

RRF PROJECT NEWSLETTER



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Brief Background about the RRF Project

The Rapid Response Fund (RRF) was a three months project titled "Provision of emergency Gender Based Violence (GBV) and Psychosocial support services to the IPC 4 affected population in Twic County, Warrap State" under the protection sector and psychosocial support services GBV prevention and response' subsector and the project was funded by the USAID through International Organisation for Migration (IOM) was successfully implemented by Women for Change (WFC), the project was aimed at providing emergency Gender Based Violence (GBV) and Psychosocial support services to the IPC 4 affected population to increase access to comprehensive and well-coordinated GBV response services to 7200 (1200 HHs) displaced persons and host communities in Twic County to prevent and reduce the risk of GBV and sexual exploitation abuses (SEA) through awareness raising campaigns and provision of psychosocial support services. WFC is grateful to the **GBV sub cluster** through **IRC** and **UNFPA** for the support in providing WFC with the menstrual hygiene kits to see that this project was a success.

WFC Experience and way to success

Women for change (WFC) worked in Kuajok for a period of one year, Co leading the GBV Sub Cluster in the coordination role implementing a project titled "**Strengthening GBV Coordination, response and mitigation in Warrap state**" together with TOCH South Sudan and the Ministry of Gender, Child, and social welfare aimed at conducting awareness on gender-based violence, Case management, updating the GBV referral pathways, service mapping in the community and WFC has five staff on ground charged with the project implementation in the specified location, this was made with the support from **TROCAIRE** in partnership with **CAFOD**,



Community participation

WFC project staff held one project inception and exit meetings with different stakeholders in Twic county. WFC engaged the Relief and Rehabilitation Commission Coordinator and Deputy Coordinator, County Executive Director, Gender focal persons to share information regarding the project including the activities, project duration, level of community involvement and seeking community views and sustainability of the project after the exit of Women for change (WFC).

Women and girls friendly spaces (WGFS)

On daily basis in the Women and Girls' friendly space features several activities concurrently including psychosocial support, livelihood skills trainings meant for a specific period however the drama sessions and sports brought a huge turn up of the population to the friendly space which brought about healing from stress as many people testified to WFC Monitoring team.

The songs and drama groups prepared messages on existing GBV, child and forced marriages and its dangerous effects to the lives of children and the entire community, after the sessions, the group leaders interpret the message in the local language, highlighting the lessons in every song and drama that is in Nyindeng Ayuel, Turalei and Mayen Abun IDP's camps and Host Communities.





HUMAN INTEREST STORY.....!

MAdhar Macham, a representative of the people with disabilities in Mayen Abun IDP camp in Twic county of Warrap state. She been living with physical impairment since she was a child, and she faced many challenges as a result. "I have been ignored, neglected, and lacked support. At some point, I got stressed as a result of lack of support, idleness, unemployment, and I thought I was a mistake because of my impairment" she exclaims However, my life changed when Women for Change came to our camp. They conducted an awareness on gender-based violence (GBV), which enabled me to gain knowledge from the GBV sessions and how to protect myself. They also provided psychosocial support, which helped me to cope with the stress and anxiety I was feeling.

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In addition, they provided a wheelchair for me, which has eased my movement around the camp and made me feel more independent" she added. As a result of Women for Change's work, I am now able to participate fully in my community activities. ".... I can now go to the market, visit my friends, and even attend church by myself...." Added Mrs Adar. I am also able to help out with my community's work. I feel like I am finally part of the community, and I am grateful for Women for Change's support. However, there is still more work to be done. There are many people living with disabilities in Mayen Abun IDP camp who still need support. We need more wheelchairs, white canes for the visual Impaired and we need more activities that will help us to participate fully in our community.!(this story was translated)



+211911089679 info@wfcsud.org Gudele Block 7-off 7eleven Supermarket



"I have seen first-hand the challenges that women and girls face in my community, before Women for Change came to the camp, women and girls were often isolated and vulnerable to gender-based violence (GBV) and menstrual shame" says Ms. Ajok Deng Chol, a women leader in Mayen Abun IDP camp. We had no access to basic necessities like slippers, torches, menstrual towels, or clothes. This made it difficult for them to move around safely at night, and it also made them feel ashamed and isolated.

"The darkness at the camp made it difficult for us to move around safely at night, and the lack of menstrual towels also made us feel ashamed and isolated when menstruating," said the woman leader. "We were afraid to speak out about our needs, and we felt like we had nowhere to turn to." She continued

Women for Change has provided women and girls with the essential menstrual necessities they needed to live safely and comfortably. They have also trained women and girls on GBV prevention and response. This has helped to reduce menstrual shame and number of GBV cases in the community, and it has also given women and girls the confidence to speak out against violence.

Women for Change has given us a voice," said Ms. Ajok Deng Chol. "They have taught us that we are not alone, and that we have the right to be safe and respected. We are grateful for their work, and we urge donors to support them so that they can continue to help more people." she said

In addition to providing essential necessities and training sessions, Women for Change has also constructed a women and girls friendly space (WGFS) in the camp. This center is a safe space for women and girls to come, discuss their issues to find solutions. They also receive psychosocial support, learn new skills to earn a living.

The WGFS has surely been a game-changer for women and girls in Mayen Abun IDP camp. They now have a safe space to go where they can feel supported and empowered. They are also able to learn new skills and earn a living, which has helped to improve their economic situation.

"The WGFS has given us hope, it has shown us that we can overcome the challenges we face, and we can build a better future for ourselves and our children." she said

Ms. Ajok Deng Chol is grateful for the work that Women for Change has done in her community. She believes that their work has made a real difference in the lives of women and girls. She urges donors to support Women for Change so that they can continue to help more women across south Sudan.



MESSAGE FROM THE MEAL OFFICER (MARTHA)

The RRF Project was a success because it was designed to meet the immediate needs of women and girls affected by conflict and displacement. The project activities were also tailored to the specific needs of the beneficiaries. We are grateful to IOM who made this project possible. Your support has helped to make a real difference in the lives of women and girls in Twic county, Warrap State.

We are also grateful to the project team who worked tirelessly to implement the project. Your dedication and commitment have made this project a success. We will continue to work to improve the lives of women and girls in South Sudan. We will keep you updated on our work through our social media handles.

Please join us in supporting the work of WFC. Together, we can make a difference in the lives of women and girls in South Sudan.

To learn more about WFC and how you can support our work, please visit our website: www.wfc.org/ email: info@wfc.org

Thank you for your support!



+211911089679

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