



FACT SHEET

INCREASING SERVICES FOR SURVIVORS OF SEXUAL ASSAULT IN SOUTH AFRICA (ISSASA)

CHALLENGE

Gender-based violence and sexual assault in South Africa is a widespread dilemma that leaves many women, children and other vulnerable people traumatized and helpless. In response, Thuthuzela Care Centers (TCCs) work with survivors and providers alike to tackle this epidemic.

APPROACH

In collaboration with South Africa's National Prosecuting Authority and the MAC AIDS Foundation, the Foundation for Professional Development is working with Soul City, Sonke Gender Justice, and the South African Medical Research Council to implement a project drawing attention to the severity of sexual assault in South Africa. This \$10 million USAID/PEPFAR supported program, beginning in 2012 and running through 2017, is focusing on improving access to legal, medical and psychological counseling services for survivors of sexual assault.

OBJECTIVES

1. To raise public awareness by informing communities about the services provided by the TCCs within a wider approach to raising awareness and prevention.
2. To expand and improve the TCCs existing services, through:
 - Improving 24-hour services for victims.
 - Establishing four new TCCs.
 - Conducting community-level workshops for partners in the continuum of care.
 - Delivering inter-disciplinary training for legal, medical and education professionals nationwide.
 - Undertake a national assessment of sexual assault case withdrawals related to the attrition of rape cases in the criminal justice system.



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RESULTS

- 30,000 community health workers will be trained in a new gender-based violence model.
- Community dialogues will be conducted by Sonke Gender Justice and Soul City to address the stigma around reporting of sexual assault.
- Informative posters, radio programs and TV dramas will be used to create awareness about the TCC services.
- TCC information is included in information on sexual assault provided to children, through 5400 Soul Buddyz Clubs .

CONTACT INFORMATION

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