

2021 SO FAR...

Like last year, this one has been a whirlwind of chaos, mourning, celebration, continued lockdown, challenges and opportunities....

It sadly also saw South Africa downgraded on the annual US TIP Report. However we are confident that as all sectors of society join hands, we can collectively upgrade again next year. There is real power in partnership and it's exciting that we get the opportunity to help prove this.



TEAM UPDATE

Marina has worked really hard, with her usual determination and diligence, and then enjoyed a six week sabbatical. This was unfortunately followed on the heels by COVID, and she is still struggling with some long COVID complications. We appreciate all the prayers and warm wishes being sent through for her.

Since January we have welcomed three new team members onto our core team, and are so grateful for these incredible ladies and what they each bring to the team: Caroline Kudya, Catherine Restiau and Resh Mehta.

We also appreciate and enjoy the continued support of ProVision International as well as welcome on board Callum Stewart, a management consultant who is working with us to take NFN to the next level.



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PROGRAM UPDATES

NETWORKING

This is of course our core focus area and continues, along with member support, regardless of what level of lockdown the country might be in.

NFN celebrated a decade of being earlier this year, and we enjoyed a beautiful virtual celebratory relaunch with many of our members and support partners! We have also tightened our membership criteria and implemented a Membership Agreement in effort to raise the standard and encourage a quality Network.

We really enjoyed helping get the Nelson Mandela Bay Justice Coalition started again and have since handed over leadership of this local level coalition, to its members. We're so excited to see what this group of incredible people are doing to fight Human Trafficking in their city.

Representing our members on the National forums of NICTIP and the National Rapid Response Task Team is another privilege area for us and we appreciate this opportunity of working closely with our Government colleagues in the fight against Human Trafficking in South Africa.

We continue to represent the NFN on several global networks and coalitions and have participated in meetings for the Global Learning Community, Commonwealth 8.7 Network and Alliance 8.7 Network.



GLOBAL
LEARNING
COMMUNITY

Commonwealth
8.7 Network

We support the Sustainable Development Goals



ALLIANCE



CAPACITY BUILDING

New monthly initiative

We have continued with the monthly capacity building sessions supported through the Vital Voices small grant, and have successfully run sessions on Child Trafficking in SA, Conflict Resolution, Prosecutions and Trafficking, Forensics and Trafficking and Prostitution and Trafficking. These sessions have reached over 200 people from around 45 organisations, as well as officials from various Government departments, the US Embassy and staff from the Commission for Gender Equality. We have received some phenomenal feedback. From one of our members: "It is really a privilege to belong to this Network, and the quality of information and skills and products that you bring are really appreciated."

WEBSITE

In case you haven't visited for a while, we have a phenomenal [new website!](#) A massive thanks to Anthony Sham from Digital Synergy for hosting and layout, and to Jubilee Evans, local PE (Gqeberha) based artist and Network member, for the impressive and unique artwork. Visitors will also soon be able to search members listed not only by province but also by services offered. As we map the Network, we're able to see who and what we have as well as where the major gaps are; this in turn will help us to be more strategic in future networking efforts.





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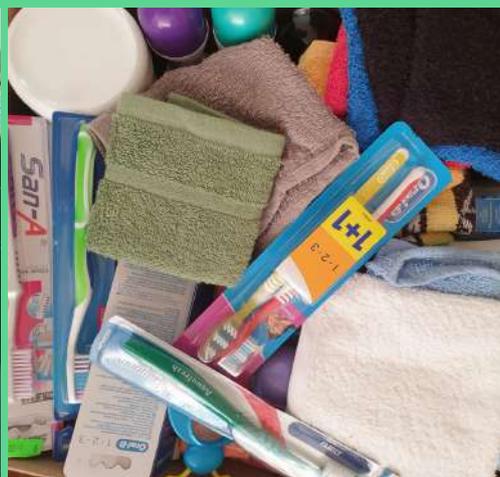
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SUPPORT PARTNERS

We were privileged to have two new Support Partners join us this year, thank you Cotton & Silk and Wande Industries for taking us under your wing and for believing in our work.

A massive thank you also goes out to Vital Voices who have been so gracious and flexible; your support over the years and through the recent small grant project, has been so very much valued and appreciated.

We would also like to thank Northcliff Union Church, UJ students and Kindness Like Confetti for their amazing toiletry donations that went to various NFN member organisations working directly with victims and survivors - each pack that was received, was a blessing. A last thank you to all our other Support Partners who have so faithfully journeyed alongside us - we cannot do what we do without you!



NEW RESOURCE

As part of the Vital Voices small grant project, we were able to partner with several survivors to develop a survivor informed set of Guidelines for Survivor Speakers. We are so thrilled with this resource and as one survivor put it: "This uses our full voices". We trust that this resource will not only empower survivors wishing to share their stories and advocate for change, but also educate anyone wishing to engage with survivors.



SURVIVOR SUPPORT

Pearl (not her real name) is one of the survivors we assisted during hard lockdown last year. Marina continued journeying with her, and we reached a point where we realised that she needed more comprehensive help than what we were able to provide.

Pearl has since entered a restoration program with one of our Network members, in order to receive the care, support and services required for healing. Not only is she thriving, she is already reaching out to others still in situations of exploitation! She says: "My freedom all started with one person caring enough to ask me what my dreams are. I want to do the same for others." You can read more about her journey and how to help support her [here](#).

GUIDELINES FOR SURVIVOR SPEAKERS

In consultation with survivors of prostitution and human trafficking



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Drafted By

National *freedom* Network