

People of faith
speak out,
stand up,
collaborate,
share knowledge,
challenge paradigms,
act and campaign
with survivors in the centre
to stop sexual and gender-based violence

**WE WILL
SPEAK OUT SA**



FAITH COMMUNITIES ENDING SEXUAL AND GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

184-700 NPO
PBO No 930057483

www.wwsosa.org.za

coordinator@wwsosa.org.za



WWSOSA Supports and promotes

www.thursdaysinblack.co.za



Annual Report: August 2018 – July 2019



From the Chairperson

The struggle against GBV has to be amplified. Every positive step counts!!!

We Will Speak Out has grown out of deep concern among faith actors about the frequency of rape and femicide. We had a crisis, and we needed to find out why GBV was increasing and becoming more gruesome. The faith sector is not exempt, and religion has often increased women's vulnerability and been used to promote toxic masculinities.

From the start, WWSOSA committed to stand in solidarity with survivor support organisations such as the Phephisa Survivor Network and has created safe spaces for survivors of violence to share their stories, without fear of judgement.

The key focus of WWSOSA is the faith community. The reinterpretation of sacred texts has challenged traditional beliefs on gender. The struggle against GBV has to be amplified.

It is good that networking and building relationships with other stakeholders have made WWSOSA more visible, especially in KZN. More religious and civic leaders have become aware of the strategic objectives of WWSOSA, and there is a growing recognition of the movement as a resource to faith communities.

I would like to thank Daniela and others who supported her, who kept the light burning even when there weren't any resources. Their commitment and passion have laid a firm foundation for WWSOSA. Thank you to all our partners, especially those who have continued to believe in the movement and made resources available for organisational development and other foundational work.

“Together we can!”

#FaithActionTogether

Rev. Phumzile Mabizela

From the Coordinator

This has been a mixed though exciting year.

Despite minimal funding in the first six months, work continued on a volunteer basis. The main focus was on growing our social media presence, upgrading our website, and networking where possible.

Networking is core to WWSOSA – supporting each other and learning from each other. Scarce resources were optimised by collaborating with others where their events contributed to our core goals.

In the second half of the year, it was possible to appoint a skeleton staff, and the work diversified.

This report sums up the main achievements and points to some new developments ahead.

I would like to thank all who have contributed to the work we are doing together as WWSOSA – our partners, members, funders and sponsors. The Management Committee has played a key governance role. Special mention must be made of Lyn van Rooyen and Phumzile Mabizela, our outgoing and incoming chairs, our deputy chair Bafana Khumalo, and our treasurer Simon Read. Your support and leadership have been invaluable: Thank you!

We press onward, upward, driven by our dream of peace and safety for all!

Daniela Gennrich

Membership



Participants at the 2019 AGM and conference included Bishop Dino Gabriel, Mrs Gretta Mahkwenke, Rev. Russell Pollitt, Ms Daniela Gennrich, Ms. Nomabelu Mvambo-Dandala, Rev Bafana Khumalo.

As a coalition, active and involved members are at the heart of **We Will Speak Out SA**. An extensive network of individuals and organisations identify with the vision and values of the coalition. This is visible on social media and at coalition activities. In July 2019, 244 people received WWSOSA newsletters and many more interacted on social media.

Regretfully, not all in the network formally complete the membership procedure. A new membership database provides detailed information about interests and geographical areas. This was combined with a focused communication campaign to update membership information. This process will continue in the next financial year.

Staff

WWSOSA activities are possible through a very small but committed staff and consultants. All positions are part-time and many more hours are worked than reflected in the contracts.

Governance

The **Management Committee** has played a crucial governance role, and WWSOSA members have continued to be active in the various forums, virtual and actual. Rev Phumzile Mabizela, an experienced gender and HIV activist with many years of senior faith-based organisation leadership experience, was elected as ManCom Chairperson.

Key policies and Standard Operating Procedures have been developed, including a Financial Policy and Procedures and Safeguarding-, Anti-Corruption, Bribery and Fraud-, and Whistleblowing policies.

A **Strategic Framework 2019-2021** has been developed, which formed the foundation of funding proposals and networking initiatives.

With the help of a **Monitoring and Evaluation** consultant, a comprehensive quantitative and qualitative data framework has been developed, which guides reporting.

Quarterly **Reflection and Learning workshops** with the Phephisa champions provide invaluable data. Monthly champions' reports are used to track progress and draw lessons to improve activities and celebrate achievements, using a system of qualitative indicators and milestones developed together with the champions.

Finances

Fundraising and Resource Mobilisation

DGMT provided funding focused on communication and website development, enabling this work to start even in the absence of a staff component.

A substantial grant from **Amplify Change** included a strengthening component, enabling the establishment of a modest staff and office and the work to be stepped up in the second half of the year.

Specific small-project grants were received from ACT Ubumbano and ACT Alliance Southern Africa.

A consultancy contract with SaveAct is the first step towards **earning independent income**. Similar partnerships can be important to develop an independent income stream.

Efforts continue to raise funds for 2020 and beyond.

Treasurer's Report

It's been a bit of a roller coaster year for WWSOSA financially.

The year started with little cash on hand, and grew slowly, as reported above.

The substantial grant from Amplify Change, managed by Mannion Daniels, emphasised stringent financial control and reporting requirements. All members of the coalition rose to the occasion: the reporting met all requirements, the project was kept within budget and delivered on the mandate.

We have faith that funds will come in for the growing work in the coming year.

Thank you to our donor partners who have believed in us even as we were starting from scratch, and to all the staff and WWSOSA partners involved in turning these funds into impactful work - and for being financially responsible and accountable.

Simon Read

Financial Statements

Financial Statements were audited by CC Steyn Accounting and Auditing. Below is a summary of income and expenses for the financial year. Complete audited financial reports are available on request.

We Will Speak Out South Africa Statement of Comprehensive Income

Registration Number 184-700 NPO
Adapted from financial statements for the year ended 31 July 2019

REVENUE	2019 (R)	2018 (R)	Project Expense	2019 (R)	2018 (R)
Project Income			Project Expense		
- Amplify Change	1 575 071	-	- Amplify Change	575 026	-
- ACT Alliance - 16 days of Activism	-	172 545	- ACT Alliance - 16 days of Activism	-	170 614
- DGMT - Website Development	45 200	55 200	- DGMT - Website Development	45 200	10 000
	-	-	- Transfer to reserve - Website Development	-	45 200
- Thursdays in Black	16 769	2 500	- Thursdays in Black	18 640	-
- ACT Umbumbano	10 000	-	- ACT Umbumbano	7 715	-
	1 647 040	230 245		646 581	225 814
Other Income			Operating Expenses		
- Donation Income		16 136	- Accounting Fees	5 175	
- Interest received	12 272		- Bank charges	1 267	2 942
	12 272	16 136	- Depreciation, amortisation and impairments	3 078	1 659
			- Office expenses		756
			- Website maintenance		1 397
				9 520	6 754
Surplus for the year	1 003 211	13 813			
Other comprehensive income	-	-			
Total comprehensive income for the year	1 003 211	13 813			

Activities

We Will Speak Out SA dreams of transformed, just and reconciled communities where the lives of women, boys and girls are no longer shattered by gender-based violence. Coalition members believe that building a united and effective faith response to ending sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) in South Africa can play a significant part in achieving this dream.

WWSOSA does this work around four main "pillars." Despite limited resources, much has been achieved in this reporting year.

Pillar 1: Supporting a vibrant and vocal SGBV survivor movement

Strategy for 2010-2021: Strengthen Phephisa as it grows into an effective outspoken community survivor network:

WWSOSA has survivors at the centre of all activities.

The journey with Phephisa continues to be an incredible learning experience for WWSOSA and Phephisa. The WWSOSA Coordinator attends most meetings in an advisory capacity, as a way of supporting and mentoring the leadership.

Report from the Phephisa Survivors Network

Phephisa is a network of survivors and survivor support groups of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) in KwaZulu-Natal. It exists to give voice to survivors and to advocate for safer environments for survivors of SGBV. We dream of a world free from SGBV.

We mobilise survivors and help them to form support groups (safe spaces), support each other in solidarity, influence community stakeholders and faith leaders to respond positively to SGBV issues, and hold government accountable to implement policies and practices that support SGBV survivors.

We appreciate WWSOSA's support as we are growing into an organised, registered survivor network. In the five months since we raised funds together with WWSOSA, we could grow from 13 to 18 champions, working in 26 communities with 200 survivors organized into 26 groups. All champions see themselves as part of an organised network; they view SGBV as a human rights issue and have been involved in joint advocacy activities.

Other work with support from WWSOSA included:

- Training in financial literacy and Savings and Loans Groups with SaveAct, to help survivors to become more financially independent and to reduce their vulnerability to abuse.
- Training in ACT Ubumbano's Community Voice Project teaching us to write brief advocacy stories on WhatsApp about our experiences in our local communities.

Champions meet regularly for debriefing. In reflection workshops with the WWSOSA Coordinator we have learnt the importance of writing good reports and sharing our stories of change, to see our progress and deal with our challenges as they come up. We have even developed our own framework for measuring progress, that makes sense to us.

Our latest achievement is our "Healing in Harmony" project, where we are using song to share our experiences as SGBV survivors in a challenging world. This is a big success.



Phephisa leaders: Nompilo Gcwensa and Phindi Dlodla

Pillar 2: Equipping faith leaders and faith communities to become advocates for an end to SGBV and survivor stigmatization

WWSOSA responds to invitations to speak and to organize conferences or consultations with faith leaders when funding allows. In this reporting year, this included:

- Speaking in **various churches and other faith meetings**, including St Mary's Anglican Church, and the Lenham Hindi Patshala Cultural Organisation in Chatsworth.
- The **#RhetorictoAction** conference addressing faith communities' responses to abuse internally amongst their leadership, the lack of response of many churches, the need for theological rethinking, the pain of survivors and signs of hope.
- Co-hosting a consultation with the SA Faith and Family Institute (SAFFI), with a focus on **faith and culture as potential resources working with men as perpetrators**.



WWSOSA members at #TotalShutdown march in Durban carrying the 'Women of Faith' banner



WWSOSA members and women clergy at the Women in Ministry March in Johannesburg

- Planning **#Unsilencing the Silence**, a 3-day multi-stakeholder Practice Reflection, including a silent protest in solidarity with survivors, co-hosted with UKZN's Gender and Religion Programme, the AIDS Healthcare Foundation and ACT Ubumbano.

Each of these activities brought together more than 100 people of faith. Some came more than once and most now receive regular communications and newsletters.

WWSOSA has had calls from many clergy and other church leaders, including several from deep rural areas in KZN, requesting ongoing support to address SGBV in their congregations and communities.

In the next year WWSOSA will increase the emphasis on a wider diversity of faiths. WWSOSA will plan and fundraise for a targeted longer-term approach to working with faith leaders: A consultative process with UKZN and church partners to develop a training and mentoring programme to equip 20 - 30 faith leaders per year - as change agents in their faith communities and to form an ongoing, supportive 'learning community'.

Pillar 3: Joint advocacy initiatives and campaigns

WWSOSA members and Phephisa survivors work together to shift prevailing attitudes, achieve policy changes and ensure fair policy implementation.

WWSOSA actively promotes and supports the international Thursdays in Black campaign. In addition to wearing black and a campaign pin on Thursdays, WWSOSA provides campaign materials for sale, speaks at conferences and events, and manages a website with a large number of gender-based violence resources and tools.

WWSOSA and Phephisa together attended three Provincial Gender Machinery meetings hosted by the Office of the Premier, and other government consultations and conferences, including on the proposed National Strategic Plan.

Staff and WWSOSA members joined in various marches, including the Women in Ministry March and #Total Shutdown marches in Johannesburg and in Durban under the 'Women of Faith' banner.

Survivor champions continue to advocate for township and rural survivors in municipal 'War Rooms' meetings to address social problems and in the District and Provincial Victim Empowerment Forums.



Daniela and Phephisa members highlighting #ThursdaysinBlack at the Act Ubumbano Voice App Training

Pillar 4: Men and boys are engaged, together with women and girls to end SGBV from the family to national policy-making

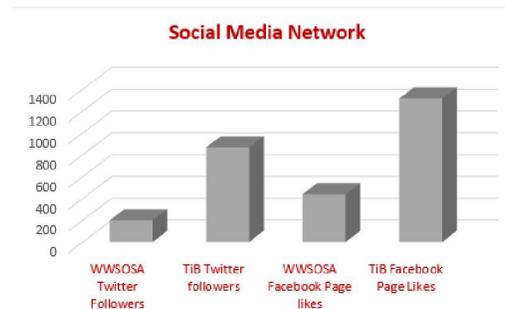
All the activities of WWSOSA contribute to this pillar. WWSOSA consciously and deliberately includes male faith leaders in its activities.

Communication

Communication is at the heart of adding value to the work of WWSOSA members and partners, through its information and resource-sharing on different platforms. WWSOSA also equips and supports informed responses and encourages collaboration by sharing activities and campaigns from members.

In addition to the WWSOSA website, Facebook page and Twitter feed, WWSOSA manages similar platforms to support the Thursdays in Black campaign. This website contained 1 043 resources.

In the review period www.wwsosa.org.za received 5584 visitors and www.thursdaysinblack.co.za 40 726. There were 2 718 posts to social media.



- Staff, management committee members and coalition members selflessly give time, energy and resources to build our collaboration to create a world without sexual and gender-based violence.

- Individual and organisational donors helped to build the coalition into a reputable NGO with a growing track record – now in its 4th year of operation as a formal entity.

We are deeply grateful to each of you, and to God, the source and goal of all our work.

Thank You!

Tel. +27 (0)724537502 or (0)84 581 0622

11 Diakonia Centre,
20 Diakonia Avenue,
Durban,
4001



@wwso_sa



WeWillSpeakOutSA

We Will Speak Out SA is rated a Level 1 contributor (135% B-BBEE procurement

184-700 NPO PBO No 930057483