



# 16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM AGAINST VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

NOVEMBER 25 - DECEMBER 10



Suva, Fiji: International Day of Protest Against Violence Against Women on 25 November 1986.

## 33 YEARS OF 16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM

The 16 Days of Activism Against Violence Against Women runs from 25 November to 10 December each year. This international campaign was conceived in 1991 during the first Women's Global Leadership Institute at Rutgers University, New Jersey in the United States.

FWCC Coordinator Shamima Ali was one of 23 women leaders from around the world who attended the institute and founded the campaign at Rutgers that year. Participants chose the dates to symbolically link violence against women (25 November) and human rights (10 December) and to emphasize that violence against women is a gross violation of human rights.

In Fiji and the Pacific, 16 Days has not only put the focus on the continuing violation of women's human rights, but it has also played a significant part in the movement for democracy, rule of law and human rights.

### SIGNIFICANT DATES DURING THE 16-DAY PERIOD INCLUDE:

**25 NOVEMBER:** International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women

**29 NOVEMBER:** International Women Human Rights Defenders Day

**29 NOVEMBER:** International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People

**30 NOVEMBER:** Day of Remembrance for all Victims of Chemical Warfare

**1 DECEMBER:** World AIDs Day

**1 DECEMBER:** Global Solidarity Flag Raising Day for West Papua

**2 DECEMBER:** International Day for the Abolition of Slavery

**3 DECEMBER:** International Day of People with Disabilities

**6 DECEMBER:** White Ribbon Day to commemorate the Montreal Massacre

**9 DECEMBER:** International Day of Commemoration for the Victims of the Crime of Genocide

**10 DECEMBER:** International Human Rights Day

## FREE AND CONFIDENTIAL COUNSELLING AND SUPPORT



SUPPORTED BY:



For more information, please call us on **3313 300/9209 470 (24 hours)**

**Visit us >>> SUVA:** 88 Gordon Street | **NADI:** Lot 11 Vunisalato Rd, Namaka  
**Ph: 6707 558/9182 884** | **BA:** 35 Navatu Street, Varadoli **Ph: 6670 466/9239 775**  
**RAKIRAKI:** Lot 2 Yaratale Road, Vaileka **Ph: 6694 012/9129 790**  
**LABASA:** Lot 3 Naiyaca Subdivision (off Hospital Road) **Ph: 8814 609/9377 784**



Staff and volunteers of LWCC in 1995

## LWCC marks 30 years as a service provider and bold public advocate for women and girls

The Labasa Women's Crisis Centre was formally established in 1995 through the dedication and commitment of a woman from Dreketi named Bimla Singh, along with Rinieta Ratawa and other women.

Even before it was formally established as a branch of FWCC, much work had gone into preparing the foundation through training, community talks and counselling sessions.

The Centre's roots go back to four years before its registration, when Bimla and others attended the first national Conference Against Violence Against Women at Deuba by FWCC in 1991.

For several years after that, they used Bimla's home and telephone as their contact to counsel women, accompany them to court, conduct fundraising activities and give community and

school talks. The Centre was officially opened in 1995 in rented rooms with the support of Canada Fund, through the assistance of Diane Goodwillie.

Afterward, for more than 25 years, LWCC has been funded by New Zealand's MFAT.

LWCC is now firmly established as the premier service provider in Vanua Levu for survivors of violence against women, girls and children

Today, the Labasa Women's Crisis Centre is run as a collective, with full-time staff and volunteers and its own premises opened on 25th November 2016.

The new building at Naiyaca Subdivision and a vehicle were funded by the Australian Department for Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT).



A light moment captured in Nawailevu Village in Bua where 52 women completed week long awareness sessions by the Labasa Women's Crisis Centre.



Ba Women's Crisis Centre conducted weeklong awareness sessions for the youth of Navaga Village in October.



Students of St Marcellin Primary School visit FWCC and learn about good and bad touches.



FWCC led a dialogue session with the chairpersons of Provincial Councils on the National Action Plan to eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls.



51 men from Sikituru completed week-long awareness sessions by the Nadi Women's Crisis Centre in June.



A significant milestone has been reached in the work to eliminate violence against women, girls, and children in Tuvalu with the completion of the Gender-Based Violence Counsellor Training by the Fiji Women's Crisis Centre in the capital, Funafuti from 15th to 25th October 2024.

REGIONAL UPDATE

**FWCC completed the 44th edition of the Regional Training Program on Gender, Violence Against Women and Girls, Human Rights and Development in August.**

# We Remember...



According to research by the Fiji Women's Crisis Centre, 53 women have been allegedly murdered by their partners from 2013 to date. These are just the murders of women which are documented either by the media or police. What about the cases that are not reported or even heard about? We don't know the true numbers. Femicide or the murder of women is a growing concern in Fiji, and it needs to be addressed urgently.

► **25-YEAR-OLD KITIANA BARAVILALA** She was pregnant and stabbed to death on 25th April 2024 at a motel in Suva. Her husband Apisai Madigibuli has been charged with her alleged murder and the case is before the High Court in Suva.

► **28-year-old Shabreen Shain Ali**, a mother of two, was stabbed to death. Anare Vuli has been charged with her alleged murder and the case is before the High Court in Suva.

► We also remember **21-YEAR-OLD NUNIA KURUALEBA** who was stabbed to death in Australia. Her partner Jeremaia Tuwai has been charged with her alleged murder. Nunia left for Australia last year on a student visa to study finance.

In October this year, a **1-year-old girl was allegedly murdered by** her father during a domestic violence incident. Sairusi Ceinaturaga allegedly slapped his defacto-partner who was preparing a meal at the time. He then allegedly hit his daughter with a cooking spoon, hit her face against the wall and threw her down on the mattress. He then went on to allegedly assault his other son who had to be admitted with serious injuries.

**NATIONAL  
DOMESTIC  
VIOLENCE  
24-HOUR  
TOLL-FREE  
HELPLINE:**

# 1560

(FREE CALL FROM ANY NETWORK)

