

KAGISANO

Gender-Based Violence Work Report in Khayelitsha

PARTNER/ SUBAWARDEE NAME: AFESIS

PERIOD: 2022-2024

SUBMITTED BY: MKHUSELI MADIBA SUPPORTED BY KAGISANO KHAYELITSHA
STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

POSITION OR ROLE IN THE PROGRAMME: AFESIS PROGRAMME OFFICER

CONTACT DETAILS: mkhuseli@afesis.org.za or 069 490 0307.



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Introduction to Kagisano Programme

Afesis-corporation responded to a call by the USAID for suitable entities to partner in the implementation of a programme aimed at promoting social cohesion in South Africa and preventing collective violence at a community level. The Kagisano programme is implemented in sixteen sites across the country, and six of South Africa's provinces. These are sites where incidences of collective violence had occurred in the past and where research still points to a high likelihood of recurring collective violence.

Kagisano seeks to strengthen the resilience of these partner communities by supporting efforts aimed at strengthening social cohesion and community-initiated (and facilitated) violence prevention processes. Kagisano is a multi-pronged and intergenerational programme in that it does not only seek to strengthen community efforts at building social cohesion and peace but also aims to address violence directed towards and by youth. In this way, Kagisano aims to instill skills and traits of character that contribute towards active citizenship amongst youth.

Programme Objectives

1. To strengthen the ability of local structures to develop and maintain transparent, credible, and peaceful conflict resolution mechanisms.
2. Empowering communities to participate in and own conflict resolution mechanisms.
3. Fostering organic opportunities to bring people together around areas of common concern.
4. Integrating community healing platforms to address individual and collective trauma crippling communities and contributing to violence.
5. Working with schools in the community to develop 'safe spaces for learners to find reprieve from violence while inculcating them with conflict management skills; and

Programme Goals

1. A significant reduction in the number of incidents of collective violence in target sites.
2. Increased safety of women and youth in target sites.
3. A significant reduction in youth-related violence; and increased conflict management skills among youth in target sites.
4. An increased number and diversity of organisations, in target sites, consciously working towards addressing a commonly identified vision that includes a commitment to a more peaceful and socially cohesive.
5. An increased ability of community leaders in target sites to respond to and mitigate against violence and promote peace using the community-centric method.
6. A reduction in the number of people in target sites who believe the presence of foreign nationals in their community is a significant contributor to their living challenges.
7. Increases in average student test scores in targeted schools, particularly of those students who had been primary victims of violence in the past.

Introducing the site of implementation (one of the sixteen)

Khayelitsha is one of the Kagisano implementation sites in the Western Cape. The programme is operating in the Western Cape Provincial Government region, under the City of Cape Town municipality. Khayelitsha consists of sub-councils 9 & 10. Sub-council 9 consists of seven wards which consist of the more northern parts of Khayelitsha, Drift sands, and the Denel area; it also includes the western parts of Mfuleni. Sub-council 10 consists of six wards that form the southernmost parts of Khayelitsha: Ward 94, Ward 95, Ward 96, Ward 97, Ward 98 & Ward 99.

The township of Khayelitsha, which in isiXhosa means "New Home," is located in Cape Town, Western Cape. It's one of the biggest townships in South Africa and consists of formal and informal settlements. According to the official 2011 census by Stats SA, the total population then was 391, 749.

In 2018, Dr Gio Perez, Chief Director for Metro Health Services said: *"The figures given by the census are the official Stats SA figures. If they extended the population to today (2018), it is estimated the population has grown to just under 500 000 people. However, these numbers are hotly disputed in some circles. The population quoted in the media ranges from 500 000 to 1.5 million people in 2018,"* In 2023, we have no exact population figures, however, we were able to determine that the socio-economic situations are further deteriorating as it was explicitly articulated by the social inquiry community stakeholders; that these situations are some of the root causes of violence and crime in the area.

However, Khayelitsha is more than the issues that were raised in the social inquiry and much progress has been made in the community since its inception in the 80s. For example, Khayelitsha has a booming local economy, a vibrant civil society sector, it has one of the best public local and long-distance transport operation systems, a growing tourism sector, it has a district hospital in the Khayelitsha Health District of the Metro Region, several public health facilities with health care provision such as community health workers, community radio, several community halls, an inclusive day and night time social scenery and it has active citizens and stakeholders that work together with community leaders and government to provide service delivery.

As the saying goes in the community *"Khayelitsha is not a jungle"* – Khayelitsha Development Forum.

Kagisano GBV work in Khayelitsha

The Kagisano programme aims to prevent collective violence and promote social cohesion through its activities such as conflict resolution, healing spaces, and cultural sensitivity. Among these activities are special sessions focused on gender-based violence (GBV). These sessions are designed to increase understanding, raise awareness, and offer ways to prevent and deal with the effects of such violence, while also addressing unresolved emotional trauma.

Through our continuous action orientated approach, we have been able to hear the unsaid conversations in the 'corridors and corners' of Khayelitsha, giving us key multilayered, complex and multifaceted root causes to collective violence in the area. One area we've worked intensely is GBV against women and children; we've hosted two 16 days campaigns each year from 2022-2024 that consisted of publishing campaign statements, social media awarenesses, awareness events and putting up awareness placards across Khayelitsha.

This GBV report, represents the work that has been done by the Kagisano programme in the area, it does not represent the full scale of GBV in the area, it gives the reader a glimpse of what we've uncovered and advocates for violence prevention institution working with GBV to use it as a guiding document for their work in the area and it also calls for the government, especially the Department of women youth and persons with disabilities to come visit Khayelitsha to tackle this issue to engage with some of the organisations and leaders who we've worked with in the area.

Also, the way forward on this issue of GBV is to document all our lessons into this report and send to the National Strategic Plan (NSP) Multisectoral structure that was set-up by the presidency to support the fight against GBV.

The NSP speaks to our work around GBV, because, "The National Strategic Plan (NSP) has issued a clear call to action regarding gender-based violence against women and girls (GBVF), emphasising the importance of expanding programming designed to involve men and boys in the battle against this form of violence," - Dr. Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma

GBV Campaign 2022

Afesis in collaboration with Kagisano Khayelitsha Steering Committee members initiated a 16 Days of Activism against GBVF Campaign from 25 November to 13 December to raise awareness and rally the broader community of Khayelitsha about the plight of womxn, and children against GBVF.

- The campaign started with the release of a declaration and statement campaign titled "Khayelitsha UNITE Against Gender-Based Violence & Femicide" by the Kagisano Khayelitsha Steering Committee. Afesis kicked off the campaign by sharing the statement on their social media platforms: Twitter and Facebook.
- Most of the Kagisano Steering Committee members (Khayelitsha local structures/organisation/social justice activists) were given 1 gig of data to share the statement to their respective constituency via different social media platforms: the statement was shared on WhatsApp statuses, Facebook and Twitter.



- The campaign also saw Kagisano members coming up with 31 different support statements; putting their collective voices. These statements of awareness included: contact details of where to report GBVF, where GBVF victims can get support, calling

out men to stop killing women and children, and also conscientising people about GBVF. Below are some examples

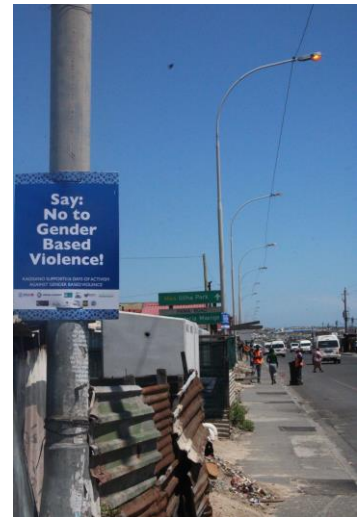


- Once the statement was released, Kagisano members shared/posted these statements on social media platforms, especially WhatsApp statuses daily until the end of the campaign. Afesis-corplan/Kagisano programme officer shared more GBVF statistics (quarter 2, 2022 SAPS crime stats), other useful information on GBVF, and information on what other organisations are doing to raise awareness on the issue. Example of one of the posts shared:



- A radio interview was also secured and done with Radio Zibonele by Afesis-corplan Programme Officer on the 6th of December. The Khayelitsha-based radio station and according to the Broadcast Research Council of South Africa; is the biggest community radio station in the Western Cape, with 187 000 listeners. The interview saw the Kagisano programme officer explaining the campaign, and its purpose and calling citizens of Khayelitsha to take action to fight GBVF.
- A profile story of Mpho Ya Basadi (steering committee member); GBV local organization was also written and released <https://afesis.org.za/16-days-of-activism-a-gift-to-women-mpho-ya-basadi/>

- The next activity of this campaign saw posters being designed; out of these 31 statements of awareness, 6 of them were pasted on posters and a total of 120 posters were printed and put up around 7 sections in Khayelitsha (Kuyasa, Makhaza, B-section, Ilitha Park, Khayelitsha central, Site B, and Site C) totalling 20 stops in total. This was done on Tues, 13 December, below are some of the photos



- This day saw steering committee members driving around Khayelitsha in a taxi and putting up these posters at the entrance/existing points, social gathering places, and other key points. As they were putting-up posters, members were also engaging with community members and raising awareness on the issue:
- At the end of the day, the steering committee reflected on the campaign and the year 2022 on the programme implementation in Khayelitsha.

GBV Campaign 2023

During 25 November to 10 December 2023, keeping up with the United Nations 16 Days Campaign theme of “UNITE! Invest to prevent violence against women and girls”; we invested time, effort and resources in collaborating with other like-minded organisations that deal with GBV, domestic violence and women issues to coordinate a 16 Days of Activism for No Violence against Women and Children Campaign.

Afesis coordinated this campaign with Mpho Ya Basadi and SAPS-Site B Police: Domestic Violence Office and Isibane Development Initiative who are all part of the Kagisano Khayelitsha Steering Committee.

The campaign saw us:

- i. Have regular partners meetings to plan, prepare and debrief the campaign:
 - On the 10th of November Afesis represented by Kagisano Programme Officers held two planning meetings first with SAPS Site B Police Station Domestic Violence Office Coordinator Constable Celia and Director of GBV focused NGO Mpho Ya Basadi at Siki’s Café. This was followed by a meeting with Youth-led organisation from Site C, Khayelitsha Isibane Development Initiative. The purpose of these planning meetings was to firstly: understand the 16 days campaign against GBV, how this links with partners works and the Kagisano programme and align each other’s work under this campaign.
 - On the 20th November, Afesis represented by Kagisano Programme Officers held follow-up meetings with SAPS Site B Police Station Domestic Violence Office and Isibane Development Initiative (IDI) Representatives to continue preparing for the campaign activities; more actions were taken to be ready of the 16 days of campaign online and in-person activities.
 - On the 4th December; Afesis, SAPS, and Mpho Ya Basadi met for the final preparation meeting of Indibano Ya Bafazi “Women’s Gathering” taking place on the 9th December. This meeting looked at the final checklist regarding logistics; venue, attendance, catering, programme, press and so forth. Isibane could not join for this meeting, a final meeting is to take place with them on 5th December.
 - On 5th December, Afesis Programme Officers met with Isibane Development Initiative Representatives to finalise preparation for 6th December Umrhabulo Wa-Bafana nentombi “gathering of young men and young women” space to engage on the dangers of Pens down and raise awareness of GBV. This meeting looked at the what final checklist regarding logistics; venue, attendance, catering, programme, press and so forth.



- On the 12 of December, all partners held a debrief meeting to reflect on the campaign; what worked, what didn't work, what can we improve and a way forward.
 - ii. On the 25th November, a collective campaign statement was drafted by partners and shared all partners social media platforms and Afesis platforms.
 - iii. Both SAPS and Isibane Development Initiative Profile Stories have been shared on Afesis website <https://ow.ly/yPzm50QbZKr> and <https://ow.ly/swNq50QbZB8>
 - iv. Also, a social media plan was developed by the Afesis Communication Team that saw social media awareness posts every day, shared across all Afesis' social media platforms: Twitter, Facebook, and LinkedIn. Some examples: <https://twitter.com/Afesis1983/status/1732277692895293461> and <https://www.linkedin.com/company/afesis-ngo/posts/?feedView=all>
 - v. Partners were bought data to share the stories and campaign content on their social media platforms = this was achieved as they shared on WhatsApp, and Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/isibanedi/> Some Afesis staff members also showed support for the campaign by writing awareness statements, these were shared on all social media platforms.
 - vi. Also, during the campaign 2 radio interviews were conducted by Afesis Programme Officer and Isibane Development Initiative Representative on Good News FM (KZN) and Rhodes Music Radio (Gqeberha): <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1GkbKs8bRWIEFFSxdKhdQUVKViCoqDpyQ/vi>
[ew](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1GkbKs8bRWIEFFSxdKhdQUVKViCoqDpyQ/vi)

- vii. On the 6th of December in Site C we hosted Umrhabulo Wa-Bafana nentombi “Gathering of young men and young women” space to engage on the dangers of Pens down and raise awareness of GBV. This saw the programme investing time and resources in amplifying the work of Isibane Development Initiative and had SAPS, Law Enforcement and City of Cape Town Municipality (Department of Sports and Recreation) also joining, while he also had guest speakers from Development Action Group and Department of Health.



"UNITE! INVEST TO PREVENT VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS"

The Kagisano Programme in partnership with the SAPS (Site B Domestic Violence Office), Isibane Development Initiative and Mpho Ya Basadi are hosting an event under the theme:

Umrhabulo Wa Bafana Ne Ntombi “gathering of young men and young women” and Iziphumela zePens Down “Pens Down” to maximize the impact of their 16 days of Activism Campaign and to gather local experts to discuss best practices and challenges in their work

06 December 2023 10h00 - 17h00

Solomon Tshuku Avenue, Site C, Khayelitsha

THIS EVENT WILL HAVE A 5-SIDE SOCCER AND NETBALL TOURNAMENT

For any inquiries, please contact Mr. Mzulungile 0784342720 or Mr. Azola 078 057 4239 or isibaneedi@gmail.com or Mr. Mkhuseleli Madiba at mkhuseleli@afesis.org.za /0694900307

Logos: USAID, Afesis, ACMS, ACTION, Agencia01, LAWYERS FOR HUMAN RIGHTS, Mpho Ya Basadi, and a yellow star logo.

- viii. On the 9th of December, at SAPS Khayelitsha Boardroom, we hosted Indibano Ya Bafazi0 “Women’s Gathering”– experts working in the field of GBV and domestic violence in Khayelitsha (women) to have a round table discussion on some of their experiences working in this field; challenges, gaps and best practices. This saw SAPS representatives presenting on stats on GBV in Site B sections, Kagisano Programme Manager being lead facilitator and presented on some of the programme discoveries across the 16 sites while other stakeholders shared their experiences working in this sector.



GBV work 2024

The "Breaking the Silence" event (men's gathering) was a monumental moment in the Kagisano programme in Khayelitsha site. In previous event we had attracted mainly women and few men.

During the 16 Days of Activism for No Violence against Women and Children Campaign last year, there was a call by Kagisano partners (SAPS and Mpho Ya Basadi) and other stakeholders working with GBV to host events targeting men, because they are the most perpetrators and they needed to be educated or made aware of the impact of GBV. As a result, on the 16th of March, Afesis hosted a Mens Gathering event at Site B, Community Hall:



Photo: Kagisano Programme Manager facilitating panel discussion and engagement

The ultimate goal of the "Breaking the Silence" event was to empower men to actively combat gender based-violence through education, awareness, and collective action. By fostering a supportive environment for open dialogue and understanding, the aim was to challenge harmful stereotypes and promote a culture of respect, equality, and non-violence.

The men's gathering event was aimed at attracting 100 men from Khayelitsha, specially from Site B community, however on the day, we attracted 40-45 attendees with most of the young men in attendance coming from Nonceba Family Counselling Centre and South African Police Service (SAPS), Mens for Change Group.

Also, in attendance were: Rape Crisis, Department of Social Development, UCT Doctor and Phil Psych Lecturer from the African Feminist Studies Department, No Excuse Campaign also part of Father A Nation and Life Line Western Cape. All these role players were able to engage as panellists, group participants and dialogue.



Photo: Kagisano Programme Officer, opening the proceedings.

There was expectation that many men from the area were going to attend, however +/- 30 men attended, and this spoke to the sentiment shared by the panellists that “men do not attend such gatherings”. In a country where 10,516 rapes, 1,514 cases of attempted murder, and 14,401 assaults against female victims (second-quarter crime statistics for 2023/2024), mostly perpetrated by men, one would think, a collection of men would rise up to the occasion.

However, it is not the case. We still have a long way to go. This was also evident in the dialogue engagements that certain gender norms continue to thrive, for example, the women in attendance said, “men must talk and not bottle-up their feelings, because what’s inside them ends up being anger and coming out violently”, while some men said “men are not the same as women, we do not talk, talking is for women”.

Furthermore, a chat about how culture and other ancient traditional practices have contributed to the division between men and women was had. We delved into how these practices have been adopted into modern society; and where culture is concerned, it was raised that it has normalized the objectification of women and young girls. For example, we touched on a practice called “Ukuthwala” which was carried out for decades.

One of the attendees said “Girls as young 13 years old would be married off to older men for status and financial gain. This is where you’d find a huge play of power dynamics and sexual grooming. Men would feel a sense of ownership over their “wives” meaning they could do as please with them. Stripping them of their rights and violating them in worst manner”.

Now, when analysing modern society, we see the same practices being carried out but in more “acceptable” manner. Girls are no longer forced into these child marriages instead old men lure them using materials and a promise for flashy lifestyle. In much as these exchanges are regarded as consensual but in its true nature it is sexual grooming. We identified the same power dynamics and a violation right that you’d witness in a child marriage. This raised a question whether “how can we put an end these practices?” and it was also learning moment for those present on what statutory rape actually is.

Another topic that caused a bit of discomfort was the issue of sexual assault amongst men. One of the man said “according to culture, a men could never be sexually assaulted by their partner. Instead, it’s considered as performing their duties as a man”. The different opinions made it was obvious that men and woman will always have different perspectives.

However, we were able to agree, violence affects both men and women; but unfortunately for men it is much harder to come forward and admit it because society has not opened the right channels for them to do so. Which begs the question “how do we get men to talk and break the cycle?”. In response DSD representative said, “it requires a multisectoral approach and a MOU from different departments that would lay out a plan on how to build a man, because currently there’s a lack of interlink between departments”.

Such gender norms and culture contribute to the division between men and women. Culture was also a big theme that came out from the panellists and participants. There were different and opposing views around culture, that made the space feel unsafe.

It was clear that men and women value and see things different. However, one thing, that we all agreed on was the violence affects both men and women, furthermore, men do get sexually assaulted and raped. To break this cycle, DSD representative said, “it requires a multisectoral

approach and a MOU from different all departments that lays out a plan to build a man, because currently there's a lack of interlink between departments”.

On the other hand, even though SAPS was unable to comment on the statistics of, contributing factors to Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) & GBV, they said “equipping SAPS Officers from the inside, raising awareness and upskilling men can help the fight against GBV. This is what we are also doing as Mens for Change at SAPS Khayelitsha).

While a Community Police Forum (CPF member) and founder of Lukhanyiso Children's Home Mamu Zuki said “the fault starts at home, absent parenting, especially fathers, this neglect turns into anger at a later stage and we see these men taking out their anger violently towards their victims”. More insights such as these, came out in the group discussion, one teenage boy, said “if only umama can apologise, then I will be good”.

As a result, the group engagements revealed quite a lot of information, which participants were also able to present back to everyone.



Photo: Group engagements and Presentations

Some of the main points that came out in the group engagements answered the following questions;

1) Factors contributing to IPV & GBV?

- Childhood trauma, peer pressure, lack of a positive family structure, and unfaithfulness
- Lack of trust and communication, power dynamics in relationships, grooming of kids by adults, unemployment, being dependent financially to someone, lack of role models and lack of what is a woman.
- Lack of accountability amongst men and holding each other accountable, lack of love, and anger.

- 2) What are some key topics/issues that men in our community are currently facing which are not being addressed. And had such topics/issues being addressed, what change will they bring about?
 - When men are abused, they are not listened to or taken seriously, which causes them not to report.
 - Awareness campaigns, lots of workshops,
 - Men are not taken seriously when they go to the police station to open a case with women.

- 3) How do you think a safe, conducive and inclusive space for men to openly share their thoughts, experience, and challenges can be created?
 - We need to create more safe spaces for men to talk and share their feelings and thoughts about this issue, like workshops and imbizos.
 - Build trust among men
 - The conversation needs to start at home with parents talking to their children and also involving many stakeholders.
 - Building groups such as men support groups and having victim support units for men

It seems to tackle this pandemic, a lot of work would need to be done and more men need to be educated about this, because when men were asked what they hoped to gain from the discussion, they said they hoped “to be more empowered, equipped and informed about GBV”, another said “to be more knowledgeable about GBV and IPV. Also, men hoped “to have access to other organisations working around this issue”.

Overall, it was a good space, however it was not safe for men to engage comfortably; creating safe spaces is not an easy thing or overnight. It was clearly men needed a safe space alone, at the same time, it good we had women in the space to share some insights from there end and to try to bridge the gap between the two parties.

Panel discussion and engagements notes:

Group engagement and presentation notes:

YELLOW

FACTORS

- * Over Burdened
- * Lack of trust and unfaithfulness
- * Substance Abuse
- * Childhood Trauma
- * Peer Pressure
- * Family Structure

YES

Communication

- * Sharing of responsibility
- * Accountability
- * Willingness to change
- * Include all family members in decision making

When they abused they are not listened to → Cause them not to report / E

Create programmes for men to talk

- * Workshops / Imbrizo

Collaboration among stakeholders open communication in household.

Gym
Sharing with trusted friend

to be empowered with GBV & Domestic Violence, to develop men as mentors for the future.

hope to better mobilisation

ORANGE

- x Lack of trust.
- x Lack of communication.
- x Power dynamics
- x Grooming/breeding
- x Lack of unemployment
- x -finance
- x Lack of what is a woman
- x Lack of role models.

x Workshop for men

x Discussion of finance problems.

x Lack of accountability amongst men. i.e. not holding each other accountable.

x Awareness gathering, lots of workshops.

Build trust among men

Positive activities
i.e. going to the gym taking a walk.

The way of thinking.

- x to be more knowledgeable about GBV and IPV

Access and network to other organisations. i.e. men for change

* Green *

1. ^A Lack of Love/Anger/Carce of anger is an ignorant of the boy/girl child. / of +
_B Issues of the parents/affecting the boy child. / Name calling, Substance abuse

2. ^A Men are not taken Serio when they go an open a Case against a women.
 if these challenges can be addressed we could see the drop in this stratics.

_B The parents must acknowledge their wrong doing. / Men must take responsibility after women if.

3. Geo Groups/Network/Victims/Spread-

4. Skills/Business men (around you)

• Sports/Music/Activty's.

Trained knowledge/motiviation/education.

aviour/victims/ex-offender/Justic/ All the developments.

liborator among stock holders
 in communitie in house hold.

Organisations we've partnered with around GBV in Khayelitsha

Mpho Ya Basadi	Khayelitsha Development Forum – Women's Desk	SAPS Khayelitsha Station – Domestic Violence Office	SAPS Khayelitsha Station – Mens for Change Forum	Isibane Development Initiative	Nika Amandla Development
Intlungu Yase Matyotyombeni	Africa Unite	iKhaya eLitsha Hub	Equal Education	Khayelitsha Peacebuilding Team	Heads-Up
Inkululeko in Mind	SAPS Khayelitsha	Umthombo wolwazi	Ikamva Youth	BonguBuntu Youth Development	Vee Media House
Department of Social Development – Khayelitsha, GBV unit	Life Line Western Cape	Rape Crisis	UCT Doctor and Phil Psych Lecturer from the African Feminist Studies Department	No Excuse Campaign	Father A Nation and

Way Forward

For us, the way forward on this issue of GBV is to document all our lessons into a report and send to the National Strategic Plan (NSP) Multisectoral structure that was set-up by the presidency to support the fight against GBV.

The NSP speaks to our work around GBV, because, “The National Strategic Plan (NSP) has issued a clear call to action regarding gender-based violence against women and girls (GBVF), emphasising the importance of expanding programming designed to involve men and boys in the battle against this form of violence,” - Dr. Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma