



# Spotlighting NAMIBIA

## Wakambadhala Kusindi Youth Group (WAKUYG): Community-Led SRHR and GBV Advocacy in Windhoek's Informal Settlements

Between May and October 2025, Wakambadhala Kusindi Youth Group (WAKUYG) implemented community-based initiatives to promote gender equality, SRHR, and GBV prevention in Windhoek's informal settlements. Activities included a Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE) workshop reaching 25 adolescent girls and young women (AGYW) in Kabila, and focus group discussions conducted in partnership with the Ministry of Gender Equality and Child Welfare, engaging both young women and men on SRHR and GBV prevention.

WAKUYG also convened a community engagement meeting on maintenance grants, psychosocial support, and GBV, alongside

a site visit by the Ministry of Health and Social Services to assess eligibility for welfare registration. Visits by the Her Voice Fund Country Lead and Ambassador highlighted tangible outcomes, including beneficiaries securing legal documentation and pursuing tertiary education.

Beyond community-level action, WAKUYG amplified youth voices through participation in YouthQuake 2025 and engagement in Southern African Work Camps Cooperation (SAWC) meetings to strengthen regional collaboration. The implementation period concluded with the Miss Summer Beauty Pageant in Havana Extension 2, celebrating confidence, diversity, and young women's leadership.



# Lidar Community Foundation: Linking SRHR Advocacy, Economic Empowerment, and Youth Leadership

Lidar Community Foundation strengthened AGYW leadership through education, advocacy, and systems engagement. The organisation delivered six workshops and two follow-up sessions, reaching AGYW and young mothers with information on CSE, HIV prevention, SRHR, and GBV services. In partnership with the #BeFree Youth Campus, Lidar supported 20 AGYW to obtain membership cards, expanding access to youth-friendly services, with an additional 40 applications in progress.

Lidar achieved key advocacy milestones, including inclusion in the City of Windhoek's Economic Empowerment and Strengthening Programmes and representation in national decision-making bodies such as NANASO and the Global Fund Country Coordinating Mechanism (CCM). The foundation also joined the Khomas Region School Health Taskforce, enabling young mothers to serve as peer educators on teenage pregnancy prevention.

To strengthen regional cooperation, Lidar mentored two emerging youth leaders and hosted the 2nd Southern African Work Camps Cooperation (SAWC) Technical Meeting in Windhoek (18–21 September 2025), convening 30 regional delegates. The meeting also launched a youth-led recycling initiative, reinforcing sustainability and leadership.



**Windhoek**



# Young Women Empowerment Network (YWEN): Supporting Young Women and Youth Living with HIV through Peer Leadership and Faith-Based Engagement

The Young Women Empowerment Network (YWEN) continues to create safe spaces for young women and youth living with HIV to share experiences, access treatment literacy, and address challenges related to disclosure, adherence, and stigma. Through peer-led dialogues, YWEN promotes resilience, rights awareness, and collective advocacy.

In partnership with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Namibia (ELCIN), YWEN advanced the Undetectable = Untransmittable (U=U) campaign,

engaging church leaders as allies to reduce HIV-related stigma and promote inclusive, supportive congregations.

YWEN also convened multi-stakeholder dialogues involving faith leaders, ministries, NGOs, and community advocates to strengthen collaboration on GBV prevention and improved SRHR access. These engagements continue to challenge harmful norms and position young women and youth living with HIV as leaders in advocacy spaces.



# Kharas Arts/Dance Academy (KADA): Using Creative Arts to Advance SRHR and Gender Equality in Rural Namibia

Kharas Arts/Dance Academy (KADA) strengthened youth leadership in the //Kharas Region through creative education and advocacy. The organisation trained 23 youth, including 15 young women, five LGBTQ+ individuals, and three young men, as Trainers of Trainers on value-based SRHR. Participants from seven rural communities gained skills to facilitate community dialogue and advocate for rights-based approaches to health and gender equality.

KADA also established Girls' Clubs and delivered sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) training in four communities, with support from traditional leaders and village councils. By using dance, music, and drama, KADA continues to make SRHR education accessible, engaging, and culturally relevant for adolescent girls and young women in southern Namibia.