



THE HOUSE GROUP

Po Box 18557, Hillbrow, Johannesburg, 2035

ANNUAL EVALUATION OF PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES 1999/2000 HILLBROW DROP-IN CENTRE & INTOMBI SHELTER

**Submitted to and Approved by
DEPARTMENT of WELFARE & POPULATION DEVELOPMENT**

Evaluation follows as per Section 6.5 of the respective Business Plans:

LEVELS OF SERVICE:

The levels of services rendered by Hillbrow Drop-in Centre and Intombi Shelter classified according to Dept. Welfare categories:

- **Prevention** (Level 1)
- **Early Intervention – Retrieval** (Level 2)
- **Therapy - Care and Developmental Services** (Level 3)
- **Reintegration** (Level 4)

6.5 EVALUATION OF PROJECT AND ACTIVITIES HILLBROW DROP-IN CENTRE and INTOMBI SHELTER

The dynamics at The House and the very nature of the work being done, is of such a nature that the more time and effort are spent on the children, the more The House is trusted and the easier it is to retrieve young female children from the streets and the systems of vice prevalent on the streets. An increase in children rescued from their life on the streets, participating in the programs and life skills training will be a worthy way of evaluating performance.

6.5.1 PREVENTION - Level 1 Services

6.5.1.1 To deliver prevention services to the public at large

Main process and activities

- The House speaks at seminars and conferences, workshops, schools, clubs, organisations, etc., about various issues of relevance to the youth: such as coping skills, peer pressure, the prostitution trap, drug addiction, child-sexual abuse, HIV/Aids, STD's, etc.
- The media, print, radio and television, has been most helpful to successfully create a greater awareness about the plight of our youth and specifically our girl-children and women trapped in vice.
- The House's web sites (since '96) have drawn thousands of local and international visitors, providing information, having assisted numerous students with their research and studies.

Measurement

An estimated number of members of the public at large reached by means of each one of the different mediums.

Evaluation of 1999/2000

| | |
|-----------|---|
| 8 000 | Seminars, conferences, schools, clubs, organisations, etc. |
| 2 000 000 | The Media - print, radio, television |
| 70 000 | World Wide Web, Hillbrow Drop-in Centre, Intombi Shelter, Kulula Life Skills Centre and Advocacy web site visitors. |

6.5.1.2 **HIV/Aids prevention to the highest risk group of society (prostitutes, drug addicts and sex buyers)**

Main processes and activities

- HIV/Aids and Sexually Transmitted Diseases education,
- Pre- and post-test counselling
- HIV/Aids and testing
- Distribution of free condoms and syringes
- Distribution of educational literature

The House distributed 500 000 plus condoms the past year to various agencies, brothels, prostitutes and sex-buyers (clients of prostitutes). The condoms are used as a 'licence' to discuss the issues of HIV prevention, testing and survival with these people. We are specifically concerned with the population of prostitutes and the sex-buyers and anticipate distributing more than a 750 000 condoms this coming year.

The latest estimates are that South Africa has more than 80 000 prostitutes, who mainly serve married clients in the middle and upper income groups. A conservative estimate is that the 10 000 prostitutes in Johannesburg engage in 30 000 sexual encounters every day - 900 000 per month! We further postulate a generalisation that most sex-buyers do not use condoms with their spouses and friends and are placing many innocent people, not to mention unborn children, at risk. There is no way to overemphasise the importance of programs such as this.

*It may not be too out of line to postulate conservatively that
80 000 prostitutes
serve an average of 3 clients per day -
more than 87 million sexual contacts per year!!
And this when prostitution is still illegal!
Even worse, when we claim to be a moral people!*

Furthermore

Even at this stage when prostitution is illegal, do we have an abundance of child prostitutes in our country.

*We estimate that at least 2 000 of these girls in Johannesburg are between the ages 14 - 17.
This group is our main target group for early intervention, HIV education and prevention, retrieval, rehabilitation and reintegrating.*

Measurement

Although the full impact of HIV/Aids can never be measured in full, the success of the programme will be measured in terms of the number of prevention opportunities were rendered to the specific target group.

Evaluation of 1999/2000

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|----------|---|
| 500 000+ | Condoms distributed to children and women in prostitution |
| 200 000 | 'Safer' Sexual contacts for the year (?) |
| 1 850 | Opportunities for education on why and how to use condoms as well as to educate about the risks of STD's and HIV/Aids |

6.5.1.3 To establish networking and capacitate girl-child organisations and service

Main processes and activities

The National Alliance for the Girl Child on the Street was founded after The House participated at the Stockholm World Congress against Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children in 1996. NAGCS is not only the result of Stockholm, but also the result of the ACAPA site started by The House early in '96. The Internet makes it possible for NAGCS to provide South African Girl-Child NPO's (non-profit organisations) with some resources, but it brought with it another challenge. NAGCS, Hillbrow Drop-in Centre, Intombi Shelter and Kulula Life Skills Centre web sites receive more than 5 000 visitors per month, mostly from the Americas and Europe, but also from Asia and Africa. The international community has become very aware of the work, which NAGCS is involved with. It seems a paradox, but it is easier to start and facilitate an international organisation than a national one. Not only does NAGCS draw visitors, The House's web site (since '96) has drawn thousands of local and international visitors, and has assisted numerous students with their research and studies.

Measurement

Although the full impact of the web sites can never be measured in full, the success of the programme will be measured in terms of the number of member organisations, and the number of students that were assisted with research and studies.

Evaluation of 1999/2000

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| 12 | The number of organisations that joined NAGS |
| 140 | Students assisted with their research and studies |
| 60 000 | The number of Internet-visitors that learns about child-prostitution, crack addiction, the increase in HIV, and in general the plight of the girl-child and young women trapped in a live of vice. |

6.5.2 EARLY INTERVENTION – RETRIEVAL – Level 2 Services

6.5.2.1 To identify and bring into contact with services rendered at Hillbrow Drop-in Centre and Intombi Shelter, the girl-child in Hillbrow and surrounding areas that is at high risk for involvement in or already in the early stages of any one of the following:

- being a runaway
- having lived on the street
- physical abuse
- sexual abuse and/or sexual exploitation
- drug or alcohol addiction
- child prostitution
- pornographic exploitation
- being infected with sexually transmitted diseases
- being pregnant
- being HIV positive
- having been involved in crime
- being an Aids-orphan
- homelessness
- being a 'throw away'
- being a young mother herself
- being referred by Dept. Welfare or other organizations

Main processes and activities

This programme uses volunteer workers who join us on searches for missing children who have arrived in Hillbrow. These trained volunteers also visit the large number of brothels, sex clubs and escort agencies regularly. The field-worker's task is to befriend the girls, bringing The House and other therapeutic resources to their attention, and to do informal counselling on the streets. The programme utilises 'Daisy' a '73 VW kombi, to assist field workers in their task - 'Daisy' is ice cream pink, with huge eyes, a big smile, flowers, hand prints, etc. painted all over her.

Measurement

The success of the fieldwork can be measured by the number of new girl-children that are motivated to join in one or more of the services rendered at the Drop-in Centre.

Evaluation of 1999/2000

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| 1 567 | Hours of Fieldwork were done by the staff. The main focus of fieldwork is to retrieve girl-children from the streets and to make the Drop-in and Shelter known to the children on the streets. |
| 3 712 | Over 3 712 contacts were made with the children on the streets while doing fieldwork. |
| 147 | Of all the contacts with the children made during fieldwork, 147 of those children decided immediately to go with the staff to the Drop-in. |
| 10 250 | The number of times that a child or young girl came through the doors of the Drop-in. The girls visit us for numerous reasons - for condoms, to chat or seek advice, a sandwich, |

counselling, referral, to spend time in St. Magdalene Church, or ... just to be off the streets and in a safe place where they are treated with love and respect.

6.5.2.2 Meeting basic needs of the girl-child on the streets of Hillbrow

Main processes and activities

At Hillbrow Drop-in Centre the following is provided on a daily basis: first aid, basic meals (bread, peanut butter and coffee/tea) and wash facilities. There are limited overnight facilities available for the girl-child under the age of 19 years.

Measurement

Basic services such as described by this goal, can only be measured by the number of services required.

Evaluation of 1999/2000

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|---------|--|
| 35 320 | Peanut butter and jam sandwiches and many more cups of tea/coffee, were made and served, to the more than 10 250 girls that came to the Drop-in. |
| 2 687 | The number of times that children slept at the Drop-in. We understand this as part of the harm reduction principle - the child makes the choice to sleep in a shelter's discipline and not on the streets. |
| 5 374 | Meals (supper /breakfast) were prepared and served to the girls that slept at the Drop-in. |
| 500 000 | More than 500 000 condoms were given to the girls, either at the Drop-in or during Fieldwork. In the past we have had unpleasant experiences when certain members of the community came to the Drop-in, supposedly for condoms, therefore only the girls are allowed on the premises. |
| 107 | Pairs of shoes were needed. |
| 829 | Pieces of clothing were needed. |
| 5 | Double bunks added. |
| 3 | Additional showers were installed. |
| 6 199 | Times the girls made use of the shower facilities. |
| 513 | Toothbrushes were given to the girls. |
| 2 | Wash troughs were installed for the girls to do their washing. |
| 3 016 | The girls made use of the facility and opportunity to wash their clothing. While the girls are waiting for space on the washing line, or for their clothing to dry, we make use of the opportunity to talk to them about what's happening in their lives, and the possibility to change. |

6.5.2.3 Crisis intervention

Main processes and activities

Individual formal counselling is available on request, which can be about a number of problems such as drug abuse, rape, assault, information and testing of STD's and HIV, sexual abuse, bereavement, changing their lifestyles.

Measurement

All counselling sessions are well documented, including the child's evaluation of the value of the session and the inclusion of an individual care plan and follow-up schedules. The quality of counselling sessions is measured by the supervisor in terms of results of the session and taking into consideration the capacity of the client.

Evaluation of 1999/2000

178 Formal counselling opportunities. We try to maintain a therapeutic environment at the Drop-in; therefore, most interactions with the children are of a therapeutic nature. At times the girls request individual and formal counselling, which can be about a number of problems related to their lives and lifestyles: about their drug abuse, a rape or assault, information and possible testing for STD's or HIV, the trauma of child sexual abuse, how to change their current lifestyles, and many times they are in need of bereavement counselling.

6.5.2.4 Increasing competency of the girl-child on the street

Main processes and activities

Life skills are presented as part of the daily interaction with the children. Of the life skills such as cleaning, preparing meals, teaching about personal hygiene, HIV or STD's, communication, coping skills.

Measurement

Every girl-child has a personal file where a record is kept on her progress, including the life skills courses that she attended. Progress reports serve as measurement of increased competency.

Evaluation of 1999/2000

1 543 Life skills are presented as part of the daily interaction with the children. Of the life skills such as cleaning, preparing meals, teaching personal hygiene, HIV or STD's, communication, coping skills, etc. more than 1 543 children shared in these activities.

6.5.2.5 Emotionally supporting the survivors of sexual abuse youth with HIV, not residing in the Hillbrow-area

Main processes and activities

The following publications were undertaken

- On Top of my Voice: *a newsletter printed by and for the survivors of childhood sexual abuse*

- Y-HIV: a newsletter printed by and for youth with HIV

These projects have the potential to be very successful. However, it is this exact same success potential that hampers getting it off the ground. A team (various teams in fact) of young people and young adults started working on the publications but they needed expert guidance, which we could not afford them at the time. It was later agreed that they club together and publish the Youth Pages on the Internet site until such time as enough finances could be made available to provide them with the leadership and facilities they need.

- To reach as many adolescents, youth and children in the community as possible.
- The sharing of information, views and experiences (sexual abuse, sexuality, HIV/Aids, drug addiction, sexual promiscuity, etc.), will not only be informative, but are intended to be educational and a healing process.

Measurement

Y-HIV is a relatively new addition to the Youth Page, results and/or impacts are difficult to determine. The only way in which measurement can be done is by the readership.

Evaluation of 1999/2000

The Youth Page that carries the On Top of my Voice publication has a readership that exceeds 3000 per month.

6.5.3 CARE AND DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES - THERAPY (Statutory Process) - Level 3 Services

Main processes and activities

Sometimes girl-children under the age of 14 years are retrieved from the streets of Hillbrow. After assessment referral to welfare organisations can be done to start a statutory process. If it is deemed fit, according to the specific child's care plan, she can be admitted in Intombi Shelter as a place of safety where Level 4 services will be rendered.

Measurement

Level 3 service rendering will depend on the welfare organisation's ability to deal with the statutory process. Intombi shelter's services will be described as Level 4 services.

Evaluation for 1999/2000

- 1 Child was referred to welfare organisations for statutory intervention
- 0 Many children are referred to Intombi Shelter from the Department Welfare, but none of these children were accommodated in Intombi shelter as Place of safety

6.5.4 REINTEGRATION - Level 4 Services

6.5.4.1 Residential shelter

Main processes and activities

Intombi Shelter provides in the basic needs of girl-children who committed them to family reintegration or integration to normative society. Provision is also made to provide shelter and basic needs to the girl-child places in terms of a Form4 while the referring social worker deals with the individual care plan.

Measurement

Basic services such as described by this goal, can only be measured by the number of services provided.

Evaluation of 1999/2000

- 6 426 Opportunities to provide 24-hour shelter for the girls in the program. The girls make the decision to enter the reintegration programme to enable us to help them to return home or to find other suitable placement
- 19 723: Meals were prepared by the staff and the children. The children assist with the cooking of all the meals and the washing-up and

cleaning of the kitchen

6.5.4.2 **Family reintegration**

Main processes and activities

The process of family reintegration starts with informal and formal counselling to motivate the girl child to be reintegrated with her family. Once the child has indicated the desire to be integrated with her family or normative society, a full assessment is done to determine her developmental needs as well as reintegration potential. An individual care plan is drawn up including the integration plan linked to time span. The child that has committed herself to reintegration moves from Hillbrow Drop-in Centre to Intombi Shelter where they join a structured programme to prepare them for reintegration, while the caseworker helps them to make contact with family members. Where possible a family conference is set up to provide family support and capacity building. Aftercare networking is established with a social worker in the area where the family resides to assist them. The maximum time allowed for the reintegration process from the Intombi Shelter, is three months to ensure that the child does not become institutionalised.

Measurement

The number of children that has been reunified with their family with the help of services rendered from the Hillbrow Drop-in Centre.

The number of children that has been reunified with their family within a three-month period since they entered Intombi Shelter (unless the individual care plan indicated another course of action)

Evaluation of 1999/2000

- 35 Girls from House Drop-in Centre were referred to other programs or reintegrate with their families.
- 52 Girls from Intombi Shelter were successfully reintegrated with their families.

6.5.4.3 **Integration to normative society**

Main processes and activities

Some of the children are difficult to reintegrate due to a number of factors including the absence of family support. These children would often have to be referred to other programs as the only way of reintegration with normative society. At Intombi shelter these children are assisted to choose a suitable programme, to make application and to be prepared for reintegration. Again a time span of three months is indicated for these action plans to come into working. One of the programs where the difficult to place girl-child can be referred to, is Kulula Life Skills Centre (one of the pilot projects of The House).

Measurement

The number of children reintegrated to normative society within a three-month time frame.

Evaluation of 1999/2000:

- 78 Children from Hillbrow Drop-in Centre were successfully referred to other programs
- 62 Girls from Intombi shelter were referred to the Kulula Life Skills Centre

6.5.4.4 **Increasing competency**

Main processes and activities

Intombi concentrates on the reintegration of the girls, therefore the discipline and routine of studying is very important, making it easier for the girls to later adapt to the 'normative' routine of home and school. Children participated in social or educational outings, as well as cultural events. We endeavour to maintain a therapeutic environment with life skills training underlying in most of our interaction with the children. Opportunities for therapeutic and life skills training were made available to the children - most of the children eagerly participated. Scarves were knitted / crochet by the children during the winter.

Measurement

Every girl-child has a personal file where a record is kept on her progress, including the life skills courses that she attended. Progress reports serve as measurement of increased competency.

Evaluation of 1999/2000

- 7 219 The House Group endeavour to maintain a therapeutic environment with life skills training underlying in most of our interaction with the children.
- 7 219 Opportunities for therapeutic and life skills training were made available to the children - most of the children eagerly participated.
Scarves were knitted / crochet by the children during the winter
- 37 Trips to Kulula Life Skills Centre for either a weekend or holidays.
- 485 Intombi concentrates on the reintegration of the girls, therefore the discipline and routine of studying are very important, making it easier for the girls to later adapt to the 'normative' routine of home and school. During the past year 485 study hours were given for studies.