# Femili Tok



Group photo after visit to children's wards at Angau Hospital on Children's International Day

### **Quarterly Newsletter**

# **FemiliPNG**

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# 20 days of Activism begins with Angau visit

Commencing the 20 days of activism, the Morobe Family and Sexual Violence Action Committee (FSVAC), together with stakeholders and businesses in Lae, visited the children's wards at the Angau Memorial General Hospital to commemorate the International Children's Day on 20 November 2017.

Femili PNG also participated with the service providers and a few businesses such as Panamex, Colgate Palmolive and Coral Sea Hotels by giving gift parcels including food and beverages to the children with their parents and guardians.

Also among the group who visited was the Lae Metropolitan Chief Superintendent and FSVAC Chairman Mr. Anthony Wagambie Junior and Australian Consul-General for Lae Mr Paul Murphy.

Mr. Wagambie thanked everyone for taking the time to visit the children. He



Lae residents march against violence

said, "these are our children, and they are our future generation."

Also during the 20 days of activism, residents in Lae marched from Eriku to the Town Lae Metro Head Quarters on 25th November 2017, with the theme 'a call for peace.'

The police, together with the FSVAC stakeholders led the march with participants from non-government organizations and private sector companies, advocating against violence.

In the front line was Police Minister Hon. Jelta Wong, Lae MP and FSVAC Patron Hon. John Rosso, Mr Paul Murphy and Mr Wagambie Jr.

Mr Rosso stressed that Lae has high rates of violence, and that we have been witnessing all forms of violence, including sorcery accusation based violence. He added, "we all need to change our mindset and our attitudes. Once we do that, everything falls into place."

Awareness on gender-based violence was also carried out during the 20 days of activism in schools by Morobe FSVAC and stakeholders. Femili PNG staff were happy to participate with the other stakeholders.

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# Brian Bell sets up Xmas wishing tree for Femili PNG



Brian Bell HomeCentre (Lae) Retail Manager Ms. Josepha Pokiton, Femili PNG CEO Ms. Daisy Plana and Femili PNG In-house Lawyer Ms. Anna Raymond .

A 'Christmas wishing tree' program is an initiative that was launched by the Sir Brian Bell Foundation on 9 November 2017 to raise funds for seven charity organizations in Papua New Guinea.

This initiative presents the customers of Brian Bell an opportunity to purchase a

'bauble' for K5 at any one of their outlets nationwide and the funds raised goes to support the selected charity organization or program.

'A little goes a long way."

Femili PNG was chosen as the charity organizations in Lae to be supported by this initiative.

In order for the Brian Bell Lae staff to be able to explain to the customers what they are donating towards, Femili PNG provided awareness about how the organization assists survivors of family and sexual violence and child abuse.

So far, Femili PNG has provided awareness to staff at the Brian Bell Lae Home Centre and Brian Bell Trade Electrical. The sessions provided insight on the issue of family and sexual violence and child abuse, and how Femili PNG assists survivors.



# Awareness activity with children at Pilgrim SDA Church



As part of the 20 days of activism, Femili PNG organized an awareness session with the children at the Pilgrim SDA Church at Speedway in Lae on 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2017.

Femili PNG's Child Protection Officer with the Communications and Fundraising Officer organized activities to educate the children about safety rules and their social trust network.

Colgate Palmolive gave tooth brush and tooth paste kits with bars of Protex soap and posters to support Femili PNG with this activity. These items were distributed to the children and adults who attended.

Also on the same day, the members of the Pilgrim SDA Church made their final quarter

donation of food to support the clients of Femili PNG at safe houses in Lae. This was their fifth donation since they started their quarterly donations in

2016.

Church Elder Mr. Mack Wanowi thanked the members of the church for their commitment in giving food. He said, "we must share with others what God has blessed us with. Whatever we give, we give with our hearts."

Femili PNG's Communications and Fundraising Officer Ms. Jonica Jay received the food donation and acknowledged the commitment and ongoing support from the Pilgrim SDA church members.



#### **CLIENT STORY**

Apart from providing support to survivors of family and sexual violence to access services they need, Femili PNG also works in coordination with Oxfam, an international charitable organization to help support the survivors of sorcery accusation-based violence.

This client has kindly given permission for their story to be used. \*Names have been changed and all identifying information has been removed to protect their safety.

#### \*RACHAEL'S STORY

Rachael is a widowed mother of one who never thought she would be harmed by the people she knew.

Rachael was physically assaulted by a group of men in her community because she was accused of sorcery after the death of someone in the area where she lived. She couldn't run away because she was badly injured from the cuts and bruises that the perpetrators inflicted on her. She was tortured and almost killed, when fortunately, the police intervened and rescued her.

Rachael was later referred to Femili PNG by the police and was assisted to access medical treatment for her wounds at the hospital and was assisted with her other basic needs during this time.

In coordination with Oxfam, Rachael was safely relocated with the help of the police to a safer location until the arrest of the perpetrators.



Police officers assisting with the relation of the survivor of sorcery accusation-based violence.



Dr. Sharman Stone with representatives from stakeholders in Lae.

Dr. Sharman Stone (Australian Ambassador for Women and Girls) visited the Femili PNG Case Management Centre in Lae on 29 November 2017. She was very impressed to hear how the service providers in Lae coordinate and play their respective roles in assisting survivors of FSV.

#### **Grateful Heart**

**Poem by Mellanie Olano.** Mellanie was our Case Management Technical Expert and international volunteer from February 2017 to February 2018.

Moving to unfamiliar place Is a hard decision to make, But knowing that I will be making great things Makes it more exciting.

Leaving the people, you adore And your very own comfort zone, Is a huge step out to the door?

Packing my things, preparing myself and wide experiences as my armour.

Then I guess I am ready to harbour.

Adjustment was never difficult coz I was welcome whole heartedly, Loneliness and boredom never challenge me because the people love me so dearly.

Grateful heart... that's what I feel
I never regret every single day of being here
For I know there is a greater plan of being here....
By making a difference to someone into someone's life and affecting change

So now with friends who were once strangers We work united to make a difference And this makes me, ever more grateful



Femili PNG participated again in the 2017 Health Expo at the Morobe show in Lae.

The staff took the opportunity to engage and discuss with the public about the role of Femili PNG, and also advocated against Child Abuse and Family and Sexual Violence (FSV).

Femili PNG was also given the opportunity to play out a short skit to display the role it plays as an organization in assisting survivors of Child Abuse and FSV. Femili PNG staff displayed how it coordinates with the other service providers in supporting the survivor to access the available services needed by the survivor.

The staff also did some activities with the children and explained to them safety rules and their social trust network.

#### Thank you for your support!

Femili Tok's a quarterly newsletter published for our partners, sponsors and friends involved in family and sexual violence advocacy in PNG.

#### Did you know?

Since opening our doors, Femili PNG has helped more than 1400 women, men and children in high risk situations to access the assistance that they need.

### More awareness on FSV to private sector staff

Femili PNG has been scheduling awareness sessions with businesses and providing awareness on Child Abuse, Family and Sexual violence (FSV) and its related laws to their employees. So far, Femili PNG has carried out awareness to the staff of the following businesses; Trukai Industries, Laga Industries, Zenag Chicken, Theodist Stationaries, Lutheran Health Services and Brian Bell Group in Lae.



# **FemiliPNG**

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#### About us:

Femili PNG is a local NGO based in Lae that runs a Case Management Centre to assist survivors of family and sexual violence to access the services they need. Our target population is women, men or children who are survivors of intimate partner violence, sexual violence and/or child abuse.

Femili PNG commenced its operations in July 2014, providing integrated case management to survivors of family and sexual violence to help them access counselling, support and other interventions for protection and justice with the support from our existing partners—the service providers.