

# Masiphephe Network

## OVERVIEW

Masiphephe is a network of 153 community-based gender-based violence (GBV) prevention and response partners across Gauteng, Kwa-Zulu Natal and Mpumalanga provinces in South Africa. We believe that GBV is the grave consequence of complex social and structural problems in our country and the world. CCI leads implementation of the *Strengthening Local Governance to Improve Gender Based Violence Response* Project, also known as the **Masiphephe Network** (meaning **Let's Be Safe**). The overall goal of the project is *to reduce vulnerability to GBV through improved local governance and service delivery*. The project's strategic objective is to 'strengthen the capacity of local structures to lead, coordinate, cultivate and sustain multisectoral action; and manage a community response to GBV prevention and mitigation.' to impact the coalface of Gender Based Violence and Femicide (GBVF) on the implementation of carefully selected and integrated programmatic interventions aligned to achieving the tenets of the White Paper on Safety and Security approved by cabinet in April 2016; and the National Strategic Plan on Gender-Based Violence and Femicide (2020 – 2030).

The network takes actions to influence legislative processes and outcomes to enable the protection and promotion of community level people's constitutional and key legislative rights. The Masiphephe Network encourages inclusive, structural, and behavioural GBV interventions designed to engage communities, raise awareness, and create supportive multi-sectoral partnerships to shift the social norms and behaviours that promote GBV as well as promote access to GBV services. Through strategic interventions, the network collaboratively works towards achieving four interrelated outputs – (i) Strengthened community governance and accountability; (ii) Increased primary and secondary GBV prevention; (iii) Improved mitigation of GBV harms (tertiary prevention); and (iv) Improved access to justice for all victims and survivors of GBV; to facilitate the objective of building safer communities in South Africa as set out in the National Development Plan (NDP).

## WHERE WE WORK

Masiphephe Networks exist in the following areas:

### **Gauteng City of Johannesburg**

- Region E (Alexandra)
- Region D (Diepkloof)

### **Mpumalanga**

- Emalahleni
- Mbombela

### **Kwa-Zulu Natal**

- eThekweni West
- eThekweni North/ INK area

## IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS

The Masiphephe Network project is funded by USAID and implemented through a partnership by the following organisations:

**Centre for Communications Impact (CCI)**. CCI is a non-profit organisation that aims to improve the health and well-being of all South Africans. CCI uses a strategic evidence based communication approach which includes dynamic mass media and interpersonal communication initiatives to reinforce positive behaviours that address behaviours, attitudes,

social norms and values for social change. CCI is renowned for the Brothers for Life and Zazi social movement brands, and popular TV series Intersexions and 4Play: Sex Tips for Girls.

**The Gender, Health and Justice Research Unit:** The GHJRU is a research, training and advocacy unit that develops and implements innovative, interdisciplinary research and capacity-building interventions to address violence against women and children, torture and violence prevention, sexual and reproductive health, as well as law, policy and criminal justice reform projects. We use our empirical research to develop well-informed, evidence-based advocacy positions to support legal and policy reform in South Africa and similarly situated countries throughout the African continent.

**Ethembeni Crisis Care Centre:** Ethembeni Crisis Care Centre is a non-profit organization, based in KwaNdengezi Township -eThekweni Municipality, in the KZN Province. Ethembeni offers services that are particularly aimed at reducing the high levels of violence against women and children in KwaNdengezi township and surrounding areas, where women and girl children are constant victims of GBV. Ethembeni has implemented among others, these programs: Shelter for abused Women and Children; Men and Boys Program; Psycho-social counselling for survivors of GBV; and NPO Incubation.

**Project Support Association Southern Africa (PSASA):** PSASA was established in 1998 to implement HIV prevention and care programmes in Mpumalanga, South Africa. Today PSASA implements HIV and Gender based Violence (GBV) community response programmes with a social change component that simultaneously address gender inequalities and insecurity in livelihoods, within the context of HIV risk among adolescents and young adults living in urban informal settlements in Mpumalanga. These interventions entail HIV Voluntary testing and counselling, care and support, community education and mobilisation, and linkage to care and support for survivors of GBV.

**Sonke Gender Justice (Sonke):** Sonke is a non-partisan, South African based non-profit organisation, working in Africa and playing an active role internationally. Sonke works to create the change necessary for men, women, young people and children to enjoy equitable, healthy and happy relationships that contribute to the development of just and democratic societies and working together to resist patriarchy, advocate for gender justice, prevent gender based violence and achieve gender transformation. Sonke pursues this goal by using a human-rights framework to build the capacity of government, civil society organisations and citizens.

**Gugu Dlamini Foundation (GDF):** GDF was established in the memory of Gugu Dlamini – an HIV activist who was killed in December 1998 for disclosing her HIV status. With a good track record in the implementation of HIV/AIDS and GBV prevention and response programmes, GDF endeavours to promote social change, social cohesion and personal responsibility. The intention is to advance equality and non-discrimination of people infected and affected by the epidemics of HIV and GB, and to ensure the empowerment of women and the girls within the Inanda, Ntuzuma and KwaMashu (INK) area.

**Agisanang Domestic Abuse Prevention & Training (ADAPT):** ADAPT was established in 1994 and the organisation seeks to achieve a society free from domestic and sexual violence against women, through creative participation of both men and women. Based in Alexandra, the organisation implements a number of programs which include – a Counselling Program; Criminal Justice Program; Community Education & Training Program for Key Community Agents; Men's Program; and a Youth Program.