



FemiliTOK

Our Quarterly Newsletter

FemiliPNG

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October - December 2016

ADDRESSING FAMILY AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE IN PNG

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# PNG men say NO to violence

257 men signed a pledge to end family and sexual violence in their homes and communities during the 2016 Morobe Show held on October 15 and 16. 46 women also signed the pledge.

They traced their palm on a piece of coloured paper and signed their name to show their support to end family and sexual violence in Lae and around the country.

"I will not use this palm to hit my wife or daughter or any of my children... I promise. This is my commitment during this 2016 Morobe Show," said a father of four from Bulolo, as he signed the pledge against FSV. More and more male teenagers, including school children signed up to support the call to end FSV issues in their families, in Lae city and in PNG.

"I just do not want to see or hear women and children becoming victims to FSV in my neighbourhood," said an 18-year-old student.

"We boys should respect girls and celebrate them because they are very special," another male teenager said.

"We will say NO to family and sexual violence. We want change... we do not want to see our mothers and sisters affected by this," a group of boys from Bayung High School said.

These boys were part of a group of enthusiastic show-goers who made these decisions after learning of the plight of female FSV survivors.

Femili PNG's stall within the Health Expo building was bombarded with young people, mostly men curious to know about family and sexual violence issues. Femili PNG staff were kept busy distributing information brochures and spending time talking to people about FSV issues and their implications on society and on families. More than 5700 information brochures, posters and leaflets were distributed to the public.

Femili PNG staff shared testimonies and stories of how lives of children and women were affected by FSV. The staff also talked about the different forms of violence and its consequences'.



Little Mymie learnt basic safety rules at the Child Safety Day

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Femili PNG donates to core service providers, including the provincial welfare office

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# Femili PNG and partners promote child safety

Mymie is a four-year-old girl who is attending school in West Taraka, Lae, Papua New Guinea.

Every day, she walks 45 minutes from home to school. During the recent Child Safety Day supported by Femili PNG and other partners, Mymie and her mother learned about basic safety rules, potential risks and child rights principles. It was the first time Mymie and her mother had heard this information about safety, and children's value within their family and society. Three hundred other children and their families also heard this important information, many also for the first time.



emphasized the special place of children in society.

"Children, you are the most important people in your homes. Not your dad or mum. You are the future of this country; therefore, it is very important for everyone to protect each of you from any form of violence."

Participating organizations led many activities for children on the day, such as: face-painting; making footprints; finger-tracing, education on nutrition, hygiene, handwashing, children's rights and safety rules; and distribution of ice cream and Colgate hygiene packages for kids.

Children from several schools in Lae performed songs, danced and entertained the audience. Local singer, Alang Isaac, received a warm welcome when she sang Whitney Houston's song, Greatest Love of All. Stakeholders including Femili PNG, the Child Protection

Office, the Family Support Centre, Save the Children, Lioness Club of Lae, Lae Huon Gulf Rotary Club, Susu Mamas, Correctional Services, Australian Defence Force and International SOS supported running the various activities.

Local businesses such as Remington, Speedy Kiwi, Panamex, Zenag, Theodist, Laga Industries, Colgate Palmolive, Ramu Sugar and Guard Dog Security also provided support to ensure the day was a great success.



Femili PNG was one of the many organisations that supported Child Safety Day in Lae on 3 September 2016, organised by the Police Family Sexual Violence Unit (FSVU). The day's theme was "Please Protect Me – I am the Future of PNG."

In her keynote speech, Ms. Nellie McLay, business representative at the Morobe Provincial Government,



# FemiliPNG donates to core service providers

Femili PNG continues to support and strengthen the work of core service providers responding to family and sexual violence issues in Lae, Papua New Guinea.

During the final Lae FSV Service Provider Group meeting for the year in October 2016, Femili PNG donated more than K14,600 worth of office equipment, stationery and computers to the police and the Public Solicitor's Office.

"I am delighted and humbled to receive this equipment on behalf of our Lae City Metropolitan Commander, who is busy today. These donations will indeed assist the work of the policemen and policewomen to execute their work effectively," Chief Inspector Timothy Pomoso, Assistant Commander Operations said.

Chief Inspector Pomoso received the goods on behalf of the Lae Metropolitan Command and the 3-Mile suburban police station while Fiona Wafi received the goods on behalf of the Public Solicitor's Office.

Chief Inspector Pomoso said that many police officers cannot carry out their work effectively because of the lack of resources such as computers and printers. He praised Femili PNG for its continued assistance.

A four-draw filing cabinet, two office chairs, a work table, two plastic chairs, a printer, stationery and desktop computer with accessories was given to the 3-Mile police station.

The Criminal Investigation Division of the Lae police and the Public Solicitor's Office were also each given a desktop computer with accessories.

Femili PNG also donated an Olympus voice recorder each to the police Family and Sexual Violence Unit (FSVU), police Sexual Offences Squad (SOS) and the Provincial Welfare Office.



*Chief Inspector Timothy Pomoso shaking hands with Femili PNG CEO Daisy Plana, over the donated items to the police department.*

The Lae FSV Service Provider Group were also oriented on two newly enacted laws by Femili PNG's retainer lawyer, Luke Vava of Luke Vava Lawyers. These newly endorsed laws are the Lukautim Pikinini (Child Protection) Act and the Family Protection Act.

Vava gave a thorough synopsis of the two laws and explained how each law can be applied in responding to FSV issues in the country.

The FSV service providers who attended were the police's Family Sexual Violence Unit, Sexual Offence Squad, Provincial Welfare (Child Protection Office), the Suburban police stations, safe house representatives, Public Solicitor's Office, Magisterial services, Family Support Centre and the provincial Family and Sexual Violence Action Committee secretariat.

At this meeting, the members shared their successes and challenges and continued dialogue, working together to address FSV issues in the community.

## Femili PNG raise FSV awareness with staff, spouses and children of Trukai Industries

Some staff came on horse-back, others in their farm work-wear and also mothers and their curious toddlers came together to listen and learn about the issue of family and sexual violence (FSV).

On 8 November 2016, 86 people including 42 staff, their spouses and children gathered at Trukai's Erap farm which runs along the Markham Valley in Morobe Province, Papua New Guinea, to hear Femili PNG's messages.

It was an open-air awareness program, which also marked the beginning of a partnership between Trukai Industries and Femili PNG, where Femili PNG will run outreach and awareness sessions for Trukai staff members.

Denga Ilave, Femili PNG Operations Manager talked about the forms of violence, its negative implications, laws protecting victims of violence and the services that are available to survivors.

"Violence is not normal. We must stop all forms of violence against our women and children," Denga told those who attended.

She stressed that many people see violence as normal and hence just ignore it. "This needs to stop. If you are neglecting your parental responsibilities, such as not sending your children to school, then you are depriving the children," Denga said.

Acting Trukai Industries Farm Manager, Daniel Nanape said that the information shared was very important and timely.

"We are facing a lot of issues of family and sexual violence here in the estate," Daniel said.

"The information shared is very helpful and I am happy that the majority of my staff and their spouses are here listening," Daniel said.

Meanwhile, Trukai has begun donating 60 kilograms of Roots Rice each month to support Femili PNG's clients. The donated rice is being used to feed women and children who have fled violence and are staying in temporary crisis accommodation.



# FemiliPNG

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Femili PNG's **Lae Case Management Centre** provides:

- **Referrals** to other services, such as safe houses, police, or medical care.
- **Support** through the process of making statements to the police or going to court.
- **Case conferences** with stakeholders to ensure the best outcomes for complex cases.
- For some clients, **relocation** or **family reunification**.
- If a client has not achieved the outcome they were hoping for, our Case Workers can **advocate** on their behalf.
- When in a safe house, clients and their children often have no means of subsistence. We often help **meet their basic needs**, such as food and clothing.
- **Secure transport** to help clients move from the safe house, to the police, to court or to seek medical care.



**Learn more about our work**

[www.femilipng.org](http://www.femilipng.org)

Femili PNG is supported by many Australian and PNG organisations and businesses, including:



Ph: (675) 72746258 or (675) 70914031 | E: [info@femilipng.org](mailto:info@femilipng.org)