



Addressing gender-based violence in Botswana through strategic partnerships

Taché Foundation & Botswana Gender-Based Violence Prevention and support Centre (BGBVC)



Disclaimers

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Iris Van der Veken, Executive Director & Secretary General of Watch & Jewellery Initiative 2030 (WJI2030) & 100 Women @ Davos' Inclusive Leadership Council Member, for her guidance, continuous encouragement and belief in the importance of this work.

Cover Photo: Taché

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Jacques Taché

Taché CEO

Taché Foundation Director



Photo: Taché

This Case Study is a testament to what focused partnerships can achieve in the fight against Gender-Based Violence (GBV). Through our work with Botswana Gender-Based Violence Prevention and Support Centre (BGBVC), we have witnessed first-hand how strategic support and a shared vision can save lives, uplift survivors and transform entire communities.

GBV is not just a personal tragedy; it is a societal issue that demands collective action. Every step taken to address it - whether through education, support services or advocacy - creates ripples of hope and resilience. Our partnership with BGBVC is a shining example of what is possible when organisations, communities and industries unite to confront this pervasive challenge head-on.

For decades, diamonds have been Botswana's gift to the world; a symbol of strength, beauty and resilience. Now, it is time for our industry to give back in a meaningful way - by advancing gender equality, safety and dignity for all. By leveraging the influence and resources of the diamond industry, we have an unparalleled opportunity to drive change that goes beyond economic contributions to impact lives on a deeply human level. Through unity and determination, we can build a future where every individual lives free from the fear of violence and where communities thrive in safety and equality.

To the potential sponsors and partners reading this: we invite you to join us in this critical mission. Your support can help expand access to vital services, strengthen community interventions and ensure that victims and survivors receive the care and justice they deserve. Together, we can create a legacy of compassion and empowerment that matches the brilliance of our natural resources. Let us transform the sparkling success of Botswana's diamond industry into a beacon of hope and a pillar of strength for victims and survivors of GBV.

Lorato Ruth Moalusi

CEO

Botswana Gender-Based Violence Prevention and Support Centre (BGBVC)



Photo: BGBVC

For years, BGBVC has stood as a sanctuary for victims and survivors of Gender-Based Violence (GBV) in Botswana. GBV continues to be a developmental challenge in Botswana and requires a multi-faceted, multi-sectoral approach to deal with it. Our journey, though challenging, has been sustained by partnerships that understand the critical nature of our work. The collaboration with the Taché Foundation marks a significant milestone in our organisation's history, enabling us to not only maintain our services but expand our reach to those most in need.

Our partnership with the Taché Foundation transcends traditional funding relationships. It represents a shared commitment to creating a Botswana where GBV is not just condemned but actively prevented and addressed. It is truly heart-warming and encouraging to witness the Tache Foundation's determination to be part of the work done by BGBVC to uphold human rights. Their support has enabled us to provide comprehensive care to hundreds of victims and survivors, offering not just physical safety, but hope for a better future.

BGBVC remains steadfast in our mission to prevent GBV and support victims and survivors. Through such strategic partnerships, we continue to strengthen our response to GBV, enhance our prevention efforts and work towards a violence-free Botswana. BGBVC can now worry less about how the services will be offered and focus our efforts on ensuring that no life will be disadvantaged or left behind in service provision.

The stories and impact detailed in this Case Study represent more than statistics - they represent lives saved, families preserved and communities strengthened. These stories are also testimonies to the dedication of the BGBVC staff and volunteers who remain relentless in their work despite many challenges posed by this highly stressful environment. We invite you to join us in this vital work as we continue to build a safer, more equitable Botswana for all.

Iris Van der Veken

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR &
SECRETARY GENERAL

Watch & Jewellery Initiative 2030 (WJI 2030) &
100 Women@Davos Inclusive Leadership Council Member

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JEWELLERY**
INITIATIVE 2030



Every community, every nation and every generation carry a responsibility - to protect, uplift and create a future where safety and dignity are fundamental rights, not privileges. Gender-Based Violence (GBV) is not an isolated issue; it is a crisis that demands unwavering commitment, strategic action and powerful alliances.

This Case Study reflects what can be achieved when compassion meets determination. The Botswana Gender-Based Violence Prevention and Support Centre (BGBVC) is not only about response and recovery; it is about reshaping systems, transforming mind-sets and ensuring that no individual suffers in silence. Through partnerships like the one between BGBVC and the Taché Foundation, we see how industries can stand as allies in the fight against GBV, using their influence to create lasting social impact.

The fight for gender equality is inseparable from the fight to end violence, harassment and abuse against women and girls in all aspects of life, including online spaces. Achieving true equality means ensuring that every woman and girl can live free from fear, with dignity, respect and opportunity. Yet, too many still experience harm at the hands of those closest to them.

Globally, one in every eight women and girls aged 15 to 49 was subjected to sexual or physical violence in the past year. In some countries, this crisis is even more severe. In Kiribati, nearly one in four women experience such violence. In Papua New Guinea, the number rises to almost one in three. Afghanistan sees even higher rates and in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, more than a third of women and girls face this harsh reality ([The Gender Snapshot, 2024](#)).

These numbers are not just statistics - they are a call to action. And change is not the work of a few - it is a collective endeavour. We at the Watch & Jewellery Initiative 2030 believe in collective action. Every supporter, every advocate and every voice raised against GBV strengthens the foundation of a more just society. This Case Study is not just a reflection of what has been done; it is about real action on the ground and an invitation for everyone in our industry to do more.

Matan Tsabari

SUSTAINABILITY MANAGER

Taché



TACHÉ



Being from Botswana and having worked at Taché Diamonds Botswana for a number of years, I experienced first-hand the alarming rise in Gender-Based Violence (GBV) during the COVID-19 lockdowns. Stories of suffering became more frequent and the urgency to act grew stronger. It was during this time that I was introduced to the Botswana Gender-Based Violence Prevention and Support Centre (BGBVC) and the idea of supporting their crucial work first took shape. What started as a simple conversation, a verbal commitment to help however we could, has grown into a deep and long-term partnership - one that continues to grow in reach and impact.

When I later moved to our Head Office in Belgium, part of my role included overseeing the Taché Foundation. This collaboration with BGBVC became our first real, hands-on initiative, marking a shift from intention to action. What began informally has transformed into a meaningful collaboration driven by trust, dedication and a shared mission to combat GBV. Our relationship with Lorato has been a cornerstone of this journey - one built on open communication, mutual respect and a shared passion for making a difference.

This Case Study is not just a report - it is the result of a collaborative effort to bring this story forward, ensuring that the voices of survivors and those working tirelessly behind the scenes are heard. I feel incredibly fortunate to be in a position where I can bridge not only relationships but also impact, connecting resources, people and bring awareness to drive real change.

Now, as we share this story, our mission is clear: to give a voice to those who cannot speak, to raise awareness beyond borders and to strengthen the fight against gender-based violence. This is only the beginning, and I invite you to stand with us in building a future where safety, dignity and equality are a reality for all.



Introduction

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This Case Study examines the impact of the partnership between Botswana Gender-Based Violence Prevention and Support Centre (BGBVC) and the Taché Foundation in addressing Gender-Based Violence (GBV) in Botswana. Since 2021, this collaboration has provided essential services to over 349 victims and survivors demonstrating the power of strategic partnerships in creating lasting change. The study highlights how targeted funding, support, impact measuring and strong relationships have enabled BGBVC to expand its reach and enhance the quality of services provided to GBV victims and survivors.



2,789
cases of rape in 2020

37%

of women have
reported experiencing
GBV in their lifetime



Emotional violence was
the most reported type
of GBV, accounting for
90% of cases, while
sexual violence made up
just 10%.

BACKGROUND

GBV is a painful reality for many in Botswana. For many women, girls and even some men, it is not just an abstract issue – it is a daily struggle. In Botswana, slightly over a third of women have re-reported experiencing GBV in their lifetime, while 30% of men admitted to perpetrating it. This is not just about numbers – it is about lives disrupted, communities fractured and the ripple effects felt across the country.

The COVID-19 pandemic brought this issue to the forefront. Lockdowns meant people were confined to their homes, often with their abusers(i). Shelters that once took in about 9 women a month were suddenly housing 40. Counselling services saw an increase from 50 to 92 cases per month and the numbers reported to the police are staggering – 2,789 cases of rape in 2020 compared to 2,265 the year before. These are just the reported cases; many more likely go unspoken hidden by fear, stigma and a lack of accessible support especially in rural areas.

Botswana had the highest reported incidence of rape in the world, with 92.93 cases per 100,000 people according to the World Population Re-

view 2023(ii). This grim statistic highlights the depth of the crisis, made worse by cultural norms that often silence survivors. GBV is not just a private issue – it is a public health and human rights crisis, leaving victims and survivors to deal with consequences like unwanted pregnancies, sexually transmitted infections and even death at the hands of abusers.

Organisations like BGBVC have been critical in addressing the issue. They do not just provide shelters or counselling; their support extends much further. Victims and survivors can access psychosocial support services, legal assistance, post-GBV clinical care, shelters and reintegration programs. The organisation also engages communities through education and advocacy to challenge the social norms that perpetuate violence.

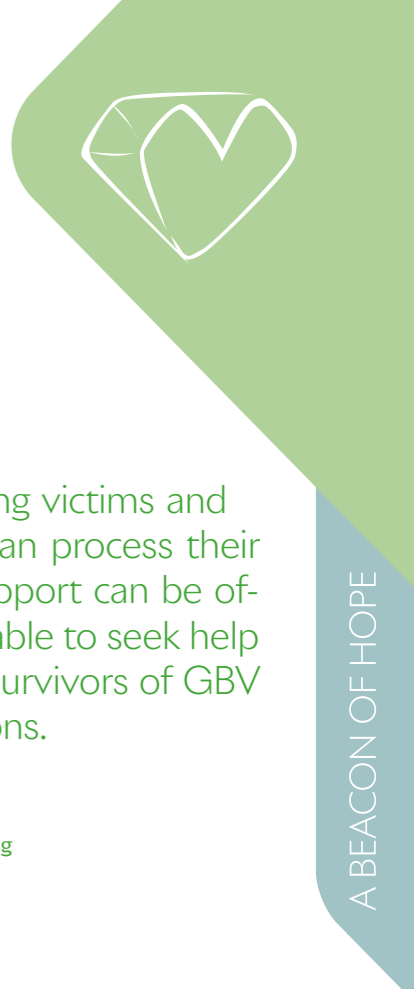
Despite these efforts, the fight is far from over. GBV remains a pressing challenge, threatening not only the safety and well-being of individuals but also the country's broader goals for sustainable development and gender equality. The progress made so far shows that change is possible, but it also underscores the need for continued, collective action.



Photo: Taché

A Beacon of Hope

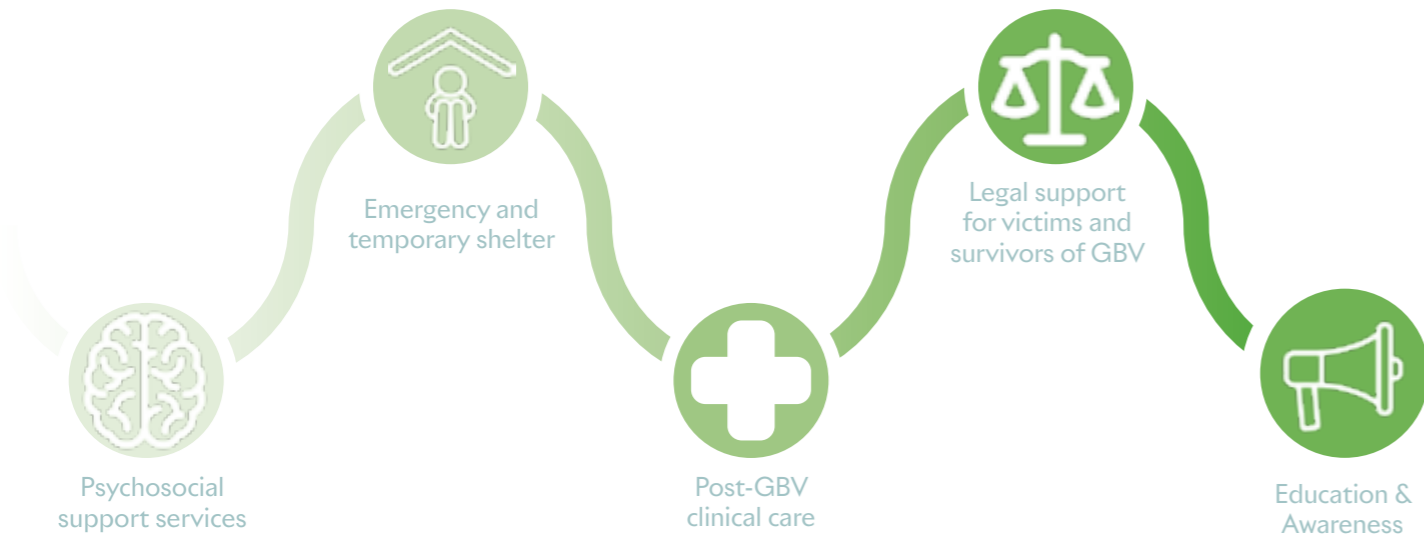
BOTSWANA GENDER BASED VIOLENCE PREVENTION AND SUPPORT CENTRE (BGBVC)



PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT



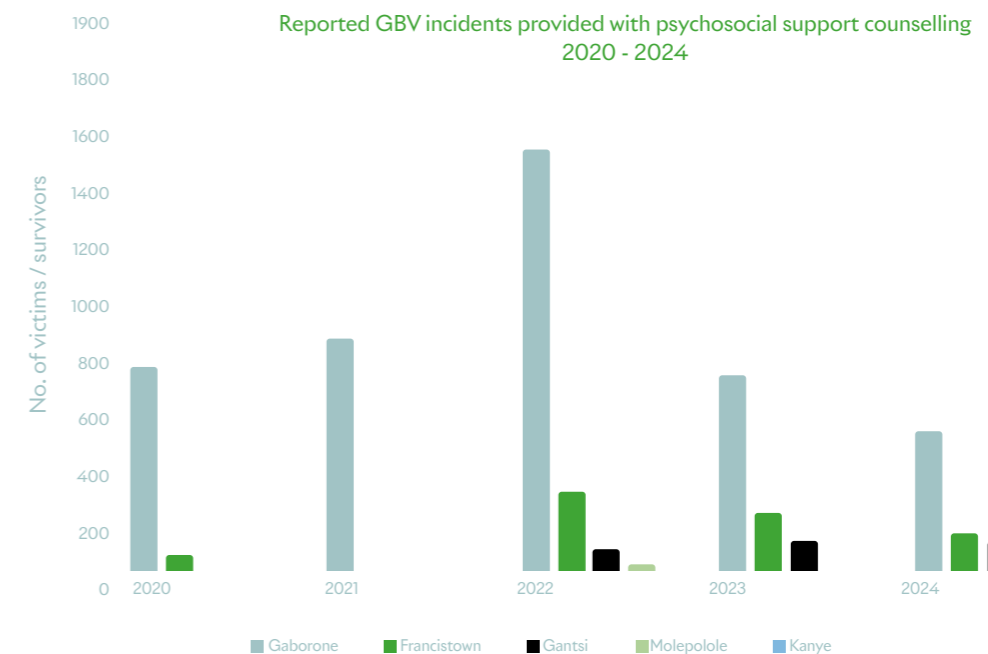
Psychosocial support is often the first and most critical step in helping victims and survivors of GBV. It provides them a medium through which they can process their trauma, rebuild confidence and begin their recovery journey. This support can be offered in person or over the phone, ensuring accessibility for those unable to seek help physically. BGBVC provides free counselling services to victims and survivors of GBV and their families to prevent long-term health and mental complications.



The Botswana Gender-Based Violence Prevention and Support Centre (BGBVC), a non-profit organisation, was established to address GBV in Botswana. Initially founded in the 1970s as the Kagisano Society to support political refugees, its focus shifted in 1998 as refugee numbers declined. Following a needs assessment, the organisation identified GBV as a critical, unmet issue and opened Botswana's first women's shelter. In 2016, the shelter became independent, and the organisation rebranded as BGBVC in 2017.

Over time, BGBVC has steadily expanded its presence across Botswana, encompassing shelters, drop-in centres and a clinic in Gaborone to meet the needs of GBV victims and survivors. However, due to funding constraints, the organisation has had to reduce its footprint in some areas. Despite these challenges, BGBVC continues to operate three drop-in centres offering counselling, medical care and legal support. Emergency and temporary shelters are situated in Francistown and Gaborone and critical services are provided through its dedicated clinic in Gaborone.

BGBVC provides a holistic response to GBV through its core services. These include psychosocial support, emergency and temporary shelters, post-GBV clinical care, legal support and education and awareness programs. Each service addresses a critical need, from immediate safety and health care to long-term recovery and empowerment. Together, they form an interconnected approach that not only helps victims and survivors heal and rebuild their lives but also challenges the societal norms that perpetuate violence.



Between 2020 and 2022, a significant increase in the number of individuals receiving psychosocial support was recorded with an on-going upward trend expected. The counselling services not only addressed immediate trauma but also helped clients cope with on-going mental health challenges - offering much-needed relief and recovery for those affected by violence.

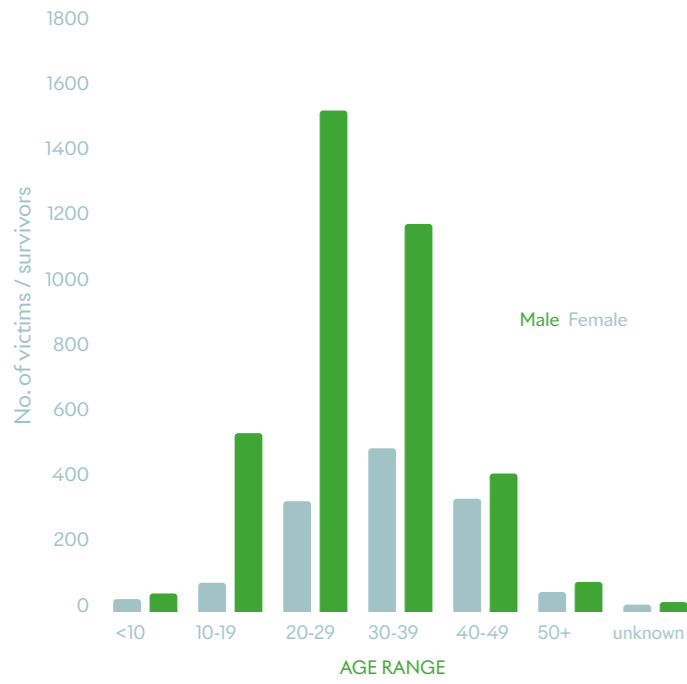
However, after the COVID-19 period, there was a noticeable decline in the numbers. This decline was not indicative of fewer incidents of GBV, but rather a result of funding challenges and staff shortages that affected the organisation's capacity to reach more clients. Despite this, psychosocial support remains a critical and expanding service.

Answering the call of an increasing trend of GBV cases and on the backbone of some drop-in offices having been closed due to funding constraints, BGBCV looked to become creative and effective. In 2023, the organisation introduced the toll-free helpline to facilitate wide access to post-GBV care services.

The impact of this communication mechanism has been extraordinary, providing relief to GBV victims and survivors that simply needed to be heard and guided. Beyond offering a lifeline to those in crisis, the helpline has also bridged the gap left by closed drop-in centres, ensuring that support remains accessible despite financial limitations.



Demographic spread provided with psychosocial support 2020 - 2024



Taking a more in-depth look at the period 2020 - 2024, the age range that mostly sought out BGBVC services were young and adolescent victims and survivors (15-39). As one could expect more females (3,959) accessed services than their male counterparts (1,500). A staggering 5,459 victims and survivors were provided counselling and psychosocial support by BGBVC.

It is notable that a significant number of men also sought psychosocial support. While often overlooked, men can also be victims and survivors of GBV or domestic abuse and may reach out for help to address their trauma. Others may call in after witnessing violence in their homes or communities, seeking guidance on how to process their emotions or intervene safely. Some men, recognising problematic behaviours, may seek counselling to break cycles of violence, address anger management issues or improve their relationships. This highlights the importance of making psychosocial support services widely known, accessible and inclusive to all.



Photo: BGBVC

POST-GBV CLINICAL CARE AND LEGAL SUPPORT



Post-GBV clinical care and legal support are vital in addressing the aftermath of GBV. Clinical care, offered exclusively in Gaborone, provides victims and survivors with medical assistance, including treatment for injuries, STI and HIV/AIDS screening and other health concerns. BGBVC's main office in Gaborone was transformed into a drop-in centre to provide all-in-one GBV and HIV prevention, care and support services. A similar setup has been created in Francistown and Ghanzi albeit at much smaller scales to provide general support services rather than medical assistance.

The screening aspect of post-GBV care is incredibly important to avoid long-term health complications and ensure survivors can safely and confidently integrate back into society. More-over, once a victim or survivor escapes their perpetrator, they are still faced with another complicated reality – how do I save my family and live through this period with minimum effect to my livelihood?

BGBVC ensures the support given to victims and survivors is holistic and in 2024, a total of 138 victims and survivors who were presented with other issues other than GBV such as bereavement, child custody issues and work-related issues were helped.

Legal assistance helps victims and survivors navigate the justice system, ensuring their rights are protected and enabling them to seek justice against perpetrators. BGBVC utilises its offices across various districts to facilitate these services but reduced funding and staffing since COVID-19 have limited the organisation's ability to maintain its reach - particularly outside of Gaborone.

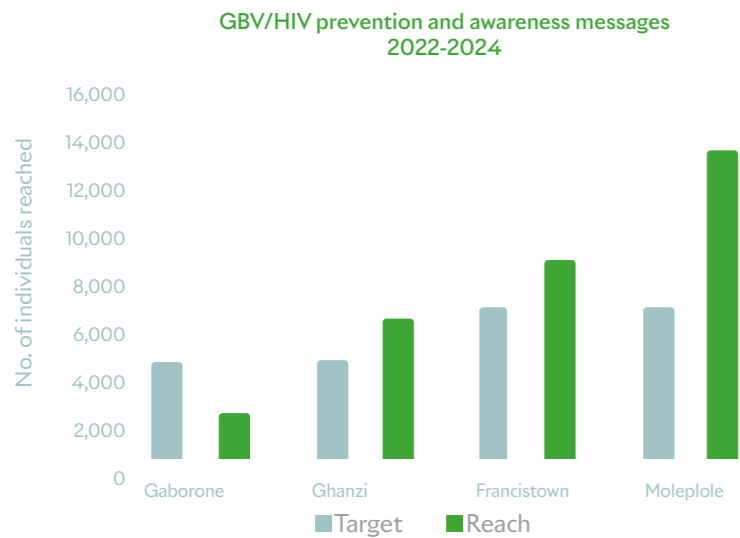
Gaborone STI screening cascade (2022 - 2024)



250

victims and survivors were provided with legal counsel, further supporting their journey toward justice and healing.

EDUCATION & AWARENESS



Since 2020, at least 30,000 people have been provided with GBV prevention and awareness messages.

Every year, BGBVC sets targets for each of its core services, including raising awareness across different districts in Botswana communities on the issues of GBV and HIV. While BGBVC exceeded most set targets on average, Gaborone reached only 45% of its target audience as it prioritised the HIV program over community mobilisation activities such as school GBV awareness campaigns. Francistown and Ghanzi met their targets primarily through the school-based program called 'Connect with Respect', which targeted primary and secondary schools. These two sites also conducted regular community and door-to-door activities focused on disseminating GBV messages and creating demand for GBV response services. Meanwhile, Molepolole focused on in-school GBV awareness sessions workplace presentations, and training community gatekeepers.

GBV often stems from deeply rooted gender inequalities, societal norms and power imbalances that perpetuate discrimination and control over marginalized groups - particularly women and girls. Whilst the biggest and most pressing elements in the fight against GBV are to aid victims and survivors, the long-term and sustainable solution to eradicating GBV is to educate and create awareness with individuals and in communities. Courageous open conversations and mediums through which dialogue is exchanged are essential to empowering communities to change harmful behaviours and attitudes.

Community education involves building strong partnerships with key stakeholders who are directly involved in GBV prevention and response. Collaboration with companies has proven impactful, with their employees participating in walks and events during the 16 Days of Activism campaign to help spread awareness. BGBVC has also strengthened its relationships with Botswana Police Services and the Department of Social and Child Protection Services, facilitating easier referrals and ensuring ongoing care for victims and survivors.



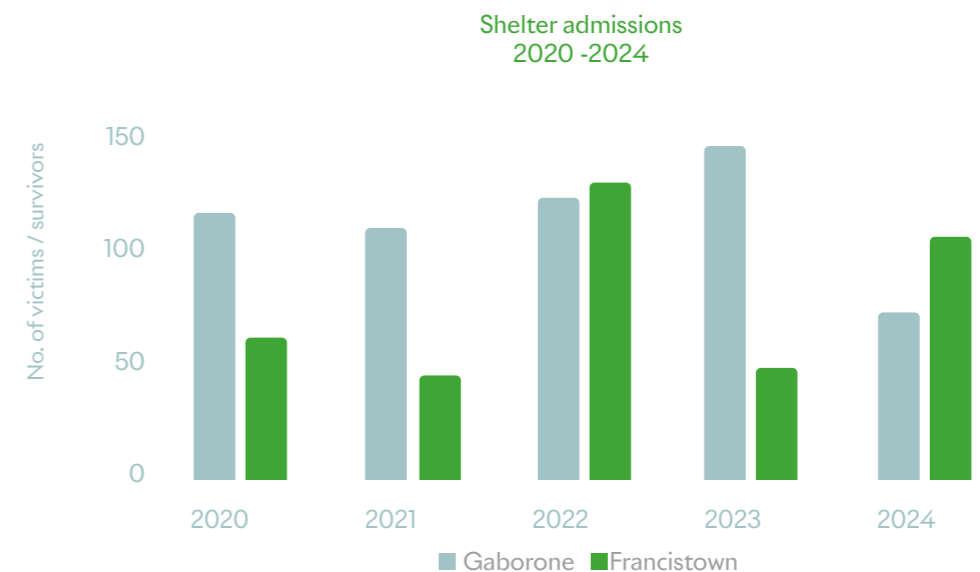
Photo: BGBVC

The fight against GBV must focus on prevention through education and outreach. By hosting community forums in high-risk areas, engaging organisations during wellness days or leveraging campaigns like the 16 Days of Activism, awareness efforts can empower individuals and create self-reliant communities that reject GBV and embrace equality.

SHELTER PROGRAM



BGBVC is the largest of only two Non-Governmental Organisations (NGO) providing shelter services in Botswana, offering a vital lifeline to survivors of GBV. To determine eligibility for shelter services, the organisation follows its Standard Operating Procedures, using a well-defined set of criteria to assess the severity of each case. This includes instances of grievous harm, severe physical violence, threats to kill, attempted murder and sexual violence particularly involving children. Those who are deemed to be in imminent danger or are at risk of fatal harm are immediately provided with free and safe emergency or temporary shelter.



The shelters are managed by dedicated shelter assistants who ensure the daily welfare and safety of victims and survivors during their stay. Those sheltered receive ongoing counselling, along with essential services such as legal assistance and access to healthcare. A care plan is developed and implemented with each victim and survivor while at the shelter. While at the shelter, they are supported with transportation and accompanied to access external services including medical care, legal support and police assistance. Beyond counselling, they also engage in recreational activities, providing a sense of normalcy and helping to rebuild their confidence and well-being.

BGBVC initially operated a single shelter in Gaborone. After re-branding in 2017, and as demand grew, the organisation sought to increase capacity. From 2017 to 2019, shelter admissions increased from 83 to 155, prompting the need for more shelters. Through the support of private donors who offered their homes

as rental properties, BGBVC was able to expand its operations in the following years. During the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020 and 2021, the number of admissions spiked significantly, highlighting the increased need for shelter services during this crisis, leading to the opening of a shelter in Francistown.

The shortage of shelter facilities is especially stark when compared to the number of victims and survivors seeking psychosocial support. In the most recent year alone (2024), over 1,000 individuals reached out for psychosocial services, far exceeding the capacity of existing shelters to accommodate those requiring shelter services. This discrepancy underscores a critical challenge: while psychosocial support can reach many more victims and survivors, the physical infrastructure to house victims and survivors remains limited, leaving a significant number without access to shelter.



Photo: Taché

A Partner in the Fight

COLLABORATION



The Taché Foundation, established in 2021, is driven by a governance model that is centered around fostering strong bonds with NGOs through constant communication and transparency. Through our program, Track-2Impact, the Foundation leverages Taché's global presence to forge direct connections with local communities and to create measurable and sustainable positive change in the regions where we operate.



The Foundation's approach involves identifying critical areas of concern within specific countries and developing targeted solutions. In Botswana, GBV emerged as a pressing issue with worsening trends. Despite the alarming statistics, GBV often remained underdiscussed due to cultural norms and attitudes, fear of speaking out and societal normalization.

The COVID-19 pandemic significantly exacerbated these challenges. When Botswana was under a State of Emergency, mandatory lockdowns confined people to their homes, increasing domestic tensions and the risk of GBV incidents. Social distancing requirements

forced BGBVC's shelters to operate at half capacity precisely when demand was surging. Many victims and survivors found them-selves trapped with their abusers, with limited options for safe refuge. While BGBVC attempted to expand their shelter network during this crisis, the rapid expansion strained their financial resources, leading to the subsequent closure of some facilities across the country. It was during this critical period, as GBV reached crisis levels in Botswana, that the Taché Foundation initiated its partnership with BGBVC.

"As someone born and raised in Botswana, I feel incredibly humbled to now be in a position to give back to the community. Our partnership with Lorato at BGBVC, who is such an inspirational and strong woman, began as a simple conversation about doing our best to help. Four years later, it has blossomed into a meaningful collaboration that has truly made an impact. In my experience, open communication grounded in good intentions has been the cornerstone of our success."

Mr Matan Tsabari, Sustainability Manager, Taché

A PARTNER IN THE FIGHT

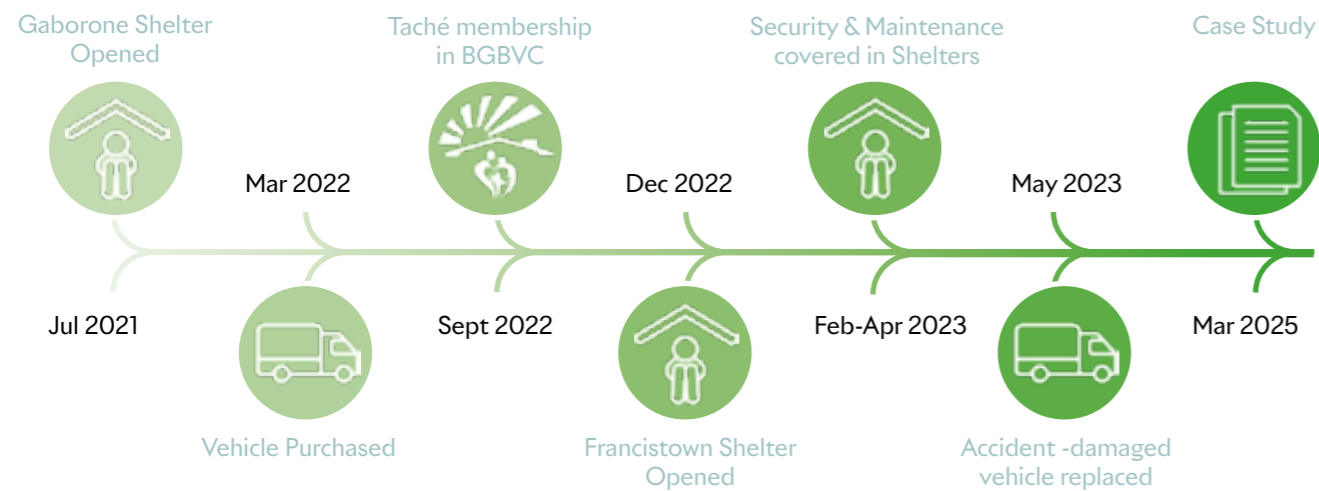
COLLABORATION



Guided by our principle of starting small, building relationships and growing together - support began with modest contributions and a commitment to open and honest communication. Over time, this trust and collaboration enabled us to go beyond formal budgetary commitments, providing additional contributions on an ad-hoc basis whenever needs arose. It quickly became evident that this flexible and relationship-driven model had become key to creating a sustainable relationship and impact.



Taché Foundation Involvement Timeline



2021: The first pivotal step in supporting GBV victims and survivors was taken by establishing the Taché Foundation's first shelter in Gaborone. While it may not completely eliminate GBV, addressing the urgent need for increased shelter capacity was a critical first step. The support extends to covering rental fees, furnishings, overhead costs, utilities, groceries, toiletries and transportation costs.

2022: A vehicle was procured for BGBVC to address delays in emergency response. The vehicle was also used to address medical emergencies and ensure victims and survivors accessed essential services like legal aid, social services and court appearances promptly. In 2022, the existing shelter in Francistown faced closure due to operational costs. Following a phone call, the Taché Foundation stepped in to address operational cost gap and later supported the establishment of another shelter.

2023: To ensure the ongoing safety and functionality of the shelters, the Taché Foundation expanded its support by covering additional operational costs, including security services and maintenance. When the initially provided vehicle was damaged in an accident, the Foundation stepped in and replaced it to maintain uninterrupted transportation services.

2024: The Taché Foundation initiated the creation of a comprehensive Case Study, in close collaboration with the BGBVC team, to shed light on GBV in Botswana and the impact of the Taché Foundation-BGBVC partnership. The aim is to share insights and inspire greater involvement from stakeholders.

SHELTER IMPACTS



Shelter admissions by funding source 2021-2024



43%

Between 2021 to 2024, the Taché Foundation provided a safe haven to 349 individuals, representing 43% of all shelter admissions.



Photo: Taché

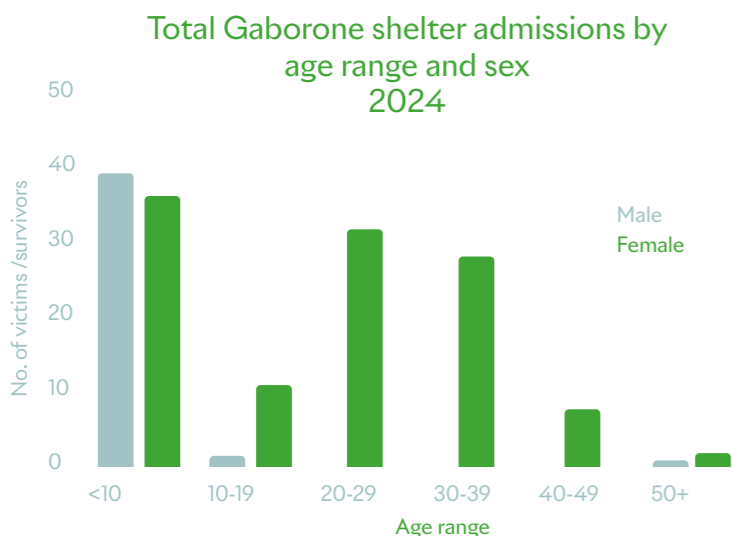
Once a survivor of GBV is identified as being in imminent danger, they are admitted into one of the shelters. During their stay, which typically lasts up to three months, survivors receive essential services including counselling, legal support and assistance with reintegrating into society. They also participate in various rehabilitation activities designed to empower them and support their recovery.

A notable trend emerged between 2021 and 2024 when comparing shelters in Gaborone and Francistown that received Taché Foundation funding versus those that did not. Shelters supported by the Taché Foundation demonstrated steady growth in survivor support, nearly doubling their capacity from 56 victims and survivors in 2021 to 109 in 2023. In contrast, shelters without Taché Foundation funding experienced fluctuating admission rates, serving 161 victims and survivors in 2022 before declining to 105 in 2024.

Though the Taché Foundation's support increased shelter capacity, substantial gaps remain leaving many without the help they need. This highlights the urgent need for sustained funding to ensure shelters can meet the growing demand. Without consistent financial support, the ability to provide safe housing and essential services remains limited despite the growing demand.



To gain deeper insight into the demographics of individuals seeking refuge in shelters, we focus on data specifically from Gaborone, the capital city of Botswana. As the country's central hub for essential services and resources, Gaborone plays a crucial role in providing support to those in need.



Results show a significant number of females across all age groups, which represents the unfortunate and difficult reality that women make up the majority of GBV victims and survivors. A striking detail is the large number of children under 10 years old – made up of 39 males and 37 females - as they often flee along-side their mothers. Consequently, as children are the most vulnerable, it is essential to keep them engaged and stimulated. Whether through games, creative activities or learning opportunities, these efforts made in the shelters provide a sense of normalcy and support their development during such challenging times.

District	Shelter	Admission Capacity
Francistown	Non-Taché	8
	Taché Foundation	16
Gaborone	Non-Taché	26
	Taché Foundation	8

On-site counsellors play a vital role not only in providing a sense of safety but also in supporting victims and survivors through their recovery journeys. They are present throughout offering emotional support, monitoring their progress and ensuring their overall well-being. One-on-one counselling sessions and accompaniment for health services are the most frequent services offered, as they address immediate and pressing needs. These interventions often happen right away to stabilise survivors physically and emotionally. Other services, such as facilitating social or legal services, are more complex and provided on a case-by-case basis depending on individual circumstances.

“The impact of the support we receive from Taché Foundation is that we do not have to worry about resources. Their support enables us to concern ourselves with service provision and saving lives of the women and children in eminent danger due to gender-based violence. The support has also enabled us to expand the much-needed services. Without Taché, we would most probably still be running only one shelter in Gaborone. We greatly appreciate their support in ensuring that lives are being saved and healed.”

Ms Lorato Moalusi, Chief Executive Officer, BGBVC



While Taché Foundation’s engagement with BGBVC was primarily focused on support and creating meaningful impact within the community, an unexpected outcome has been the hugely positive effect it has had on Taché’s employees. Through active participation in various initiatives and access to GBV awareness programs, employees at have become more informed about GBV and where to seek help – not only for themselves but potentially for friends and relatives too.

In December 2023, Taché employees participated in BGBVC’s 16 Days of Activism Walk, which raised awareness on GBV and encouraged solidarity with victims and survivors. This initiative sparked conversations among employees and addressed barriers around GBV. Employees enjoyed being part of this cause and their enthusiasm created a growing sense of purpose and unity within the workplace.



Photo: BGBVC

“I now know where victims and survivors can be assisted and that my job is to share this information.”

Gaone Magetse, Employee, Taché

In October 2024, BGBVC conducted a mobile outreach at Taché, creating a safe space for employees to access essential services including counselling, clinical and support. The event reached 94 employees—65 women and 29 men—through awareness sessions and one-on-one counselling. A total of 55 employees were screened for GBV, 12 cases were identified and received immediate counselling.



Photo: Taché



Our primary goal through this Case Study is to raise awareness and encourage increased involvement in the areas where BGBVC needs it most. With more partners on board, we can create an even greater impact, providing the necessary resources to help survivors and drive meaningful change in the fight against GBV.

BGBVC key focus areas where partners can make a significant impact.

	Focus Area	Challenge	Goal	Impact
	Psychosocial Support & Counselling	The increasing mental health needs of GBV victims and survivors.	To invest in teletherapy and mobile GBV centres.	Reduced mental health complications and improved resilience.
	Shelter Expansion	Insufficient shelters for GBV victims and survivors.	To establish shelters in all strategic locations/districts.	Increased number of safe shelters for victims and survivors across Botswana.
	Clinical Services	Lack of public-run GBV centres.	To expand Francistown and Ghanzi sites into fully operational one-stop GBV care centres.	Comprehensive post-GBV care for victims and survivors in high GBV areas.
	Education & Awareness	High rates of femicide and GBV cases despite existing interventions.	Digital interventions, school-based programs and capacitation of community leaders.	Reduced GBV cases in communities.

Ending GBV is a long-term commitment that requires substantial resources and collective action. This involves not only providing immediate support to victims and survivors but also educating communities, while strengthening the systems in place to protect and empower those affected. It demands a sustained effort, building an infrastructure of services, advocacy and awareness, all of which depend on strong, well-supported organisations like BGBVC.

BGBVC is the only organisation in Botswana offering a comprehensive, one-stop-shop model for victims and survivors of GBV. By bringing together essential services such as counselling, legal assistance, shelter and medical care in a safe, stigma-free environment, this holistic approach has proven to be highly effective and is widely recognised by stakeholders. However, to continue providing and expanding these critical services, BGBVC faces urgent needs for necessary tools and resources.



Photo: Taché



Photo: Taché

Botswana continues to grapple with significant challenges in supporting victims and survivors of GBV, particularly as service demands increase against a backdrop of resource constraints. Our partnership with BGBVC has demonstrated measurable impact, illustrating how strategic collaboration can effectively address GBV in Botswana. While our partnership has achieved meaningful results, expanded support from donors and stakeholders remains vital to sustain and enhance these crucial services for victims and survivors.

END NOTES

- i UNFPA Botswana, 2020, 'Ensuring rights and choices for all amidst a global pandemic: Botswana 2020 Annual Report', viewed 27 January 2025, from https://botswana.unfpa.org/sites/default/files/pub-pdf/2445-unfpa-botswana_ar_0.pdf.
- ii Priscilla Rabasimane, 2020, 'Much more needs to be done in ending gender based violence in Botswana:UNFPA Botswana' viewed 27 January 2025, from <https://botswana.unfpa.org/en/news/much-more-needs-be-done-ending-gender-based-violence-botswana>



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