

# 2025 HIGHLIGHTS

#SupportShelters  
#EndGBVF



National  
Shelter  
Movement of  
South Africa

**NSMSA** is a gender justice NGO supporting over 100 GBV shelters nationwide through capacity building, fundraising and advocacy. With the President declaring **GBV & femicide a national disaster**, our work is more vital than ever. In 2025, we continued to highlight the critical role of shelters, exposed funding challenges, condemned harmful practices like case withdrawals, and advanced calls for systemic reform through the 5th GBV Shelter Indaba. We also called for stronger African representation on global GBV platforms. Catch up on our highlights here. Together, we can turn the tide against GBV.



FOLLOW US





**CALL US**

- Confidential support
- Escape abuse
- Find safe shelter
- Access emotional & legal assistance



**NATIONAL GBV  
SHELTER HELPLINE**  
24 hours | 7 days a week

**CALL TOLLFREE**  
**0800 001 005**

**SMS / WHATSAPP**  
**082 057 8600**  
**082 058 2215**  
**072 230 7147**

Email: [infohelpline@nationalsm.org.za](mailto:infohelpline@nationalsm.org.za)

## DON'T SUFFER IN SILENCE

As GBV risks rise this festive season, NSMSA urges survivors to stay safe by using its 24/7 National GBV Shelter Helpline for immediate, confidential access to safe accommodation and support.



**Scan to support  
the Helpline**

**BackaBuddy<sup>®</sup>**

**[Read about our fundraising  
campaign here...](#)**

## WHO IS NSMSA AND HOW TO PARTNER WITH US

Find out more about the work we do with shelters - critical GBV disruptors - across the country. There are many ways to partner with NSMSA. **Be part of the solution** - Enquire NOW!

## SHELTER INDABA

The 5th Annual GBV Shelter Indaba reinforced that shelters are critical disruptors of GBVF, but need more support. The NSMSA is driving policy change, to build a stronger national response to GBVF.



## #5WCWS

Following the 5th World Conference of Women's Shelters, the NSMSA has issued a strong call for greater inclusion and representation of African and Global South voices in international platforms addressing gender-based violence (GBV).

Download the **Safety Plan** – for helpful tips on staying safe while enduring an abusive relationship, or when planning to leave, and after leaving...



## RESOURCES TO DOWNLOAD

### Letting Our Power Glow

- This book is full of activities to build women's power.

**Turning the Tide:** Guidelines For Caring And Effective Shelters For Survivors of GBV.

**FOR HELP, CALL THE NATIONAL GBV SHELTER HELPLINE - 0800 001 005**

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## "I WALKED OUT ALIVE – SO CAN YOU"

**SURVIVOR STORY**

During Youth Month, we shared the story of \*Ayanda, a young mother who has turned her personal trauma into a mission of awareness and hope.



## 16 DAYS

NSMSA Board Member, Greer Schoeman says ending GBV needs more than words: government must act urgently with proper funding for shelters.

## WITHDRAWAL OF GBV CASES

During Women's Month, the NSMSA condemned the contemptable ongoing practice, by some SAPS officers, of encouraging or permitting the withdrawal of GBV cases.



## SAPS FEMICIDE

We also highlighted urgent gaps in how domestic violence cases – involving law enforcement officers – are handled, calling for systemic reform to prevent intimate partner killings, following the murder-suicide involving a senior police officer.

## INTERGENERATIONAL SEXUAL RELATIONSHIPS & GBV

Shocking evidence reveals that economic hardship, gender inequality and social media trends are driving blesser/blessee relationships between older men and young women and girls in South Africa.



## BUDGET AND GBV

Shelter Movement Responds To Budget Speech: Funding Shortfalls Still Threaten GBVF Response



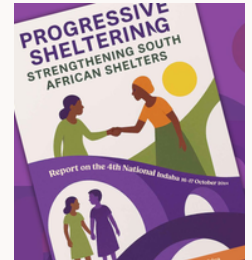
Shelters in Crisis: VAT Increase could leave GBV victims without refuge.



## OMOTOSO AQUITTED

This outcome was a slap in the face to survivors of GBV and a devastating betrayal of every victim who has come forward seeking justice.

## REPORTS TO DOWNLOAD



Annual Report (2024) - While strides have been made, there are still too many gaps

Indaba Report (2024) - From the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Shelter Indaba.

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