

Refugees

Global Shepherds has been working on a safe placement project, in collaboration with UNHCR, providing support for victims of gender-based violence (GBV) by strengthening and enhancing the community-based protection system, empowering the women to become survivor-centric in their approach as well as providing psychotherapy services. The project was a success, providing about 50 women with temporary safe placement and interim sustenance whilst they got their lives back together.

At the end of the year, we organised a get-together for all the beneficiaries at the same time celebrated Orange The World 16 Days campaign against GBV.



We took this opportunity to explain the meaning and significance of the 16 Days campaign. When showed the statistics, some women commented that they are saddened and appalled. Their fervour to stand together against violence against women was overwhelming. They vowed to always give help and support to anyone going through an abusive situation. As some, most, have been victims themselves, the circumstances really resonated with them.



These vociferous women also realised the importance of this awareness being taught to the menfolk. One woman was heard stressing on the importance of respect for women to her young son; that laying an abusive hand on a woman or girl was wrong.

Another shared her personal experience of standing up to the abuser – the victim was her friend; how she was terrified but determined that the violence should stop. Her sharing intensified the zeal and commitment of those present to stand up against GBV.



The women especially enjoyed the activity of imprinting their orange-painted palms on a poster, as their pledge to support and eliminate violence against women and to stand up against gender-based violence.



We hope these women continue to be strong and empowered to become useful members of their community.

