters of Umguza district attending the workshop

INFORMATION DISSEMINATION ON SEXUAL VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN

Due to COVID lockdown and in order to reach out to a larger audience, information was disseminated through radio and television.

Radio Programmes

Over 22 programmes have been broadcasted in the past three months. Weekly broadcasts on Star Fm running every Thursday at 10:15 am with different FST staff members going on air to discuss various topics surrounding sexual violence against children were held. Since the lockdown resulted in more people staying at home, the use of radio meant that a lot of people could be reached.



Television programmes

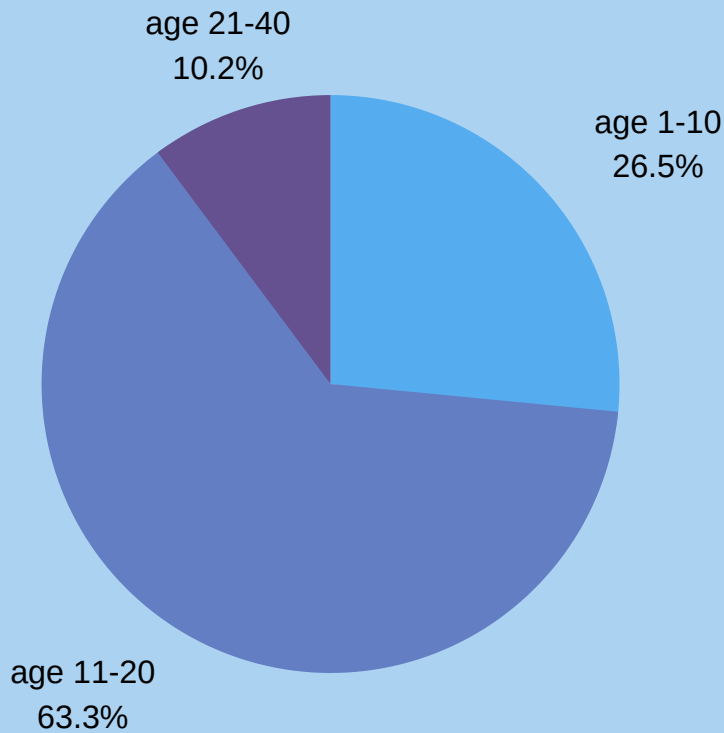


Shooting of Mai Chisamba show

Television programmes have been another initiative utilised to promote the fight against child sexual abuse. Vhunze, a Zimbabwean television programme which is broadcasted every Tuesday at 7:30pm showcased sexual violence against children in a both educational and entertaining way. Mai Chisamba show is another show utilised to prompt the discussion on sexual violence against children in the community. The shooting of the programme has already been done by the time this newsletter is published while the episodes will be broadcasted in October.

NUMBER OF CASES ATTENDED TO

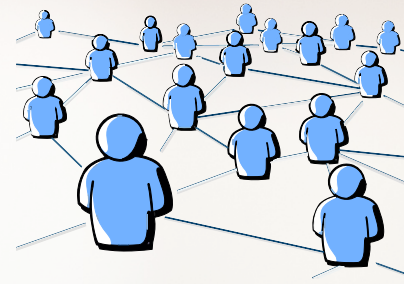
As a result of the trainings and information dissemination 49 cases were recorded at the FST Harare clinic.



The pie chart above shows the different age groups of people who were sexually abused and reported at the FST Harare clinic during the past three months. However this is not inclusive of other cases which were not part of the project. All the 49 cases recorded comprised of females only.



Social media



We effectively utilised social media to promote the fight against child sexual abuse. The organisation was and is currently active on FACEBOOK, TWITTER, INSTAGRAM and YOUTUBE. We have also used the platform to share the workshops that have been running to keep the audience engaged and also allow them to communicate with us and provide feedback through our social media platforms as well as reporting sexual abuse if they cannot physically report at the clinic.



**IF YOU HAVE BEEN SEXUALLY
ABUSED, OR KNOW SOMEONE
WHO HAS BEEN**

REPORT WITHIN 72 HOURS

Visit us

**FST Harare Clinic Harare Central
Hospital, Children's Rehabilitation
1st Floor**

**P.O Box ST 506, Southerton,
Harare**

**FST Chitungwiza clinic (Chitungwiza
Central Hospital) , FST Mutare clinic
(Mutare Provincial Hospital), FST
Beitbridge clinic (Beitbridge District
Hospital) or visit any nearest clinic.**



PEPFAR

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Z.A.C.H

