



PRESS RELEASE:

MTC KNOCKOUT PROJECT FUNDS FOUR ORGANIZATIONS TO FIGHT GBV

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03-12-2019 –Windhoek – Four organizations with a footprint in the fight against GBV will be beneficiaries of the proceeds, an amount of N\$841 320, made from the successful MTC Knockout Project held on 12 October 2019.

At a press conference held yesterday (04 December 2019) in Windhoek, MTC announced Monica Gender Violence, Solution, Ecumenical Social Diaconate Action (ESDA), Namibia Rural Women Assembly (NRWA), and Ombetja Yehinga (OYO) as the beneficiaries, who will each receive N\$220 000 with the exception of Monica Gender Violence getting N\$ N\$181 320.

Subsequent to a successful hosting of the project, MTC invited companies through a public expression of interest to apply for funding.

“We invited various organizations that do mainstream work relating to gender based violence. We received a total of 27 applications and subjected to scrutiny by a set vetting committee, nine organizations were shortlisted. From the shortlisted organizations, four were successful after presentations. Through this initiative we will enable and support business and civil society partners through financially capacitating them to best work to eliminate gender-based violence in the country”, said John Ekongo, MTC’s Corporate Affairs Manager.

“Although our primary business is not law enforcement or social work, contributing to social justice and welfares in our society must never be ignored. As corporate citizens, we have a part to play in capacitating those that have the necessary expertise to address the challenges posed by these heinous crimes, but more importantly to study and try to root out causes of such atrocious acts”, said Ekongo.

In his final remarks, Ekongo aired that “even in the face of the economic onslaught, we remain steadfast in playing our part alongside others in the fight against Gender-based violence. We thus would like to once again thank all boxers and corporates (Namdia, Metropolitan, Nasria, Bank of Namibia, Standard Bank, NWR, Erongo Marine Enterprise, Social Security Commission, MVA Fund, and NHE) and everyone that has played a part in the MTC Knockout project.

The project was aimed at raising awareness on Gender based violence and funds to capacitate organizations that work daily with victims, as well as those affected by Gender Based violence.

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Brief Background the beneficiary companies:

1. Monica Gender Violence Solutions

Named after the First Lady of Namibia, Monica Gender Violence operates from Havana, where its target is awareness and synthezation campaigns around GBV within the informal settlements of Windhoek. It has over 52 volunteers and it was established in 2016, by young IT graduate Nashilongo Shaanika, who lost his mom as a result of GBV. Areas of target is informal settlement.

2. ESDA

The Ecumenical Social Diaconate Action (ESDA)/Friendly Haven is a registered welfare organization founded in 1986 to empower abused women and offer them and their children specialized support. They also offer support with court cases, group therapy, opportunities for self-development, follow-up counselling, and most importantly, reduce the amount of gender-based violence in the country. They also ran a safety house program for victims of GBV, were they are afforded safe haven. Program activities are oriented towards providing support, guidance and care for victims of GBV. It operates in the mid suburbs of Khomasdal and Katutura

3. NRWA

The main aim of Namibia Rural Women Assembly is to advocate for rural women, and intends to spearhead a campaign in the Kavango East region, especially targeting rural man and women. They have identified Cuma village as the ideal area for consideration of their campaign which seeks to provide training on the disadvantages of GBV. Their proposition is unique in which they wish to target man whom are abused by their spouses. According to their outline and plans, nothing much is done towards man – and by their own admission, it has come to the fore that the man of CUMA are arguably most abused by their wives and because of their remoteness, have nowhere or intervention programs.

4. OYO

Ombetja Yehinga or known as OYO has its roots firmly within the HIV AIDS sector, their specialty is more focused on putting out action oriented engagement with communities using arts/dramatization/creative talent as a means to bring about change. Their target area will be the Karas Region, to engage with High Schools in the region – for the establishment of and support of youth groups in the school as part of a life skills outreach project.

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