

CHAPTER 6

Research, Information and Advocacy

Directorate: Developmental & Social Welfare Services

CONTACT INFORMATION

T Region and Scope of Service
 Head office: Khomas (Windhoek)
 Regional offices: see next page
 National coverage

📍 Street Address
 Central Hospital Complex,
 Harvey Street, Windhoek West

✉ Head Office Postal Address
 P/Bag 13198, Windhoek

☎ Telephone Number
 Office hours: 061-2032602

📄 Fax Number
 Office hours: 061-223573

😊 Contact Persons
 Director: Ms B U Katjiungua
 Deputy Director: Ms Masebane-Coetzee

- ✂ Affiliations**
- Multimedia Campaign on Violence Against Women & Children
 - Women & Child Protection Units of the Namibian Police
 - Child Justice Forum
 - International Committee on Child Justice

MAIN SERVICES

Counselling
 Advice
 Referral (shelter, legal, medical)
 Social welfare assistance
 Financial assistance
 Information
 Advocacy

NOTES/ADDITIONS/CHANGES

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OVERVIEW OF MAIN SERVICES

Any member of the public can contact the nearest office of the Directorate of Social Services for just about any kind of health or welfare-related problem or emergency. Trained social workers will provide advice and individual counselling, and make appropriate medical, legal and other referrals to shelters and places of safety, support groups, professional institutions, etc. The Directorate is particularly sensitive to its legal duty to protect women and children against domestic violence, sexual abuse and neglect.

The Directorate receives referrals from a wide range of organisations and institutions dealing with victims of domestic violence and sexual abuse, and along with the Women & Child Protection Units, the Directorate occupies a central position in the continuum of services available for victims throughout Namibia. If a person in need of assistance is unsure where to go to find it, 'the nearest regional office of the Directorate is probably the best place to start.

It is notable that under the draft Child Care and Protection Act, any person who is paid to provide any service to children (e.g. a teacher, doctor, nurse) is required by law to report any information that would cause a reasonable person to suspect that a child is in need of protection to a social worker in the Ministry of Health & Social Services, or to the Commissioner of Child Welfare or NAMPOL.

The Directorate of Social Services administers matters relating to foster care, adoption and the temporary placement of minor children in registered places of safety - in accordance with the Children's Act or the new Child Care and Protection Act when it is passed by Parliament. The Directorate is also responsible for the placement of children in hostels and orphanages.

As a member of Interministerial Committee on Child Justice and all the Child Justice Forums in Namibia, the Directorate also assists children who conflict with the law. It has the authority to recommend an alternative to sentencing for a juvenile offender, and is responsible for providing aftercare services for these children.

Counselling is provided for women, children, men, couples and families - individually or in groups. People with alcohol or drug problems can also contact the Directorate for counselling and rehabilitation. Anyone needing counselling should contact the nearest regional office of the Directorate to arrange for it. Information and advice will be given on the telephone. *(Continued overleaf)*

ADDITIONAL SERVICES

Administers all social allowances, such as old age pensions, maintenance grants for low-income single-parent families, disability grants and pensions, foster parent grants and death and survivor benefits. Also assists in obtaining court orders for child maintenance payments and alimony payments.

The Directorate can assist with emergency relief for the payment of rent, the exemption or reduction of school and hostel fees, hospital fees and related medical costs, and also with funeral expenses.

The Directorate will make appropriate referrals for people to obtain food aid under the National Drought Relief Programme and the Namibian School Feeding Scheme, which are administered by other ministries and agencies. Other kinds of emergency food aid, as well as clothing, can also be arranged.

The Directorate also makes appropriate referrals for people to obtain assistance from the War Orphan's Fund of the Social Economic Integration Programme for Ex-Combatants (SIPE) or from the Sam Nujoma Orphan's Fund.

The Directorate assists with referrals in cases of HIV/AIDS, other critical illnesses and disability.

OTHER ACTIVITIES AND INVOLVEMENTS

- Beneficiary of the UNICEF-funded Mobilisation for Children's & Women's Rights Programme, which aims to strengthen the capacity of Ministries and other agencies to advocate and lobby for children's and women's rights, and to assist children and women in especially difficult circumstances.
- Beneficiary of the Finnida-funded Health and Social Sector Support Programme, which aims to develop a comprehensive social welfare policy for Namibia, including advocating for the rights and protection of children and women as its first medium-term priority.
- Subsidises qualifying welfare organisations with state funds. The National Welfare Act requires all non-governmental organisations offering welfare services to register with the Directorate.
- The Ministry of Health & Social Services conducted a survey on domestic violence and its health consequences in conjunction with the World Health Organization (WHO), as part of a comparative study involving Namibia, the Pacific Islands, Japan, Brazil, Peru and Thailand.
- The Ministry is also in the process of preparing a training manual on how to counsel male perpetrators of violence. Contacts for this programme are Veronica Theron or Betsy Boza Reyes.

S COSTS FOR SERVICES


Government services are free of charge.

REGIONAL & DISTRICT OFFICES OF THE DIRECTORATE OF SOCIAL SERVICES

The Directorate of Social Services has a Control Social Worker in each health region who can be contacted during office hours for assistance.

North East Health Region

(Kavango, Caprivi)


 Rundu 066-265551
Katima 066-253012

 Rundu 066-255371

 P/Bag 2094, Rundu

North West Health Region

(Oshana, Ohangwena, Omusati, Oshikoto)


 Oshakati (Oshana) 065-220211

Ondangwa (Oshana) 065-258811

Engela (Ohangwena) 065-261104

Ongandjela (Omusati) 065-252013

Tsumeb (Oshikoto) 067-224050

 Oshakati 065-220303

 P/Bag 5538, Oshakati

Central West Health Region

(Otjozondjupa, Erongo, Kunene)

 Otjiwarongo (Otjozondjupa) 067-303706

Grootfontein (Otjozondjupa) 067-242960

Otavi (Otjozondjupa) 067-234194

Okakarara (Otjozondjupa) 067-317004

Okahandja (Otjozondjupa) 062-503221


Khorixas (Kunene) 067-331493

Omaruru (Erongo) 064-570037

Usakos (Erongo) 064-530067

Swakopmund (Erongo) 064-412460

Walvis Bay (Erongo) 064-203441

 Otjiwarongo 067-303706

 P/Bag 2612, Otjiwarongo

Central South Health Region

(Komas, Omaheke, Hardap, Karas)

 Windhoek (Komas) 061-2032602

Gobabis (Omaheke) 062-562940

Rehoboth (Hardap) 062-523811


Mariental (Hardap) 063-245281

Keetmanshoop (Karas) 063-223365

Karasburg (Karas) 063-270167

Lüderitz (Karas) 063-202446


 Windhoek 061-2032602

 P/Bag 13198, Windhoek

This organisation offers the full range of professional social welfare services for persons of any religious denomination or culture.

Legal Assistance Centre (LAC)

CONTACT INFORMATION

 **Region and Scope of Service**
Head office: Khomas (Windhoek)
Advice office: see next page
National coverage



Street Address
4 Korner Street, Windhoek



Postal Address
PO Box 604, Windhoek



Telephone Number
Office hours: 061-223356



Fax Number
Office hours: 061-234953



E-mail Address
info@lac.org.na



Contact Persons
Director: Mr N Tjombe
Manager:
Land issues: Ms E. Zimba-Naris
Human rights issues:
Ms T Hancox
Education issues: Mr J Nakuta
Gender issues: Ms D Hubbard
Child justice: Ms C Zaahl
HIV/AIDS: Mr D Cupido



Affiliations

- Multimedia Campaign on Violence Against Women & Children
- Interministerial Committee on Child Justice (NGO rep.)
- National Advisory Committee on Gender Based Violence
- Windhoek Child Justice Forum

MAIN SERVICES

Legal advice and representation
Information
Research
Advocacy & lobbying
Legal education & training
Publications on law & human rights
Referrals (medical, welfare, other)

NOTES/ADDITIONS/CHANGES

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OVERVIEW OF MAIN SERVICES

The LAC is a non-profit public interest law firm with a head office in Windhoek and additional offices in Katutura, Ongwediva and Keetmanshoop. The LAC's work is supervised by the Legal Assistance Trust, whose trustees include legal practitioners, church leaders and other community leaders. The LAC's main objective is to protect the human rights of all Namibians.

The LAC provides legal advice and representation services for people who cannot afford to pay a lawyer. These services are provided only in public interest cases - where the case is likely to have an impact beyond the people directly involved. The lawyers and paralegals are available to give legal advice to anyone approaching their offices with a legal problem or a question about the law. Clients will be referred to the appropriate agencies for further assistance, e.g. to the Ministry of Health & Social Services for welfare assistance and counselling.

The LAC has a **Legal Education Unit** which offers education on a wide range of legal issues for community groups, school groups, non-governmental organisations and other interest groups. The trainers go out to communities to provide this education on request, and they also target groups who may need this education. The department also trains people who can in turn educate their own community members. The main topics covered in the training workshops include the Namibian Constitution and the laws which provide for the rights of workers, women and children, e.g. the labour law and the laws on marriage, divorce, maintenance, rape and domestic violence.

A very important aspect of the LAC's work is to do legal research and make policy recommendations for law reform and the use of Namibian legislation to protect the rights of all Namibians. The **Gender Research & Advocacy Project** is one of the LAC's permanent projects which does this kind of work. This project has published numerous studies and papers on topics relating to women and children's rights, as well as a wide range of educational materials on women and children's rights (in different Namibian languages), which are available from any of the LAC offices. Most of the materials are free of charge. The project is currently focusing on law reform in the area of family law.

Another permanent project of the LAC is the **Child Justice Project**, which works together with government ministries and non-governmental organisations to find

(continued overleaf)

alternatives to prison sentences for children (people under 18 years old) who comes in conflict with the law. The alternative sentencing options are meant to keep children out of the criminal justice system, rehabilitate them and reintegrate them into the community. This project occupies a central position in the continuum of services for children in need of care, and works very closely with the Namibian Police and the other members of the Interministerial Committee on Child Justice and the regional Child Justice Forums, which include governmental and non-governmental representatives.

Another relevant project of the LAC is the **AIDS Law Unit**, which promotes a human rights based approach to HIV/AIDS in Namibia, addresses issues of social inequality that increase vulnerability to HIV infection as well as discrimination on the basis of HIV status and provides an avenue for remedies for people with HIV or AIDS who have been discriminated against. It enjoys a close working relationship with other AIDS service organisations in Namibia such as NANASO, Catholic AIDS Action and the AIDS Care Trust as well as with organisations of people living with HIV/AIDS such as Lironga Eparu. The Unit also enjoys a close working relationship with the Ministries of Health and Social Services, Basic Education and Labour as well as with trade unions such as the National Union of Namibian Workers (NUNW) and employer organisations such as the Chamber of Mines and the Namibian Employer's Federation and plans and executes its activities in close collaboration with these partners. It also hosts the regional offices of the AIDS and Rights Alliance for Southern Africa (ARASA)

ADDITIONAL SERVICES

- The LAC publishes the Index to the Laws of Namibia (NAMLEX), which is updated as required.
- The LAC produces the bi-annual Namibian Law Report as a special project.
- Another project is the Land, Environment and Development Project, which carries out

research and makes recommendations for law reform in these areas.

- The various projects and departments produce articles on law-related topics for publication in local newspapers, and will do so on request.
- LAC staff can be called upon to join radio and TV panel discussions. The Legal Education Unit makes extensive use of radio to educate communities and will facilitate radio talk shows on request.
- LAC legal practitioners assist in lecturing law students at the University of Namibia, and in training justice officials (magistrates and prosecutors), as well as government and police officials, on various areas of the law.
- Non-governmental and community-based organisations can approach the LAC for assistance in drafting their constitutions and other legal documents.
- The LAC can be called upon to conduct research on behalf of or in conjunction with other organisations - governmental or non-governmental.
- The Legal Education Unit organises community events to mark internationally recognised human rights holidays, such as International Human Rights Day.

OTHER ACTIVITIES AND INVOLVEMENTS

The LAC is a member of numerous committees and networks in Namibia and Southern Africa, and provides ongoing legal, educational and research support to many governmental and non-governmental bodies in Namibia and Southern Africa. Among these bodies are the Southern African Human Rights NGO Network (SAHRINGON) and the Southern African Legal Assistance Network (SALAN). The Namibian bodies relevant to this publication are listed on the previous page.

💰 COST FOR SERVICES

Almost all services are free of charge. Some publications must be paid for, as well as specialist services such as research and lecturing services.

LAC REGIONAL ADVICE OFFICES

📍 Katutura Advice Office
 (Khomas Region - Windhoek)

☺ Co-ordinator: Mr J Nakuta
 📞 061-264641/262333
 📄 061-262297
 ✉ PO Box 62053 Katutura
 📍 Katutura Community Centre
 Independence Avenue

📍 Human Rights Centre
 (Oshana Region - Ongwediva)








☺ Co-ordinator:
 Ms R Hekandjo
 📞 065-230178 or 230444
 📄 065-230443
 ✉ P/Bag X5534 Oshakati
 📍 ELCIN Centre, Ongwediva

📍 Keetmanshoop Advice Office
 (Karas Region)

☺ Co-ordinator: Mr A Katzao
 📞 063-223187
 📄 063-223758
 ✉ PO Box 180 Keetmanshoop
 📍 Cnr. Suider & Hoog Street

Ministry of Safety and Security

CONTACT INFORMATION

-  **Region and Scope of Service**
Head office: Khomas (Windhoek)
 National coverage
-  **Street Address**
 Brandan Simbwaye Square
 Goethe Street, Windhoek
-  **Postal Address**
 P/Bag 13281 Windhoek
-  **Telephone Number**
Office hours: 061-2846111
-  **Fax Number**
Office hours: 061-272487
-  **Contact Persons**
 Head of Social Worker
 Ms A R Katjivena
-  **Affiliations**
 - Women & Child Protection Units of the Namibian Police
 - Windhoek Child Justice Forum
 - Interministerial Committee on Child Justice

MAIN SERVICES

Therapy and counselling
 Education and training
 Awareness-raising and information
 Other support (child allowances, legal and medical referrals, etc.)

NOTES/ADDITIONS/CHANGES

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OVERVIEW OF MAIN SERVICES

The MOSS provides a range of therapeutic and rehabilitative services for prison inmates. These services are mainly rendered to sentenced prisoners, and due to a shortage of specialised personnel the MPCS currently concentrates on long-term prisoners who need more intensive services of this kind. The MPCS categorises its services as follows:

Education and Training

Formal education (literacy, secondary, tertiary) is provided in co-operation with the Ministry of Basic Education and Culture, the Namibian Open College of Learning (NAMCOL) and other tertiary institutions. Non-formal education in the areas of small business management, communication skills, leadership and first aid is provided through courses run in co-operation with other ministries and non-governmental organisations. Vocational training in various trade areas is provided in workshops housed in the prisons, and trainees can undergo examinations at the national level to obtain certificates and diplomas in their chosen trade. Informal skills training is provided in areas like needlework and art.

Awareness and Information

Awareness-raising is an important part of the rehabilitation programme in prisons. The MPCS concentrates on “burning issues”, such as HIV/AIDS, violence against women and children, alcoholism and drug abuse.

Therapy and Counselling

Social workers provide counselling and other therapeutic services for individual inmates and groups of inmates, and their family members are involved where necessary.

Support and Assistance

The MPCS ensures that inmates have contact with their families so that their relationships can be rebuilt while the inmates are still in prison. The ministry also assists with allowances to support the children of inmates through the term of imprisonment. Referrals for legal, medical and other forms of support are also made by the social workers.

COSTS FOR SERVICES

Government services are free of charge.

Ministry of National Youth Services

Regional Offices and Centres

CONTACT INFORMATION

Region and Scope of Service
 Directorate of Youth Head Office:
 Khomas (Windhoek)
 Regional Youth Offices & Centres:
 see next page
 National coverage

Street Address
 Juvenis (Nictus) Building 380
 Independence Ave., Windhoek

Postal Address
 P/Bag 13359 Windhoek

Telephone Number
 Office hours: 061-220066

Fax Number
 Office hours: 061-245939

Contact Persons
 Director of Youth: Mr E Pretorius

- Affiliations**
- Multimedia Campaign on Violence Against Women & Children
 - Interministerial Committee on Child Justice
 - Child Justice Forums

MAIN SERVICES

- Peer counselling (all youth issues)
- Advice
- Information dissemination
- Education
- Training (Skills, leadership, self-esteem, etc.)
- Job-seeking assistance
- Referrals (lagal, medical)

NOTES/ADDITIONS/CHANGES

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OVERVIEW OF MAIN SERVICES

The MYS was established to ensure that issues of concern to Namibia’s youth are dealt with within the basic human rights framework of the Constitution. (“Youth” is defined as people of both sexes aged 15-30 years). The MYS is responsible for co-ordinating all activities for youth facilitated by itself, other line ministries and non-governmental organisations.

The Directorate of Youth is responsible for actively promoting the contribution of youth to national social and economic development. Enhancing the access of unemployed youth and school dropouts to social and economic services is emphasised. The programmes developed by the Directorate are implemented by the regional youth officers and other staff of the regional youth offices and centres, in collaboration with regional and district youth forums and groups.

The Directorate’s programmes include: the National Juvenile Justice Programme, the Youth & Child Rights Advocacy Programme, the Environmental Education Programme, the Integrated Rural Youth Development Programme, the Youth Health Programme, the Youth Information Programme, the Youth Exchange & Hostelling Programme, and the Provision & Maintenance of Infrastructures Programme.

For the purposes of this directory the most important service of the Directorate is the peer counselling and guidance provided by youth officers at the regional offices and centres. The centres are all tasked to provide the same range of services, though in each region there are variations and some services are more developed than others.

To give an example of services offered in the regions (now or in the future), the Windhoek Multi-Purpose Youth Resource Centre in Katutura offers the following services, among others: career guidance and counselling, skills training and job-seeking assistance for unemployed youth; a library containing information materials and manuals on all kinds of issues affecting young people; a Health Drop-in Centre where youth can receive health services and counselling on issues like HIV/AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases in a friendly atmosphere; environmental education clubs and support for environmental income-generating projects; leadership training and activities to build self-esteem.

The regional youth offices and centres are there to serve the youth of Namibia, and people aged 15-30 years who need information about or who have been traumatised by domestic violence or sexual abuse can go to any of them to talk to another young person who has been trained to counsel and generally guide them, using the wide range of available resources.

(Continued overleaf)

Regional Youth Offices and Resource Centres



CAPRIVI Katima Mulilo

- Office hours: 066-253668
- Office hours: 066-253187
- PO Box 1069 Ngweze



ERONGO Omaruru

- Office hours: 064-570546
- Office hours: 064-570278
- PO Box 474 Omaruru

Swakopmund

- Office hours: 064-404816
- Office hours: 064-405373
- PO Box 5023 Swakopmund



HARDAP Mariental

- Office hours: 063-242450
- Office hours: 063-242404
- PO Box 755 Mariental

Rehoboth

- Office hours: 062-524691
- Office hours: 062-524683
- PO Box 4065 Rehoboth



KARAS Keetmanshoop

- Office hours: 063-222884
- Office hours: 063-222884
- PO Box 836 Keetmanshoop

Lüderitz

- Office hours: 063-203420
- Office hours: 063-203420
- C/o PO Box 104 Lüderitz

Karasburg

- Office hours: 063-270059
- Office hours: 063-270256
- PO Box 397 Karasburg



KAVANGO Rundu

- Office hours: 067-255189
- Office hours: 067-255710
- PO Box 2085 Rundu

Nkurenkuru

- Office hours: 067-257902
- Office hours: 067-257921
- PO Box 6089 Nkurenkuru



KHOMAS Windhoek

- Office hours: 061-263281
- Office hours: 061-261459
- P/Bag 13359 Windhoek



KUNENE Khorixas

- Office hours: 067-331392
- Office hours: 067-331213
- PO Box 510 Khorixas

Opuwo

- Office hours: 065-273195
- Office hours: 065-273195
- P/Bag 3022 Opuwo



OHANGWENA Eenhana

- Office hours: 065-263030
- Office hours: 065-263033
- PO Box 2023 Ongangwa



OMAHEKE Gobabis

- Office hours: 062-562249
- Office hours: 062-562808
- PO Box 1604 Gobabis

Otjinene

- Office hours: 062-567573
- Office hours: 062-567573
- P/Bag 1005 Otjinene



OMUSATI Outapi

- Office hours: 065-251076
- Office hours: 065-251135
- PO Box 197 Outapi



OSHANA Ondangwa

- Office hours: 065-240255
- Office hours: 065-240548
- P/Bag 2044 Ondangwa

Oshakati

- Office hours: 065-220354
- Office hours: 065-220310
- P/Bag 5557 Oshakati



OSHIKOTO Tsumeb

- Office hours: 067-220534
- Office hours: 067-221935
- PO Box 743 Tsumeb



OTJOZONDJUPA Tsumkwe

- Office hours: 067-244012
- Office hours: 067-244013
- P/Bag 2091 Windhoek

Grootfontein

- Office hours: 067-243079
- Office hours: 067-242015
- P/Bag 204 Grootfontein

Otjiwarongo

- Office hours: 067-302268
- Office hours: 067-304073
- PO Box 1178 Otjiwarongo

Okakarara

- Office hours: 067-317256
- Office hours: 067-317266
- P/Bag 2119 Okakarara

YOUTH SKILLS TRAINING CENTRES

Kai//ganaxab Youth Skills Training Centre

- Office hours: 063-240808
- Office hours: 063-242511
- P/Bag 2008 Mariental

Friedenau Youth Centre

- Office hours: 061-234223
- Office hours: 061-245939
- P/Bag 13359 Windhoek

Frans Dimbare Integrated Rural Youth Development Centre

- Office hours: 066-258307
- Office hours: 066-258307
- PO Box 5066 Divundu

Keetmanshoop Multipurpose Youth Centre

- Office hours: 063-222883
- Office hours: 063-222699
- PO Box 836 Keetmanshoop

Okahao Green Skills Training Centre

- Office hours: 065-252045
- Office hours: 065-252045
- P/Bag 58 Ogandjera

Oshakati Multi-Purpose Youth Resource Centre

- Office hours: 065-220354
- Fax: 065-220310
- P/Bag 5557 Oshakati

Opuwo Multi-Purpose Youth Resource Centre


- Office hours: 065-273195
- Office hours: 065-273195
- P/Bag 3022 Opuwo


Farm Du Plessis Rural Youth Development Centre

- Office hours: 062-568334
- Office hours: 062-568334
- PO Box 522 Gobabis


Namibia Institute for Democracy (NID)


CONTACT INFORMATION

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

 **Street Address**
 Kock & Schmidt Bulding 53
 Independence Ave. Windhoek


 **Postal Address**
 PO Box 11956, Windhoek

 **Telephone Number**
Office hours: 061-229117/8

 **Fax Number**
All hours: 061-229119

 **Web Address**
www.nid.org.na
www.democracy.org.na

 **Contact Persons**
 Executive Director
 Ms D Weissnar
 Chief Executive Officer
 Mr T Keulder

 **Affiliations**
 • Multimedia Campaign on
 Violence Against Women &
 Children

MAIN SERVICES

Education and training (civic, including human rights)
 Referral to support groups
 Advocacy and lobbying

NOTES/ADDITIONS/CHANGES

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OVERVIEW OF MAIN SERVICES

The NID runs a civic education programme for school groups and adult community groups in all regions, using the local indigenous language wherever possible. The topics covered include human rights issues, democracy and governance, and the rights of women and children are addressed.

The NID produces information and educational materials on democracy and human rights generally, such as a booklet and poster on the Married Persons Equality Act. Materials have also been produced on affirmative action for women in the workplace. All the booklets, pamphlets, posters, videos and stickers produced by the NID are available at the Windhoek office free of charge.

ADDITIONAL SERVICES

- Advocates and lobbies for women and children's rights through the Multimedia Campaign on Violence Against Women and Children.
- Participates in radio/TV panel discussions on request - also on the various indigenous language services of the Namibian Broadcasting Corporation (NBC).
- Provides voter education for presidential, national, regional and local government elections.

OTHER ACTIVITIES AND INVOLVEMENTS

- Has held a major seminar on the rights of women in an independent Namibia, with published papers.
- Organises seminars on governance and democracy themes with regional councils.
- Runs school competitions from time to time.

COSTS FOR SERVICES

All services are free of charge.

Namibia Planned Parenthood Association

CONTACT INFORMATION

Region and Scope of Service
 Khomas (Windhoek)
 National coverage

Street Address
 Bell Harris, Florence Nightingale Street, Windhoek West

Postal Address
 PO Box 10936, Khomasdal

Telephone Number
Office hours: 061-265115
After hours: 081-1274327 or 081-1285239

Fax Number
All hours: 061-230251

Contact Persons
 Executive Director:
 Ms Muedulundila

- Affiliations**
- Namibian Non-Governmental Organisations Forum (NANGOF)
 - Networks with the Ministry of Women Affairs and Child Welfare

MAIN SERVICES

Training (advocacy)
 Awareness-raising and education
 Advocacy and lobbying

NOTES/ADDITIONS/CHANGES

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OVERVIEW OF MAIN SERVICES

The main function of the Planned Parenthood Association is to raise awareness and sensitise young people, parents and communities at large on issues such as population and development, family planning, sexual and reproductive health, reproductive rights, and gender issues generally, including domestic violence and sexual abuse. This body is very involved in advocacy and lobbying work in these areas, and networks closely with the Department of Women Affairs (see chapter 7) in the process of implementing the National Gender Policy and National Gender Plan of Action.

To raise community awareness the association presents radio talk shows, visits schools to talk to children of all age groups and addresses community workshops organised by other bodies. Its Parent Advisory Committee provides education for adult groups. The association also offers an advocacy training course to train others to raise awareness in their communities.

Trainees in the advocacy training course should be at least 16 years old, but there is no educational requirement. The course is currently conducted in the Khomas, Omusati, Ohangwena and Caprivi Regions. The course is run over 3 days or 1 week with a maximum of 20 participants. The course focuses on population issues, gender issues (including violence and abuse), and sexual and reproductive health. There is no certificate offered, nor any follow-up courses, nor any job placement service.

\$ COSTS FOR SERVICES

All services are free of charge.

Namibia Women's Association (NAWA)

CONTACT INFORMATION

Region and Scope of Service
 Khomas (Windhoek)
 National coverage for girl children

Street Address
 Cnr. Mungunda & Shanghai
 Street, Katutura

Postal Address
 PO Box 3370, Windhoek

Telephone Number
Office hours: 061-262021

Fax Number
Office hours: 061-263539

E-mail Address
 nagirlch@iway.na

Contact Persons
Chairperson: Ms O Abrahams
Alternate: Ms P Leopoldt

Affiliations
 Namibian Non-Governmental
 Organisations Forum (NANGOF)

MAIN SERVICES

- Counselling
- Advice
- Referral
- Information
- Advocacy and lobbying
- Training (peer counselling)
- Education
- Mobilising

NOTES/ADDITIONS/CHANGES

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OVERVIEW OF MAIN SERVICES

NAWA's focus is on supporting women who are going through divorce, and implementing the Affirmative Action for the Girl Child Project designed after the 4th World Conference on Women in Beijing in 1995.

NAWA facilitates a Divorce Support Club for women. The support that members receive includes accompaniment to court, counselling, advice and referral - particularly to the Legal Assistance Centre (LAC) with which NAWA has a close relationship. NAWA also conducts interviews with women to bolster their confidence and generally empower them to secure a just divorce settlement and maintenance for their children. The club has met with an unprecedented growth in membership. Requests have been received for an extension of the service to other parts of Namibia, but this is not presently possible because NAWA has only one full-time office worker.

As part of the Affirmative Action for the Girl Child Project, NAWA is helping girls to establish a Namibian National Girl Child Organisation to ensure meaningful and organised input into the project. Training courses are run under the project to build capacity and facilitate the establishment of the national Organisation. The project has the full support of the Ministry of Basic Education & Culture and NAWA has access to all schools.

NAWA offers counselling for women, couples and families, and peer counselling training for girl children. People in need of counselling are normally referred by women who have benefited from NAWA's services, Counselling is given in person or on the telephone, and appointments should preferably be made.

The minimum age for girl child peer counselling training is 13-25 years. There is no minimum educational requirement, but trainees are usually girls in secondary school. They are trained by women associated with NAWA, and by members of the Forum for Women Educationalists of Namibia. Courses run for 2 full days, there are 109 trainees per course, and they are run countrywide. The course focuses on mobilising, budgeting, peer counselling and producing a newsletter. A NAWA-designed certificate is given, and follow-up courses are run whenever necessary and if funds are available. There is no job placement service offered.

OTHER ACTIVITIES AND INVOLVEMENTS

- Advocacy and lobbying together with other organisations.
- Joins radio/TV panel discussions - especially on the topic of girl children.
- Produces educational radio tapes for distribution.

\$ 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, Windhoek

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 its original Legal Education Project (LEP). 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 Department 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 bookkeeping, 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


National Society for Human Rights (NSHR)


CONTACT INFORMATION

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


 **Street Address**
 116 John Meinert Street
 Windhoek

 **Postal Address**
 PO Box 23592, Windhoek

 **Telephone Number**
Office hours: 061-236183
 061-253447

 **Fax Number**
Office hours: 061-234286

 **E-mail Address**
 nshr@iafrica.com.na

 **Contact Persons**
Executive Director
 Mr P ya Nangoloh

 **Affiliations**
 None

MAIN SERVICES

Training and education (human rights)
 Advocacy and lobbying
 Monitoring
 Information
 Advice
 Referral

NOTES/ADDITIONS/CHANGES

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OVERVIEW OF MAIN SERVICES

The NSHR’s mission is to proactively monitor government compliance with not only the Namibian Constitution, but also with all international human rights and humanitarian treaties which have been ratified by Namibia and which are therefore binding upon Namibia. The NSHR also trains human rights activists to monitor any violations of human rights in any part of the country.

People who have labour-related problems or problems with issues like maintenance are assisted. People are usually referred to the NSHR by the Namibian Police, the Office of the Ombudsperson, the maintenance courts and women’s organisations. Appointments for assistance are not necessarily needed, but this depends on the matter at hand. The NSHR sometimes acts in an advisory and/or mediatory capacity in disputes. Referrals will be made for legal aid or to the labour courts.

Anyone interested in being trained as a human rights activist should contact the NSHR directly for details on the training programme. Advocacy training is included in the programme.

ADDITIONAL SERVICES

- Provides education on human rights for school groups on request.
- Produces educational materials in the form of booklets, videos and photographic slides, all of which are available free of charge from the office in Windhoek.
- Facilitates community workshops on request.
- Participates in advocacy and lobbying initiatives for law reform in any areas of human rights.
- Joins radio/TV panel discussions on request, and issues media statements where applicable.
- In his personal capacity the NSHR chairperson is also the chairperson of the Children’s Education Centre, a boarding school and shelter in Usakos for children in need of care (see chapter 2). There is no formal connection between the two institutions, but this informal connection is being noted here for the reader’s information.

COSTS FOR SERVICES

All services are free of charge except training.

Sister Namibia Collective

CONTACT INFORMATION

Region and Scope of Service
Khomas (Windhoek)
National coverage

Street Address
163 Nelson Mandela Avenue
Windhoek

Postal Address
PO Box 40092 Windhoek

Telephone Number
Office hours: 061-230618

Fax Number
Office hours: 061-236371

E-mail Address
sister@iafrica.com.na

Contact Persons
Director: Liz Frank

- Networking**
- Multimedia Campaign on Violence Against Women & Children
 - Namibian Non-Governmental Organisations Forum (NANGOF)
 - Namibian Information Workers Union (NIWA)
 - Association of Namibian Publishers (ANP)

MAIN SERVICES

Information
Media
Advocacy and lobbying
Education
Awareness
Advertising opportunities
Referral

NOTES/ADDITIONS/CHANGES

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OVERVIEW OF MAIN SERVICES

The Sister Namibia Collective is a non-governmental and non-partisan women's organisation established in 1989 with the aim of advocating and lobbying for gender equality and law reform, and opposing racism, sexism and other forms of bigotry.

Its main activity is the publication of a magazine called Sister Namibia, which contains contributions mainly from women and mainly focusing on Namibian issues of relevance to women. The magazine is also a platform for the publication of Namibian poetry. It is published every two months and sold in shops throughout the country.

Sister also offers a well-stocked resource centre with books, magazines, news clippings, pamphlets, videos and other documentation covering areas of feminist theory, health, violence against women, sexuality, education and creative writing by women. Various pamphlets and stickers are also available. The videos can be hired for a period of one week and books and other materials for two weeks.

A Gender Education Programme focusing on topics such as the prevention of child abuse is run for school and adult groups, as well as a Reproductive Health Programme focusing on teenage pregnancy, contraception, abortion, rape and other sexual abuses, and sexuality generally. Discussion evenings for adults are held from time to time.

Information, advice, counselling and referral services are also offered.

ADDITIONAL SERVICES

- Advocates and lobbies with other organisations for domestic violence law reform, legal abortion and sex education in schools.
- Self-defence training (karate) is provided for trainers by an instructor from the Netherlands.
- Offers advertising and publicity opportunities through Sister Namibia magazine.

\$ COSTS FOR SERVICES

Sister Namibia magazine currently sells for N\$6,00. There is no charge for hiring any library resource materials, and all other services are free of charge.

Tsumeb Women’s and Children’s Centre

CONTACT INFORMATION

-  **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.

United Nations (UN) System in Namibia

CONTACT INFORMATION

Region and Scope of Service
All agencies: Khomas (Windhoek)
All serve the whole of Namibia

United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)

Sanlam Centre, Independence Ave
PO Box 1706 Windhoek
Office hours: 061-2046111
Office hours: 061-2046206
Ishikongo@fo.unicef.un.na

United Nations Educational, Scientific & Cultural Organization (UNESCO)

Sanlam Centre, Independence Ave.
P/Bag 13329 Windhoek
Office hours: 061-2917000
Office hours: 061-297220
unesco@un.na

United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA)

Sanlam Centre, Independence Ave.
P/Bag 13329 Windhoek
Office hours: 061-2046111
Office hours: 061-2046204
unfpa@un.na

United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR)

372 Independence Avenue
P/Bag 13329 Windhoek
Office hours: 061-237143/4
Office hours: 061-230055/229084
namwi@unhcr.ch

World Health Organisation (WHO)

372 Independence Avenue
P/Bag 13329 Windhoek
Office hours: 061-2046111
Office hours: 061-2046202

United Nations Information Centre (UNIC)

372 Independence Avenue
P/Bag 13351 Windhoek
Office hours: 061-233034
Office hours: 061-233036

OVERVIEW OF MAIN SERVICES

Note: All UN agencies are tasked to protect human rights and the rights of women and children, but only the agencies which presently have a direct involvement with projects specifically focusing on domestic violence and all forms of abuse against women and children are being covered in this section.

United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)

UNICEF devotes practically all its efforts to protecting children and promoting their rights. UNICEF analyses development plans of different countries and helps them to plan and design services for children. UNICEF also delivers supplies and equipment and provides funds for training teachers, health workers and social workers. In Namibia UNICEF is very involved in advocacy work on the implementation of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child and the UN Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women. It provides financial support and technical assistance to numerous projects focusing on children's and women's rights, such as the Women & Child Protection Units of the Namibian Police and the Juvenile Justice Project of the Legal Assistance Centre. UNICEF also funds and co-ordinates the Mobilisation for Children and Women Rights Programme (previously called the Family Life Empowerment Programme (FLEP)), which aims to strengthen the capacity of governmental and non-governmental bodies to advocate and lobby for children's and women's rights, and to assist children and women in especially difficult circumstances.

United Nations Educational, Scientific & Cultural Organization (UNESCO)

UNESCO's fundamental responsibility is to enhance people's ability to appreciate the intrinsic value of all human beings, based on a thorough and positive perception of humanity and the ability to cultivate humanistic tendencies. To achieve this noble ideal, UNESCO pursues activities in the fields of education, science, social and human sciences, culture and communications. The organisation's constitution confers upon it the mandate to help orient the minds of men and women towards the pursuance of peace and knowledge for the progress of humanity. UNESCO also has a number of inter-sectoral programmes. For instance, activities for the advancement of women are now undertaken in all areas of its competence. A Culture of Peace Programme has also been established. Charged with the responsibility of carrying out programmes and projects within UNESCO's competence, the Organisation

(Continued overleaf)

specialises in communication and social and human sciences in Southern Africa, and education and culture in Namibia. As a specialised UN agency, UNESCO works very closely with the other members of the UN system. Co-ordination with other agencies is ensured by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Resident Representative, who facilitates the implementation of joint programmes in support of the Namibian government's Development Plan and other programmes. This co-ordination has been notable through several thematic working groups: the HIV/ AIDS Thematic Group, the Gender Thematic Group and the Poverty Alleviation Thematic Group. Co-operation with the government, national institutions and organisations is further promoted through the National Commission for UNESCO in each member state. In Namibia the Commission is coordinated through the Ministry of Higher Education, Vocational Training, Science & Technology.

United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)

The UNFPA advocates and provides financial and technical support for the promotion, enforcement and safeguarding of the reproductive rights of individuals as agreed upon in the International Conference on Population and Development (Cairo 1994), the 4th World Conference on Women and Development (Beijing 1995) and other relevant international agreements, The UNFPA supports Namibian initiatives in this area through the GRN/ UNFPA Country Programme. It advocates through public address, issues media statements where required or on request, joins radio/TV panel discussions on request, and produces educational materials which are available free of charge at the UNFPA office.

United Nations High Commission for Refugees UNHCR)

The UNHCR's mandate is to assist and protect uprooted people (asylum seekers and recognised refugees). This means that the UNHCR is responsible for providing for the health, food, accommodation and educational needs of uprooted people. This includes providing shelter, counselling, advice, information, some forms of social welfare support, education for school and adult groups, and educational materials (on refugees). It also entails making referrals for medical and legal support, issuing media statements where

necessary, facilitating or addressing community workshops, and training people to work with refugees. Recognised refugees whose rights are violated or who suffer abuse in Namibia can contact the UNHCR to report the matter and receive assistance.

United Nations Information Centre (UNIC)

UNIC is responsible for disseminating information to the media and public about the policies and activities of UN agencies, and developments in the human rights arena internationally. All information materials published by the UN are available at the UNIC library free of charge. Many of these materials pertain directly to the rights of women and children and explain specifically what the UN does to address domestic violence and all forms of abuse against women and children. UNIC is tasked to proactively raise awareness of these problems by issuing regular statements and backgrounders to the press, radio and TV, by participating in radio/TV panel discussions and by organising activities on occasions such as International Women's Day.

§ COSTS FOR SERVICES

All services of UN agencies are free of charge.

University of Namibia (UNAM)- Gender Training and Research Unit

CONTACT INFORMATION

Region and Scope of Service

Khomas (Windhoek)
National coverage

Street Address

Mandume Ndemufayo Street,
Pionierspark, Windhoek

Postal Address

P/Bag 13301 Windhoek

Telephone Number

Office hours:
UNAM switchboard: 061-2063111
Gender Training Unit:
061-2063951/2
After hours: Co ordinator
061-271273

Fax Number

Office hours: 061-2068268

E-mail Address

lebeau@mweb.com.na
eiiping@unam.na

Contact Persons

Co-ordinator: Ms E Ipinge
Researcher: Ms D Le Beau

Affiliations

- Department of Women Affairs
- Legal Assistance Centre
- Sister Collective
- Women's Solidarity
- Namibia Information Centre

MAIN SERVICES

Training (gender issues)
Research
Information
Advocacy and lobbying
Financial support

NOTES/ADDITIONS/CHANGES

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OVERVIEW OF MAIN SERVICES

The main objectives of the UNAM Gender Training and Research Unit are to carry out research and raise awareness on gender issues generally, to advocate for the eradication of violence against women and to lobby policy-makers for law reform to this end. To achieve these objectives the Unit runs a gender awareness training course in various centres in the country and networks with other organisations dealing with gender issues - mainly the organisations listed on the left.

The gender awareness training course is run in Windhoek, Swakopmund, Okakarara, Okongo and Oranjemund. Trainees should preferably have a Grade 12 certificate to register, but this requirement is not applied in all cases, i.e. candidate suitability is assessed on an individual basis. There is no minimum age requirement. The course is run over a period of 2 weeks, and there should be 25 trainees per course. The course focuses on a range of gender issues, as well as on research and report-writing methodology and skills. A UNAM attendance certificate is issued. There are no follow-up courses offered at present.

From time to time the Unit organises conferences and workshops on gender issues. For example, in September 1999 it hosted a conference on "Gender Perspectives in Law and Violence".

COSTS FOR SERVICES

Employed people must pay N\$109,00 for the training course. Unemployed people and students pay less, depending on what they can afford. It is possible that an employed person earning a very low salary can also pay less. Consultancy or research work done by the Unit is always charged for. Existing information materials may be given free of charge, depending on what type of material is requested.