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# JULY 2024 NEWSLETTER

## HIGHLIGHTS



**Emthonjeni Women's Forum (EWF),** in partnership with WE EFFECT, conducted a monitoring visit to Ward 7 in Insiza to evaluate the progress and sustainability of the local greenhouse project. During the visit, dedication of the local women was clear as they participated in digging trenches for a second greenhouse and provided manure to support its development.

**As the 2022-2024 strategic plan concludes,** Emthonjeni Women's Forum (EWF) reviewed the plan's effectiveness in advancing the organization's vision of a GBV-free society. The review identified successful initiatives and areas for improvement to inform the next strategic plan.



**Through the economic empowerment strategic pillar,** Emthonjeni Women's Forum (EWF) has recently made a significant contribution to the women of Insiza by providing broiler chicks and peanut butter machines. These resources aim to enhance economic opportunities, supporting efforts to improve financial stability and livelihoods in the area

# COMMUNITY ACTIVISTS MONITORING SESSIONS

In July, Emthonjeni Women's Forum (EWF), in collaboration with the Trocaire team, conducted monitoring sessions of Community Activists (CAs) from Ward 19 in Insiza. The monitoring aimed to assess the efficacy of CAs delivery of awareness raising sessions. CAs communicated key concepts of gender-based violence (GBV) and power dynamics, which they previously learned during training sessions.



Community Activists (CAs) showed a strong grasp of key concepts, earning particular commendation for their understanding of safeguarding practices and effective communication of the safeguarding reporting number to the community. This underscores the significant progress made by CAs in promoting awareness and safeguarding within their communities.



# GENDER TRAINING

Emthonjeni Women's Forum recently conducted two training sessions focused on gender mainstreaming. The first, held in Harare, aimed at strengthening the capacities of regional partners GAPWUZ and CHW, while the second, in Bulawayo, included stakeholders such as the Bulawayo City Council, trade unions, and local farm workers unions. The trainings sought to enhance participants' understanding of gender mainstreaming, familiarize them with existing gender laws, and ensure compliance within their internal policies.

The Harare session emphasized not only gender capacitation but also the development of actionable plans to increase gender sensitivity within organizations. GAPWUZ focused on creating a position paper to lobby the National Employment Council (NEC) on sexual harassment issues prevalent in the farming sector. CHW also committed to formulating both a sexual harassment policy and a gender policy.

In Bulawayo, the training heightened awareness among stakeholders about gender and domestic violence in the workplace. Many participants pledged to further educate their colleagues on these issues, marking a significant step towards fostering a more gender-sensitive work environment.





# MONITORING SESSIONS



Recent monitoring and evaluation sessions conducted by Emthonjeni Women's Forum (EWF) have highlighted a significant shift in the understanding of gender-based violence (GBV) among men in Ward 14, Umzingwane. Beneficiaries of EWF's positive parenting and male engagement sessions reported increased awareness of GBV and its effects.

The men in this community have not only expanded their knowledge but are also actively contributing to community education. They have begun using their newfound understanding to educate others during community gatherings, addressing the impacts and implications of GBV.

The feedback from the men indicates a notable improvement in the reception of these messages. The increased engagement and positive response from male community members underscore the importance of male engagement.



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