



FOL Newsletter

Fountain of Life

DISSEMINATION OF BREAKING THE SILENCE CONTINUES!!!

ISSUE 10

Following the dissemination workshop that was carried out late last year (2015) in Lilongwe, FOL continued carrying out the workshops this year in Blantyre and Mzuzu.

There were two workshops carried out in Blantyre at Grace Bandawe Conference Hotel on 24th and 26th February 2016. Pastor Samuel Banda mobilized church leaders mainly from different ministries in Blantyre who attended the workshop on 24th February. Malawi Council of Churches (MCC) mobilized church leaders from the Anglican, Seventh Day Adventist, Baptist, and Roman Catholic Churches who attended the workshop on 26th February.

The number of participants for each workshop was fifty (50) and the targeted number was achieved. All together 100 participants attended all workshops in Blantyre. The church leaders



One of the pastors who participated demonstrating how to use the tool kit

And some managed to demonstrate how the tool kit can be used. The workshop was also carried out as an awareness campaign to let the church leaders know of the One Stop Centers and services available for sexually abused victims. It was also discussed that the church leaders are a great tool for awareness because they have access to large numbers of people every week and they can use their sermons to reach out to a lot of people.

MCC also mobilized church leaders for Mzuzu on the 29th of February. In Mzuzu, the target of fifty (50) participants was met. During the workshop, very critical issues like “is dressing a good enough reason to rape?” “Is there rape in marriage” were discussed. The Mzuzu group were not aware of the One Stop Center at Mzuzu hospital built in 2014 and were enthusiastic about delivering sermons on rape, defilement and sexual assault.

The participants were given hard copies of the toolkit as well as soft copies on flash drives. The tool kit is available on our website for those wishing to download and print. Go to [LEARN >> RESOURCES](#).

Did You Know?

- Almost all pastors/church leaders have never delivered a sermon dedicated to raising awareness on GBV or even rape/defilement.
- There are always more than fifteen (15) volunteers who sign up and FOL assigns eight (8) core counselors to be on call.
- UNICEF trained its program partners on communication for development (C4D) so that the partners should not only communicate effectively but also communicate to bring SOCIAL CHANGE.

Inside this issue:

Dissemination of Breaking The Silence Continues	1
FOL's New Project Officer (OSCs)	1
Zomba, Lilongwe and Mzuzu counselors trained	2
UNICEF trains program partners	2
Contact Information	



FOL'S NEW PROJECT OFFICER (OSCs)

Meet George Alexander Ntaba, Fountain of Life's Project Officer under UNICEF One Stop Center Program. He will be managing the training of lay volunteer counselors in Lilongwe, Mzuzu and Zomba, carrying out awareness campaigns in the three (3) districts including Blantyre and make sure the three OSC besides Blantyre are fully functional.

George is joining a team of dedicated people at FOL who work passionately to provide effective and necessary services to sexual assault survivors.

ZOMBA, LILONGWE AND MZUZU COUNSELORS TRAINED



Volunteer counselors in Lilongwe

Over the past couple of weeks Fountain of Life has been training volunteers from Mzuzu and Lilongwe in trauma counseling. UNICEF partnered with FOL to replicate the Blantyre One Stop Center (OSC) model in three other OSCs namely Zomba, Mzuzu and Lilongwe OSCs. Part of the model is having trauma counselors at the OSCs provided by FOL.

Zomba volunteer counselors received training at the beginning of the year and over the past couple of weeks Mzuzu and Lilongwe counselors also received training. Open invitations were sent to anyone willing to become a volunteer counselor and FOL received a promising response from volunteers.

the training included basic trauma counseling skills, information on defilement, rape and sexual assault, effects of rape in general and psychologically, importance of trauma counselling, practical lessons, role playing and many more. The training took two (2) days and was very intense and effective.

In Mzuzu, twenty-five (25) volunteers received training and out of the 25, there are eight (8) core counselors on call. In Lilongwe fifteen (15) volunteers received training and there are also eight (8) core counselors. Mzuzu One Stop Center is fully constructed and victims have access to medical services and they will have access to trauma counselling services. Lilongwe OSC is still under construction but counselors are contacted whenever there is a client.

We appreciate the dedication of all volunteers who come forward to provide a service that is greatly needed for sexual assault survivors. Zomba, Mzuzu and Lilongwe OSCs are on the right track to becoming fully functional OSCs. Contact FOL if you would like to become a volunteer.

UNICEF TRAINS PROGRAM PARTNERS

Fountain of Life was recently invited to a Communication for Development (C4D) Violence against Children (VAC) Orientation Workshop at UNICEF. It was a two day workshop that took place from 8th to 9th March and the theme was "Protect and Care: Violence is not a solution."

The goal of the workshop was to strengthen the C4D capacity of Child Protection NGO partners on planning, implementation and monitoring and evaluation of strategic communication for behavior and social change on violence against children in 10 districts.

It was a very productive workshop where UNICEF program partners like FOL, YONECO, Action Aid, Plan Malawi met, learned from each other especially about several projects. Partners are running. Among the



Projects are the One stop center (where FOL provides trauma counseling among other services to survivors of sexual assault), Safe school Program by Action Aid, Children's corner, Community Victim Support Unit and Diversion to mention a few.



Fountain of Life

P. O. Box 1993
Lilongwe, Malawi.
Shoppers Mall, Opposite Shoprite Car park
Towards Grey Matter Business College.

Phone: +265 | 759 203
Fax: +265 | 759 203
E-mail: info@mwfountainoflife.org

FACEBOOK: <https://www.facebook.com/fountainoflife.malawi>

TWITTER: @MalawiFoL

YOUTUBE : Fountain of Life (Malawi) Ltd

WEBSITE: www.mwfountainoflife.org

**MALAWI'S ANSWER TO THOSE
SUFFERING FROM SEXUAL ASSAULT**