

CHAPTER 2

Shelters, Safe Houses and Places of Safety

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

There is no distinction between a “shelter” and “safe house”, and the only distinction between these and a “place of safety” is that the latter is registered as such by the Ministry of Health & Social Services, as required by the Children’s Act 33 of 1960.

Under the draft Child Care and Protection Act which will hopefully be tabled in Parliament soon, the children’s court has several options when dealing with an abused or neglected child, or a child who is in conflict with the law. The court may either place the child in the care of a family member, place the child in a foster home, or refer the child to a place of safety or a children’s home. Street children are referred to a registered place of safety for temporary, short-term or overnight accommodation.

At present there are five registered places of safety for children in Namibia. These facilities are run by independent NGOs which receive a small per child subsidy per child from the Ministry of Health & Social Services. Referrals to these facilities must be made by a social worker in the Directorate of Social Services or a police officer. The signature of the local magistrate and/or the Commissioner of Child Welfare must appear on the referral form. Emergency placements (which usually means placement within 48 hours) do not require the prior approval of the court.

The registered places of safety include:

- the Christian Community Project in Namibia Rehoboth Kid Shelter;
- the Change of Life Style Home’s Project in Khomasdal;
- the Erongo House of Safety in Swakopmund;
- the Michelle McClean Children’s Trust Place of Safety in Katutura; and
- the Ark Children’s Home (Keetmanshoop, Rehoboth & Okahandja).


State Hospitals and children’s homes may serve as temporary places of safety for children in emergency situations, such as when there is no space available at any registered place of safety. Namibia’s six children’s homes do not all fall into the place of safety category, but for the reader’s information these facilities include:

- the Dutch Reformed Church Benevolence Board Children’s Home in Windhoek;
- the Namibia Children’s Home in Windhoek;
- the Usakos Children’s Education Centre;
- the Orphan’s Unit at Oshakati State Hospital;
- the Windhoek SOS Children’s Home;
- the Tsumeb SOS Children’s Home; and
- Dolam Children’s Home in Windhoek.

The first three in this list of orphanages are covered in this directory because they regularly provide temporary accommodation for abused, neglected or abandoned children who are not orphans.


Change of Life Style Home's Project (COLS)


CONTACT INFORMATION

 **Region and Scope of Service**
Khomas (Windhoek)
Serves entire Khomas region


 **Street Address**
4613 Dollar Street, Khomasdal,
Windhoek


 **Postal Address**
PO Box 10509, Khomasdal

 **Telephone Number**
Office hours: 061-247006
081-278 5868

 **Fax Number**
Office hours: 061-249006

 **E-mail Address**
clive@iway.na

 **Contact Persons**
Director: Mr C Willemse
Project Officer:
Mr S. Nunwango
E-mail: mcgsimon@iway.na

 **Networking**

- Multimedia Campaign on Violence Against Women & Children
- National Youth Council
- Ministry of Health & Social Services
- Women & Child Protection Units of the Namibian Police
- Windhoek Child Justice Forum
- International Committee on Child Justice
- Arrest & awaiting trial group

MAIN SERVICES

Place of safety for boys
Counselling
Advice
Referral
Social welfare support
Advocacy and lobbying

NOTES/ADDITIONS/CHANGES

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OVERVIEW OF MAIN SERVICES

COLS is registered as a temporary place of safety for boys aged 7-17 years. Most clients are referred there by magistrates' courts, social workers in the Directorate of Social Services, Women & child Protection Units and the Child Justice Project of the Legal Assistance Centre, but people can contact COLS directly without a referral, but people can contact COLS directly without a referral. Most of the boys assisted by COLS are taken there after coming into conflict with the law. In other words, they are generally not abused children per se. If the police are unable to trace their parents when the boys are arrested, rather than holding them in police cells they take them to COLS where they will be cared for while awaiting their trial.

COLS can accommodate a maximum of 10 boys, for a maximum period of 6 months. All meals are provided, as well as a first-aid service and the necessary social welfare support. Educational and religious support is also available. The boys receive counselling, and this can be extended to family therapy. Referrals are made to the appropriate agencies for further assistance when necessary.

COLS is involved in advocacy and lobbying initiatives for law reform in the areas of child justice, domestic violence and child abuse.

ADDITIONAL SERVICES

- Organises or participates in community awareness raising activities.
- Provides education for school and adult groups, and will facilitate community workshops focusing on the relevant issues.
- Joins radio/TV panel discussions on request.
- Produces educational materials in the form of posters and pamphlets - available free of charge.
- Counselling and advocacy training is provided for COLS staff.
- Provides job-seeking assistance for clients who are legally old enough to work.
- Cell visits.
- Placement agency - children are referred for pre-trained community service (one of the diversion programs).
- Camps for psycho-social support.

COSTS FOR SERVICES

All services are free of charge.

Dutch Reformed Church Benevolence Board Children's Home

CONTACT INFORMATION

Region and Scope of Service
Khomas (Windhoek)
Serves any child in Namibia

Street Address
Windhoek Sinodial Church Office
34 Feld Street, Windhoek
Place of safety street address not for publication

Postal Address
Care of Windhoek Sinodial Church,
PO Box 3307, Windhoek

Telephone Number
Church Office hours: 061-237296

Fax Number
Church Office hours: 061-227287

Contact Persons
Chief Social Worker:
Mr J de Witt
Adoption Social Worker:
Ms P Fourie
Divorce Councillor:
Ms E Swartz
Parental Guidance:
Ms P Hoffmann

Affiliations

- Ministry of Health & Social Services
- Dutch Reformed Church (service network)

MAIN SERVICES

Place of safety for children
Counselling
Social Support
Referral

NOTES/ADDITIONS/CHANGES

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OVERVIEW OF MAIN SERVICES

This home is a residential place of safety for abused, neglected and homeless children of both sexes, all races and all religious denominations. Children must come with a referral form completed by a social worker of the Ministry of Health & Social Services and signed by a magistrate and/or the Commissioner of Child Welfare.

The maximum period of stay is 2 years - in accordance with the Children's Act 33 of 1960. The home is secured to prevent abusive parents or other abusers from having contact with the children. In cases of abuse perpetrated by parents, the parents are not allowed to visit their child for the first month, and thereafter visiting times will be allocated. Visits may or may not be supervised, depending on the circumstances of the case and the child's condition.

The home can cater for 20 children living in two cottages with an attendant house parent. Bedding and three meals a day are provided. Warm clothing is replaced on a limited basis at relevant intervals. First-aid services are available at all hours.

The home attempts to make living conditions as close as possible to 'normal'. To minimise disruption to their lives, the children continue attending their regular schools, and transport to school and back is provided. If it is felt that a child should not return to his/her own home, the state will seek a foster home in which to place the child, such as with relatives or another approved family. The residents must attend church services and catechisms, but this may be at any church of their choice provided that transport to another church can be arranged by friends or family. The home facilitates and encourages sports and other extramural activities.

A full counselling or therapy programme is provided for the children, and counselling is also provided for parents, other couples as relevant, and families.

ADDITIONAL SERVICES

- Adoption and fostering assistance
- Full social welfare assistance for residents

\$ COSTS FOR SERVICES

The home is subsidised by the Dutch Reformed Church, Parents who are financially able are asked to contribute a small amount, and where applicable a small fee is requested from families for the adoption service. All other services are free of charge.

Erongo House of Safety

ERONGO DEVELOPMENT TRUST

CONTACT INFORMATION

Region and Scope of Service
Erongo (Swakopmund)
Serves entire Erongo region

Street Address
Dante Street, Tamariskia,
Swakopmund

Postal Address
P/Bag 3234, Swakopmund

Telephone Number
Alfrieda Thomas
Supervisor
064-406 008

Fax Number
Office hours: 064-400739

Contact Persons
*Erongo Development Trust
Board Chairperson:*
Mr Kapere
House of Safety Caretaker:
Alfrieda Thomas

- Affiliations**
- Ministry of Health & Social Services
 - Women & Child Protection Units of the Namibian Police
 - Unit for Sexually abused Children (USAC)

MAIN SERVICES

Place of safety for children
Shelter for abused women
Counselling
Referral (legal, medical, psychological)

NOTES/ADDITIONS/CHANGES

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OVERVIEW OF MAIN SERVICES

The Erongo House of Safety was established to provide a place of safety for children in need of care as defined in the Children’s Act 33 of 1960. It also offers temporary accommodation for abused women and their children.

Children should be referred to the house with a 48-hour retention order issued by a police or probation officer, or with an order from the children’s court. Social workers in the Directorate of Social Services normally arrange for these orders. If a person is in need of a place of safety at night, they can contact the house directly without any referral.

The period of stay is determined by the condition and circumstances of each individual. All meals are provided, and women staying there may be expected to help prepare meals. The premises will soon be fully secured to protect people from their abusers. A first-aid service is provided, and the local clinic is within walking distance. Anyone in need of legal services will be referred to the Walvis Bay Advice Office of the Legal Assistance Centre. Counselling is provided either by the social worker who made the placement or by another social worker on the Erongo DevelopmentTrust committee. The caretaker will be trained to counsel as well.

Counselling is offered only for the children and women staying in the house. In future this service will be available for their families also. Men will only be counselled together with their spouse. Abused children who need help from a professional psychologist will be referred to the Unit for Sexually Abused Children (see this chapter).

ADDITIONAL SERVICES

The House of Safety only opened its doors in June 1999 and does not yet offer any additional services. It plans to offer training and job-seeking assistance in future, as well as support groups for abused children and women.








\$ COSTS FOR SERVICES

All services for children are free of charge. Employed women staying at the shelter may be requested to make a small contribution.

Friendly Haven Shelter

ECUMENICAL SOCIAL DIACONIC ACTION

CONTACT INFORMATION

-  **Region and Scope of Service**
Khomas (Windhoek)
National Coverage
-  **Street Address**
No permanent office and shelter street address not for publication
-  **Postal Address**
PO Box 10081, Khomasdal
-  **Telephone Number**
Office hours: 061-213302
Ms L Vries
-  **Fax Number**
Office hours: 061-251183
-  **Contact Persons**
Manager: Ms M Groen
Chairperson: Rev. Nakamela
Shelter Supervisors: Ms M Vries and Ms L Vries
-  **Affiliations**
 - Council of Churches in Namibia (CCN)
 - Women & Child Protection Units of the Namibian Police

MAIN SERVICES

Shelter
Counselling
Support Group
Social welfare support
Awareness-raising
Job-seeking assistance (in future)

NOTES/ADDITIONS/CHANGES

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OVERVIEW OF MAIN SERVICES

This is a shelter for women and children. All clients must be referred by the Women & Child Protection Unit to avoid misuse of the facility.

The usual period of stay at the shelter is 3 weeks, but it is possible to arrange a longer stay. All meals are provided. Transport is only provided for children to attend school. A first-aid and medical service is provided in conjunction with the Women & Child Protection Unit and the Windhoek and Katutura State Hospitals. The Women & Child Protection Unit guarantees the protection of clients from their abusers during their stay at the shelter.

Face-to-face counselling is offered for women, children men, couples and families - by appointment only. There is no telephone counselling offered.

Ecumenical Social Diaconic Action is a voluntary inter-denominational women's group registered as a voluntary association not for gain. As such, the group also functions as a support group for victims of violence, abuse and neglect. Emotional and material support are provided where necessary and feasible.

ADDITIONAL SERVICES


- Offers awareness-raising community workshops on topics such as domestic violence, child abuse and alcohol abuse, and measures to prevent these.
- Produces educational materials in the form of booklets, pamphlets and posters on the emotional and physical abuse of women and children, gender issues and human rights generally. These materials are produced with assistance from the Sister Namibia Collective (see chapter 5). They are all free of charge.
- Counselling training is provided for staff members.
- The group is busy developing a job-seeker assistance programme.
- Joins radio/TV panel discussions and gives media briefings on request.


COSTS FOR SERVICES


All services are free of charge.


Helping Hand Welfare Organisation


CONTACT INFORMATION

 **Region and Scope of Service**
Khomas (Windhoek)
National coverage


 **Street Address**
Corner Pasteur & Schonlein
Streets, Windhoek

 **Postal Address**
PO Box 2842, Windhoek

 **Telephone Number**
Office hours: 061-257986

 **Fax Number**
Office hours: 061-257986

 **E-mail Address**
ncccwhk@iway.na

 **Contact Persons**
Chairperson:
Bishop WF Abrahams
Alternative: Mr C Nyambe

 **Affiliations**
None

MAIN SERVICES

Day-care centre for children
Counselling
Advice
Referral (legal, medical, job placement)
Social welfare support
Training (counselling)
Education

NOTES/ADDITIONS/CHANGES

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OVERVIEW OF MAIN SERVICES

The Helping Hand Welfare Organisation is a registered interdenominational church group which provides a range of support services for victims of domestic violence and abuse, the sick, the needy, and anyone in need of a helping hand. It also runs a day-care centre for abused, neglected or needy children.

Counselling is offered for women, children, couples and families. It is only provided in person, and it is necessary to make an appointment. Counselling is available for HIV/ AIDS sufferers, and prayer services for the sick are also offered. No referrals are needed for counselling. Helping Hand will refer people to other organisations for further assistance where necessary.

Counselling training is also available - focusing specifically on domestic violence and related issues. There are no restrictions in qualification to attend the courses. The basic courses are run at the Helping Hand Counselling Centre over a period of 3 week-ends, with 15 trainees per course. There is no certificate provided, nor any follow-up training, but job seekers will be referred to organisations needing their counselling skills.

All meals and other daily necessities are provided for the children at the day-care centre, as well as counselling - especially for abused children - and first-aid services. The centre is fully secured. People can contact the centre directly without a referral.

ADDITIONAL SERVICES AND ACTIVITIES

- Provides education for school and adult groups on request.
- Facilitates interest-group workshops on request.
- Participates in community action initiatives dealing with domestic violence, all forms of abuse against women and children, and HIV/AIDS.
- Joins radio/TV panel discussions on request.


COSTS FOR SERVICES

All services are free of charge.


Interim Night Shelter


STREET CHILDREN PROGRAMME


CONTACT INFORMATION


 **Region and Scope of Service**
Khomas (Windhoek)
Serves any street child in Namibia

 **Street Address**
Rand Street, Katutura, Windhoek

 **Postal Address**
Directorate of Social Services
P/Bag 13359, Windhoek
Ministry of Women Affairs and
Child Welfare

 **Telephone Number**
Office hours: 061-212962

 **Fax Number**
Office hours: 061-219402

 **Contact Persons**
Community Liaison Officer
Ms Mbaukua

 **Affiliations**

- Street Children Working Group
- Ministry of Health & Social Services
- Windhoek Municipality
- United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF)
- United Nations Educational, Scientific & Cultural Organisation (UNESCO)

MAIN SERVICES

Shelter for street children
Social welfare support
Counselling
Education
Skills training

NOTES/ADDITIONS/CHANGES

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OVERVIEW OF MAIN SERVICES

The Street Children Programme is an outcome of the activities of the Street Children Working Group, the members of which include line ministries and government bodies such as the Ministry of Health & Social Services, the Ministry of Prisons & Correctional Services and the Windhoek Municipality, as well as UNICEF and UNESCO. The National Planning Commission has also supported this programme.

The programme is essentially a shelter for street children which is managed by social workers in the Directorate of Social Services. Many of the children taken in have come to Windhoek on their own initiative from other regions of the country in search of a better life. Programme staff make “street visits” to find children in need of shelter, food and a bath. Many children are taken to the shelter by municipal officials who find them on the streets. Any street child is welcome at the shelter. They can stay for 3 up to 6 months. While they are there an attempt will be made to trace their parents or guardians - in whatever region they reside. If they are not found, the social workers will try to arrange for foster care or placement in a children’s home.

The shelter provides a counselling service with a view to reintegrating the children into the community and the formal education system, An education and training programme is run at the shelter, with the focus on English, maths and carpentry skills. Children in need of medical care are taken to the State Hospital, and all efforts will be made to meet other needs that the children may have.







COSTS FOR SERVICES

Not applicable.

Karibib Shelter for Women

LET’S HELP EACH OTHER WOMEN’S FOUNDATION

CONTACT INFORMATION

-  **Region and Scope of Service**
Erongo (Karibib)
Serves surrounding rural areas
-  **Street Address**
Not for publication
-  **Postal Address**
PO Box 161, Karibib
-  **Telephone Number**
All hours: 064-550 303
-  **Contact Persons**
Ms H Fabius or Ms E Oses
-  **Affiliations**
 - Women & Child Protection Units of the Namibian Police

MAIN SERVICES

Shelter for women
Counselling
Advice
Referral (medical, legal, social welfare)

NOTES/ADDITIONS/CHANGES

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OVERVIEW OF MAIN SERVICES

This shelter is not presently functioning due to a lack of funds to complete the building and provide the necessary material services such as bedding and meals. It is being listed in this directory because the Let’s Help Each Other Women’s Foundation still intends to run the shelter when funds become available.

The intention is to provide a temporary shelter for women who have been victims of domestic violence, sexual abuse and battery. Taking in abused or neglected children was not envisaged at the time of going to press, but this should be checked in future by anyone searching for a children’s shelter in the Karibib locality. It was envisaged that clients should be referred to the shelter by the Women & Child Protection Units of NAMPOL.

Face-to-face counselling is presently available for women, children, men, couples and families, and appointments must be made for this. There is no telephone counselling offered, but enquiries will be answered and advice given on the telephone. A referral service for medical, legal and welfare support is also presently offered,

OTHER ACTIVITIES AND INVOLVEMENTS

- Organises community awareness-raising activities.
- Organises community workshops as a target group of the Legal Assistance Centre’s Legal Education Department.

\$ COSTS FOR SERVICES

All services are free of charge.

Katutura Place of Safety

Michelle McLean Children's Trust - (MMTC)

CONTACT INFORMATION

Region and Scope of Service
Namibia office: Khomas
(Windhoek) National coverage
(Also has contact point in Walvis Bay & an office in Cape Town, SA)

Street Address
Office: 28 Robert Mugabe Ave.

Postal Address
PO Box 97428, Windhoek

Telephone Number
Windhoek (*office hours*):
061- 240807 / 240809
Walvis Bay Office:
064-206441

Fax Number
Windhoek (*office hours*):
061-240808

Contact Persons
Co-ordinator & Project Manager
in Namibia: Ms T van Els

- Affiliations**
- Ministry of Health & Social Services
 - Ministry of Basic Education, Sport & Culture
 - Collaborates with a wide range of Namibian, South African and foreign governmental and non-governmental organisations, private institutions & individual philanthropists

MAIN SERVICES

Place of safety for children
Project funding
Social welfare support
Medical support
Educational support
Referral

NOTES/ADDITIONS/CHANGES

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OVERVIEW OF MAIN SERVICES

The MMCT was established by Namibian-born Michelle McLean soon after she was crowned Miss Universe in 1992. The MMCT has since been involved in numerous projects, and encourages children participating in these projects with Michelle's own motto: "If you can imagine it, you can do it." The organisation's mission is to assist and encourage youth to commit themselves to their future and the future of Namibia, to accept accountability for their actions, to achieve all they are capable of achieving, and in doing so, to help prepare future generations of Namibians for success. The MMTC is registered as a non-profit welfare Organisation.

Major projects of the MMTC include, among others: the Heart of a Child Fund, which funds heart surgery for children; Operation Snowball, which donates clothing and blankets to needy children; a place of safety for children; a feeding scheme which provides daily meals for needy children in Katutura; a hospice for child cancer patients; a school project for schools which cannot afford essential items-, an AIDS orphan project; and a home-care project which provides a qualified nurse for people needing medical care at home. The MMTC also assists children with eye problems and life-threatening illnesses. It also provides educational backup in maths, science, history and English for rural children or less fortunate children at Grade 10-12 level. The MMTC runs a range of annual and ongoing fundraising activities to support its projects, Through the Envelope Project, for example, tourists staying at leading hotels can place their change and foreign currency in MMTC envelopes.

The MMTC place of safety for children is situated in Katutura. The children must be referred there by the MMTC office or by a social worker in the Ministry of Health & Social Services. A maximum of 10 children can stay in this place of safety. Meals and other daily essentials are provided. Counselling can be arranged for children in need of this service, but it is not provided at the shelter. Medical care will also be arranged as necessary.

ADDITIONAL SERVICES


- The MMTC produces educational materials and it has also produced a video on the Namibian environment, but these materials are produced specifically for MMTC projects and are not made available to the public.
- A Christmas Art Competition is held annually, and 20 works are selected for the production of Christmas cards to sell for fundraising purposes. The cards are sold in packs of varying amounts.

\$ COSTS FOR SERVICES


All services for children are free of charge.


Namibia Red Cross Society


CONTACT INFORMATION

 **Region and Scope of Service**
Khomas (Windhoek)
National coverage


 **Street Address**
Erf 2128 Independence Ave
(Shoprite Centre), Katutura

 **Postal Address**
PO Box 346, Windhoek

 **Telephone Number**
Office hours: 061-235226

 **Fax Number**
Office hours: 061-228949

 **E-mail Address**
enquiries@redcross.com.na

 **Contact Persons**
Secretary-General:
Ms R Kauaria

 **Affiliations**
• International Red Cross Society

MAIN SERVICES

- First-Aid
- Training (First Aid)
- Emergency Social Welfare Support (food, clothing)
- Day-care for small children
- Support for Street Children (Rundu)
- Tracing of family members
- Advice
- Referral

NOTES/ADDITIONS/CHANGES

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OVERVIEW OF MAIN SERVICES

The Namibia Red Cross Society essentially provides emergency medical and welfare services such as first aid, food aid and clothing. The society will not as a rule provide direct assistance to victims of domestic violence or sexual abuse, but people in urgent need may certainly approach the society for a referral to the appropriate Organisation, such as the Women & Child Protection Unit of NAMPOL or the Ministry of Health & Social Services.

Another central function of the Red Cross Society is to provide first-aid training. The course is run countrywide and is promoted under the slogan "First Aid Saves Lives!" There is no minimum age or educational requirement for trainees. A first-aid manual and certificate is included in the course fee (see below).





The Red Cross Society also helps to trace people's family members. To do this it sends messages by various means. The Red Cross Society has helped to establish several day-care centres (crèches) in the country. All but two of these have been handed over to the staff who run them, so the society now only controls one centre in Windhoek and one in Katutura. It also runs a street children's project (drop-in centre) in Rundu.

\$ COSTS FOR SERVICES

The training course fee in First Aid (basic) for students and full-time employees is N\$200. (First Aid Kit included) The society also sells first-aid kits to raise funds for its activities. All other services are free of charge.

CONTACT INFORMATION FOR DAY-CARE CENTRES

Rundu Street Children's Drop-in Centre

-  Elcin Street Rundu
-  066-256216
-  066-255783
-  Supervisor Ms N Bessinger
Regional Manager: Ms M Manyando

Namibian Children's Home

MINISTRY OF HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES

CONTACT INFORMATION

Region and Scope of Service
Khomas (Windhoek)
Serves any child in the region

Street Address
Heliodoor Street, Eros,
Windhoek

Postal Address
PO Box 2806, Windhoek

Telephone Number
Office hours: 061-228591
061-229407

Fax Number
Office hours: 061-237156

E-mail Address
oster@iafrica.com.na

Contact Persons
Superintendent: Mr J Gouws

Affiliations
None

MAIN SERVICES

Temporary place of safety
Permanent shelter
Orphanage
Social welfare support
Counselling
Training (counselling)
Referral (medical, legal)
Advice

NOTES/ADDITIONS/CHANGES

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OVERVIEW OF MAIN SERVICES

The Namibian Children's Home is essentially an orphanage and home for neglected children, but it also functions as a temporary place of safety for abused children. Referrals to the home must be made either by social workers in the Directorate of Social Services or probation officers in the Ministry of Home Affairs.

The home can accommodate a large number of children, and there is no maximum period of stay - the children can stay at the home until a suitable foster home is found for them, or until they can be placed back with their own family. All meals and the necessary social welfare support are provided. The children are accommodated in houses of 8 children per house with a house parent, and the houses are fully secured. A professional nurse provides medical care, and counselling is provided by a social worker.

Counselling is only offered for the children staying at the home and their family members, and family counselling is only provided with the child's full involvement. Counselling is provided in person or on the telephone, and it is not necessary to make an appointment. Referrals are made for further assistance where necessary. The home also facilitates group sessions with the children in its care.

A counselling training service is also available at the home for any person who wants to acquire counselling skills. There is no minimum age or educational requirement for trainees. The training is provided for groups of 5 trainees over varying lengths of time, depending on the course content. A course focuses on either the rehabilitation of neglected, abandoned, orphaned and abused children; the interpretation of laws affecting children; or the prevention of child abuse. Follow-up courses are available. There is no certificate offered, nor a job placement service.

\$ COSTS FOR SERVICES

All services are free of charge.

Namibia Women's Network (NWN)

CONTACT INFORMATION

Region and Scope of Service
Khomas (Windhoek)
National coverage through member organisations (see overleaf)

Street Address
11 Behring Street, Bachbrecht, Windhoekj

Postal Address
PO Box 8961, Windhoek

Telephone Number
Office hours: 061-247191
After hours: 061-246331

Fax Number
Office hours: 061-247581

E-mail Address
nwn@iway.na

Contact Persons
Chairperson: Ms M Ausiku

Affiliations
• Multimedia Campaign on Violence Against Women & Children

MAIN SERVICES

Advocacy
Legal education & training
Project management & co-ordination
Employment creation
Referral
Research

NOTES/ADDITIONS/CHANGES

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OVERVIEW OF MAIN SERVICES

The NWN was founded with the sole objective of promoting legal education and supporting the law reform process. This objective has since shifted to advancing the development of rural women, which includes creating employment for them through income-generating projects set up by the member organisations. The NWN therefore runs several new programmes within the framework of the Legal Education Project of the Legal Assistance Centre. Domestic violence and all forms of abuse against women and children are viewed as major obstacles to economic development and constitute the main focus of the LEP. The Legal Education Unit of the Legal Assistance Centre was instrumental in motivating the NWN's formation through its workshops with member organisations, and continues to provide this training service to the NWN members as the need arises, e.g. when new laws affecting women are passed.

The LEP co-ordinates the activities of the NWN member organisations and other agencies in providing information and education on women's constitutional rights and the legislation affecting them. The LEP tries to be proactive in the law reform process by challenging draft legislation and its implementation, the main objective being to bridge the gap between constitutional law and practice. To this end the LEP gathers information, compiles reports, formulates recommendations and rewrites the relevant legislation in layperson's language for dissemination to its members and the public.

The LEP identifies annual themes and raises awareness on the related issues through workshop programmes, public meetings, radio talk shows, visiting schools and facilitating activities for school children (such as art competitions, drama and writing exercises). The member organisations all participate in advocacy and lobbying activities around women's rights, such as protests and campaigns.




As part of its capacity-building programme the NWN offers project management and financial services for its affiliated groups, to help them implement their own projects, which may be income-generating projects. Training is provided in office administration and book-keeping, social skills and communication, life skills and other areas as required.

The NWN intends to develop counselling training courses to enable members of the affiliated organisations to deal with enquiries on domestic violence, rape, other forms of abuse and other relevant issues, *(Continued overleaf)*




\$ COSTS FOR SERVICES

All services are free of charge.




Anbasen Group

-  Otjozondjupa (Omatjene)
Serves the Omatjene farm community
-  Ms D Uiras
-  067-304407

Arandis Quality Clothing

-  Erongo (Arandis)
Serves the Arandis community
-  Ms Rachel Sawas
-  064-501501




Hai//om Women's League

-  Kunene (Outjo)
Serves Outjo community
-  Ms Alexia So /oabes
-  067-313445




Khaibasen Group

-  Hardap (Stampriet)
Serves Stampriet community
-  Ms E Haosemas
- Ms Lollie v.d. Westhuizen
-  063-177400




Okahandja Drop-in Centre

-  Otjozondjupa (Okahandja)
Serves the Okahandja community
-  Ms Vleermuys
-  062-502106



Omega Women's Group




-  Hardap (/Haruchab)
Serves the /Haruchab community
-  Ms Mina Nowases
-  063-260152




Try Again Women Against Violence

-  Otjozondjupa (Otjiwarongo)
Serves the Otjiwarongo community
-  Ms R Okamaru
-  067-303386

Tsaraxa Aibes Group

-  Hardap (Mariental)
Serves Mariental community
-  Office hours: 063-242084
- After hours: 063 240427

-  Otjikoto (Tsumeb)
Serves Tsumeb community
-  Ms Letta Kambale
-  067-220796

-  Otjikoto(Oshivello)
Serves Oshivello community
-  Ms Amanda Karises
-  081 260 9662

Okahandja Youth Guidance Centre

STOP THE VIOLENCE WOMEN'S GROUP

CONTACT INFORMATION

Region and Scope of Service
 Otjozondjupa (Okahandja)
 Serves Okahandja & surrounds

Street Address
 Alex Neib Street, Okahandja

Postal Address
 P/Bag 2026, Okahandja

Telephone Number
 Office hours: 062-502013

Fax Number
 Office hours: 062-501731

Contact Persons
 Co-ordinator:

Affiliations
 None

MAIN SERVICES

Shelter for children
 Counselling
 Advice
 Information
 Referral (legal, medical, social welfare)
 Training (counselling)

NOTES/ADDITIONS/CHANGES

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OVERVIEW OF MAIN SERVICES

The Okahandja Youth Guidance Centre is a shelter and resource centre where youth (i.e. young children as well as teenagers) can go to get information, advice, counselling and general guidance on any issue. The Stop the Violence Women's Group in Okahandja (see chapter 3) helps to run the centre and functions as a support group and referral agency for the youth.

Youth in need of shelter should be referred to the centre by a social worker in the Directorate of Health & Social Services or a Women & Child Protection Unit of the Namibian Police. The maximum period of stay at the centre is 6 months. All meals and some basic daily necessities are provided, as well as a first-aid and counselling service. Youth in need of legal, medical, social welfare or other support will be referred to the Legal Assistance Centre, the local State Hospital, a psychologist, a pastor or another appropriate agency. The centre is protected by the local police.

The centre also offers counselling for women, men, couples and families. People should preferably be referred for counselling by school personnel, church leaders and community leaders. Counselling is given only in person, and it is necessary to make an appointment.

ADDITIONAL SERVICES

- Provides education for school groups and adult groups on request.
- Facilitates community workshops on request.
- Joins community action initiatives on the abuse of women and children.
- Joins advocacy and lobbying initiatives for law reform on issues affecting youth.
- Produces educational materials in the form of posters, pamphlets, booklets and stickers. These are available at the centre, and some are free of charge.
- Counselling training can be arranged through the Stop the Violence Women's Group.

\$ COSTS FOR SERVICES

Some services are charged for, but the details were not provided and the compilers of this directory were unable to track down the coordinator for the details by the time of going to press.

Save the Children Project

(DAY CARE CENTRE AND PLACE OF SAFETY)

CONTACT INFORMATION

T **Region and Scope of Service**
Omaheke (Gobabis)
Serves whole Omaheke region

H **Street Address**
1121 Tjizera Street, Gobabis

✉ **Postal Address**
P/Bag 33, Gobabis

☎ **Telephone Number**
062-563191 (Ms Engelbrecht)
062-562551 (Dinana)
081 231 6025 (Laini)

📠 **Fax Number**
Office hours: 062-562432

😊 **Contact Persons**
Chairperson: Mr Tlatla
Committee Member:
Ms H Hijamutiti

🏠 **Affiliations**
None

MAIN SERVICES

DAY-care
Advice
Counselling
Educational referral
Social welfare support

NOTES/ADDITIONS/CHANGES

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OVERVIEW OF MAIN SERVICES

This project was started in 1997 by various professional and other community members in Gobabis who had identified the need to assist children living in difficult circumstances in the town. The main aims of the project are to rehabilitate these children socially and integrate them into the formal educational system.

Counselling is presently offered for children only, but the project plans to involve families in the counselling process. Counselling is given only in person, and it is not necessary to make an appointment. The committee of counsellors is composed of local social workers and teachers, the government community development officer, the government youth officer and local youth volunteers. These counsellors receive the necessary training free of charge, and there is no minimum age or educational requirement for trainees. Anyone interested in working for the project should contact a committee member for details on the training course.

Children served by the project are enrolled in schools, and those not of schoolgoing age receive some informal education at the project's day-care centre for needy children. The project assists in paying school fees.

The day-care centre is open from 08h00-17h00 daily. The children receive two meals per day, consisting of maize meal provided to the project by the government School Feeding Programme. Clothing is also provided where necessary. At this stage there are no special security measures taken to protect abused children if their abusers find them at the centre. Children who are hurt or sick and in need of medical care are taken to the local clinic.

Anyone in need of the project's services may contact the centre or any committee member directly, i.e. without a referral. The project makes referrals to schools and to the local office of the Directorate of Social Services for further welfare assistance.

ADDITIONAL SERVICES

- Offers group facilitation in the areas of child care and education.
- Organises or participates in community action initiatives around children's rights and welfare.

\$ COSTS FOR SERVICES

All services are free of charge.

Tsumeb Women’s and Children’s Centre

CONTACT INFORMATION

T **Region and Scope of Service**
Oshikoto (Tsumeb)
Serves Tsumeb, Otavi,
Grootfontein, Otjiwarongo &
surrounding farm communities

📍 **Street Address**
Cnr. Third Road & Sixth Street
Block no 2600, Tsumeb

✉ **Postal Address**
PO Box 753, Tsumeb

☎ **Telephone Number**
Office hours: 067-221622

📠 **Fax Number**
All hours: Care of 067 221622

😊 **Contact Persons**
Project co-ordinator & Counsellor:
Ms Katrina Shiyuka

- ✖** **Affiliations**
- Multimedia Campaign on Violence Against Women & Children
 - Women & Child Protection Units of the Namibian Police
 - Tsumeb Women’s Voice - member of the Way Forward Women’s Movement

MAIN SERVICES

Awareness-raising & education
Advocacy & lobbying
Research
Shelter for women & children
Counselling
Advice

NOTES/ADDITIONS/CHANGES

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OVERVIEW OF MAIN SERVICES

This is a multi-purpose centre which also provides immediate temporary shelter for women and children when it is unsafe for them to return to their homes. The centre also assists neglected children and infants, and child victims of sexual abuse. Clients should preferably be referred by a social worker or Women & Child Protection Unit, but they can approach the centre without being referred.

The maximum period of stay is 48 hours, depending on the client’s condition. All meals and bedding are provided. Protection from abusers is provided by the Women & Child Protection Unit which is housed in the same building. There is no first-aid assistance provided, but staff will arrange for medical treatment at a hospital. There is no transport provided, but staff at the centre will accompany clients to hospital on foot, and the Women & Child Protection Unit will transport people to hospital if they are in need of urgent care.

Counselling and referral services are provided for women, children and youth, men, couples and families, Counselling is provided in person and it is not necessary to make an appointment. Advice will be given and general enquiries answered on the telephone. There is no job-seeking assistance nor other material assistance provided. The centre will assist clients to report crimes to the police.

Other programmes of the centre are aimed at raising the levels of awareness and self-respect of women, and educating them on how to protect themselves from danger. One programme aims to restore the self- confidence of abused and neglected children.

ADDITIONAL SERVICES

- Information resource centre for women, youth and children
- Extension services and seminars for men
- Information-gathering and research
- Community workshops on human rights and the law
- Educational programmes for school groups and adult groups
- Training for counsellors

\$ COSTS FOR SERVICES

All services are free of charge.

Usakos Children’s Education Centre

CONTACT INFORMATION

- Region and Scope of Service**
Erongo (Usakos)
Serves any child in Namibia
- Street Address**
Next to the Roman Catholic Hospital, Hospital Street, Usakos
- Postal Address**
PO Box 63, Usakos
- Telephone Number**
08h00 - 12h00: 064-530147
After hours: 064-530712
Cell: 081 292 7208
- Fax Number**
Office hours: 064-530147
After hours: 064-530712
- Contact Persons**
L. Engelbrecht
Superintendent: Mr C Mouers
Chairperson: Mr P ya Nangoloh
- Affiliation**
None

MAIN SERVICES

Boarding school and shelter for children
Formal school education
Counselling
Other support (medical, legal, welfare)

NOTES/ADDITIONS/CHANGES

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OVERVIEW OF MAIN SERVICES

The Children’s Education Centre is a boarding school for children in need of care, so it also serves as a shelter and place of safety for children - from pre-primary age to 18 years old. Children from anywhere in Namibia will be taken in, though most come from the Erongo Region. Most are either referred there by a social worker in the Ministry of Health & Social Services, or their parents apply to the centre to have their children cared for. In every case a court order is issued which gives the centre legal custody of the child, so it effectively becomes the child’s foster home. However, contact between child and family in most cases continues: family members either visit the children at the centre or the children visit their families at home.

The majority of the children at the centre have suffered abuse and neglect. Many have disabilities and a few have very severe physical defects. Apart from providing a full formal education and job-seeking assistance for school leavers, the centre provides all the necessary therapeutic services, such as counselling, as well as legal, welfare and other forms of support as necessary throughout the child’s period of stay. The counselling service is provided by a state psychologist and social workers. Counselling is not extended to the children’s families, but should family members need counselling they may approach the centre for a referral.

\$ COSTS FOR SERVICES

All services to the children are free of charge.

Walvis Bay Child & Family Centre

CONTACT INFORMATION

Region and Scope of Service

Erongo (Walvis Bay)
Serves entire Erongo region

Street Address

Old North Hospital (behind police station), 11th Street, Walvis Bay

Postal Address

PO Box 2481, Walvis Bay

Telephone Number

Office hours: 064-209457

Fax Number

Office hours: 064-209457

E-mail Address

wbcfc@iafrica.com.na

Contact Persons

Chairperson: King Muatanga
Manager: Ms E Murangi
Manager: Ms E Nash
Social worker: Ms M Richter

Affiliation

- Multimedia Campaign on Violence Against Women & Children
- Ministry of Health & Social Services
- Women & Child Protection Units of the Namibian Police

MAIN SERVICES

Therapy & rehabilitation for alcoholics and drug addicts
Service for people with disabilities
Support groups
Counselling
Advice
Information
Referral (medical, legal, welfare, etc)
Temporary shelter for women & children

NOTES/ADDITIONS/CHANGES

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OVERVIEW OF MAIN SERVICES

The Walvis Bay Child & Family Centre is a multi-purpose facility which houses the Sunshine Centre for people with mental and physical disabilities, the Alcohol Rehabilitation Centre and the local Women & Child Protection Unit of the Namibian Police. Most people are referred to the centre by the unit or by state social workers, but anyone can contact the centre directly without a referral.

The centre offers a 28 day in-patient rehabilitation programme for alcoholics, which is administered by professional counsellors. The programme aims for the total restoration of the patient's relationship with self, family, employer & community. Patients must stay for the full 28 day term. Aftercare is left to the social workers attached to the centre, and there is a support group for them should they need one. Patients may also choose to join an Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) support group.

People with disabilities at the Sunshine Centre receive vocational skills training in areas such as leatherwork, woodwork, gardening, needlework, knitting & sports. A total of 25 people can be trained at the same time. The items produced are sold, and the profits are divided between the crafter and the centre. The centre ploughs the profits into developing its services for people with disabilities. The centre is now envisaging measures to sensitise the local business community about the skills that the trainees can offer, in the hope that they will be employed, become financially independent and be fully integrated into the community. The centre also facilitates a support group for children with disabilities.

ADDITIONAL SERVICES

- Support group for families with alcoholic members
- Educational programme for school groups
- Occasional community workshops are run to raise awareness on human rights issues
- Has participated in a TV panel discussion
- Educational video for hire (no charge)
- Organise cultural activities (drama/poetry/song & dance) for children at the Sunshine Centre

COSTS FOR SERVICES

All services are free of charge.