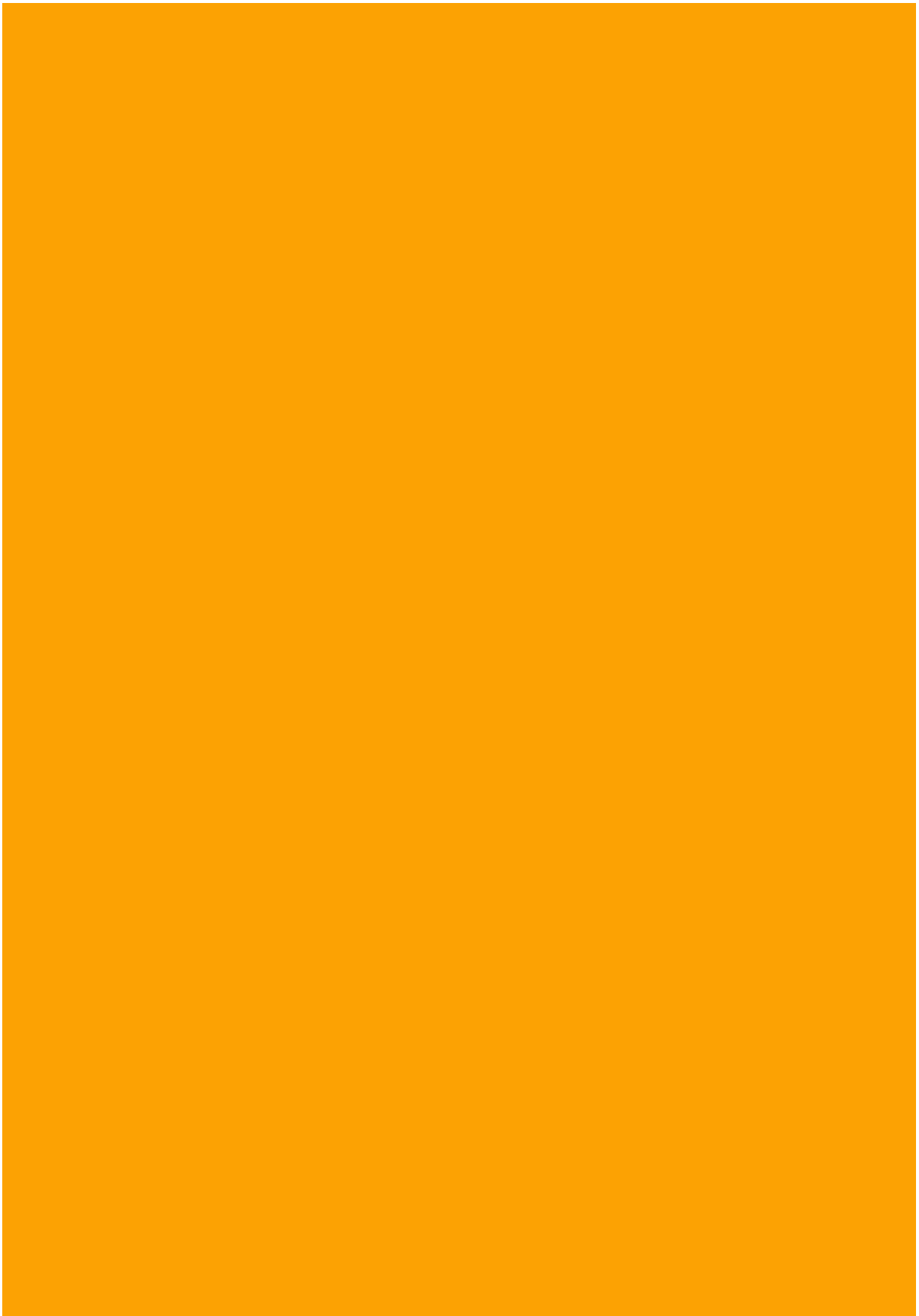


THE NATIONAL SHELTER MOVEMENT OF SOUTH AFRICA



Easy-to-read





The National Shelter Movement of South Africa



Easy-to- read version

This document tells

- Who is National Shelter Movement of South Africa
- What we do
- How to partner with the organisation
- 12 April 2024



Why we are here

No one really wants shelters.

This is because shelters mean something has gone wrong.

Many women are killed in South Africa.

About 25 out of every 100,000 women are killed.

This number is almost 6 times higher than the world average.



The government has made laws.

But rape has only gone down a little.

Since 1996, rape has gone down by only 6%.



Many men say they have raped someone.

28 out of 100 men said they raped a woman.

Almost half of them said they did it more than once.

About 8 out of every 100 men said they raped 10 or more women or girls



In South Africa, men often have more power than women.

This comes from old traditions and unfair systems.



Gender-Based Violence also known as GBV hurts everyone.

It does not only hurt women.

It affects whole families, communities, and society.



To stop Gender-Based Violence, we must see it as a problem for all people.

We need to teach men.

We need to support and empower women.

When men understand Gender-Based Violence, women are safer and stronger.



What shelters do

Shelters give women and children a safe place to stay.

They help with healing, care, and support.

They offer medical help, counselling, and skills training.

Shelters are very important, but they do not always get enough money or support.



Who we are

We are The National Shelter Movement of South Africa (NSMSA).

We are not part of the government.

We support shelters that help women and children.

We work with **96 shelters** across South Africa.

Our head office is in **Johannesburg**.

We have **3 head leaders**:

- Dr Dangor (Main head leader)
- Advocate Bernadine Bachar
- Anisa Moosa (National Co-ordinator)

We have **6 staff** who help with admin work.

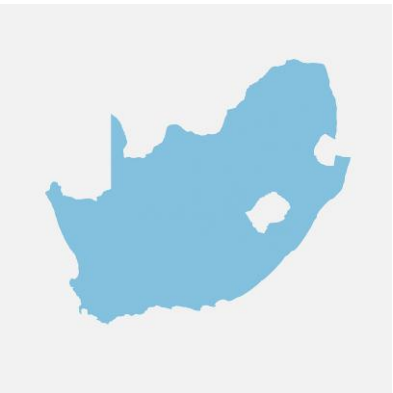
We have **9 people** who represent each province.

We now support **98 shelters** in total.

We started in **2008** at a national meeting of shelters.

Each province chooses a person to speak up for shelters.

These people help us fight gender-based violence.



Our Vision and our Mission



Our vision means what we hope for in the future.

We want a world where women and children are safe and free from Gender- Based violence.

Our mission means the work we do every day to make this happen.

We support shelters and speak out for survivors.

We work with government, other groups, and the community.

We build strong shelters, share knowledge, and do research.



Our goals

Speaking up and asking for change

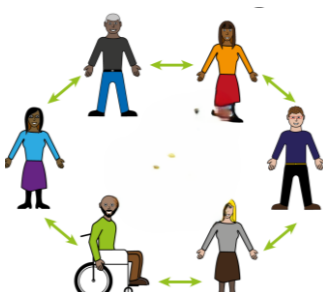
We speak to government to make laws better for survivors.

We ask for more money and support for shelters.

Build Stronger Shelter Networks

We bring shelters in each province together.

Shelters share ideas and help each other.



This makes it easier to respond to problems in the community.



Treat everyone fairly and kindly

We make sure that all shelter services are fair and respectful to everyone.

We understand that people have different needs based on their gender.

We support programs that help survivors feel strong again.

We help people heal after going through trauma.



Help shelter workers learn and grow

We train shelter staff and Gender-Based Violence workers and service providers

We train them to do their jobs better.

We offer training, guidance, and support.

This helps shelters work well across the country.



Help make better laws

We talk to government and lawmakers.

We ask for fair laws that protect survivors.

We help make rules that keep women and children safe.



Create a space for support and sharing

We bring shelter staff and survivors together.
They can share their stories and support each other.
We learn from each other and face problems together.
This helps everyone feel strong and connected.

Learn more through research

We study gender-based violence and femicide.

Femicide means the killing a woman or girl because she is female

We use this research to make better plans and policies.
Our work helps others understand the problems and find better solutions.

What we have done

We worked with researchers to learn about GBV and shelters.

We have worked with **Heinrich Boëll Foundation (HBF)** and researchers like **Lisa Vetten**

Together, we have done big and important research projects.

These projects help us understand Gender-Based Violence better.

Some of these projects are:

- **Working to Enhance State Responsiveness to GBV**
- **Costing the Operations of Domestic Violence Shelters**

These studies show the **real costs** and **challenges** of running shelters for survivors in South Africa.

They help others see how hard and important this work is.

We made important documents to help shelters and survivors

We made a book called 'Letting our Power Glow' to help survivors.

Resources like these are shared with shelters to help them

Helping Shelter workers learn and grow

We help shelter workers learn new skills and grow.

We run training and mentorship programmes.

We help shelter staff and service workers learn new skills.

We support them to grow in their work.

When workers have the right knowledge, they can give better help to people who have survived Gender-Based Violence.





We speak up for women and children affected by violence.
We organise protests and write letters to government leaders.
We take part in big events and world meetings about shelters.

We do this to:

Help more people understand Gender-Based Violence
Get more support for survivors
Make real changes in our country



Helping during emergencies

When the coronavirus started, many shelters faced big problems.
Some had to close or ran out of money.

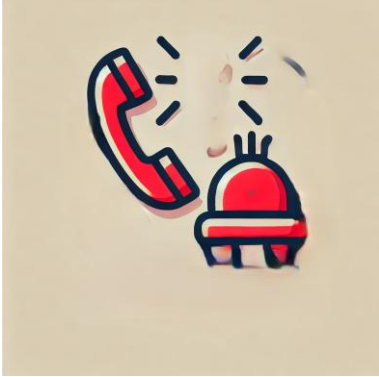
We acted fast.

We raised money and worked with partners.

We gave shelters money for masks, cleaning products, and other safety tools like personal protective equipment.

These safety tools help keep people safe from germs and viruses like the coronavirus.





24 Hour Helpline

We started a helpline to help women and children find support.

We also helped with running costs.

This made sure shelters could stay open and help people in need

We kept shelters open during the coronavirus by raising



What we hope for the future

NSMSA has worked very hard to help women and children who survive Gender-Based Violence

Because of this work:

- More people now understand Gender-Based Violence
- Survivors feel stronger and more supported
- Shelters are better prepared to help

But our work is not finished.

There is still violence in our communities.

We want to live in a world without violence.

We keep speaking up for survivors.

We help change laws and policies to protect people.

We want shelters to be places of **hope and healing**.



As the world changes, we keep learning and growing.
We work with others to find new and better ways to help.

Everything we do is based on:



- **Standing together** -solidarity
- **Helping people feel strong** -empowerment
- **Speaking up for what is right**-advocacy



We will not stop.

We are working for a brighter and safer future

For all women and children in South Africa.



This document was written by the National Shelter Movement of South Africa



National Council of & for Persons with Disabilities

It was made to Easy-to-read format by the National Council of and for Persons with Disabilities.



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