



GBVF
RESPONSE FUND

2025/26 INTEGRATED ANNUAL REPORT

Five years of partnership, progress and possibility

*Many pieces.
One purpose.
Stronger together*

SAFER FUTURES FOR ALL. DIGNITY. EQUALITY. OPPORTUNITY.





GBVF

RESPONSE FUND

“One of the most rewarding outcomes is seeing survivors move from crisis to stability.

Women who once felt trapped by violence and economic dependence are now rebuilding their lives, supporting their families, participating in community activities, and becoming advocates for other survivors.

These stories remind us that when survivors are given the right support, opportunities, and resources, meaningful and lasting change is possible.”

Opret Advice Office
GBVF Response Fund community-based partner

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About the GBVF Response Fund

The Gender-Based Violence and Femicide (GBVF) Response Fund ("the Fund") is the most coordinated national mechanism supporting South Africa's implementation of the National Strategic Plan on Gender-Based Violence and Femicide (NSP).

Established in 2021 by the President, in partnership with the International Women's Forum South Africa (IWFSa), we were created to mobilise and coordinate private sector, philanthropic and global development resources in support of the country's response to GBVF.

Our establishment followed the national call to action against GBVF that gained momentum through the 2018 #TotalShutdown movement and culminated in the 2019 Presidential GBVF Summit. These national efforts informed the development of the NSP, providing a coordinated framework to strengthen prevention, response, accountability and long-term systemic change.

As a catalytic funding and partnership platform, we continue to enable collective action by investing in community-based interventions, fostering strategic partnerships, and supporting innovative approaches that advance the objectives of the NSP.

Over the last five years, the Fund has worked to enable coordinated, multi-sectoral action, mobilise resources, enhance accountability, and strengthen the community response to create a safer South Africa for all.



OUR VISION

A South Africa free from gender-based violence and femicide directed at women, children and LGBTQIA+ persons. We are guided by the National Strategic Plan on GBVF.

About this report

This annual report blends detailed progress and impact of the GBVF Response Fund over the last year (2025-2026), with reflections on the role and impact of the Fund over the last five years since its inception. It provides insights into our motivation, programmes, advocacy initiatives, partnerships, governance, finances, successes and challenges.

We invite stakeholders to engage with this report and join us in advancing a collective response to end gender-based violence and femicide in South Africa. Like connecting the pieces of a shared puzzle, each contribution brings us closer to creating our collective vision of a future where everyone can live with dignity, safety and respect.

Impact of gender-based violence in South Africa

The GBVF crisis is undeniable

The evidence is clear, gender-based violence and femicide is a national scourge that requires us all to join forces if we are to overcome it.



“There are precious lives between these cold numbers”

- Graca Machel, at the Desmond Tutu International Peace Lecture 2021

Global and local pressures exacerbate the problem

Numerous factors, globally and locally, are impacting both the drivers of gender-based violence and femicide, and our ability to stand against it. Globally, human rights defenders are under attack and geopolitical uncertainties and hostilities remain elevated and unpredictable. The economic impacts of this reverberates locally, raising uncertainties and challenges for everyday South Africans.

At the same time, the fundraising environment has become increasingly constrained. Traditional international donors are prioritising defense-related expenditure while scaling back on development assistance. In response the philanthropic sector is transitioning their priorities to emerging global needs and gaps, such as supporting those affected by conflict.

*Source: <https://crimehub.org/map>.

**Source: Human Sciences Research Council, South African National Gender-Based Violence Study, 2022.

*** Source: World Population Review, Femicide Rates per Country 2023.

Locally, while the economic outlook was showing signs of improvement on the back of improved electricity supply, removal from the Financial Action Task Force Grey List, and a successful hosting of the G20, persistent socio-economic challenges, competing social priorities, and unmet government commitments continue to place significant pressure on South African society.

These pressures filter down to communities, tearing at the social and economic fabric, as evidenced by the classification of gender-based violence and femicide as a national disaster by President Ramaphosa in November 2025. GBVF is further exacerbated by entrenched social and structural drivers such as poverty, inequality and harmful social norms. Yet, the resources required to strengthen prevention, justice and survivor support remain under increasing strain, limiting the scale and sustainability of the response.

South Africans are rising to the challenge

Encouragingly, South Africans are taking a stand, demanding action from leaders at all levels. This activism has galvanised a growing momentum, leading to several positive developments in the fight against GBVF. Most notable of these in 2025/26 are:



The release of the mid-term reflective review of the National Strategic Plan on Gender Based Violence and Femicide.



The declaration of gender-based violence and femicide as a national disaster by President Ramaphosa.



Progress in constituting the National GBVF Council Board Members with the recruitment process under way.



Inclusion of a strong component on gender equality, and specifically gender-based violence, in the G20 Declaration.

Each of these helps to raise awareness on the problem and impact of GBVF and strengthen collective commitment and resourcing for the fight to eradicate the scourge of GBVF from our society.

The GBVF Response Fund is proud to be playing a leading role in this fight. Together we can create a safer South Africa for all of us.



A word from our Chairperson

The Fund continues to deliver on its mandate in line with the NSP and its mission to contribute to a South Africa free from gender-based violence and femicide.

Momentum is growing

In the five years since our inception, we have seen a momentum shift, demonstrating increasing urgency to address GBVF in South Africa.

From a policy perspective, the long-awaited National Council on GBVF Act was passed by the President in May 2024. This was an important milestone for the country, providing a framework for the co-ordination and accountability of GBVF initiatives across the various spheres of government. More broadly, the G20 conference provided us with a global platform to share our work and showcase the success of private-public partnerships.

Our efforts to mobilise business and civil society are starting to bear fruit, increasing awareness and marshalling active engagement by all stakeholders to work towards ending GBVF. At the grassroots, the CBOs we support have shown resilience and growth and are making meaningful impact to beneficiaries on the ground.

I am particularly proud of the fact that our beneficiary reach is diverse and inclusive. Over the last five years, **we have reached close to 1.5 million** people across the country, including youth, learners, women, men, persons with disabilities and marginalised communities. It remains critical that we continue to support everyone who is affected and impacted if we are to end the scourge of GBVF.

We aim to break the inter-generational cycle of abuse and GBVF by empowering, investing and educating our youth. We must empower them with knowledge and tools so that they can make informed choices and decisions in the future. Young people must know that they have the choice and power to speak up, act, and walk away from abusive relationships, and that they can end the cycle of violence.





A significant achievement has been our focus on prevention in younger age groups. Those 0-17 years of age account for 63% of our total reach in the last year, from March 2025-February 2026, meaning over **3 hundred thousand young people** have been reached through our prevention, education and awareness programmes in the last year alone. By addressing social norms, mindsets and attitudes that lead to violence and abuse early, we can win the war on GBVF.

The challenge remains great

The fight to eradicate GBVF is not an easy one; the challenges are immense, systemic and unpredictable. But by working together, we can build a new reality where we can all live and thrive in a country free from violence and harassment.

In recent years, global geopolitical tensions and uncertainty have affected funding for women's empowerment and GBVF programmes, affecting the viability and impact of some civil society entities.

Our CBO grantmaking programme works to ensure the community response remains supported. To date, we have invested over **R196 million** in **237 CBOs** across the country, including emergency support for CBOs that lost funding from international donors, and top-up funding for those organisations that are demonstrating the greatest impact.

Business has an important role to play too. Since GBVF is closely linked to historical political imbalances and socio-economic inequality, we must address these root causes deliberately by investing in women's skills, education and economic empowerment. We continue to work with the private sector, engaging businesses to take the lead in women's empowerment initiatives, strengthening workplace policies, and raising awareness within organisations.

Together we can make a difference

Over the last five years, we have seen that partnerships built on shared values have been central to our success. Collaboration with government, business, civil society, non-governmental organisations and CBOs has enabled meaningful impact on the ground.

Strong governance and ethical leadership have been essential. The Board's commitment to high standards of governance, service and accountability has strengthened the Fund since inception. Furthermore, our sustained commitment to our vision has driven our progress; with our achievements rooted in the dedication of those who remain passionate about ending gender-based violence in South Africa.

I would like to extend my appreciation to our hard-working staff, the committed and dedicated Board of Directors, our donors for their continued financial contributions, and to our pro-bono partners for their unwavering support. To our grant management partners and CBOs who are at the front end of supporting survivors of GBV, you remain critical partners in our work; thank you all.

Each of us has the power to make a positive difference wherever we are, in our homes, schools, workplaces and communities. It begins with awareness: of our own attitudes, the way we treat others, and the choices we make every day. If we commit to treating one another with respect and human dignity, we can move faster towards ending gender-based violence in our country.

"Change will not come if we wait for some other person or some other time. We are the ones we've been waiting for. We are the change that we seek." - Barack Obama

Faith Khanyile

Board Chairperson

A word from our CEO

A concerted, collective response has always been the cornerstone of our approach to eradicating GBVF.

In this past year, we are increasingly seeing the fruits of the relationships and partnerships we've been cultivating over the last five years, as well as continued programmatic and operational progress.

Partnerships and collaboration

A key milestone in the past financial year was our **participation in the G20 Empowerment of Women Working Group (EWWG)**, enabling us to coalesce around our national goals and shape some of the global conversations on gender equality and GBVF.

This participation was not only a culmination of the public-private collaborations we've built, but also a means to strengthen key long-term relationships, which have had really far-reaching impact.

I am profoundly grateful for our invaluable partnership with the United Kingdom Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (UK FCDO), who have supported us since inception. This cooperation helped South Africa to raise GBVF as a global priority under the country's G20 presidency.

It has also been particularly gratifying to see the UK launch a global partnership on GBV this year, with South Africa as one of the founding members.

"Respect, consent and equality cannot be optional values. Ending GBVF requires that we reject indifference and embrace our collective responsibility."



Furthermore, through strategic partnerships such as our collaboration with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the Fund was able to showcase our role as **a unique private sector-led mechanism that has mobilised much-needed investment in the GBVF response** during the G20 Ministerial Breakfast.

Simultaneously, we have continued to strengthen systems-level coordination and coalition-building efforts, bringing together stakeholders across government, business, civil society, academia, and development partners to advance a more collaborative, whole-of-society response to GBVF.

Alongside the Private Sector Coalition (PSC), which focuses on strengthening workplace responses to GBV and harassment (GBVH) and mobilising corporate leadership and accountability, **the Fund has joined the emerging GBVF Prevention Coalition**. This Coalition seeks to promote prevention, strengthen movement-building, and align prevention efforts across sectors through a coordinated national platform that addresses the root causes of GBVF. Together, these initiatives complement the Fund's strategic focus on fostering collective action, strengthening partnerships, and enabling sustainable systems change.

In November 2025, President Ramaphosa **classified GBVF as a national disaster that demands national action**. It is our hope that this classification will strengthen collaboration efforts and create a ground swell, raising GBVF into the conversations about resource allocation, prioritisation, and accountability, and spurring all sectors to collective action to end GBVF in our lifetime.



Tandi Nzimande, GBVF Fund CEO and Koketso Rathumbu, GBVF Fund Advocacy and Communications Manager at the G20 Ministerial Breakfast, Oct 2025.

Programme and operational progress

Our support for the community response is growing. As of February 2026, we have **invested over R196 million in 237 community-based organisations (CBOs)** and intermediary partners, who have reached almost **one and a half million beneficiaries**.

We have also been working to improve our programme management and monitoring. We've strengthened data collection and verification and implemented a phased disbursement approach to reduce risk, ensure resources are being used as effectively as possible, and build capacity within the organisations we support.

Our advocacy initiatives also continue to gain momentum. We have partnered with the Shared Value Africa Initiative to drive the PSC, and the UNFPA is supporting the **development of the PSC toolkit** to guide and support the private sector in their GBVH response. The **RESPECT campaign is being refreshed**, and we are exploring how best to measure the impact of the campaign.

Fundraising, operations and governance

With the Board's decision to extend the Fund's tenure for a further five years, and changes in the global funding landscape, the last year has seen a **renewed focus on fundraising and stakeholder management**. We are in the process of capacitating the Fundraising function and recruited our first ever Fundraising Manager as the year was rounding off. We will look to strengthen this function further this year.

We are grateful that with a lean team we have been able to achieve so much. The Fund has now reached a level of operational complexity and organisational maturity that requires the alignment of our organisational structure with our new strategic approach. We have therefore aligned our internal structure to ensure that the right leadership, capabilities, and support functions are in place to effectively deliver the strategy, however, this is still in progress.

Governance remains strong, with a focus on using our resources efficiently and managing risk appropriately. **The Fund received an A+ performance rating from the UK FCDO** for the funding provided between 2022 and 2026.



The rating reflects our strong performance in delivering against agreed objectives, effective stewardship of donor resources, and our ability to translate investment into meaningful results for communities affected by GBVF. The A+ rating provides an important external affirmation of our programme delivery, grants management, accountability and overall value for money.

My **deepest gratitude goes out to our donors and pro-bono partners, some of whom have carried this arduous mission alongside us since inception.** Your investment and your unyielding dedication have kept us encouraged and optimistic about a safer, more equitable future.

I am also immensely grateful to the team for their unrelenting hard work and dedication to the Fund. You are the engine that has allowed the Fund to impact so many lives and to continue to do so well into the future.

Before attending the workshops, many of us did not fully understand the different forms of abuse, including emotional, physical, and verbal abuse. The programme helped us understand our rights and recognise behaviours that are harmful or unacceptable

- Learners supported by the KZN Deaf Association

Looking forward

The work that we do remains vital. There is still a long way to go to achieve our goal of a South Africa that is safe for women, children and all vulnerable people.

In this last year we have developed the strategy for the Fund's next five years - Strategy 2030. As well as strengthening our partnerships and collaborations, in the coming year we will focus our efforts on implementing this new strategy.

Prevention remains a top priority, as is supporting initiatives that ensure protection, healing, and access to legal services for survivors. We will also drive more evidence-based implementation to achieve systemic change, developing communications and metrics to strengthen the sector as a whole.

Within communities, we will focus on deepening our reach and impact. Within the private sector, we will build on the PSC and establish a set of standards for the sector to measure progress against GBVH. And with the government, we will continue to ensure a coordinated response, working to establish a collaborative relationship with the National Council on GBVF, once they are operational.

Working together we can face this scourge head on and build a South Africa where everyone lives free from violence and harassment.

Tandi Nzimande

Chief Executive Officer

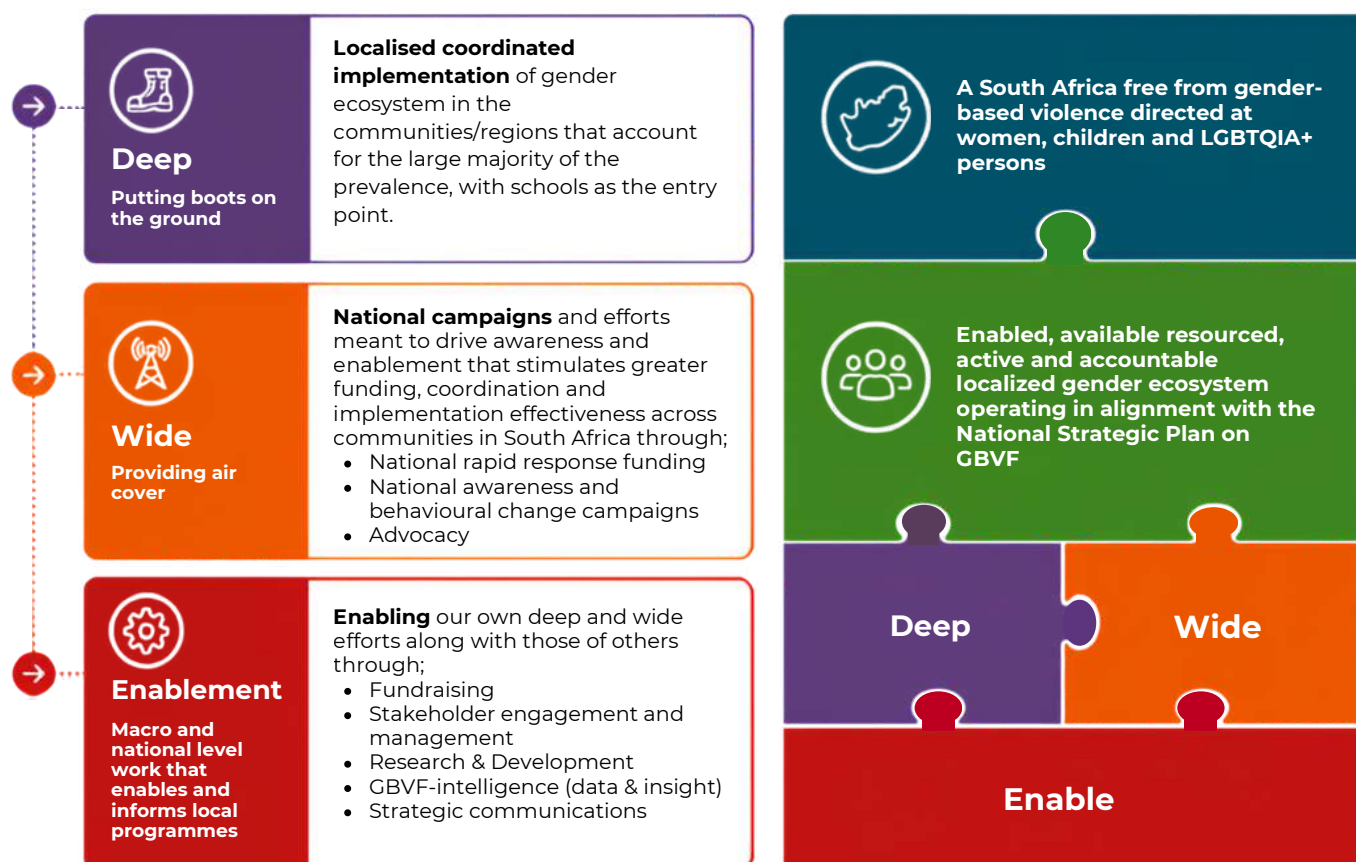
Strategy 2030

With the extension of our mandate for a further five years, we have developed our new strategic approach, building on the lessons and successes from our first five years.

Our new Strategy 2030 will focus on prevention, the use of data to better inform programme direction and measure results, and ensuring strong systems for sustainability. In a nutshell, we will be going Deep and Wide, while ensuring an Enabling environment.

- **The Wide** focus encompasses continuing the work we've been doing supporting community-based GBVF prevention, care and support, access to justice, and strengthening advocacy and communication to inform and change harmful social norms and behaviours. We will also continue to expand our collaborative coalition building to ensure a long-term systemic foundation that supports a safer South Africa for all.
- **Going Deep** is a new targeted approach aimed at reducing the persistently high rates of GBVF in the country. We will pilot targeted prevention initiatives concentrated in communities, working in schools, with parents and the broader community to achieve a meaningful, sustainable reduction in GBVF in these communities. This will then be scaled to other communities.
- The **Enablement** focus seeks to create a solid systemic foundation that underpins our efforts and those of others, through support for fundraising, stakeholder management, research and M&E, among other factors.

OUR NEW 5-YEAR STRATEGIC APPROACH



REFLECTING ON OUR FIRST 5 YEARS OF IMPACT

2021-2026

1

2018-2019
South Africa says enough,
• The 2018 #TotalShutdown protests demand action against GBVF.
• 2019 Presidential Summit on GBVF makes GBVF a priority.
• The National Strategic Plan on GBV (NSP) is developed

2

2021
GBVF Response Fund launched by President Ramaphosa and the IWF-SA to catalyse collective national action and implement the NSP.

3



2021- 2023 - Laying foundations and planting community roots
• The Fund's structures, governance and vision are developed and aligned to the NSP.
• 1st Funding round launched to strengthen the community response, with R63m invested in 110 CBOs and other partners.

4



2023 - The RESPECT Campaign launched,
• Aimed at prevention and changing harmful norms and behaviours.
• 61 million people reached through various outreach interventions

6

2024 - Private Sector Coalition launched,
• To address workplace GBV and harassment and mobilise business leadership.
• Co-convened with The Presidency, JSE, UNFPA, ILO, and UN Women.
• Introduced a CEO/Executive Advocacy Campaign during 16 days of activism against GBVF.



7

2024-2025 - Strengthening the ecosystem through strategic partnerships
• Strengthening partnerships for survivor-centred care and justice pathways with the Minerals Council and National Prosecuting Authority.



5



2023-2025 - Community reach expands
• 2nd Funding round invests a further R100m in 134 CBOs and other partners.
• Focus is on high incidence "hotspot" areas and expanding support for communities in underserved areas.

BY THE NUMBERS
(2021-2026)

R284.4m
Total Funds Mobilised

R207m
Total Funds Disbursed

237+
Community and National Organisations Supported

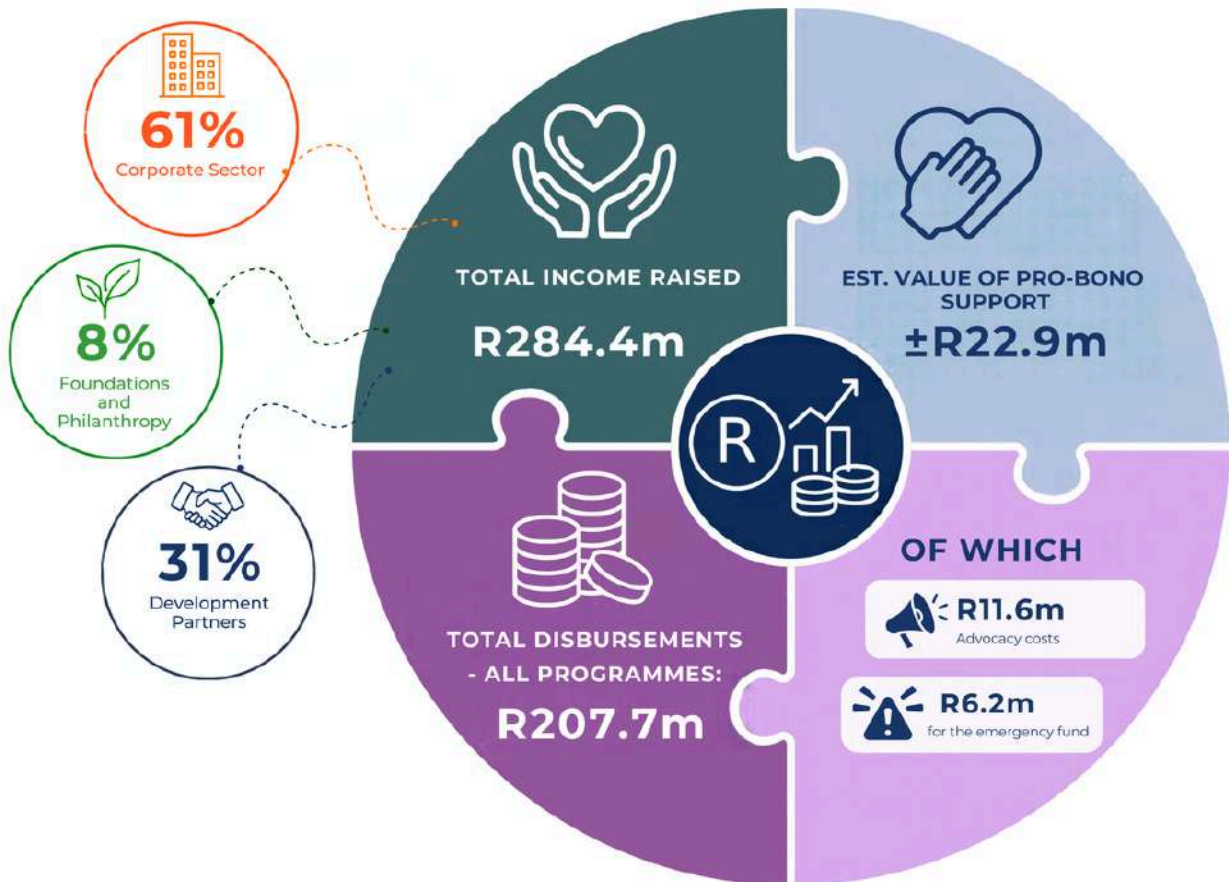
1.5m
Beneficiaries reached

61m
Reached with prevention messaging in all 11 languages

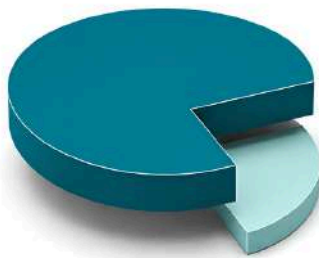
R6.2m
Emergency Relief Disbursed

5 Year financial results at a glance

Responsible stewardship of resources enables us to sustain impact, strengthen partnerships and build safer, more equitable communities. We are extremely grateful to all those who have supported us over the last five years, and to those that continue to support us. We remain committed to using this support in the most efficient way to achieve maximum impact in helping South Africa to eradicate GBVF.

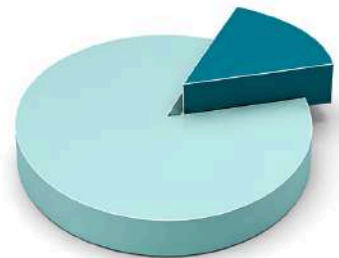


84%
TOTAL PROGRAMMATIC AND ADVOCACY SPEND
Investing in programmes, people and communities



16%
(of total expenditure)
ADMIN COSTS

Efficient operations that enable greater impact



Learning that GBV can happen to anyone at any time opened my eyes. I thought GBV only happened to women, but men can also be victims - CBO participant

Partnering for progress

We believe that only by working together can we make a real impact in preventing and eradicating gender-based violence and femicide.

To this end, the Fund actively engages and catalyses partnerships from all sectors of society to help play their part. Multiple corporates from various sectors have stepped up to join us on this mission, donating either financial or pro-bono resources that ensure we can implement our shared vision to strengthen the country's GBVF response.

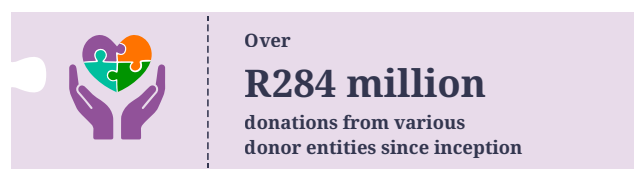
Beyond the more than **R284 million** in funding donated since our inception, numerous partners have donated at least **R22.9 million** in pro-bono services and support. Our Board members also provide their services on a pro-bono basis, for which we are immensely grateful.

These invaluable contributions, including discounted office space, financial and auditing services, transport, media, advertising, and other operational needs, help to strengthen and amplify the impact of our work.

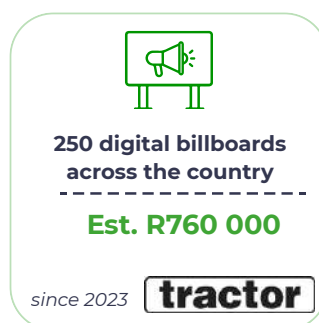
Through this shared commitment, we are working together to create a safer South Africa for all.



Staff of the Fund and Mankweng Community Law Advice Office outside their offices in Limpopo Province, with the car donated by Avis for community outreach.



PRO-BONO PARTNER SUPPORT SINCE 2023



“As organisations, we have a responsibility to use our strengths to help address the challenges facing our country. The impact of doing so can be far greater than we imagine.” - Hloni Mphahlele, Head of Transformation, Alexforbes

Donor Message

The Johannesburg Stock Exchange

The Johannesburg Stock Exchange (JSE) support for the GBVF Response Fund is rooted in a simple conviction: gender-based violence and femicide is not only a social crisis; it is also a workplace, economic, and national development issue. It affects employees, families, communities, and the broader economy.

As Africa's largest exchange and a core part of South Africa's market infrastructure, the JSE recognises that sustainable growth depends on social stability, safety and inclusion.

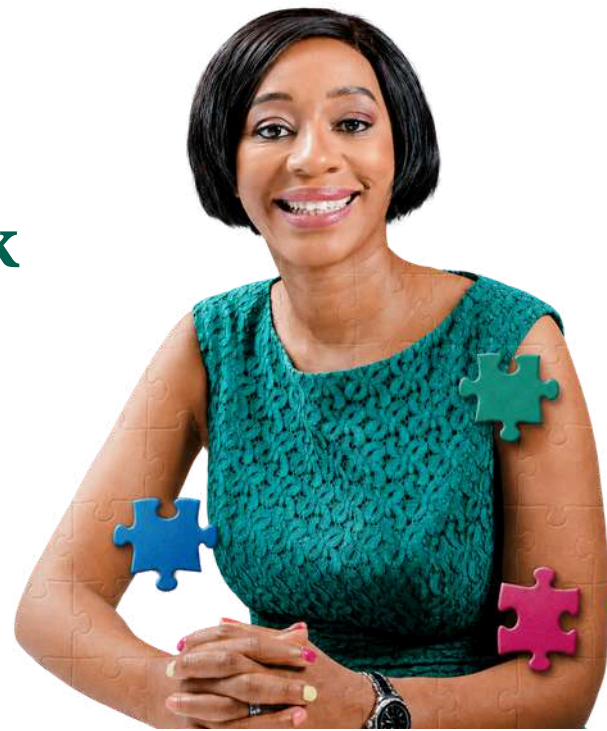
Contributing to a safer, more equal South Africa

Our decision to participate as both a donor and strategic partner through the Private Sector Coalition was deliberate. We wanted to help move the private sector response beyond fragmented goodwill towards structured collaboration, accountability and sustained impact aligned to the National Strategic Plan on GBVF.

The private sector has resources, influence, and institutional capability. When coordinated through a credible platform such as the GBVF Response Fund, these can strengthen prevention, survivor support, access to justice and community-based interventions. For the JSE, this is about using our platform responsibly to contribute to a safer, more equal South Africa.

"GBVF affects productivity, absenteeism, wellbeing, retention and community safety. Addressing it is both a moral and business imperative."

Our commitment to the Fund remains unwavering. GBVF is systemic and cannot be addressed through isolated initiatives. Through the GBVF Response Fund and the Private Sector Coalition, we have seen the visible impact of collective action and coordinated private sector participation to direct funding, advocacy and practical support to organisations working closest to affected communities.



This collaboration also aligns with the JSE's broader work on inclusive economic participation. Through initiatives such as JSE #SheInvests, we promote financial education and economic confidence among women, recognising that financial dependence can increase vulnerability and limit survivors' choices. Economic empowerment is therefore one of the conditions that enables agency, resilience and independence.

Internally, the collaboration has strengthened our responsibility as an employer. Policies, awareness programmes, and training matter because GBVF does not stop at the workplace door. Employers must create environments where employees are informed, supported, and able to access help. This balance of external partnership and internal accountability continues to deepen our commitment.

Collaboration accelerates impact

Collaborations such as this connect national intent with practical delivery. For South Africa, partnerships between institutions such as the JSE and the GBVF Response Fund help translate the NSP for GBV into tangible support for prevention, survivor care and community-based response. They also signal that GBVF is a national priority requiring every sector to act.

For the private sector, collaboration creates a disciplined and effective response. Companies can pool funding, share lessons, strengthen workplace practices and use collective influence to shift norms. This matters because GBVF affects productivity, absenteeism, wellbeing, retention and community safety. Addressing it is both a moral and business imperative.

For communities, the benefit is more reliable and better coordinated support. Private sector collaboration helps ensure resources reach credible grassroots organisations that understand local realities. Combined with economic empowerment, awareness and stronger workplace responses, the impact extends beyond crisis support to prevention and long-term resilience.

Our message to corporate South Africa is clear: addressing gender-based violence and femicide cannot sit on the margins of corporate citizenship. It must be understood as a leadership, workplace, and societal responsibility. GBVF affects the people who power our organisations and the communities that sustain our businesses.

We are encouraged by the progress already made, but remain clear-eyed about the scale of the challenge. South Africa's GBVF crisis remains urgent and unacceptable. **The milestones achieved should create momentum, not complacency.** For the JSE, this partnership is an important foundation, and the work must continue until safety, dignity and equality are experienced in workplaces, homes and communities.

Vuyo Lee

Director of Marketing and Corporate Affairs, JSE



Pro-bono Partner Message

Alexforbes

At Alexforbes, we believe that meaningful transformation extends beyond compliance and business performance; it includes contributing to positive societal change. Gender-based violence and femicide remain one of South Africa's most pressing social challenges, requiring a collective response from government, civil society and the private sector.

Applying our expertise as a force for change

When the opportunity arose to support the GBVF Response Fund, we recognised that our expertise could add tangible value to the Fund's operations. Rather than providing financial support alone, we chose to contribute our professional capabilities to help strengthen the Fund's operational effectiveness and stewardship of resources.

“By applying what we do best, we are able to support an initiative that is creating meaningful impact in the lives of vulnerable individuals and communities.”

We exist to positively impact people's lives by providing trusted advice, expertise and solutions. Supporting the Fund enables us to bring that purpose to life beyond our traditional commercial activities.

Our role focuses on assisting the Fund with administration support and investment-related services, applying our expertise to help strengthen the operational and financial administration framework that enables the Fund to deploy its resources effectively in support of its mandate.

This support has formed part of the Fund's functioning since its inception. Importantly, Alexforbes' contribution is not about directing funding decisions or running programmes; it is about providing professional support that helps create a sound financial and administrative environment for the Fund to focus on its mission.

For us, the partnership allows us to live our purpose and values in a practical way. It provides an opportunity to leverage our core competencies to contribute to a safer and more inclusive society, while deepening our understanding of the social realities that affect many South Africans.

The private sector is a critical partner

The private sector has a critical role to play in strengthening South Africa's response to gender-based violence.

Businesses possess significant expertise across areas such as governance, finance, technology, risk management, legal compliance, investment management and strategy. These capabilities can be invaluable to organisations working to address social challenges, particularly those operating with limited resources.

We believe the private sector should move beyond a traditional donor mindset and embrace a partnership approach. By sharing specialist skills and professional services, organisations can help build stronger institutions that are better equipped to create sustainable impact.



The fight against gender-based violence requires collective action, and the private sector has both the capability and responsibility to be an active participant in that effort. As organisations, we have a responsibility to use our strengths to help address the challenges facing our country. The impact of doing so can be far greater than we imagine.

One of the most powerful reflections from this partnership is the reminder that meaningful social impact is often achieved through collaboration behind the scenes. It has reinforced our belief that every organisation has a role to play in addressing South Africa's social challenges. We are proud to play a supporting role in an initiative that is helping to build a future free from gender-based violence and femicide.

“Transformation is ultimately about improving lives and creating a more equitable society. Through our partnership with the GBVF Response Fund, we can contribute our expertise in a way that supports an important national cause. It is a reminder that business can be a powerful force for positive social change when we use our skills and capabilities in service of a greater purpose.”

Hloni Mphahlele

Head of Transformation, Alexforbes



Strategic Partner Message

United Nations Population Fund

The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) operates across more than 150 countries to eliminate GBV and harmful practices. We make use of the global RESPECT framework, with a focus on survivor-centred service delivery, data and evidence generation, and transforming social norms.

In South Africa, UNFPA contextualizes this global strategy to address the country's hyper-endemic levels of GBVF. We align our resources directly with South Africa's National Strategic Plan on GBVF, with a focus on driving systemic change by strengthening data-driven policies and legal frameworks, mobilising innovative domestic financing, and transforming harmful social norms through targeted community-level interventions.

We partner with a wide array of stakeholders, including national departments, the Presidency, civil society, and private sector mechanisms such as the GBVF Fund, to provide implementation support, evidence building and knowledge dissemination, digitalisation, social norm change and address its intersections with sexual reproductive health and rights, and HIV.

Partnering with a multi-sectoral fund like the GBVF Response Fund allows UNFPA to combine its technical expertise with the Fund's localised grant-making power to maximise impact at designated hotspots.

Working together to break the cycle

UNFPA's motivation to enter and maintain our strategic relationship with the GBVF Fund stems from a few definitive realities:

- Funding the Frontlines Effectively: Civil Society Organizations and CBOs are the backbone of South Africa's response, yet they frequently suffer from funding volatility. The Fund acts as an innovative financing mechanism that successfully channels corporate pledges directly to grassroots entities.
- Mutual Alignment on Systemic Shifts: UNFPA's strategic vision relies on "fixing the roadmap and following the data." Partnering with a multi-sectoral fund allows UNFPA to combine its technical expertise with the Fund's localised grant-making power to maximise impact at designated hotspots.
- Sustaining the National Mandate: As initial time-bound targets of the NSP evolve, the continuity of this relationship ensures that institutional knowledge is preserved and that resources are consistently accounted for against clear, measurable outcomes.

Over the last five years of our partnership with the GBVF Fund, we have achieved several flagship initiatives. Most notably, 2024 saw the launch of the private sector coalition against GBVF, the inception of a maturity model for private companies, and the capacity development of over 100 CSOs financed by the GBVF Fund.

In 2025, joint high-level advocacy platforms - such as the High-Level Ministerial Business Breakfasts coordinated by the Fund alongside UNFPA and the Department of Women, Youth and Persons with Disabilities - served as key contributions to the G20 Empowerment of Women Working Group. This collaboration continues in 2026 with the development of a digital toolkit for the business sector to combat GBVF.

"GBVF is not merely a 'women's issue' or an isolated social portfolio; it is a profound economic, developmental, and humanitarian crisis that erodes the foundation of our entire society."

To corporate leaders, philanthropists, and development partners: your investment in this space is an investment in human dignity, workforce safety, and sustainable development. No single sector can break these cycles alone, but through coordinated, transparent mechanisms like the GBVF Response Fund, your resources are guaranteed to create measurable, life-saving structural shifts where they matter most."

Addressing a structural crisis as deeply entrenched as GBVF cannot be done in silos. Strategic partnerships offer distinct structural advantages, such as pooled resources and mitigated risk; enhanced grassroots credibility; and holistic intervention frameworks for effectiveness and efficiency.



Yu Yu

UNFPA Country Representative for South Africa



"After forty years, I finally felt seen. I finally felt free. With the support I received, I began to heal. Today, I stand as a symbol of strength and hope. It took me most of my life to speak out, but if my story can help even one person find their voice sooner, then it was worth it."

**Client of the Callas Foundation,
one of the Fund's grant recipients.**

Our Programmes

The GBVF Response Fund aims to catalyse and strengthen a collective approach to reduce and eradicate gender-based violence and femicide from all corners of South Africa.



1. CBO grantmaking

Strengthening and growing the existing community and national organisations already working to address GBVF and support those affected by it.



2. Advocacy and communication

Mobilising partners from government, private sector, civil society, and other sectors to support and promote targeted and concerted behavior change initiatives aimed at eradicating the harmful behaviours and social norms that perpetuate violence and harassment.

CBO grantmaking impact

Safe communities are the cornerstone of a safe society.

Hundreds of organisations, many based in communities and those working at a national level, have been working tirelessly in the fight against GBVF. We partner with them, providing resources and skills development to help them refine, continue and grow the impact they are already having.



R196 million

Since 2021, we have invested **R196 million** in communities across the country, through two funding rounds and emergency support for CBOs affected by sudden funding reductions from international development partners.



237

This investment has strengthened the capacity, sustainability and reach of **237 CBOs** and intermediary partners across the country.



1.5 million

This support has helped community partners reach almost **1.5 million beneficiaries**, allowing them to amplify their impact in changing negative behaviours and social norms, provide more and better safe spaces for those in danger, and improve access to support and justice services.

Aligning with the National Strategic Plan

To ensure a coordinated and sustainable national response to GBVF, all our work is strategically aligned with the National Strategic Plan on GBVF, ensuring that our interventions contribute to a unified national agenda and maximise collective impact. The bulk of our resources are directed towards Pillar 2: Prevention and Social Cohesion, with additional support for programmes addressing Pillar 3: Access to Justice, Pillar 4: Healing and Support, and Pillar 5: Economic Empowerment.

CBO GRANTMAKING REACH BY NSP PILLAR



PREVENTING & REBUILDING SOCIAL COHESION

2025/26 Reach: 449 813 (90%)

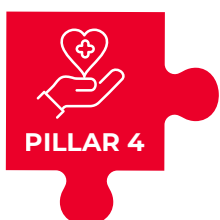
Cumulative Reach: 1 300 818 (87%)



JUSTICE, SAFETY & PROTECTION

2025/26 Reach: 21 374 (4%)

Cumulative Reach: 51 110 (4%)



RESPONSE, CARE, SUPPORT & HEALING

2025/26 Reach: 27 487 (6%)

Cumulative Reach: 49 239 (3%)



ECONOMIC POWER

2025/26 Reach: 2 406 (1%)

Cumulative Reach: 87 856 (6%)

TOTAL REACH 2025/26: 501 080
CUMULATIVE REACH 2022-2026: 1 489 023

"Before joining the organisation, I worked as a domestic worker despite being a graduate. As a survivor of GBV, working in this field has given me the knowledge and passion to help others who feel powerless or unaware of their rights. Through the support of the GBV Response Fund, I have been able to support my community by raising awareness and assisting families." - Mahalia Mbhele, Paralegal Officer at Qholaqhwe Advice Centre



Intensifying Prevention and Social Cohesion (NSP Pillar 2)



Cultivating a nation that values respect is the core lever the Fund believes can have the biggest impact on reducing GBVF. Through this, we can stop violence before it occurs and disrupt generational cycles of abuse to prevent it from perpetuating.

For this reason, the majority (87%) of our partners' interventions are focused on prevention. These evidence-based interventions have demonstrated effectiveness in reducing GBV when applied in specific contexts. These include Stepping Stones, No Means No, parenting programmes, interventions engaging men and boys, and sports-based initiatives, among others. Collectively, these interventions aim to improve knowledge, transform gender-inequitable attitudes, and influence positive social norms that contribute to GBV prevention.

CBO supported interventions such as large-scale awareness, advocacy, community and school-based dialogues, complemented by targeted capacitation of key individuals, are helping to challenge harmful gender norms, promote positive social attitudes, and foster collective community-level action to prevent GBVF.

For example, learners in KwaZulu-Natal (KZN), Limpopo, and the Western and Northern Cape Provinces, are showing increased awareness and willingness to change deeply entrenched harmful gender norms.

Assessment of No Means No Prevention Intervention by Lifeline Durban

Areas	Baseline	Endline
Knowledge	18%	95% (+443%)
Attitudes	59%	86% (+46%)
Self-Efficacy	53%	86% (+60%)

Many of them also indicated they are no longer afraid to express emotions and are more open to engaging in emotionally challenging discussions.

In addition, teachers have reported a noticeable decline in incidents of gender-based bullying and harassment. This shift reflects growing prevention capacity and underscores the critical role of early intervention in shaping safer, more equitable communities.

Hillcrest AIDS Centre Trust (HACT)

HACT has been implementing the No means No prevention intervention in the Valley of a Thousand Hills in KZN. This evidence-based self-defence class teaches girls and young women (aged 10-20) to identify risk early, how to say no effectively, and how to use physical self-defence if necessary to escape danger. The girls are empowered with training on assertiveness, gender equality, boundary setting, awareness and de-escalation, including using their verbal skills backpack and physical skills to protect themselves. The intervention has been tested in several countries and is proven to reduce rape by up to 50%.

- After the training, **81%** of participants recognised that they could **use a loud voice to defend themselves** (which is ordinarily considered rude) (an increase of 48%)
- **93% felt more confident** they could escape a strong attacker. Before the training 73% felt they could not escape.
- **93% recognised the importance of telling someone** if they were attacked. Before, 64% were reluctant about the value in speaking up.



"I didn't know that my voice is so powerful and that it can be my weapon against an assault." - Alondwe, HACT participant



Improving Access to Justice and Protection (NSP Pillar 3)



Our CBO programme is augmenting GBVF survivors' ability to access improved survivor-centered protection and justice services, resulting in enhanced safety, dignity, and protection. Targeted response initiatives are strengthening survivors' confidence in, and use of, protection and justice mechanisms, contributing to increased accountability and reduced impunity.

Lerato's* story

For over a decade, Lerato lived under her husband's control, believing she was powerless to leave. When she came to MOSAIC, our court and counselling team helped her secure a protection order and rediscover her strength. Today, she lives independently with her children.

"For twelve years I thought I was helpless. Now I know I can do something about it."

****Name changed for confidentiality***

CBOs provide comprehensive post-violence support throughout the survivor journey, including assistance with opening criminal cases, accessing medical care, obtaining protection orders, court preparation and accompaniment, referrals to shelters, and ongoing psychosocial counselling.

Together, these services help survivors navigate the justice system with dignity, strengthen their recovery, and improve their access to the protection and support they need. Over the last five years, a total of 51 110 (4%) of beneficiaries have been reached in relation to this pillar.

Traditionally, a high number of GBV survivors were withdrawing their cases due to fear, stigma, and lack of support. However, through our CBO programmes and interventions, we are seeing how targeted support can significantly strengthen survivors' confidence in justice mechanisms, an essential component in achieving meaningful and lasting impact for survivors of GBV.



Strengthening Healing and Support Services (NSP Pillar 4)



High-quality, timely, comprehensive, and survivor-centered psychosocial and health services that aid the recovery, healing, and overall well-being of GBVF survivors are critical. Improved access to counselling, trauma containment, and integrated health services reduces the risk of further health complications, strengthens coping mechanisms, and prevents re-traumatisation, contributing to sustained recovery outcomes.

Our CBOs have made significant progress in this area by expanding the reach of these services, improving the quality and responsiveness of care, and ensuring that support systems are tailored to the diverse needs of survivors, thereby strengthening pathways to sustain recovery and reintegration. Over the last five years, 49 239 (3%) survivors have been reached through healing and support services and interventions.

Through trauma counselling, psychosocial support, and coordinated referrals and access to shelters, survivors and their families are supported to process the effects of violence, rebuild resilience, and regain a sense of safety and dignity. Timely interventions can significantly reduce the emotional and psychological impact of violence while preventing further trauma.

SARAG Development Agency impact story

"After surviving a brutal attack in which I was stabbed 36 times in front of my child, SARAG immediately came to my aid, providing trauma counselling for me and my child, helping us begin the healing process. The SAPS Social Crime Prevention Unit also made me feel supported and reassured that I could turn to them whenever I was in danger. Although my attacker committed suicide before facing justice, I have found peace and the strength to move forward." - SARAG participant, Northern Cape Province



Economic Empowerment Services (NSP Pillar 5)



Economic empowerment interventions have strengthened the resilience and self-reliance of women and other vulnerable groups by improving access to sustainable livelihood opportunities, skills development, entrepreneurship support, and income-generating initiatives. By increasing economic independence, participants are better equipped to meet their basic needs, make informed life choices, and reduce their dependence on abusive relationships, thereby addressing one of the key drivers of gender-based violence.

CBO interventions have reached 87 856 (6%) beneficiaries through economic empowerment interventions including computer literacy training, sewing and garment-making, agricultural initiatives, entrepreneurship development, and other livelihood skills programmes designed to improve employability and income-generation opportunities.

Broadway impact story

"I was financially dependent on my abusive partner and had no source of income. Through the skills training and business support I received, I started my own sewing business."



"Today, I earn enough to support my children, make my own decisions, and live free from abuse." - Broadway participant

Through the Fund's support, CBOs have equipped participants with marketable skills, strengthened existing and emerging small enterprises, and facilitated access to economic opportunities that contribute to long-term financial stability.

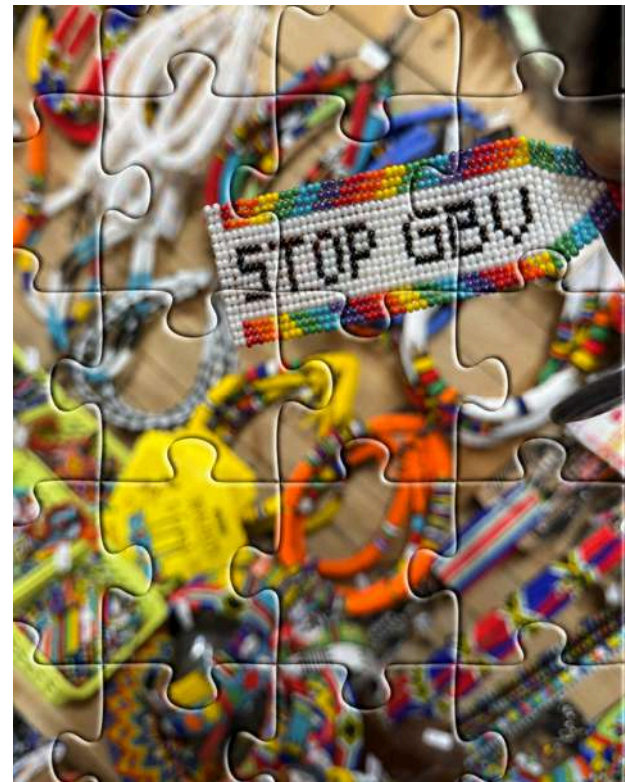
Targeting Support

To have the greatest impact, a key strategy of our CBO programme is to target communities that are most affected by GBVF and in greatest need of support.

To achieve this, we focus support for programmes in hotspot areas (areas with high incidence of GBVF), with 53% of beneficiaries reached currently coming from these areas. Hotspot communities are identified using official South African Police Service (SAPS) data and expanded to take into account the intersectionality with HIV/AIDS.

While our programmes reach people across all age groups, there is a strong concentration among children (0–17 years (42%)), which is critical for disrupting the intergenerational cycle of violence and addressing the high prevalence of GBV among adolescents. At the same time, the substantial reach among youth and adults (18 years and older (56%)) highlights our efforts to engage populations that are not only vulnerable to GBVF but also play a critical role in preventing and responding to it within their communities, workplaces, and religious institutions.

We also continuously work to ensure that our programmes are inclusive and have broad reach and impact across all community members. Although reach among people living with disabilities and non-binary participants remains relatively low (1% and 5% respectively), we are working to increase partnerships with organisations working with LGBTQIA+ and those living with disabilities to develop more inclusive programmes and co-design safe, welcoming spaces and tailored interventions.



Key chain created by survivors supported by the Hillcrest AIDS Centre Trust, KwaZulu-Natal.

Monitoring, Evaluation, Learning and Accountability

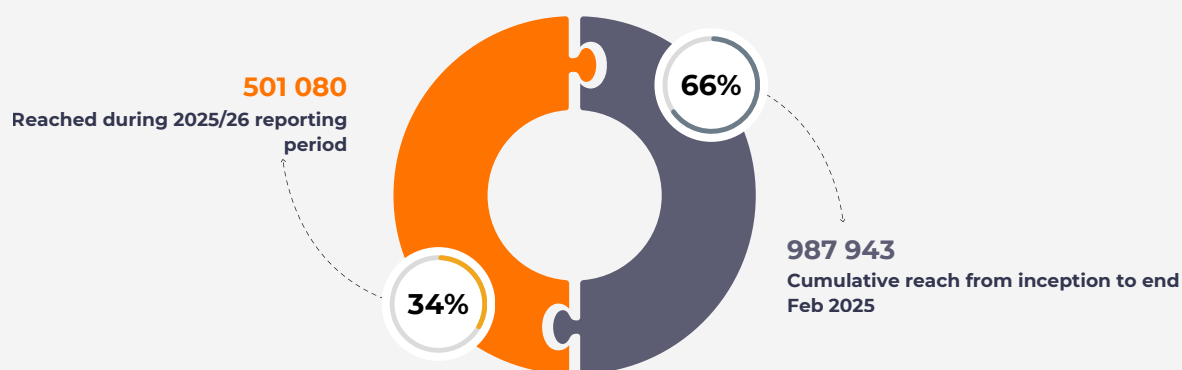
Our Monitoring, Evaluation, Research, Learning, and Accountability (MERLA) framework guides programme implementation across all CBOs, integrating learning and research, and enabling organisations to more effectively adapt, improve, and demonstrate impact over time.

The MERLA framework has proven to be both valuable and effective in ensuring continuous improvement and alignment in programme implementation. It has also strengthened the systematic tracking and monitoring of progress on a quarterly basis, supporting evidence-based decision-making and accountability.

CBO Grantmaking Impact by the Numbers

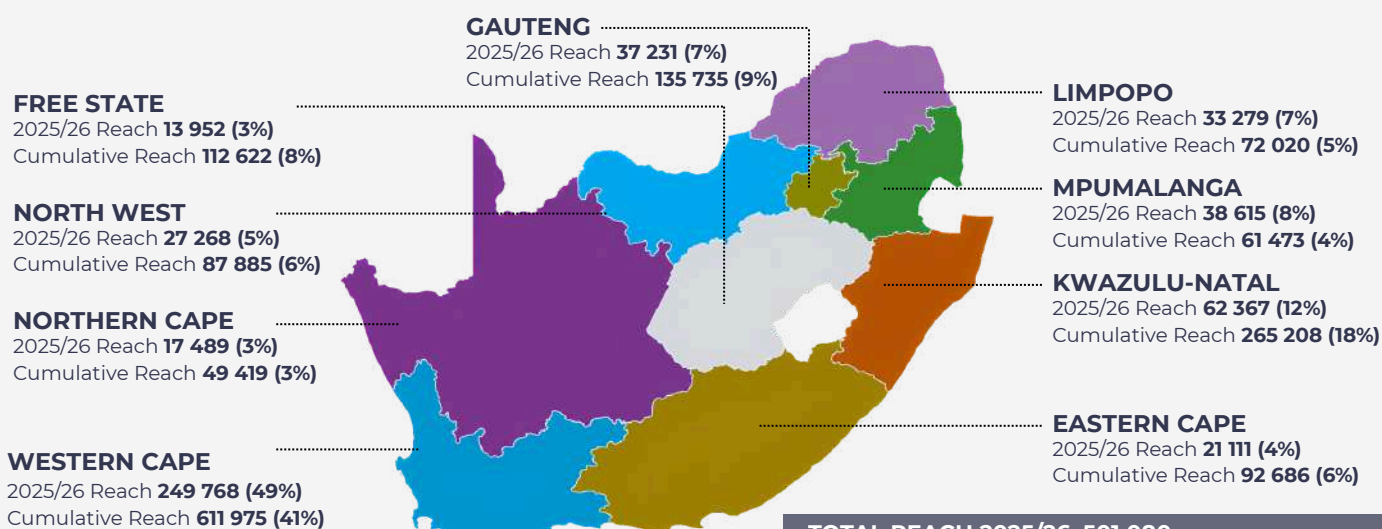
OVERALL CBO PROGRAMME REACH

(Since inception and for the period Mar 2025-Feb 2026)



GEOGRAPHICAL REACH

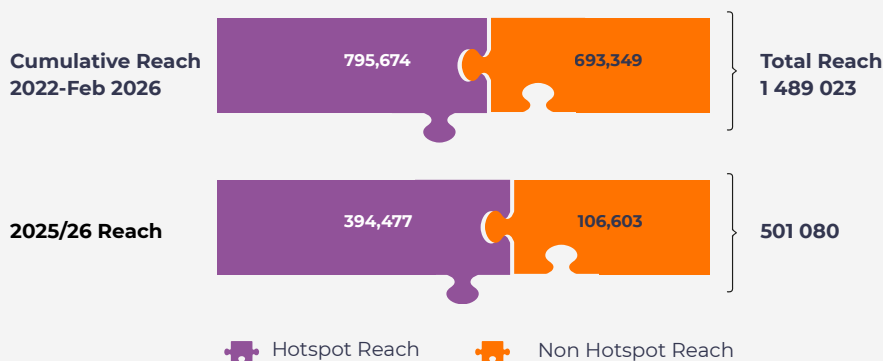
(Provincial reach since inception and for the period Mar 2025-Feb 2026)



TOTAL REACH 2025/26: 501 080
CUMULATIVE REACH 2022-2026: 1 489 023

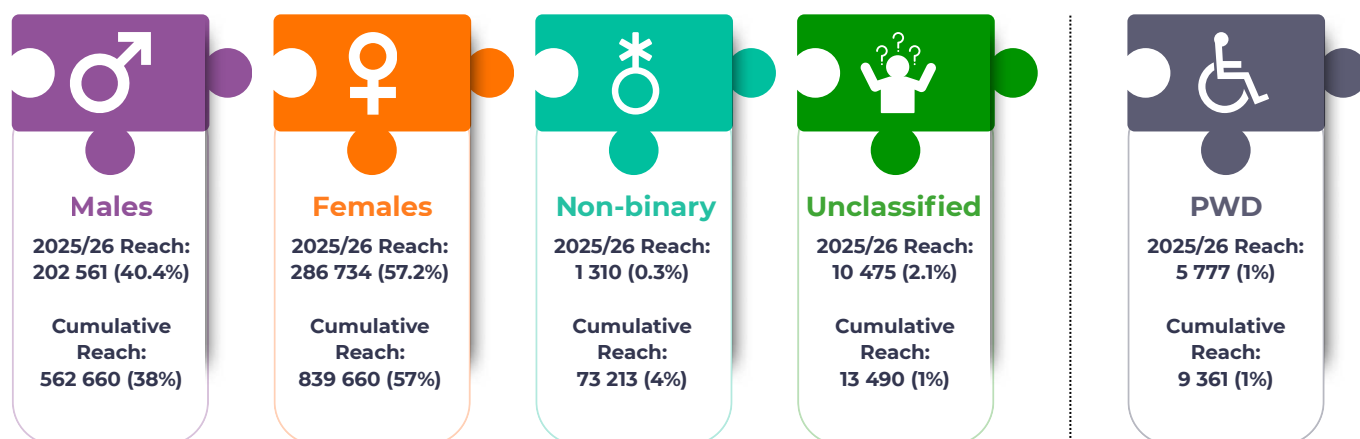
PROGRAMME REACH BY HOTSPOT

(Since inception and for the period Mar 2025-Feb 2026)



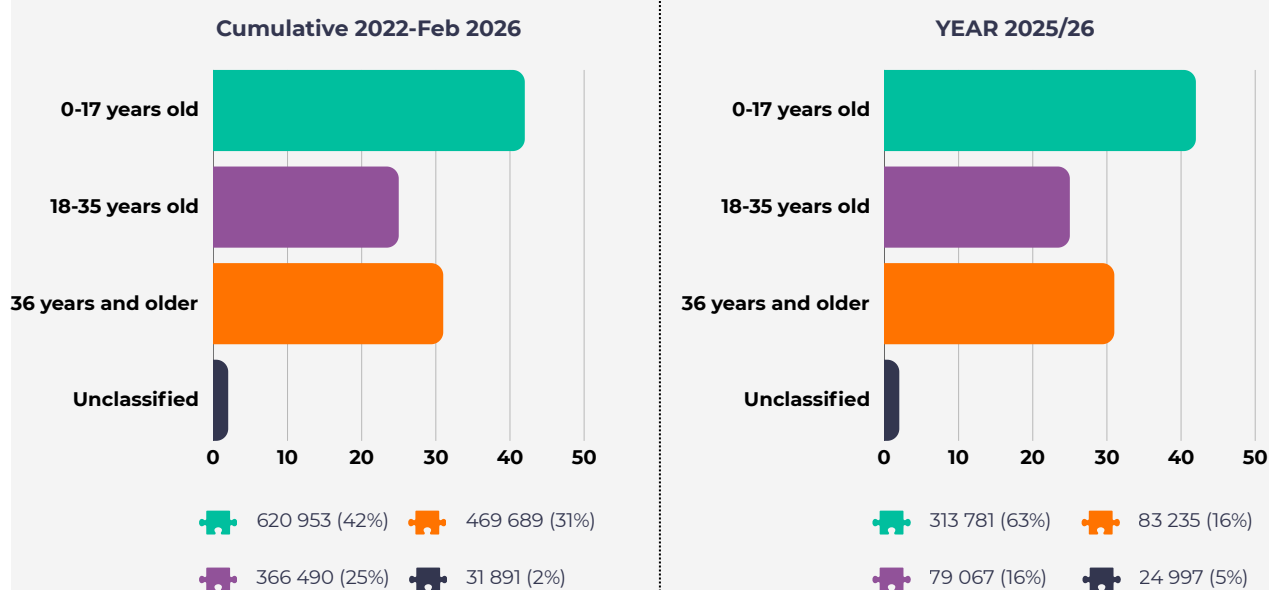
PROGRAMME REACH BY GENDER AND PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES (PWD)

(Since inception and for the period Mar 2025-Feb 2026)



PROGRAMME REACH BY AGE

(Since inception and for the period Mar 2025-Feb 2026)



CBO Partner Stories

HILLCREST AIDS CENTRE TRUST



The Hillcrest AIDS Centre Trust (HACT) mandate is grounded in the understanding that gender-based violence and femicide is both a cause and consequence of broader social inequalities, including poverty, gender inequality, HIV vulnerability, harmful social norms, substance abuse, trauma, and limited access to support services. As a community-based organisation serving vulnerable communities in the Valley of a Thousand Hills, KwaZulu-Natal, for more than 35 years, HACT recognises that sustainable GBVF prevention requires long-term, community-led approaches that address these interconnected challenges.

The partnership with the GBVF Response Fund enabled them to:

- Expand their programme reach to vulnerable communities.
- Deliver evidence-based GBVF prevention programmes consistently and at scale.
- Strengthen safeguarding and referral mechanisms for vulnerable beneficiaries.
- Improve monitoring, reporting, and data-driven decision-making.
- Pilot support groups that extended programme impact beyond initial intervention periods.
- Build stronger relationships with schools, caregivers, community structures, and local stakeholders.
- Strengthen organisational systems that will continue to benefit future programming.

Most importantly, the funding enabled HACT to create safe spaces where beneficiaries can build confidence, challenge harmful norms, develop protective skills, and access support.

Asive's story

Asive* is a 15-year-old, grade 10 learner living in Molweni with her mother and two younger siblings. A shy, reserved girl, she rarely participated in sessions when she first joined the HACT No Means No Girls self-defence programme. Over time, however, her trust grew, to the extent that she gradually began engaging more openly with facilitators and her peers.

In one session she spoke about how each day on her way home from school, she would pass several houses where an older man would frequently make inappropriate and uncomfortable comments towards her. Previously, she felt unable to respond, however, learning about personal boundaries and how to be more assertive and speak up safely, made her feel more confident and empowered.

She eventually built up the courage to clearly communicate her boundaries to the man, telling him: "I don't like the way you speak to me. You are too old to talk to me like that."

For Asive, this moment represented more than speaking up; it gave her the skills and courage to use her voice, assert her rights, and take action to protect herself.

**Name changed for confidentiality*



HACT staff outside their offices in Hillcrest, KwaZulu-Natal

Poverty and limited access to basic necessities, such as food insecurity, are strongly linked to increased levels of GBVF. Broadway Legacy Foundation is a non-profit organisation focusing on empowering communities through education, skills development, social mobilisation and sustainable community initiatives. Beyond prevention and support initiatives, they help to address GBVF through alleviating the key societal pressures that exacerbate it. Broadway is based in Groblersdal, Limpopo, with a longstanding presence in the Sekhukhune District.

The partnership with the GBVF Response Fund has enabled them to:

- Strengthen and extend their flagship school-based GBVF prevention and social and behavioural change programme to reach more learners, parents, educators and communities and create safer environments for children and young people.
- Expand their Changemaker Network, working with learners as changemakers to identify and transform school hotspots into safer spaces.
- Provide GBVF response, care, support and healing interventions, including psychosocial support, trauma counselling, mental health support, support groups and linkages to relevant health, social and paralegal services.
- Successfully implement economic empowerment, life skills and youth development initiatives.

Overall, Broadway Legacy Foundation's work reflects a multi-level approach to GBVF prevention and response, combining school-based awareness and prevention, learner empowerment, psychosocial and trauma support, referral pathways, life skills, caregiver and community engagement, and economic empowerment. By working with children and young people, while strengthening the environments in which they live and learn, the organisation seeks to promote early intervention, reduce vulnerability to GBVF and contribute to breaking the intergenerational cycle of violence.

“We empower individuals with the skills and resources they need to create a better future for themselves so they can create a sustainable solution to the challenges facing their community.”

- Broadway staff member



Learners and teachers tending to the Motjedi Secondary School community action garden project

Broadway Impact Story

Broadway partnered with Motjedi Secondary School in Groblersdal, Limpopo to strengthen life skills and economic empowerment opportunities for girls, youth and their parents. Through the community garden project, Broadway provided the school with 3000 seedlings and training, from which the learners, teachers and parents have created a thriving local agricultural income generation project. The school now sells its fresh produce to local retail chains like Boxer and Shoprite, as well as community feeding schemes.

What began as a humble gardening project has provided life skills on economic empowerment and self-reliance and created supportive community networks. The learners and broader community have gained safe spaces to connect, are benefitting from the healing power of gardening, and have the knowledge and confidence to generate economic and other opportunities, reducing the daily challenges that exacerbate GBVF, and opening the possibility for them to thrive.

THE GREATER NELSPRUIT RAPE INTERVENTION PROGRAMME (GRIP)



GRIP is a non-profit organisation based in Mpumalanga committed to creating safer communities free from sexual and gender-based violence. The organisation implements evidence-based prevention strategies and transformative empowerment initiatives to reduce the prevalence and impact of GBV. They also provide integrated psychosocial support and court assistance to ensure that no survivor navigates their recovery journey alone.

The partnership with the GBVF Response Fund has enabled GRIP to strengthen their Circle of Care Initiative at the Mbombela and White River Police Stations. This vital assistance helps survivors receive coordinated, end-to-end support from the point of reporting an assault through to recovery and reintegration. The initiative includes:

- immediate frontline support, including sensitive statement-taking in safe and private trauma rooms;
- rapid referrals to the Rob Ferreira Thuthuzela Care Centre (TCC) or clinics for urgent and life-saving medical interventions;
- seamless referrals to GRIP sheltering services for survivors requiring immediate physical protection;
- support from GRIP Friends of the Court to assist survivors in navigating the complexities of the criminal justice and court system; and
- psychosocial support and counselling through referrals to GRIP social workers.

With this support, survivors are better able to navigate the scary and complex process of reporting an assault and seeking assistance. It further helps to prevent the secondary victimisation survivors often experience when seeking police and legal services, and provides improved access to healthcare, often lacking when survivors seek assistance.

GRIP further extends their services by mobilising communities surrounding the participating police stations to raise awareness and civil action on GBV prevention, survivor rights, available support services, and appropriate help-seeking behaviors.

Imani's* Story

Imani is 15 years old and struggles with cognitive and emotional impairment. After she was reported missing and subsequently found by police, she was brought to the Rob Ferreira TCC for examination where it was determined that she had suffered sexual abuse. She was then provided with Psychosocial support sessions where she revealed that she was being treated for a psychiatric disorder, but that her mother had been neglecting to collect the treatment she so badly needed.

Imani was referred to a clinical psychologist and psychiatrist for further assessment and placed back on treatment. Her mother was also provided parental skills training to empower her to be able to care for her daughter and her special medical needs. The family was also assisted to apply for a disability grant, which they are now receiving.

*Name changed for confidentiality



GRIP Fieldworkers conducting community outreach in Mbombela, Mpumalanga

"I reached out for help when my situation at home became unsafe. The team responded immediately and conducted a risk assessment in a private, supportive space, at the Police Station. Within hours, I was transported to a safe environment where I could begin rebuilding my life."

- GRIP participant

OPRET ADVICE OFFICE



Opret Advice Office in Mokopane, Limpopo Province, remains committed to improving access to justice, protection, and support for GBVF survivors, women, children, and under-served and vulnerable groups. They provide legal advice and support, psychosocial support, community-based prevention initiatives, information on rights and available support services, and address the root causes of violence through community dialogues and advocacy. They also focus on the links between GBVF, poverty, unemployment, and social exclusion.

Through the partnership with the GBVF Response Fund, Opret has been able to:

- Increase their credibility within communities, positioning them to implement additional initiatives such as Human Rights Clubs and school-based GBVF prevention activities.
- Strengthen both prevention and response efforts, expanding their focus to include community mobilisation, stakeholder coordination, and survivor empowerment.
- Strengthen their ability to reach underserved communities and build stronger local protection networks.
- Expand their outreach activities, community dialogues, awareness campaigns, and direct support services, making more information and services available in their communities.
- Strengthen women's economic empowerment opportunities, enabling them to assist women to access employment opportunities, skills development programmes, and income-generating opportunities.
- Strengthen their partnerships with local stakeholders resulting in greater community ownership, improved referrals, and increased accountability in responding to GBVF.
- Strengthen staff skills in programme implementation, M&E, safeguarding, case management, community facilitation, and survivor-centred approaches.

Lindi* and Simphiwe's* story

During a door-to-door outreach activity, our team identified a serious child protection case involving two young girls who were exposed to ongoing sexual abuse by their father. The situation was further complicated by the fact that their mother had failed to protect them and allowed the abuse to continue.

We immediately activated the relevant referral pathways and worked closely with the police, social workers, and other child protection stakeholders. As a result, both the father and the mother were arrested, and the children were removed from the unsafe environment and placed in a place of safety. We continued to provide support to the children through referrals, case monitoring, and collaboration with the relevant authorities to ensure their protection and wellbeing.

Today, the girls are living in a safe environment where they can access care, support, and protection services. While their healing journey continues, they are no longer exposed to the risks they previously faced. This case demonstrates the importance of community outreach, early identification of abuse, and coordinated action to protect vulnerable children.

**Names changed for confidentiality*



"We like where we are staying now because we feel safe and can play and be with people who look after us." - Simphiwe, Survivor supported by Opret Advice Office

Strategic Partnerships Impact

Positioning South Africa's response on the global stage: G20 presidency

South Africa's G20 Presidency presented a significant opportunity to elevate gender-based violence and femicide as both a social justice and economic development priority within global policy discussions.

The Fund played an active leadership and coordination role within the G20 Empowerment of Women Working Group (EWWG), contributing to the design and implementation of several engagements aimed at advancing GBV prevention, financial inclusion of women, and the care economy. Beyond participating in high-level dialogues, the Fund co-led two key build-up events aligned with the three priority areas, using positive masculinity as a strategic approach to advancing GBV prevention and engaging men and boys as partners in prevention.

The first build-up event focused on GBVF prevention within schools and was delivered in partnership with the Department of Basic Education, UNICEF, GIZ and other stakeholders. Hosted at a local school in Tembisa, the engagement brought together learners, educators, policymakers and development partners to explore the role of schools in challenging harmful gender norms, promoting gender equality, and fostering safer learning environments.

The second event focused on GBVH prevention and the creation of safe workplaces. Convened alongside partners including The Presidency, UNFPA, ABSA, Sanlam, Womaniko, Shared Value Africa, the International Labour Organization (ILO), and other key stakeholders, the engagement explored practical approaches for businesses to strengthen workplace policies, leadership accountability, survivor support mechanisms, and organisational cultures that actively prevent GBVH.

A significant milestone was the co-hosting of the G20 Ministerial Business Breakfast in partnership with UNFPA, positioning the GBVF Response Fund as an international example of how public-private partnerships can mobilise resources, strengthen prevention efforts, and drive systemic change. The event showcased the Private Sector Coalition as a scalable model for other G20 and Global South countries, while reinforcing that ending GBVF is fundamental to achieving inclusive economic growth, gender equality, and sustainable development.

The platform also created opportunities to strengthen relationships with government leaders, multilateral institutions, diplomatic missions, development partners, and private sector executives, laying the groundwork for future collaboration and resource mobilisation.



GBVF Response Fund at the G20 Empowerment of Women Working Group, Oct 2025

Attending the G20 EWWG Ministerial summit, Baroness Jacqui Smith, former UK Minister for Women and Equalities, pledged a further R3m above the R18m already donated by the UK FCDO to the GBVF Response Fund, to strengthen GBVF prevention efforts. During her visit, Baroness Smith also visited two CBOs in Johannesburg, Kids Haven and Fight with Insight.

"We are proud to stand alongside South Africa in accelerating action to end violence, empower women and girls, and ensure no one is left behind." - Baroness Jacqui Smith, Former UK Minister for Women and Equalities

In addition to its coordination role, the Fund contributed to several parallel panel discussions and technical dialogues during the EWWG side event, alongside partners such as Kearney, Vodacom, organised business, organised labour, civil society, the National Department of Basic Education, and international development partners, including UNICEF and GIZ.

These platforms enabled the Fund to share lessons from South Africa's national response and strengthen cross-sector collaboration, with a focus on:

- promoting the PSC as an emerging model for workplace GBVH prevention,
- advancing positive masculinity in schools and communities as a critical prevention response to disrupt patterns of violence, transform harmful gender norms and promote equality.

Advocacy and Communications Impact

The Fund continued to strengthen its position as a national convener and catalyst for collective action against GBVF. Through strategic advocacy, behavioural change initiatives, and multi-sector partnerships, we continued engagement through the RESPECT Campaign, deepened private sector engagement, elevated South Africa's leadership on global platforms, and strengthened partnerships that contribute to stronger networks in the national response.

Recognising that ending GBVF requires sustained collaboration across sectors, the Fund continued to convene business, civil society, government development partners, academia and communities around a shared vision of prevention, accountability and systemic change. This work remained firmly aligned with Pillars One, Two and Six of the National Strategic Plan on GBVF, reinforcing our role as both a resourcing and enabling institution.

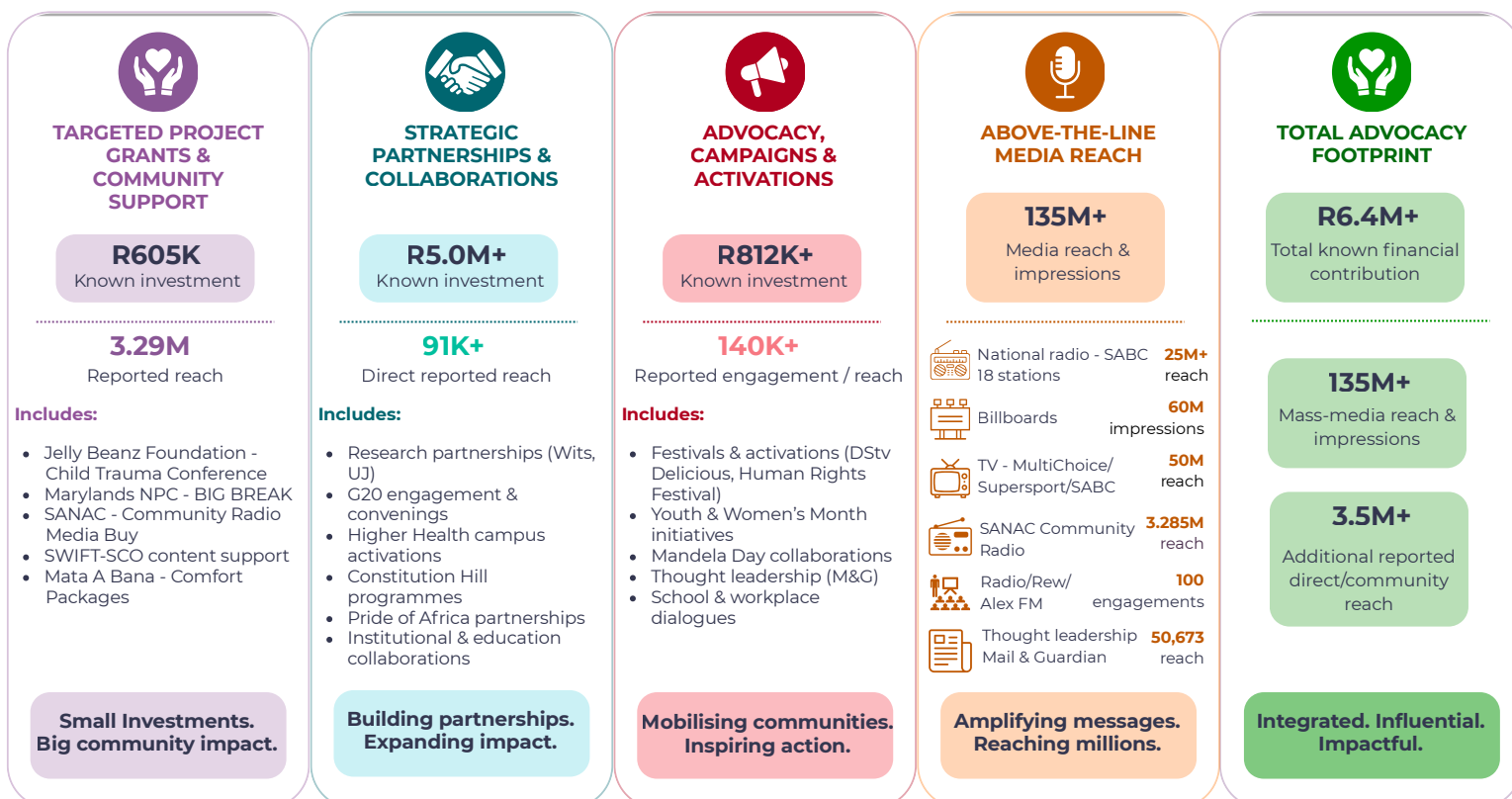
Advocacy Investment & Impact

(Cumulative from 2024 -2026)

**Turning investment into influence.
Amplifying voices. Driving change.**



Our advocacy footprint spans communities, institutions, campaigns and the nation.



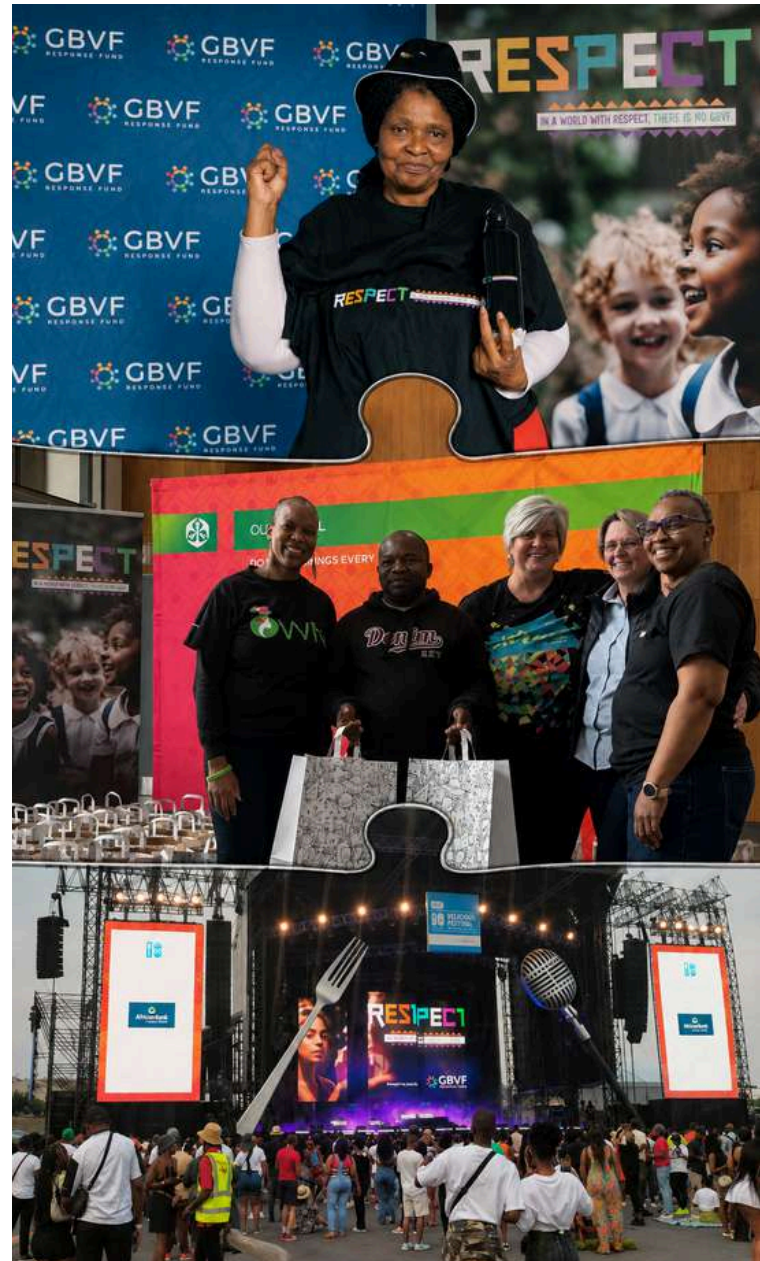
RESPECT: Driving a national movement for social and behavioural change

The RESPECT Campaign continued as a lever for broader social and behavioural change and a platform designed to challenge harmful gender norms, promote positive masculinity and inspire collective action against GBVF.

Throughout the year, the campaign further embedded its footprint through strategic public engagements, national awareness initiatives and community-led mobilisation. The Fund strengthened its longstanding partnership with Constitution Hill through participation in the Human Rights Festival, providing a platform to engage thousands of South Africans on the intersection of GBVF, democracy, human rights and social justice. The campaign was further amplified through public dialogue sessions, exhibitions and participation in the "We the People" march, reinforcing the importance of sustained advocacy and civic participation.

Recognising the importance of reaching communities where they live and work, the Fund expanded the campaign through community radio partnerships, training 133 youth ambassadors who collectively produced more than 100 radio programmes and over 2,200 public service announcements across community radio stations. These initiatives significantly increased awareness in rural and township communities while strengthening referral pathways through partnerships with local GBV and mental health organisations.

Youth engagement remained a strategic priority throughout the year. Campus activations, youth dialogues and school-based engagements created opportunities for young people to engage directly on issues of violence prevention, healthy relationships, gender equality and sexual and reproductive health. These initiatives were implemented in partnership with Higher Health, Africa Unite, We the People South Africa, Constitution Hill, educational institutions and provincial stakeholders, reinforcing the role of young people as leaders in transforming harmful social norms.



Fund advocacy activities at the Human Rights Festival, Nelson Mandela 67 Minutes Campaign, and the DSTV Delicious Festival, 2025.

“The workshops taught us that abuse is never the victim’s fault and that everyone has the right to feel safe. We learned practical steps on how to protect ourselves, seek assistance, and report abuse safely. This awareness is important not only for us but also for others who may not have access to this information.” - Learners supported by KZN Deaf Association

The Fund also continued to leverage strategic media partnerships to ensure the campaign's national reach. In partnership with the South African Broadcasting Corporation (SABC), RESPECT Public Service Announcements (PSAs) continued to reach millions of South Africans in all eleven official languages, while pro bono partnerships with Tractor Outdoor Media significantly expanded billboard visibility across Gauteng, KwaZulu-Natal and the Eastern Cape. Together, these partnerships generated an estimated quarterly audience exceeding 61 million, substantially increasing public awareness and visibility of GBVF prevention messaging.

Building on these achievements, the Fund initiated a comprehensive strategic review and revitalisation of the RESPECT Campaign. This process seeks to strengthen the campaign's long-term positioning through evidence-based behavioural science, enhanced performance measurement, and stronger cross-sector partnerships, ensuring RESPECT evolves into a scalable, multi-year national prevention platform.



Fund CEO, Tandi Nzimande with trained youth ambassadors at Alex FM.

The Fund at Johannesburg Pride 2025.

Mobilising the private sector through the Private Sector Coalition

The PSC entered a significant implementation phase during the year, transitioning from a commitment platform into a structured programme supporting workplace-based Gender-Based Violence and Harassment (GBVH) prevention across corporate South Africa.

Following its launch, the Coalition advanced the onboarding of participating companies while finalising implementation arrangements for the first phase of the programme. The appointment of Shared Value Africa as the implementation partner marked a key milestone, enabling the Coalition to begin developing organisational capacity through baseline assessments, workplace maturity evaluations, technical assistance and structured learning programmes.



Panel discussion at the launch of the Private Sector Coalition.

Developed in collaboration with the Presidency, the ILO, UNFPA, UN Women, the Johannesburg Stock Exchange (JSE), and other strategic partners, the Coalition continues to position business as an active partner in preventing violence and promoting safe, equitable workplaces. Through the development of the PSC Maturity Model and Workplace GBVH Digital Toolkit, the initiative is establishing the foundational building blocks for future sector-wide standards and reporting frameworks. These tools are designed to support the integration of GBVH prevention, management, and disclosure into mainstream business practice, strengthening accountability and enabling consistent measurement and reporting across the private sector.

As implementation progresses, the Coalition is expected to establish one of South Africa's first structured frameworks enabling organisations to measure, strengthen and report on workplace GBVH prevention, while contributing to broader environmental, social and governance commitments and national development priorities.

“GBVF affects the people who power our organisations and the communities that sustain our businesses. I strongly encourage organisations to partner with the GBVF Response Fund and participate in the Private Sector Coalition. The coalition gives companies a practical way to move beyond statements of support, creating a platform for aligned investment, shared accountability and credible delivery through frontline organisations.” - Vuyo Lee, JSE



GBVF Fund and representatives of government and key partners at the G20 Summit, November 2025.

Research and information management partnerships

Recognising the importance of evidence-informed programming, advocacy, and policy influence, the Fund continued to invest in strategic research partnerships aligned with Pillar 6 of the National Strategic Plan on GBVF. Through these partnerships, the Fund seeks to strengthen South Africa's knowledge base on GBVF, generate locally relevant evidence, and support the development of innovative solutions to complex social challenges.

During the year, the Fund resourced and supported the launch of the University of the Witwatersrand's Female Academic Leaders Fellowship (FALF) Programme, which was officially launched in October 2025. The initiative seeks to advance GBVF research while strengthening the representation and leadership of African and Coloured women within academia. Through this partnership, the Fund is contributing to the development of a stronger and more diverse research ecosystem capable of generating evidence that informs policy, practice, and the national response to GBVF.

The Fund also continued its partnership with the University of Johannesburg on the *Boosting South Africa's Nightlife Economic Growth* research initiative. The study explores the relationship between nightlife environments, safety, and gender-based violence, with a focus on identifying practical interventions that contribute to safer and more inclusive public spaces. Preliminary findings from the research are expected to be shared during the first quarter of the 2026/27 financial year and are anticipated to provide valuable insights to inform prevention strategies, urban planning approaches, and multi-sector responses to violence within nightlife settings.

Together, these partnerships demonstrate the Fund's commitment to strengthening research and information management as a critical enabler of prevention, policy development, and systems change. By supporting the generation and application of evidence, the Fund continues to contribute to a more informed, coordinated, and impactful national response to GBVF.

Prevention Coalition against GBVF

During the year, the Fund joined the emerging Prevention Coalition led by Ambassador Nozipho Bardill and supported by a broad coalition of stakeholders across government, civil society, business, academia, and development partners. The Coalition's core purpose is to promote prevention, strengthen movement-building, and align prevention efforts across sectors through a coordinated, whole-of-society approach to addressing the root causes of GBVF. While the initiative continues to evolve, it presents a significant opportunity to strengthen national coordination, scale evidence-based prevention interventions, and foster collective ownership of the GBVF response. This work complements the Fund's strategic focus on coalition-building, systems strengthening, and enabling greater collective impact across the prevention ecosystem.

Strategic priorities for 2026/27

As the Fund enters the next phase of its strategic evolution, focus will be directed towards strengthening coalition-building and systems-level responses to GBVF through deeper collaboration across government, business, civil society, academia, and development partners. Key priorities for the year ahead include the revitalisation and repositioning of the RESPECT Campaign, a refresh of the Fund's brand identity and digital positioning, and the implementation of the Private Sector Coalition's next phase, including the advancement of workplace GBVH standards and accountability mechanisms. Together, these initiatives will strengthen the Fund's role as a catalyst for collective action, social and behavioural change, and sustainable systems transformation in South Africa's response to GBVF.

“Participating in the Fathers Connect workshops has been life-changing for me. I realised that I had been harming my family through anger and unhealthy responses. Today, I am not perfect, but I am a better man who is committed to change. This journey has helped me become a more responsible and present father.” - Thembelani, Father's Connect participant



Walk organised by Fathers Connect, Western Cape, to promote positive masculinity.



GBVF
RESPONSE FUND

*“Corporate governance is not merely
about compliance; it is the discipline of
turning accountability, transparency and
ethical leadership into lasting
organisational trust”*

Governance

The Fund is committed to maintaining a governance framework that promotes ethical leadership, accountability, transparency, and effective stewardship in advancing South Africa's response to gender-based violence and femicide.

The Board provides strategic direction and oversight to ensure that we deliver on our strategic mandate by expanding access to funding and support, deepening the impact of evidence-based interventions, and strengthening the enabling environment through strategic partnerships, resource mobilisation, knowledge generation, advocacy and systems strengthening.

Through the application of King V governance principles, the Board seeks to ensure sustainable organisational performance, prudent management of resources, effective risk oversight, meaningful stakeholder engagement and measurable social impact, while maintaining the confidence of donors, beneficiaries, partners and the broader public.

We are committed to maintaining a governance framework that complies with applicable legislation, regulatory requirements and recognised governance standards, including the Companies Act 71 of 2008, the Income Tax Act 58 of 1962, and the King V Report on Corporate Governance.

Governance principles

We recognise that effective governance is fundamental to achieving our strategic objectives and delivering sustainable impact in support of the NSP for GBV. We remain committed to applying the principles and recommended practices of the King V Report on Corporate Governance on an "apply and explain" basis where feasible, promoting ethical leadership, accountability, transparency, sustainable performance and stakeholder confidence.

These governance principles guide the conduct of the Board, Board Committees, executive management and employees, inform decision-making, and support the responsible stewardship of our resources in delivering long-term value to beneficiaries, donors, partners and other stakeholders.

Governance Structure

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Board is the apex governance body of the Fund and has ultimate responsibility for our governance, strategic direction, risk oversight, financial sustainability and impact accountability. The Board provides leadership and oversight to ensure that our activities align with our mandate, mission, vision and strategic priorities. The Board acts in the best interests of the Fund, exercising due care, skill and diligence and ensuring compliance with applicable legal and governance obligations.

The Board's key roles and responsibilities include:

·Providing strategic leadership and oversight to ensure the Fund's mandate, strategy, vision and objectives are effectively delivered.

- Ensuring ethical and effective leadership by promoting integrity, accountability, transparency and a values-based organisational culture.
- Monitoring organisational performance and impact by reviewing financial performance, programme outcomes and the effectiveness of interventions.
- Ensuring compliance and good governance by overseeing adherence to applicable laws, regulations, governance standards and approved policies.

The Board of Directors



FAITH KHANYILE

Independent Non-Executive Chairperson



**ROSE
KEANLY**

Independent Non-Executive Director & Deputy Chairperson



**DR. SHAHEDA
OMAR**

Independent Non-Executive Director



**MOGABAGABA
MAILULA**

Independent Non-Executive Director



**TRYPHOSA
RAMANO**

Independent Non-Executive Director



**BAFANA
KHUMALO**

Independent Non-Executive Director



**NOZIPHO
BARDILL**

Independent Non-Executive Director



**DR LESLEY ANN
FOSTER**

Independent Non-Executive Director



**DR NOMONDE
MABUYA**

Independent Non-Executive Director



**SHILLYBOY
MOTHIBA**

Independent Non-Executive Director



**ELLA
MANGISA**

Independent Non-Executive Director



**DOROTHY
FIELD**

Independent Non-Executive Director



**LUTHANDO
VUBA**

Independent Non-Executive Director



**SINDISIWE
DLAMINI**

Independent Non-Executive Director



**ADRIAN
BURKE**

Independent Non-Executive Director

Board committees

To support the Board in fulfilling its governance responsibilities, the Board has established sub-committees, with delegated responsibilities in key areas of oversight. Each sub-committee operates under an approved charter and reports regularly to the Board, providing specialised oversight and recommendations, while the Board retains ultimate responsibility and accountability for the governance of the Fund.



Audit and risk committee (ARC)

The mandate and responsibilities of the Fund's Audit and Risk Committee (ARC) encompass, amongst others, oversight of financial reporting, including the preparation of the financial statements; oversight of the internal audit function; oversight of the risk management process; oversight of the external audit function; ensuring a combined assurance model is applied to provide a coordinated approach to all assurance activities; and addressing complaints from stakeholders.

The ARC comprises seven non-executive directors who assist in executing their responsibilities. The Committee met at least quarterly during this reporting period, attended by the Fund's management, representatives from the external and internal auditors, and other assurance providers.

Audits

The external audit was performed by Deloitte & Touche, who conducted an independent and objective audit of the Fund in terms of the provisions of section 90 of the Companies Act. The Committee is satisfied that Deloitte is independent of the Fund, as contemplated in section 94(8) of the Companies Act. The external audit plan was presented and approved by the ARC in line with all statutory requirements.

The Fund has obtained an unqualified audit opinion for every year since our inception.

The internal audit function operates under terms of reference recommended by the ARC and approved by the Board. The Fund's internal audit function is performed by SNG Grant Thornton, and reports independently on whether risk management, controls, and governance processes are adequate and functioning within the Fund. **The internal audit team also performs periodic independent evaluations of the adequacy and effectiveness of controls, financial reporting structures, and the integrity of information systems and records.** The ARC approves the annual risk-based internal audit work plan.

During the period under review, the ARC discharged its statutory and Board responsibilities, considering, inter alia, the financial results of the Fund, risk management and controls, as well as the regulatory and IFRS compliance by the Fund.

Key focus areas for the Committee over the last year include:

- Conducting a review of the audit and risk function to assess any areas where it could potentially strengthen its role as the Fund's oversight committee.
- Providing oversight of the preparation and integrity of the Fund's financial statements and IFRS compliance, obtaining an unqualified audit opinion.
- Establishing and maintaining both external audit and internal audit as independent assurance functions. The current internal audit function is performed by SNG Grant Thornton, while Deloitte & Touche performs the external audit.
- Maintaining oversight of the Fund's enterprise risk management process and the reporting of key risks to the Board.
- Providing oversight of the combined assurance model, bringing together management assurance, internal audit, external audit and other assurance providers.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Ms. Tryphosa Ramano - Chairperson
Ms. Sindisiwe Dlamini - Deputy Chairperson
Ms. Rose Keanly
Dr. Shaheda Omar
Ms. Mogabagaba Mailula
Mr. Shillyboy Mothiba
Mr. Adrian Burke

Disbursement, performance, monitoring and evaluation committee (DPME)

The DPME Committee oversees the grant-making, performance management, monitoring and evaluation processes. Its primary objective is to assist the Board in ensuring that the Fund's resources are strategically deployed, effectively managed and achieve measurable impact in alignment with the Fund's strategy and the NSP.

Key focus areas for the Committee over the last year include:

- Oversee the second funding round (RFP2) that commenced in March 2024, committing almost R106 million to 137 CBOs with a 95% disbursement rate.
- Conduct oversight over extensive data verification that seeks to establish the validity and reliability of data reported by grant partners.
- Approved R6.2 million of emergency funding for six organisations that worked mainly in Thuthuzela Care Centres (TCCs) in Mpumalanga, Free State, Kwazulu-Natal and Western Cape, to support organisations severely affected by international development organisation funding cuts. The Fund also provided guidance to the CBOs on developing sustainability plans.
- Through designated funding from the UK-FCDO, DPME allocated R21m to 20 CBOs to ensure programmes include persons with disabilities, LGBTQIA+, and migrant women. This funding also went towards including positive masculinity as one of the sub thematic focus areas of the G20 Empowerment of Women Working Group.
- Approved a new approach aligned to the Fund's next 5-year strategy to pilot the promotion of early intervention, address the intersection between violence against children and violence against women and thus disrupt the intergenerational transfer of trauma and/or violence in select schools.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Ms. Rose Keanly - Chairperson
Dr. Lesley Ann Foster - Deputy Chairperson
Ms. Faith Khanyile
Dr. Shaheda Omar
Ms. Ella Mangisa
Mr. Bafana Khumalo
Ms. Dorothy Field
Mr. Shillyboy Mothiba



"I am a GBV survivor from KwaPata who received help to gain the strength to finally leave my abusive boyfriend. The Social Worker from Incema helped me navigate my pain and begin a healing journey, putting myself and my children's need first."

- Survivor supported by Incema, one of the Fund's CBO partners.

Fundraising and Investment Committee (FIC)

The FIC supports the Board in providing oversight of the Fund's fundraising, investment and resource mobilisation activities. The Committee ensures that these activities are aligned with the Fund's strategy, strategic priorities and impact objectives and support the Fund's long-term financial sustainability.

Key focus areas for the Committee over the last year include:

- Provide strategic direction given the heightened focus on fundraising to ensure that resources are mobilised, invested and disbursed responsibly in support of the Fund's purpose, priorities and long-term sustainability.
- Continue to work towards strengthening accountability, donor confidence and financial sustainability, while enabling management to balance immediate programme needs with the long-term responsibility of safeguarding resources for continued impact.
- Oversee the executive team's fundraising activities and the subsequent investment of the funds raised prior to their disbursement. Management attends these meetings together with Alexander Forbes executives who manage the Fund's investments.
- Continue monitoring the Fund's investment portfolio, with a stronger focus on fundraising due to the extension of the Fund's tenure beyond 2025.

The Committee remains grateful to our existing donors for their generous contributions and acknowledges our new partners who have joined the Fund in the fight against GBVF.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Dr. Nomonde Mabuya - Chairperson

Dr. Shaheda Omar - Deputy Chairperson

Dr. Lesley Ann Foster

Ms. Rose Keanly

Amb. Nozipho Bardill

Ms. Dorothy Field

"I used to cut myself using scissors. Community Keepers helped me with my behaviour, they gave me tools and information on what to do if I feel like self-harming"

- Primary school learner supported by Community Keepers, one of the Fund's CBO partners.

Advocacy, Behavioural Change and Communication Committee (ABC)

The ABC Committee supports the Board in providing strategic oversight on the Fund's advocacy, behavioural change and communication initiatives. The Committee ensures alignment with the Fund's strategic priorities and impact objectives, while strengthening the Fund's role as a catalyst for collective action against GBVF.

Key focus areas for the Committee over the last year include:

- Continuing to strengthen the advocacy, strategic partnerships, and behaviour change agenda, reinforcing our role as a catalyst for collective action in South Africa's response to GBVF.
- The Committee is encouraged by the prospect of the revitalising of the RESPECT Campaign, our flagship behaviour change programme. A comprehensive refresh process is set to commence in the next financial year to strengthen the campaign's strategic positioning, brand identity, and digital presence.
- The Committee also oversaw significant progress in the establishment and implementation of the PSC, which has evolved from a commitment platform to a structured initiative for advancing workplace accountability and embedding GBVH prevention in mainstream business practice.
- The Committee supported the Fund's participation in the emerging Prevention Coalition that is critical for strengthening national coordination and fostering greater collective ownership of the GBVF response.
- The ABC Committee approved the Fund's participation and contribution of resources towards key G20 engagements, demonstrating the organisation's commitment to advancing collaborative solutions to GBVF at both national and global levels.

The Committee would like to acknowledge the contribution of Mr. Luthando Vuba, who resigned as Chairperson in April 2026 after serving in the role since the inception of the Fund. His leadership, guidance, and commitment to advancing the Fund's advocacy and strategic partnership agenda have been invaluable in shaping the organisation's growth and impact.

The Committee welcomes Ms. Dorothy Field as the new Chairperson and looks forward to her stewardship as the Fund enters its next phase.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Mr Luthando Vuba - Chairperson

Ms. Dorothy Field - Deputy Chairperson

Dr. Lesley Ann Foster

Amb. Nozipho Bardill

Dr. Nomonde Mabuya



Police at Bothasig Victim Support Centre, Cape Town, role playing as part of training on support for GBVF survivors provided by Iris House.

"At first, I did not believe such programmes work, but giving this one a chance was the best decision I made. The positive behaviour of these boys is already influencing the entire school." - Principal of a high school after the HACT No Means No training

Nominations and Remuneration Committee

The Nominations and Remuneration Committee supports the Board in providing strategic oversight and guidance on human capital, organisational capacity and capability, leadership succession and Board composition in line with the Fund's 2030 Strategy, strategic priorities and impact objectives.

The Committee is pleased to report that the Fund welcomed Tandi Nzimande as Chief Executive Officer during the reporting period. The Committee also wishes to record its sincere appreciation to Zanele Ngwepe, Head of Finance and Operations, for her leadership while serving as acting CEO.

Key focus areas for the Committee over the last year include:

- Executive leadership transition: The Committee oversaw the recruitment and onboarding of the Chief Executive Officer and noted the contribution of the Acting Chief Executive Officer during the transition period.
- Strategic oversight: The Committee considered the organisational priorities arising from the Fund's five-year tenure extension and monitored implementation of the approved 2030 Strategy.
- Stakeholder engagement: The Committee reviewed progress on strategic engagements, including G20-related activities and targeted stakeholder meetings.
- Organisational capacity: The Committee supported a phased strengthening of organisational capacity, including targeted additions to the Programmes team to support programme delivery and monitoring and evaluation.
- Fundraising and sustainability: The Committee supported the establishment of dedicated fundraising capacity to strengthen resource mobilisation through the appointment of a fundraising manager.
- Talent and succession planning: The Committee reviewed talent management, succession planning, and organisational effectiveness and considered proposals for a revised structure to enhance accountability, collaboration, and decision-making.

In summary, the Nominations and Remuneration Committee focused on strengthening leadership continuity, organisational capacity, strategic alignment, and long-term sustainability. These priorities supported the Fund's transition into its extended mandate and laid the foundation for continued institutional effectiveness in the next reporting period.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Ms. Faith Khanyile - Chairperson

Mr. Luthando Vuba

Ms. Tryphosa Ramano

Dr. Nomonde Mabuya

Ms. Rose Keanly



Executive and Senior Management

The Board is the custodian of the Fund's strategy and is responsible for providing strategic direction, oversight and governance. Management, led by the CEO, is responsible for executing the Board-approved strategy and managing operations.

Executive Management translates strategy into actionable plans, ensures effective allocation of resources, manages organisational performance and provides the Board with timely information, advice and recommendations to support informed decision-making.

Delegation of Authority

The Fund has an approved Delegation of Authority (DoA) Framework to facilitate timely, effective and quality decision-making in line with the Fund's Governance Framework, 2030 Strategy and operational requirements.

The DoA Framework defines the authority delegated by the Board to sub-committees, the Chief Executive Officer, Management and designated officials, including approval limits, responsibilities and accountability for financial, operational and contractual matters.

The DoA ensures that decisions are made at the appropriate level while maintaining effective oversight, transparency, accountability and compliance with approved policies, budgets and applicable laws. It also supports efficient operations, clear segregation of duties and sound internal control. The Board retains ultimate accountability for matters reserved for its decision and oversight.

Code of Conduct

The Fund is committed to the highest standards of ethical conduct, integrity, transparency and accountability. All Directors, employees, contractors, consultants and any other persons acting on behalf of the Fund are expected to uphold our values and conduct themselves in a manner that protects and enhances our reputation.

We have established a confidential whistleblowing hotline to facilitate reporting of any unethical or undesirable behaviour, suspected fraud, questionable accounting or auditing practices, or violations of our values. All reports are treated as strictly confidential.



GBVF Fund advocacy stand at the 2025 Human Rights Festival.

Executive team

The Fund's management comprises a lean team of professionals who bring years of diverse experience, knowledge and expertise from a range of backgrounds, including civil society and the private sector. This effort has optimised the Fund's internal capacity and effectiveness in executing its mission. The Fund is committed to maximising the reach and impact of its received funds for its programming initiatives.

The management team is dedicated to ensuring the Fund operates at the highest level and has devoted extensive hours and dedication to its operations. Working in collaboration with our various partners and stakeholders, our joint efforts enable the Fund to fulfil our mandate and generate tangible impact in fostering a safer South Africa for women, children, and vulnerable and marginalised populations, and the community at large.



**TANDI
NZIMANDE**

Chief Executive Officer



**ZANELE
NGWEPE**

Head of Finance and
Operations



**TIRHANI
MANGANYI**

Programmes
Manager



**KOKETSO
RATHUMBU**

Advocacy and
Communications Manager



**MABAALE
LETSIE**

Fundraising
Manager

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the period 01 March 2025 - 28 February 2026

These summarized financial statements are extracted from the audited annual financial statements but are not audited themselves. The annual financial statements were audited by Deloitte, who expressed an unqualified audit opinion thereon.

The audited annual financial statements and the auditor's report thereon are available for inspection on request to the Fund at info@gbvfresponsefund1.org. The directors take full responsibility for the preparation of the summary annual financial statements.

In February 2025, the Board resolved to extend the Fund's tenure for a further five years, after initial plans to close the Fund by the end of 2026. Fundraising efforts had therefore slowed, but have since resumed as a top priority.

GBVF RESPONSE FUND1 NPC

Registration number: 2021/359277/08

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE PERIOD FROM 01 MARCH 2025 TO 28 FEBRUARY 2026				
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION <i>Figures presented in Rands</i>	Notes	2026 R'000	2025 Restated * R'000	2024 Restated * R'000
ASSETS				
Non-Current Assets				
Intangible assets	3	50	26	53
Property, plant and equipment	4.1	254	201	162
Right-of-use asset long term portion	4.2	--	118	319
Current Assets				
Right of use asset short term portion	4.2	118	201	202
Other receivables - restated	5	622	1 676	4 443
Cash and cash equivalents	6	66 943	78 997	96 869
TOTAL ASSETS		67 987	81 219	102 048
FUNDS AND LIABILITIES				
Funds				
Accumulated funds - restated		66 714	79 084	100 797
Non-current Liabilities				
Lease liability - long term portion	4.3	--	105	275
Current Liabilities				
Trade and other payables - restated	7	1 168	1 860	817
Lease liability - short-term portion	4.3	105	170	159
TOTAL FUNDS AND LIABILITIES		67 987	81 219	102 048

* The comparative information has been restated as a result of a prior period correction to Grant Management Fees accounting treatment

GBVF RESPONSE FUND1 NPC

Registration number: 2021/359277/08

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE PERIOD FROM 01 MARCH 2025 TO 28 FEBRUARY 2026			
STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME	Notes	2026 R'000	2025 Restated * R'000
<i>Figures presented in Rands</i>			
REVENUE			
Donations	8	43 390	30 538
Grant disbursement to grant partners	9	(40 274)	(39 304)
Grant management fees - restated	10	(2 485)	(2 700)
Advocacy and behavioural change	10	(2 968)	(5 737)
Other programme costs	10	(6 287)	(4 499)
Operating and administration costs	10	(9 080)	(8 993)
OPERATING DEFICIT		(17 704)	(30 695)
Interest income	11	5 334	8 982
COMPREHENSIVE LOSS FOR THE PERIOD		(12 370)	(21 713)

* The comparative information has been restated as a result of a prior period correction to Grant Management Fees accounting treatment

GBVF RESPONSE FUND1 NPC

Registration number: 2021/359277/08

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE PERIOD FROM 01 MARCH 2025 TO 28 FEBRUARY 2026		
STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY	2026 R'000	2025 Restated * R'000
<i>Figures presented in Rands</i>		
FUNDS		
Accumulated funds	--	--
Opening balance 01 March (previously reported)	79 084	98 546
Prior period error	--	2 250
Opening balance 01 March - Restated	79 084	100 797
TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE LOSS FOR THE PERIOD	(12 370)	(21 713)
BALANCE AT 28 FEBRUARY - CLOSING BALANCE	66 714	79 084

* The comparative information has been restated as a result of a prior period correction to Grant Management Fees accounting treatment

GBVF RESPONSE FUND1 NPC

Registration number: 2021/359277/08

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE PERIOD FROM 01 MARCH 2025 TO 28 FEBRUARY 2026

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOW <i>Figures presented in Rands</i>	Notes	2026 R'000	2025 Restated R'000
CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Cash receipts from donors	8	43 390	30 538
Cash paid to grant partners	12.1	(40 424)	(39 154)
Cash paid to suppliers and employees - restated	12.2	(20 200)	(20 201)
Cash generated from Operating activities		(17 234)	(28 817)
Bank interest received	11	5 587	9 048
Decrease/(increase) prepayments - restated		8	2 253
		(11 639)	(17 516)
CASH FLOW FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES		(232)	(173)
Acquisition of property, plant and equipment	4	(232)	(173)
CASH FLOW FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES		(183)	(183)
Capital lease payments	4.3	(170)	(159)
Interest paid on lease liability	12.2	(12)	(24)
NET CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES		(12 054)	(17 872)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of the period		78 997	96 869
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT END OF THE PERIOD	6	66 943	78 997



Reflections on first five years and looking ahead

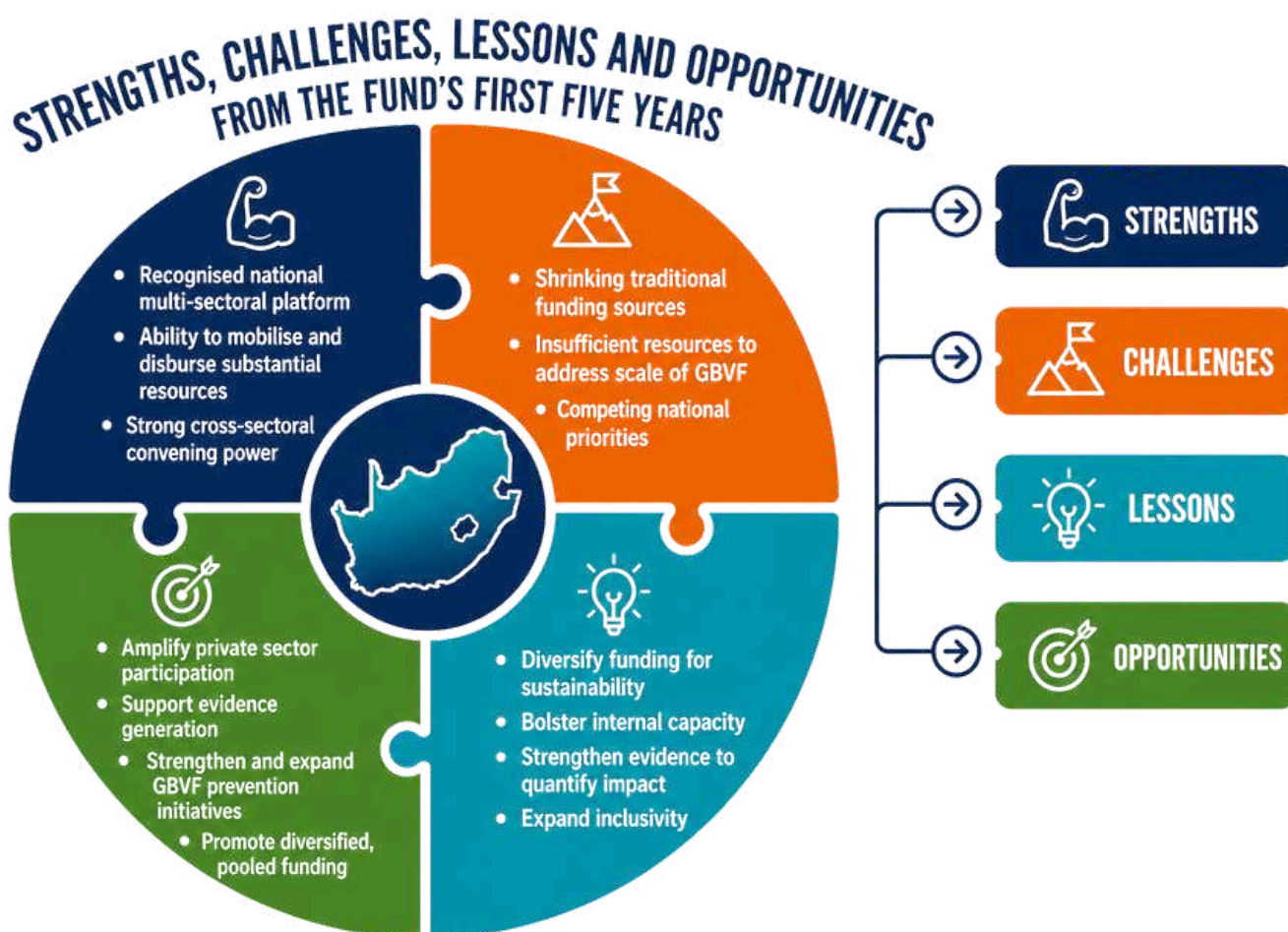
The **Fund's greatest strength** is our unique position at the intersection of government, business and civil society, allowing us to act as both a financing mechanism and a national convenor. A concerted focus on relationship building has helped us achieve significant milestones and cemented our evolution from a grant-maker to a systems-level change agent.

The **key strategic challenge** over the next five years will be **sustainability**. To remain relevant and impactful, we will need to diversify revenue streams, strengthen internal capacity, demonstrate evidence-based programmatic and behavioural change outcomes, and ensure smooth collaboration and alignment with the National GBVF Council to create the country's leading catalytic platform for mobilising resources and partnerships against GBVF.

Lessons learned, new opportunities

From our first five years of implementation, we've identified several lessons and opportunities (see graphic below) to help us achieve greater impact as we enter our new phase.

These reflections have informed our new five-year strategy - Strategy 2030. We've designed a more targeted, evidence-based approach to continue our mission to entrench a coordinated, well-resourced national response that can have real and significant impact in bringing an end to gender-based violence and femicide in the country.



A close-up photograph of several hands holding and fitting together colorful wooden puzzle pieces. The pieces are in shades of blue, yellow, and red. The hands are positioned around the pieces, with some fingers gripping them. The background is a soft, out-of-focus light color.

Alone, we each carry one piece of the vision.

Together we build a future shaped by
compassion, courage and possibility.

Acronyms

ABC	Advocacy, Behaviour change and Communications Committee
ARC	Audit and Risk Committee
CBO	Community-based Organisation
CEO	Chief Executive Officer
CSO	Civil Society Organisation
DPME	Disbursement, Performance, Monitoring and Evaluation Committee
DSD	Department of Social Development
EWWG	Empowerment of Women Working Group of the G20
FCDO	UK Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office
FIC	Fundraising and Investment Committee.
FREF	FirstRand Empowerment Foundation
GBV	Gender-Based Violence
GBVF	Gender-Based Violence and Femicide
GBVH	Gender-based violence and harassment
GMP	Grants Management Partner
GIZ	German Development Agency
JSE	Johannesburg Stock Exchange
LGBTQIA+	Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, intersex, asexual and other extensions
ILO	International Labour Organisation
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MERLA	Monitoring, Evaluation, Research, Learning and Accountability
NGO	Non-governmental Organisation
NSP	National Strategic Plan
PSC	Private Sector Coalition
PSA	Public Service Announcements
PWD	Persons with disabilities
RFP	Request for proposals
SABC	South African Broadcasting Corporation
SAPS	South African Police Service
UK	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund



Glossary

Domestic Violence: According to South African law, this includes physical abuse; sexual abuse; emotional, verbal and psychological abuse; economic abuse; intimidation; harassment; stalking; entry into the complainant's residence without his/her consent or any other controlling or abusive behaviour taking place in domestic relationships.

Femicide: Also known as female homicide, is generally understood to involve intentional murder of women because they are women, but broader definitions include any killing of women or girls. In South Africa, it is defined as the killing of a female person, or perceived as a female person based on gender identity, whether committed within the domestic relationship, interpersonal relationship or by any other person, or whether perpetrated or tolerated by the State or its agents. Intimate femicide is defined as the murder of women by intimate partners, i.e., "a current or former husband or boyfriend, same-sex partner, or a rejected would-be lover."

Gender-Based Violence (GBV): The general term used to capture violence that occurs as a result of the normative role expectations associated with each gender, along with the unequal power relations between the genders, within the context of a specific society. GBV includes physical, sexual, verbal, emotional, and psychological abuse or threats of such acts or abuse, coercion, and economic or educational deprivation, whether occurring in public or private life, in peacetime and during armed or other forms of conflict, and may cause physical, sexual, psychological, emotional or economic harm.

Multisectoral Response: Refers to deliberate collaboration among various stakeholder groups (e.g. government, civil society, and private sector) and sectors (e.g. health, environment, and economy) to jointly achieve a policy outcome. By engaging multiple sectors, partners can leverage knowledge, expertise, reach, and resources, benefiting from their combined and varied strengths as they work toward the shared goal of producing better health outcomes.

Persons with Disabilities: Includes those who have perceived and/or actual physical, psychosocial, intellectual, neurological and/ or sensory impairments which, as a result of various attitudinal, communication, physical and information barriers, are hindered in participating fully and effectively in society on an equal basis with others.



Annexure 1: List of GBV Hotspot Areas

The list below shows the GBVF hotspot areas (areas with high incidence of GBVF) supported by the Fund. The data is determined using the official South African Police Service (SAPS) data as a basis with additional hotspot areas added based on a modelling exercise commissioned by the Fund that takes into account intersectionality with HIV/AIDS.

The SAPS data is used as it is widely acknowledged as the official source of crime data and is used by the government to determine provincial allocation of resources. The SAPS data also incorporates case data and data from victim support centres and health facilities; and it makes use of a more holistic definition of GBVF (i.e. does not only single out sexual offences statistics).

LOCATION	PROVINCE
Mbizana	Eastern Cape
Kwazakhele	Eastern Cape
Ngqeleni	Eastern Cape
Lusikisiki	Eastern Cape
Libode	Eastern Cape
Butterworth	Eastern Cape
Mthatha	Eastern Cape
Duncan Village	Eastern Cape
Bubesi Village	Eastern Cape
Dutywa	Eastern Cape
Kopanong	Free State
Nesville	Free State
Bloemspruit	Free State
Tembisa	Gauteng
Mamelodi East	Gauteng
Ivory Park	Gauteng
Honeydew	Gauteng
Jeppe	Gauteng
Moroka	Gauteng
Dobsonville	Gauteng
Temba	Gauteng
Loate	Gauteng
Alexandra	Gauteng

LOCATION	PROVINCE
Diepsloot	Gauteng
Kagiso	Gauteng
Orange Farm	Gauteng
Kathlehong	Gauteng
Spruitview	Gauteng
Dawn Park/Rondebult	Gauteng
Krugersdorp	Gauteng
Umlazi	KwaZulu Natal
Empangeni	KwaZulu Natal
Ntuzuma	KwaZulu Natal
Inanda	KwaZulu Natal
KwaMashu	KwaZulu Natal
Mbizana	KwaZulu Natal
Osizweni	KwaZulu Natal
Plessislaer	KwaZulu Natal
Chatsworth	KwaZulu Natal
Phoenix	KwaZulu Natal
Marianridge	KwaZulu Natal
Wentworth	KwaZulu Natal
Giyani	Limpopo
Thohoyandou	Limpopo
Seshego	Limpopo
Mahwelereng	Limpopo

LOCATION	PROVINCE
Mankweng	Limpopo
Sekhukhune	Limpopo
Pienaar	Mpumalanga
Bushbuckridge	Mpumalanga
Gert-Sibande	Mpumalanga
Nkomazi	Mpumalanga
White River	Mpumalanga
Manzana	Mpumalanga
Ikageng	North West
Ngaka Modiri Molema District as a whole	North West
Montshioa	North West
Ramotshere Moiloa Local Municipality	North West
Mahikeng Local Municipality	North West

LOCATION	PROVINCE
Ditsobotla Local Municipality	North West
Freedom Park	North West
Marikana	North West
Delft	Western Cape
Kraaifontein	Western Cape
Mfuleni	Western Cape
Harare	Western Cape
Khayelitsha	Western Cape
Nyanga	Western Cape
Belville	Western Cape
Gugulethu	Western Cape
Mitchells Plain	Western Cape



Annexure 2: List of CBOs supported under RFP 1

Bet Sheekoom - House of Restoration	iThembaletu Outreach Project (IOP)
Christelik Maatskaplike Raad Drakensberg	Justice and Women JAW
Christelik Maatskaplike Raad Uitenhage	Khula Youth Empowerment Organisation
Christelik-Maatskaplike Raad Port Elizabeth	Restoration of Hope - Trulife
Coastal Resource Centre	South Coast Hospice
I Protect Me	Thuthukisa Abantulayo Community Development Organisation
Ikhwezi Woman Support Center	Ebenezer Multipurpose Integrated Social Service Centre
Jersey Farm Advice and Information Centre	Ga-Mokaba Reading Room
Masibumbane Development Organisation	Litshani Vhana-Vha-de Foundation (LVVF)
Masithethe Counselling Services	Mankweng Community Law Advice Office
NICRO NPC Eastern Cape	Matlala Advice Office
Nomaxabiso Victim Support Centre	Opret Advice Office
On Eagle's Wing Multi-Purpose Centre	Senwabarwana Victim Support Centre
Port St Johns Community Legal Advice Centre	Thohoyandou Victim Empowerment Programme
Umtata Women's Support Centre - EC	Bohlabela Resource and Advice Centre
Child Welfare Bloemfontein & Childline Free State t/a	Cincinantia Resoketswe Lebjane
Childline Free State (CLFS)	GRIP Greater Rape Intervention Programme
Qholaqhwe Advice Centre	Lifeline Nelspruit
Tholwana E Molemo	Mpumalanga Shelter Movement
Akasosha Men's Forum	Ambassadors4Change
Childline Gauteng	Kitso-Ke-Lesedi Social Development Programme
Children of the Dawn	LifeLine NW, Rustenburg Centre
Copessa NPC	Thusanang Trauma Centre
Cross Connect Community Outreach	Bathopele NGO
Diski Nine9 Africa	Ethembeni Community Centre
Father A Nation SA NPC	Second Chance Group
Fight With Insight	Callas Foundation
FWC Welfare and Development Centre	Cederberg Matzikama Aids Network
Grassroot Soccer South Africa	Community Keepers
Institute for Women's Development (Nisaa)	Connect Network
Isizinda Sempilo Organisation	Etafeni Day Care Centre Trust
Kids Haven	Health Opportunity Partnership and Empowerment in Africa NPC
Kuhluka Movement NPC	Ilitha Labantu
Lefika La Phodiso	Iris House Children's Hospice
Legal Centre for Gender Based Violence Association (trading name: Lawyers against Abuse (LvA))	Jelly Beanz Foundation
Lifeline Free State	Molo Mhlaba NPC
LifeLine West Rand	MOSAIC Training Service & Healing Centre
Restorative Justice Centre	New World Foundation
Rise Up Against Gender Based Violence	Rape Crisis Cape Town Trust
Tshwane University of Technology	Saartjie Baartman Centre for Women & Children
Witkoppen Health and Welfare Centre (trading as Witkoppen Clinic)	Siyabonga - Huis van Danksegging
Amangwe Village	Siyazana Youth Development Fund
Gugu Dlamini Foundation	The Edmund Rice Justice Desk (The Justice Desk)
Hillcrest AIDS Centre Trust (HACT)	The Pebbles Project Trust
Incema	Tygerberg Hospital Children's Trust

Annexure 3: List of CBOs supported under RFP 2

ALWANDE ULWAZI COMMUNITY ADVICE CENTER (AUCAC)
Ambassadors for Change (RFP1 Continuation)
Angels of Tomorrow
Batho Ba Lerato Advice Center (BBLAC)
Bloodriver Advice Office
Broadway Legacy Foundation
Callas Foundation (RFP1 Continuation)
Cederberg Matzikama Aids Network (RFP1 Continuation)
Child Welfare Bloemfontein/Childline Free State (RFP1 Continuation)
Childline Gauteng (RFP1 Continuation)
CHRISTELIK-MAATSKAPLIKE RAAD (CMR)
UITENHAGE (RFP1 Continuation)
Connect Christian Network (RFP1 Continuation)
COPESSA NPC (RFP1 Continuation)
Curios Future Movement
Ebenezer Multipurpose Integrated Social Services Centre (RFP1 Continuation)
Estcourt Support and Resource Centre
Ethembeni community Center
Father a Nation (RFP1 continuation)
Goldfields Family Advice Organization
Good Samaritan Organisation
Grassroot Soccer (GRS) South Africa (RFP1 Continuation)
Grinders Arisen
Greater Rape Intervention Programme (GRIP) (RFP1 Continuation)
Hillcrest AIDS Centre Trust (RFP1 Continuation)
Ilitha Labantu (RFP1 Continuation)
Iris House Children's Hospice (IHCH) (RFP1 Continuation)
Isibani Law and Therapy Centre
Jelly Beanz Foundation (RFP1 Continuation)
KAYBEZ SKILLS DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION NPO
Kids Haven (RFP1 Continuation)
KwaMashu Child Welfare
Kwazulu Natal Deaf Association (KZNDA) (RFP1 Continuation)
Lawyers Against Abuse (LvA) (RFP1 Continuation)
Lefika La Phodiso (RFP1 Continuation)
Life Line Durban

Lifeline Mafikeng (RFP1 Continuation)
LifeLine Rustenburg (RFP1 Continuation)
Lorraine Khoza Foundation (LKF)
MANKWENG COMMUNITY LAW ADVICE OFFICE (MCLAO) (RFP1 Continuation)
Molo Mhlaba (RFP1 Continuation)
MOSAIC Training Service & Healing Centre (RFP1 Continuation)
Mqanduli Community Advice Centre
On Eagle's Wings Multi-Purpose Centre (RFP1 Continuation)
Phela Safe House
PHOLA NPO (RFP1 Continuation)
Port St Johns Survivor Support Group (RFP1 Continuation)
Potter's House
Qholaqhwe Advice Centre (RFP1 Continuation)
Rape Crisis Cape Town Trust (RFP1 Continuation)
Remmogo Itireleng Victim Empowerment Project
Restoration of Hope – Trulife (RFP1 Continuation)
Rise Up Against Gender Based Violence (RFP1 Continuation)
Second Chance Group (RFP1 Continuation)
Selina-Jo Family Service Organisation
Shaine Griqua Advice and Development Centre
SILA Foundation
Siyabonga - Huis van Danksegging (RFP1 Continuation)
Siyazana Youth Development Fund (RFP1 Continuation)
Social Health & Empowerment (SHE) (RFP1 Continuation)
Teddy Bear Clinic for Abused Children
The Great People of South Africa (RFP1 Continuation)
The Saartjie Baartman Centre for Women and Children (RFP1 Continuation)
TVEP - Thohoyandou Victim Empowerment Programme (RFP1 Continuation)
Umtata Women's Support Centre (RFP1 Continuation)
Zaselangeni HIV And Aids Prevention And Victim Project



GBVF
RESPONSE FUND

In a world with **RESPECT** there is no GBVF

Help us accelerate action and strive for a South Africa free from gender-based violence directed at women, children, and LGBTQIA+ persons.

Your support results in real change. Change that saves lives. Change that restores hope. Change that contributes to ending gender-based violence and femicide.

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