

# Friends Women's Association

## NOVEMBER 2024 Report

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## **INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE AND SPEAKING TOURS**

On Thursday, November 28, 2024, the Friends Women's Association (FWA), in collaboration with its partners, organized a workshop at Ceprotilic, in Bujumbura, Burundi. The aim of this event was to restore the main results and discussions of the 12th international conference on psychology in East Africa which was held on October 10-11, 2024 in Kampala, Uganda. The workshop was focused on the theme: "Participatory community health care and health services".

The workshop brought together 30 participants from various organizations involved in mental health interventions in Burundi. It was an opportunity to share the teachings of the conference, assess the current state of mental health in Burundi and make recommendations to improve mental health services in the country.





## **ACTIVITIES**

### **Caring for HIV Positive People (CHIVPP)**

In the month of November, medical follow-up and home visits were done for our HIV positive people.

### **Maternity Ward Building**

Although Ntaseka maternity ward still needs some medical equipment; both the delivery and them, hospitalization services are currently functional.

### **Improving Women's Reproductive Health (IWRH)**

FWA staff and FWA community health workers have continued to educate both men and women on the importance of family planning.

## **RAPE SURVIVORS' SUPPORT (RSS)**

### **I. SELF HELP GROUPS (SHGs)**

<b>ABOUT NEW SHG</b>					
No	Name of SHG	Month creation	of	Member Number	Created by
<b>SHG Total Number:</b>		<b>63</b>			

### **Sharing**

As the table shows, in the month November 1 SHG made a sharing and the result are as follows;

No	About sharing	Number of SHG	Total
1	Total money saved	1	14,305,000
2	Total Credit granted	1	10,600,000
3	Total interest	1	8,600,500
4	People who didn't paid	1	0
5	Total money not refunded	1	0

### **Classification of SHG**

After evaluation it was found that;

Active	Less Active	Sick	Total
1	0	0	1

### **II. HROC Workshop ( November 26- 28)**

In the month of November one trauma healing workshop was held in Maramvya Friend Church for GBV victims.

## **Story**

*“My name is Pascaline; I grew up as an orphan. When I was 14, my father remarried, and then married two more women after that. Unfortunately, his wives mistreated me, and I grew up filled with bitterness and hurt.*

*Later, I married a man who lied to me, claiming he was single when, in fact, he had children around my age. My husband, who was much older than me, traumatized me in many ways. He physically abused me, used cruel words to tear me down, and when I gave birth, he even denied that the child was his.*

*The more I was mistreated, the more I became withdrawn and "different." I started learning how to defend myself, but I also turned to drugs as a way to cope with the pain.*

*One day, I returned home and find my husband had locked me out. In a fit of anger, I forced my way in, grabbing him by the neck, desperate to hurt him, but he was stronger than me. He beat me violently. After that, I sought refuge at my uncle's house.*

*When I told my uncle what had happened, he told me that I should endure my husband's actions, because, according to him, many women accept this kind of life. Eventually, I went back to my husband.*

*Even today, I am still living in this toxic situation. As the training on stress and trauma highlighted, when someone hurts me, I fall back into old patterns of self-destruction, such as drinking. Even the simple tasks like taking a shower or doing laundry are hard to do for me.*

*However, this training has been a turning point for me. I have learned to understand myself better and to recognize that I am carrying deep emotional wounds. I now understand that I am not just broken, but sick—affected by trauma. My hope is that by applying the healing methods I've learned, I can start to heal these wounds and regain control of my life.”*

**Photos:** Cfr Augustin

### **III. THE WOMEN'S ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT CENTER**

Under the support of the Canadian Friends Service Committee (CFSC), have continued the construction work of the Women's Socio Economic Empowerment Center (WSEEC). The aim of this project is to avail training rooms and a temporary safe shelter for gender-based violence survivors at the FWA headquarters. This project will cost \$200,000





## **ACTION ON GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE (AGBV)**

In the month of November, under the support of Canadian Friends Service Committee, there was a training on the faithful home approach in Nyabiraba Commune in Bujumbura province. Then, the FWA was represented at the official national launch of the 16 days campaign of activism against gender-based violence. Also there was preparation of two public events during the 16 days campaign of activism against GBV to be held respectively in Giheta commune in Gitega province and in Nabiraba commune in Bujumbura province.



FWA association represented at the official launch of the 16 days campaign of activism against GBV. From left to right: the third person is Chanelle Nshimirimana one of the four people from FWA)



A group photo after a three-day training on the Faithful home approach in Nyabiraba Commune

## MEDICAL TEAM

### *CONSULTATIONS*

Our medical doctors consulted with 157 cases, including 48 adults (18 men and 30 women), 18 children (4 boys and 14 girls), 34 HIV positive people and 57 pregnant women for ultrasound. The nurse received 274 patients including 159 adults and 115 children.

## ***LABORATORY***

In the month of November, apart from HIV voluntary testing, there were a total of 321 tests.

Test	Test completed	Positive	Negative
G.E. Malaria test	10	0	10
Quick malaria test	90	12	78
ECBU Urine test	15	11	4
Selles Stool test	4	3	1
Pregnancy	37	9	28
Sero-widal Typhoid fever	52	15	37
Glycémie Diabetes	15	6	9
RPR VDRL (Syphilis)	15	0	15
Complete Blood Count	49	20	29
Hepatitis B	5	0	5
Hepatitis C	2	0	2
Viral Load	27	0	27
<b>Total Tests: 321</b>			

## ***FAMILY PLANNING***

606 People received contraceptives from FWA's nurse, including 497 old cases and 109 new ones. 570 received the contraceptive injection, 1 were given contraceptive pills, 16 received male condoms at Ntaseka clinic, 2 received UID and 17 received implants

## ***PRENATAL CONSULTATION (PNC)***

In November, 46 women came for prenatal consultation (PNC), including 14 who came for PNC 1, 19 for PNC 2, 7 for PNC 3 and 6 for PNC 4.

57 pregnant women came for the ultrasound test.

## ***ANTI-RETROVIRAL SITE***

At the end of November, we had 330 patients under retro drugs followed at NTASEKA clinic, including 267 women and 63 men.



## ***PHARMACY***

Regarding medications, FWA was able to purchase the minimum needed medicine.

## ***PSYCHOSOCIAL TEAM***

In the month of November, 48 people were tested for HIV and received pre and post HIV test counselling. Among the 4 people who were detected HIV positive, 3 of them were women with 8% of seropositivity.

Total Number of People Tested:	48
Total Number of Women Tested:	38
% of People Tested Who Are Women:	79%
Average Age:	28
Median Age:	26.5
Total HIV+ :	4
Total HIV- :	44
Number of Women HIV+ :	3
Total % Seropositivity:	8%
% of Women Tested Who Are HIV+:	8%

LINK PHOTOS FWA NOVEMBER 2024

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1Br5r3NvAFrqM5qB58oDJ-HQxgLpl7vdL?usp=sharing>

Link for Mental Health restitution workshop

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1mU29rz2joen7ToidifE4xSqj8W4j2Ara?usp=sharing>