



## Bethany Project Annual Report 2021



**EMPOWER GIRLS THROUGH MOVEMENT BUILDING !!! THEY WILL THEN CHALLENGE THE HARMFUL PRACTICES , DEMAND AND DEFEND THEIR RIGHTS**

*February 2022*

# 1.0 Message From the Director



**Bethany Project Director**

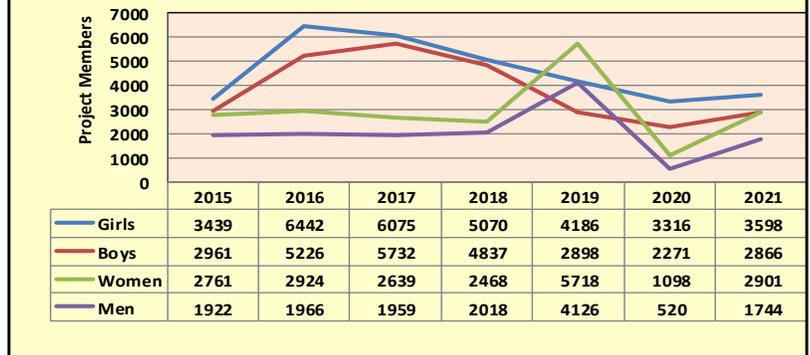
The year 2021 called for adaptation and innovation as the COVID-19 pandemic continued to affect the smooth flow of programming activities. It was really a learning curve for the organization to be resilient to crises as it adopted e-programing so as to remain relevant. Bethany Project is now on Twitter, Facebook, YouTube and WhatsApp. It has 4 online Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV) Information Centers that increased the traffic of information to and from the operational areas regardless of the COVID-19 pandemic movement restrictions. Dedication to duty by the 14 members of the Bethany Project Team which comprised of professional and experienced staff members

and 300 community based volunteers turned around the energy sapping experience of the year 2020 and surpassed its targets.

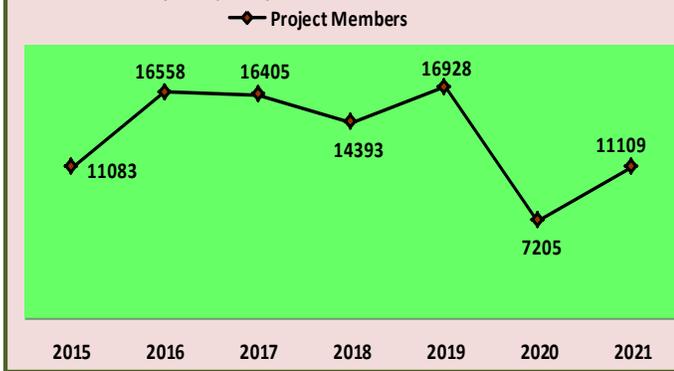
We are proud to have made a positive impact on 11109 lives in the year 2021-an increase from the previous year of 54% as confirmed by both Figure 1 and 2. The Bethany Project Team took advantage of the relaxation of the COVID-19 protocols to carry out door to door dialogues which

enabled the organization to reach out to more people. Community based volunteers worked tirelessly to ensure that all the projects that the organization was implementing continued to attain sterling results. A noteworthy 59% of the people supported by the Bethany Project in the year 2021 were women and girls.

**Figure 1: Bethany Project -Project Members from 2015 to 2021**



**Figure 2: Total number of people assisted by Bethany Project per annum from 2015 to 2021**



On the funding front against all odds the total grant that was utilized in the year 2021 was in excess of USD200000. We remain indebted to our existing funding partners, OAK Foundation, Oxfam and United Nations Trust Fund (UNTF) to End Violence against Women, Women Emancipation Dream, Zvishavane Business Community and individual Donors for trusting the organization and increasing their support in the year 2021 by 19% compared to the previous year.

Bethany Project enjoys unfettered support from the District and Ward level stakeholders providing an unlimited pool of resources in the form of resource persons. In the year 2021, a lot of support was received from the Ministry of Health and Child Care, Zimbabwe Republic Police Victims Friendly Unit, Department of Social Development, Local Authorities, Zvishavane District Development Coordinator, Zvishavane

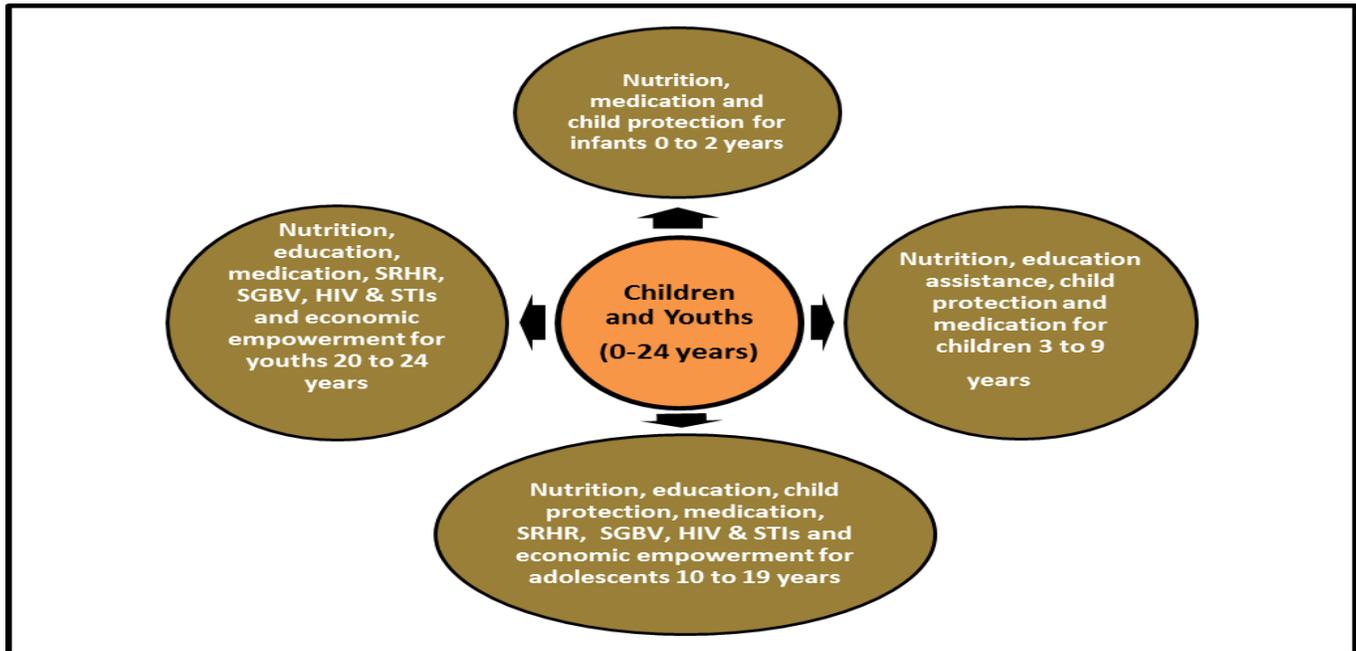
District AIDS Coordinator and Musasa Project just to mention a few. Our success in the year is hinged on the valuable contributions from these alliances and partnership. We are delighted to have collectively developed a 5 year strategic plan, a road map to guide all our interventions from the year 2022 to 2026. Girls and young women remain at the center of our interventions. Boys and young men will be mobilized to be our main alliances and supporters in the fight against all social vices encountered by girls and young women.

Our story is incomplete without the mention of the input from our Board Members who have performed their duties selflessly. The organization's governance is unparalleled because of the support from the Board members. I am therefore convinced that Bethany Project has got a very bright future and invite you the reader to be part of our success.

## 2.0 Who we are and what we stand for

### Who We Are

Bethany Project is a registered membership, local non-governmental organization. It was registered with the Government of Zimbabwe in 1998, having operated in the in Zvishavane District since 1995. Its registration number is PVO 2/98. This organization was started by local women from different faith based establishments, as a response to orphan hood emanating from the HIV and AIDS pandemic. Bethany Project's offices are situated in Zvishavane town, 389 kilometres south of Harare, in the semi-arid regions of Zimbabwe in the Midlands Province. In the year 2021 its operational area covered Ward 6, 7, 11, 12, 15, 16, 17 and 18 in Zvishavane District Rural; Ward 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8 in Zvishavane Urban and Wards 9 and 17 in Mberengwa District Rural. As mandated by the Government of Zimbabwe, Bethany Pro-



**Figure 3 : Bethany Project Target Groups and type of assistance per group**

ject targets young people who are aged 24 years and below as presented in Figure 3.

### What We Stand For

#### Vision

To promote comprehensive and sustainable community based care and support for male and female children and youths affected by HIV and AIDS, living with disabilities and vulnerable.

#### Mission

To mobilize communities to participate in identifying and promoting the well-being of female and male children and youths affected by HIV and AIDS, living with disabilities and vulnerable through resource mobilization, training, networking, advocacy and effective monitoring as well as raising awareness on HIV and AIDS prevention and the management of chronic diseases in the Southern Semi-Arid region of Zimbabwe.

#### Values

Bethany Project believes in equal opportunities for all young people and implements all projects using the rights based approach and is guided by the following values: accountability, integrity, excellence, team-work and transparency.

#### Bethany Project's Theory of Change

Bethany Project believes that if projects are community and family centered they stand a better chance to change attitudes, norms and practices. The changes can be sustained at community and family level hence positive outcomes can be achieved by the beneficiaries. Using this theory of change, Bethany Project has achieved a lot together with the affected families and communities. Over the years it has been recognized that working with adolescents and youths without the involvement of parents and communities where they live results in a poor supportive environment hence thence the family and community centered approach.

## 3.0 Organizational Governance

### 3.1 Tasks and Jurisdiction of the Bethany Project Board during the year 2021

Bethany Project is a membership organization which draws its members from the communities in which it operates. Communities in the operational areas become part of the decision makers on how the organization operates. Current membership is drawn from the business community, teachers, lawyers, nurses and other community members. Members participate through the annual general meeting, where they approve both the Board Chairperson and Treasurer's

*“Without innovation Bethany Project’s life will be abruptly cut short, I therefore urge every member to contribute ideas that will move the organization to greater heights, every idea will be treated with utmost respect.”* **Board Chairperson presenting her report during the year 2021 Annual General Meeting.**

reports as well as chart the way forward through implementable resolutions. Current Board members are presented in Table 1 and are in the second year of their 3 year term.

The 8 Bethany Project Board members ensure that the resolutions of the annual general meeting are implemented by breaking them into tangible interventions. Implementation is monitored through quarterly

*“I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the Bethany Project Management and staff for an unqualified audit report. My message to you members is that let us play our part by contributing both materially and monetarily towards the organization’s needs; because it is not sustainable to be over dependent on external donors.”* **Board Treasurer when presenting his financial report during the year 2021 Annual General Meeting**

Board meetings. Quarterly meetings also covered other organizational business which included:

- Preparation of a new five years Strategic Plan (2022 to 2026)
- Approval of policies, budgets and outcomes of the organization’s work

**Table 1: Bethany Project Board Members as at 31 December 2021**

Name	Position on Board	Sex	Occupation
Nyembesi Mbaya	Chairperson	Female	Social Worker
Ulita Chandata	Vice Chairperson	Female	School Head
Dominic Chihoho	Secretary	Male	State Registered Nurse
Rosemary Mutangara	Vice Secretary	Female	Business person
Mnyasha Gumbi	Treasurer	Male	Supply Chain Accounting Officer
Marjory Mandaba	Committee Member	Female	Bank Manager
Brian Magwizi	Committee Member	Male	Businessman/Residents Association Chairperson
Patience Chigariro	Board Adviser	Female	Legal Practitioner

- Selection of the organization’s auditors, and present to the membership the audited financial statements, during the annual general meeting, for adoption and approval.
- Monitoring of the organization’s compliance with the country’s laws and regulations.
- Certifying that control systems are water-tight to prevent and address fraud. Every transaction in the organization has to be counter-signed by an assigned Board representative for it take effect.
- Ensuring that the organization’s activities enable it to realize its targets and contribute to its vision and mission
- Approving staff recruitments
- Reviewing plans and budgets in order to meet the requirements of the strategic plan

Bethany Project has a robust governance system which has translated into a very strong and agile organization. Besides the external audits, the organization evaluates its work through participatory quarterly and annual project review meetings resulting in constructive feed-back from both key stakeholders and project members. Bethany Project has passed all capacity assessments carried out by funding partners resulting in increased confidence levels by both partners and back donors. Individual donors have continued to invest in the Zvishavane communities through the organization a revealing fact of the confidence they have in Bethany Project’s governance system.

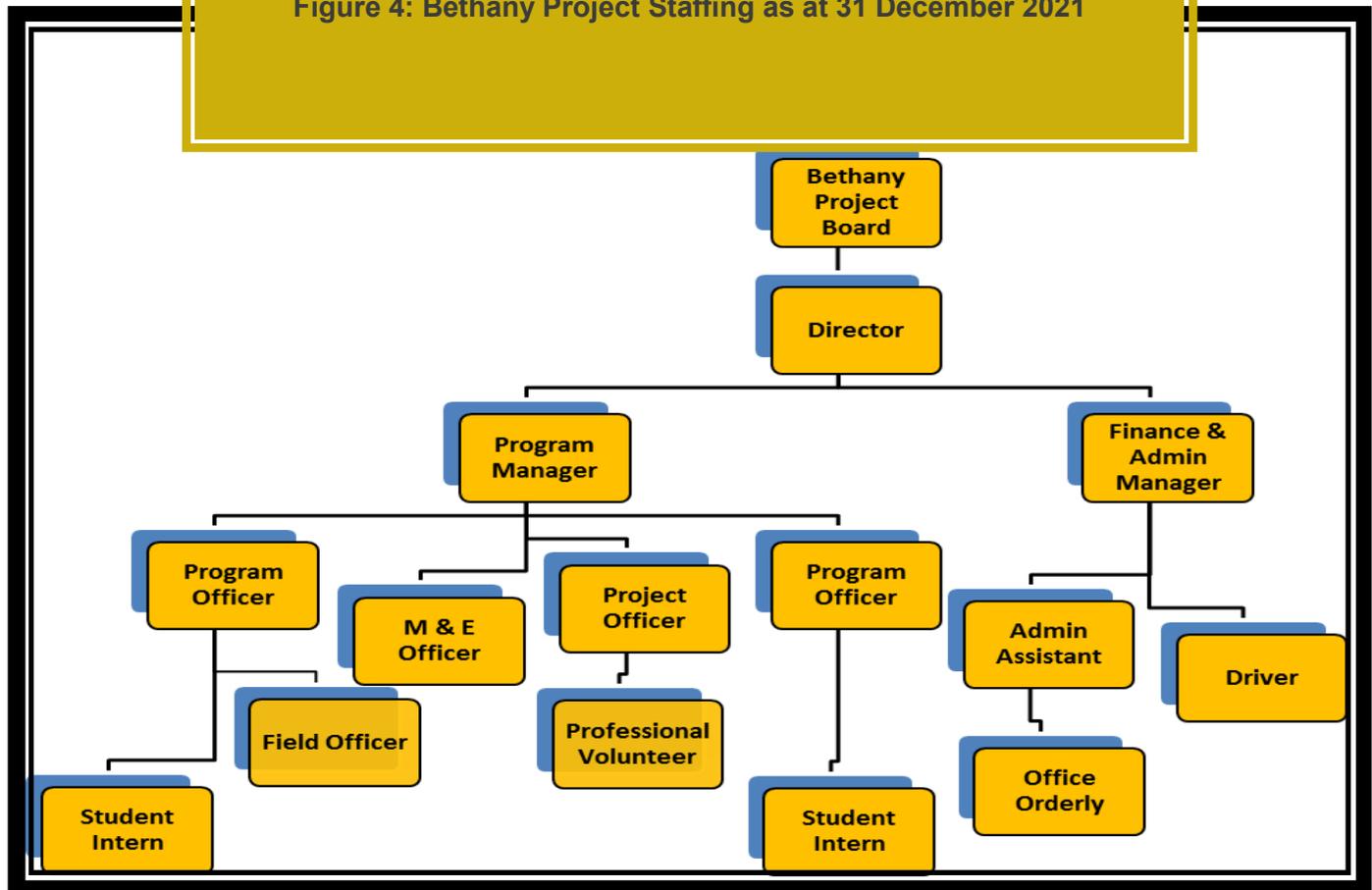
## 4.0 Human Resources

### Human Resources

Bethany Project employed 14 staff members in the year 2021, these included 12 qualified and experienced staff members, 7 in the programs and 4 in the finance and administration department and the Director; plus 2 student interns from the Midlands and Lupane State Universities. In the year 2021 staff development was central despite breaks necessitated by COVID-19 lockdowns. Eight staff members were trained online in proposal writing during the French Embassy proposal preparation and submission process. Under the United Nations Trust Fund for Ending Violence against Women and Oxfam 6 staff members received capacity development covering monitoring and evaluation, innovative ways of project implementation during emergencies like COVID-19. Figure 4 indicates the Bethany Project's organogram in the year 2021.

Management is composed of 3 personnel namely the Programs Manager (male), Finance and Administration Manager (female) and the Director (female) who reports to the Bethany Project Board.

Figure 4: Bethany Project Staffing as at 31 December 2021

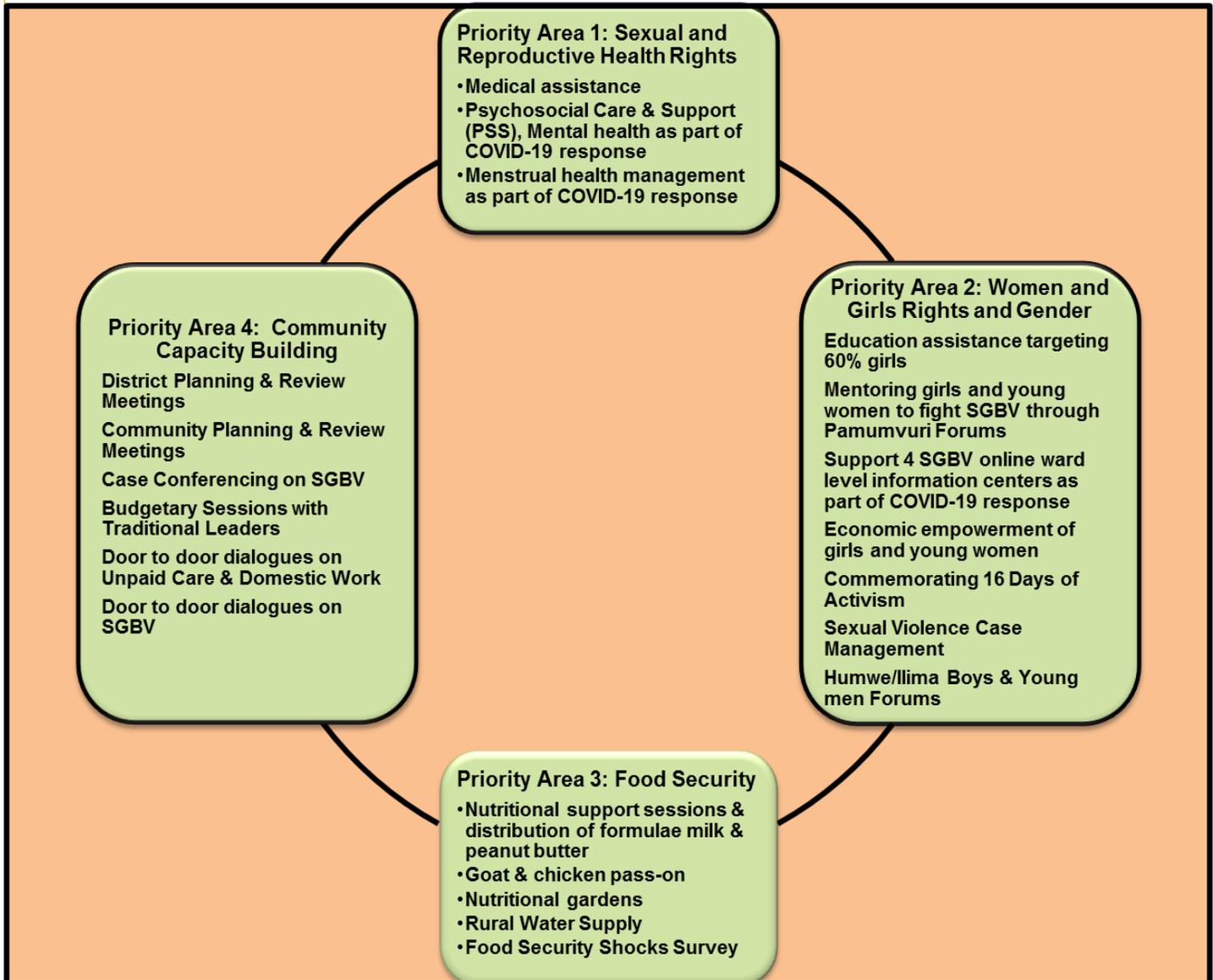


Human resources management has been meticulously handled at the Bethany Project resulting in zero staff turnover and this guarantees continuity and value for money. All the capacity building has not been lost due to staff members leaving the organization. With all the team members still available and committed to the organization in the year 2022 the organization is bound to scale up to greater heights and achieve more. It is on the basis of this highly performing team that the Bethany Project has continued to attract funding and deliver tremendous outcomes.

Community Based Volunteers are at the centre of the organization's work. In the year 2021 Bethany Project worked with 300 community based volunteers (92% women) who initiated, implemented and monitored the organization's projects. Were it not for the community based volunteers Bethany Project' was going to experience a logjam in the implementation of it projects due to the COVID-19 lockdowns.

## 5.0 Programs Performance

Figure 5 indicates the Bethany Project Priority Areas as presented in the organization's Strategic Plan- 2017 to 2021. For each Priority Area, strategies and approaches were developed in order to turn it into reality. Despite the drawback caused by COVID-19 restrictions the organization's programs continued to have a positive impact on the communities it worked with resulting in a total of 11109 people benefiting from the projects..



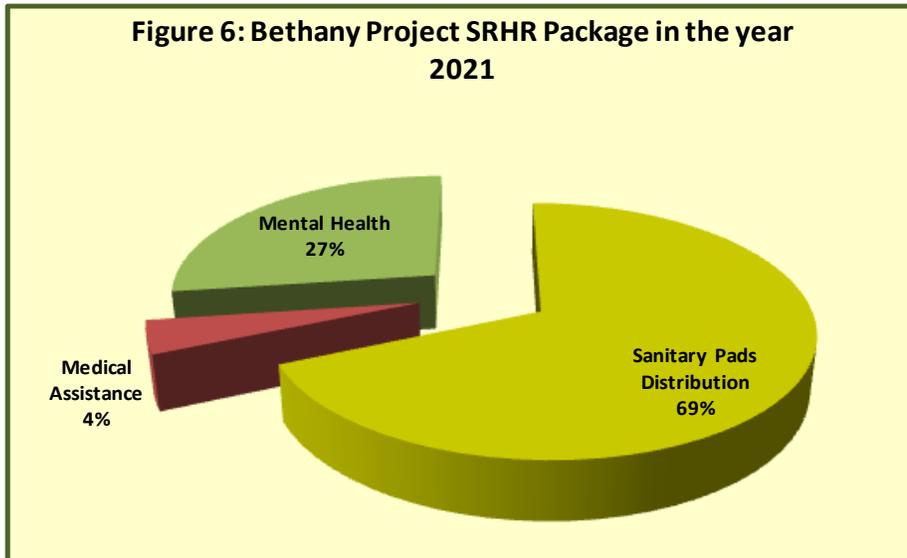
**Figure 5: (Above) Bethany Project Priority Areas and Interventions in the year 2021.**

Radio sessions were used to buttress our strategies and approaches enabling the organization to reach at scale and interact with people beyond operational areas. Radio sessions Young and Adult Frequency Modulation (YAFM) a community based radio station in Zvishavane included: dialogues on sexual and gender based violence; child safeguarding; awareness on COVID-19 Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) and SGBV referral pathways. Social media and Education and Communication (IEC) materials were also used to strengthen our programming.

## 5.1 Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights (SRHR)

Under the sexual and reproductive health rights priority area we covered menstrual health management, mental health and medical assistance as presented on Figure 6 below. All the interventions were a direct response to challenges driven by the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Figure 6: Bethany Project SRHR Package in the year 2021**

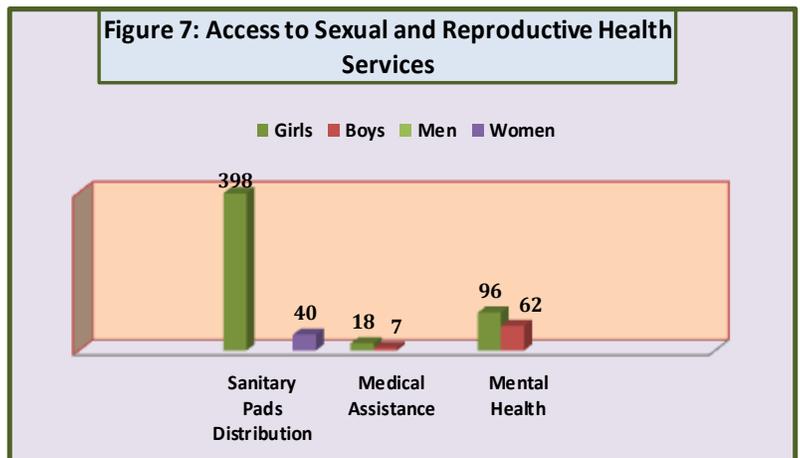


*"I would like to thank Bethany Project and the United Nations Trust Fund to End Violence against Women for giving me a three months supply of disposable sanitary pads. As an adolescent girl in the remote rural Ward of Murowa, COVID-19 related lockdowns had wrecked havoc to the management of my menses. Being locked out of town meant that I could not access sanitary pads due to unavailability in local shops and unaffordable costs. I was led to resort to the use of unhygienic materials which took away my dignity and confidence, and this obviously had a huge impact on my mental health. The timely intervention from Bethany Project restored order in my life."* One of the re-

ipients of disposable sanitary pads in Murowa Ward.

A significant 398 adolescent girls made vulnerable by the COVID-19 pandemic restrictions received disposable sanitary pads as indicated in Figure 7.

While lack of access to menstrual hygiene materials caused its own mental health challenges, it is the closure of schools for long periods of time due to COVID-19 lockdowns which led to a plethora of SRHR related challenges. Information received from our 12 operational wards (6 rural and 6 urban) indicates that 169 girls (116 in the year 2020 and 53 in the year 2021) dropped out of school due to child marriage. A huge 93.5% were in the rural Wards. This is an indication that girls in rural areas were engaging in unprotected sex, which might be a result of limited access to SRH services during the COVID-19 lockdown. Child marriages, unwanted pregnancy and loss of learning time had an adverse effect on the girl child's mental health.



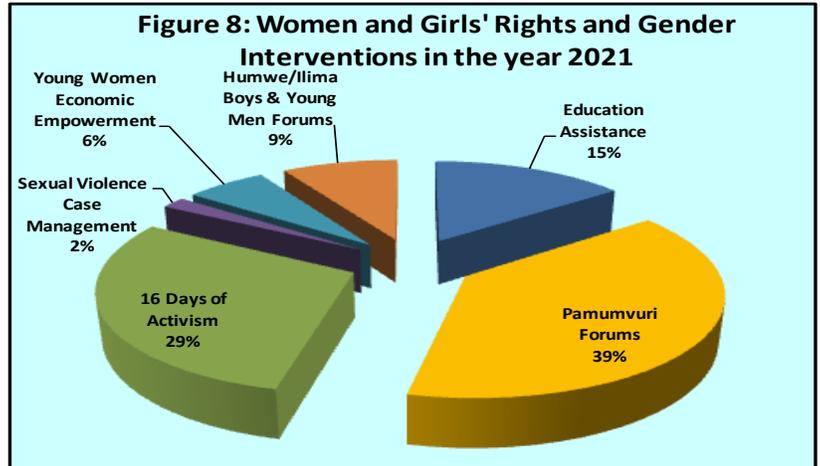
Focus group discussions carried out with boys indicated that they tried to address their mental health challenges through substance and alcohol abuse.

During the year 2021 Bethany Project offered psychosocial care and support (PSS) to the girl child through radio, sessions with the Pamumvuri Forums members and PSS sessions with girls and boys. Moving forward mental health challenges faced by young people due to limited access to SRHR services during emergencies/crises will be a major area of programming.

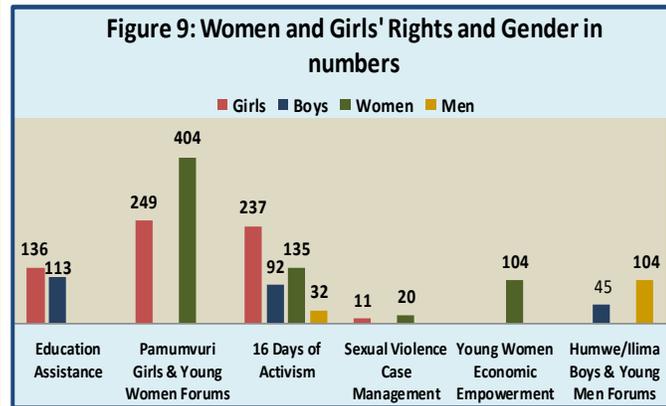
## 5.2 Women and Girls Rights and Gender

According to Section 80 of the constitution of Zimbabwe, women and men must be accorded equal opportunities in political, economic and social activities. The National Development Strategy 1-January 2021 to December 2025, affirms that gender should be mainstreamed, through visible initiatives that confer equal opportunities to men and women. On the basis of the above provisions implementation of gender sensitive programmes and projects, remain core in all Government projects and programs. It is within this context that Bethany Project has put girls and young women at the centre of its programming. In the year 2021, 59% of the people who benefitted from Bethany Project's work were women and girls. Figure 8 outlines the approaches used to change women's lives.

Our education assistance targets both girls and boys as indicated in Figure 9, however more girls than boys are assisted to keep them in school. This approach protects the girl child from early marriage and pregnancy. A total of 136 girls in similar situations as Vester received education assistance in the year 2021 *"My name is Vester Mkungwa an 'A' level student at Mpandashango High School in Mberengwa District. Both my mother and father died and I was left in the custody of my grandma, who also died in the year 2015. I then went to live at my aunt's home which was a very abusive environment. Sometimes I would go to school on an empty stomach and at times I was beaten for no apparent reason. Fortunately I was*



*selected to benefit from the Bethany Project education assistance, since my aunt struggled to pay my school levies. Bethany Project started paying fees for me when I was in Form 2. The assistance urged me to work extra hard in my studies, this paid off because I passed eight subjects at O'*



*Level and proceeded to Form 5. Currently I am still at Mpandashango High School and will complete my Upper sixth form in the year 2022. Thank you Bethany Project and OAK Foundation for the excellent work."*



Vester Mkungwa

young women (20 to 24 years) is one of the major successes registered by Bethany Project. Movement building is done through the creation of Pamumvuri Forums which are safe spaces where girls and young women share information on SGBV, SRHR, women economic empowerment and gender justice. Girls and young women are mentored so that agency and voice are cultivated in them. Both Figures 8 and 9 indicate that the model helped the organization to assist a significant number of girls and young women. By 31 December 2021, 652 people (249 adolescent girls and 404 young women) had joined and actively participating in the Pamumvuri movement in Zvishavane District.

*"My name is Caroline Gandiwa, I am aged 24 years and stay at Indaba ward in Zvishavane in a household of 7 people. I am married and running a small business where I am selling soya chunks and matemba (dried fish). Since joining the Pamumvuri Forum I have acquired communication and presentation skills; I now know my freedom of association and expression of my rights; I can now convincingly represent other young women and girls and speak on their behalf; my confidence levels have skyrocketed. I am now a volunteer carrying out door to door dialogues in my community to sensitize them on SGBV, women and girls economic empowerment and gender justice. My family is very appreciative of the fruitful role I am now playing in the family and community I live in. My small business is enabling me to contribute to my family in a very practical and meaningful way. I therefore want to thank Bethany Project and the United Nations Trust Fund to End Violence against Women for assisting me through the Speak Out and Act project.*

## 5.2 Women and Girls Rights and Gender Continued



**Dayataya Ward Pamumvuri members participating at the Ward Project Planning and Review Workshop**

Before implementing the Pamumvuri Forum movement girls and young women were being left out of most development processes. The Pamumvuri movement has enabled them to participate in project planning, implementation and review. Case conferencing, link and learn visits to SGBV and SRHR service providers and radio sessions have enabled the Pamumvuri Movement members to put to task the service providers over the inadequate service provision, leading to improved services provision. Cooperation amongst service providers has tremendously improved, the Pamumvuri members are now able to refer SGBV cases to clinics and the police hence the improved reporting of sexual violence cases. For instance 31 sexual violence cases were reported to service providers through the Bethany Project, and more than half of the cases came through the Pamumvuri structures.

The Pamumvuri Movement also empowers girls and young women to improve their economic status through income saving and lending schemes (ISALs). Pamumvuri members in Ture Ward and Zvishavane Urban were assisted to start popcorn (maputi) and soap making projects respectively. A total of 104 girls and young women were running small businesses

using ISALs to access cheaper capital. Zanele's story tells it all.

*"My name is Zanele Tshuma, 17 years old, a single teenage mother with one child. I am staying in Maglas Township in the Urban ward with my parents. I joined the Bethany Project Pamumvuri Movement in the month of March 2021. I am also a beneficiary of baby preparation kits, received in the year 2020. After receiving the baby preparation kits I joined the already existing Pamumvuri Group (True Love). I went through a series of sessions which were facilitated by the Pamumvuri Mentors of True Love Pamumvuri Forum. I later on joined the teen mothers group in Maglas. I have participated in a number of activities that are changing my life for instance women economic empowerment sessions, training on soap making, training on baking, link and learn visit to service providers in the SGBV referral pathway. My skills and knowledge on issues surrounding SGBV and the referral pathway have improved. Through the sessions on economic empowerment we started an ISALs as a group of teen mothers in which we contributed US\$2 each and we started selling diapers. In September 2021 I was part of the Pamumvuri members who were trained on Baking and I received a certificate of completion for this course. Between the period 15 September and 30 September 2021, I baked 5 cakes and realized a total of USD50.00 from my sales. I used this money to buy more ingredients for my project and also continued contributing in my ISALs group. My income has increased, through the ISALs and the baking I am now realizing an income of between US\$25 - 30 per month. I am now contributing to my household income and taking care of my baby. Next year I will be supplementing my Ordinary Level subjects since I obtained 3 subjects which are Geography, English and Agriculture in my first sitting in the year 2020. I would like to thank Bethany Project and Oxfam for the support both technically and financially."*

**Pamumvuri members together with the trainer (centre) pose for a photo after receiving their certificates of completion in baking**



At least 5 Pamumvuri members like Chipso Musekiwa are now utilizing the detergent making skills they gained from the movement to generate income for themselves. In the year 2021 Chipso trained 244 women and girls in detergent and soap making and earned herself USD 610. Using skills gained through Pamumvuri Movement mentorship she was contracted by Bethany Project, Care International, Women's Bureau and other individual groups in Zvishavane District to train other women and girls, (See Chipso's picture at work in the next page).

## 5.2 Women and Girls Rights and Gender Continued



**Chipo Musekiwa (Extreme right) doing what she knows best. Empowering other women and girls to earn more income through detergent making**

The Pamumvuri Movement continued to be supported by 4 Online SGBV Information Centres established at 4 clinics in Dayataya, Indaba, Mhototi and Murowa Wards in the year 2020. Eight Focal Persons running the information centres remained pivotal in monitoring the impact and trends of COVID-19 on SGBV; SGBV and COVID-19 information dissemination; reporting sexual violence cases to service providers and addressing the challenges faced by the Pamumvuri Movement. This was done under the watchful eye of Pamumvuri Ambassadors (trained village heads' wives).

Pamumvuri members took a leading role in advocating for girls and women's rights to information, services and economic resources during the 16 Days of Activism against gender based violence campaign. Also in support were members of Ilima/Humwe (a space for boys and young men where they are mentored to promote gender justice and de-role from masculine defined roles). The 16 Days of Activism campaigns were carried out in Dayataya, Murowa, Mhototi, Indaba and Ngomeyebani Wards and a total of 496 people participated. Running concurrently was the online "#speak out against gender based violence" campaign which was carried out on radio and social media by Bethany Project. Radio sessions were on Youth and Adult Frequency Modulation (YAFM) a local radio station with a listenership of 1 000000 people. Social media

reached out to more than 2000 people based on likes on our Facebook page and WhatsApp messages.

Pamumvuri Movement members in the Dayataya Ward started the 16 Days of Activism campaigns in style by organizing an SGBV Awareness Raising day in their Ward. People who participated at this Awareness Raising Day were estimated at 200. The Pamumvuri members mobilized resources for



**Pamumvuri member leading proceedings at the Dayataya Ward SGBV Awareness Raising Day**

the Day on their own and invited one of the successful business women in



**Humwe/ilima conversations with boys and men in Ngomeyebani Ward**

Zvishavane to be the guest of honor. Bethany Project and other stakeholders (including Government Ministries) were invited to give solidarity messages. Pamumvuri members drove the message home through drama, song and speeches. At the end of it all

Chief Mafala's representative put icing on the cake by these few words, "I thank Bethany Project for the girls and women's empowerment programs; SGBV is becoming lesser and lesser; Chief Mafala is fully in support of your efforts."

## 5.3 Food Security

Bethany Project compliments the Government of Zimbabwe in its quest to fulfill its mandate to encourage people to grow and store adequate food as stated in Section 15 of the Constitution of Zimbabwe. Food security exists when all people, at all times, have physical and economic access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food that meets their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life". (World Food Summit, 1996). Bethany Project supported the provision of food through chicken and goat pass-on projects, infant feeds, and nutritional gardens as indicated on Figure 10.

**Figure 10 : Bethany Project Food Security Interventions in the year 2021**

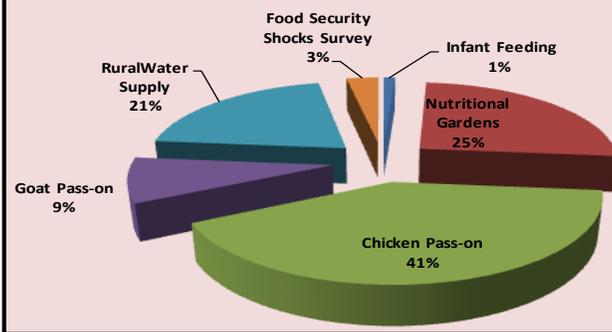


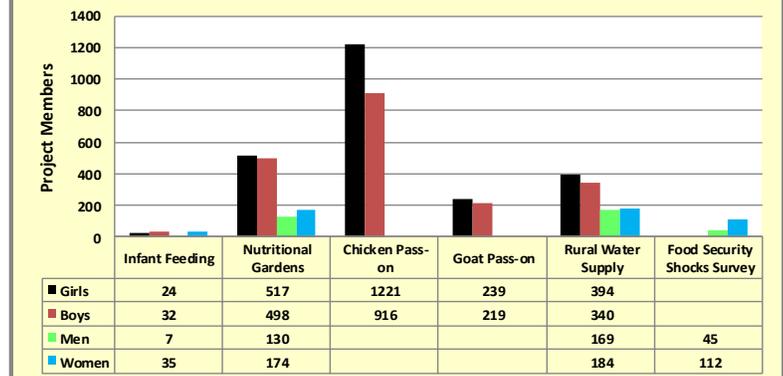
Figure 11 shows that 56 infants received assistance and at various stages of growth and the good news is that they are still alive. Soneni narrates how she received assistance through the infant feeding project.

*"My name is Soneni Bvungudzire aged 48 years. Tatenda and Tafadzwa Mbobo are my late daughter Tariro Bvungudzire's children. Tariro died soon after delivering the twins and their father was never known. I took custody of the babies soon after their mother's death and being an unemployed widow it was extremely difficult for me to fend for the twins and the other two kids whom Tariro left behind. Food shortages were my daily challenge and the children's health kept on deteriorating. I was in and out of hospital with the twins most of the times until I met one of the Bethany volunteers who informed me about Bethany Project. He accompanied me to Zvishavane District hospital's nutrition department where we reported our case and we were referred to Bethany Project for assistance. I did not know anything about Bethany Project and the volunteer accompanied me, he was indeed a good Samaritan. At Bethany Project all was done in a caring and friendly manner and the twins started benefitting from the infant feeds. The children joined the program at 3 months until they were weaned at 1 year 2 months. They received 4 tins by 400g Lactogen1 each month until they reached 6 months and they were finally given 2 tins by 400 grams of Lactogen 2 and 4 tins by 375 grams peanut butter until they were weaned. The twins regained and improved their health. Other than the infant feeds my family also received mealie-meal, beans and cooking oil from Bethany Project and OAK Foundation. As a caregiver I benefitted from nutritional support sessions that were conducted. These sessions were very informative and educative as I am now aware of the recommended infant feeding methods, common diseases associated with infancy and alternative means of preventing these diseases. It is my wish that the children will keep on growing. I thank Bethany Project and OAK Foundation for supporting my grand children."*



**Babies playing under the watchful eye of Caregivers during one of the infant feeding sessions at Bethany Project**

**Figure 11: Number of People Assisted through Food Security Interventions in the year 2021**



He accompanied me to Zvishavane District hospital's nutrition department where we reported our case and we were referred to Bethany Project for assistance. I did not know anything about Bethany Project and the volunteer accompanied me, he was indeed a good Samaritan. At Bethany Project all was done in a caring and friendly manner and the twins started benefitting from the infant feeds. The children joined the program at 3 months until they were weaned at 1 year 2 months. They received 4 tins by 400g Lactogen1 each month until they reached 6 months and they were finally given 2 tins by 400 grams of Lactogen 2 and 4 tins by 375 grams peanut butter until they were weaned. The twins regained and improved their health. Other than the infant feeds my family also received mealie-meal, beans and cooking oil from Bethany Project and OAK Foundation. As a caregiver I benefitted from nutritional support sessions that were conducted. These sessions were very informative and educative as I am now aware of the recommended infant feeding methods, common diseases associated with infancy and alternative means of preventing these diseases. It is my wish that the children will keep on growing. I thank Bethany Project and OAK Foundation for supporting my grand children."

## 5.3 Food Security Continued



Mtshibuli garden, Dayataya Ward in Zvishavane District

Nutritional Gardens are one of the climate smart interventions supported by Bethany Project to address food insecurity. Grains like maize are cultivated intensively to address adversities resulting from climate change. Garden produce is used for both sales and own consumption. Figure 11 on the previous page shows that 1015 children benefited from garden produce during the year 2021. An indication that the intervention directly benefitted Bethany Project's target population.



Mawani Garden, Magamba Ward in Mberengwa District

**Rapid Assessment of Food Security Shock Carried Out by Bethany Project in Mhototi and Mtambi in Zvishavane; Magamba and Maziofa in Mberengwa District revealed that:** In Mberengwa and Zvishavane Districts nutritional gardens significantly contributed to household income and food security. The Rapid Assessment indicated that even during droughts, nutritional gardens are used as coping mechanisms to address the impact of shocks. In the year 2021 Kubatanesimba garden in Maziofa Ward realized USD800 from sales excluding own consumption; similarly Shumbadzauya earned USD423; Hamamaoko USD520 and in addition the gardens dried 31x20 litres buckets of vegetables. Kugutakushanda garden earned USD550, and Mawani 1 earned USD 600. Mubatapamwe garden earned USD320 and Makomborero garden earned USD200. The seven gardens supported by Bethany Project earned USD 3413 from vegetable sales only. Own consumption during the same period is estimated to be at 3 to 4 times the sales value. With the proceeds from the sales caregivers bought food, groceries and paid for their children's educational and medical expenses.



Chamatanda Deep Well before it was refurbished

In the year 2021, Bethany Protected 2 existing wells in Mapirimira and Ngomeyebani Ward. The two wells were protected because they were conveniently located, such that they significantly reduced both the time spent and distance walked to fetch water by women and girls. Time gained was used to produce more food and earn more income for the family. Chamatanda Deep Well is serving more than 50 households in the Western part of Mapirimira Ward. It should be noted that with more water in the vicinity people tend to have kitchen gardens at home, reducing food insecurity.



Chamatanda Deep Well after it has been refurbished.



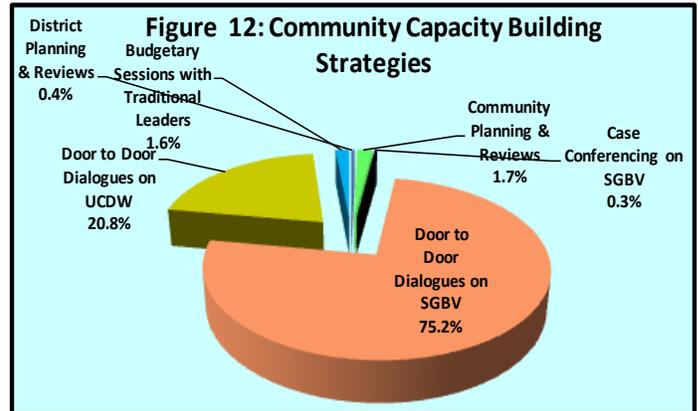
Ratidzo and her goat

"My name is Ratidzo Jeke. I am a girl aged 17 years and stay at Jere Village in Mtambi Ward. I am doing my 'O' level at Masehuni Secondary School. I live in a female headed family with my mother and grandmother. My mother is a hard working woman who grows vegetables for sale. She is doing this for us to earn a living but the money is not enough for survival of the whole family. I have two sisters who also want support from her although they are not staying with us. I received one goat from Bethany in the year 2019. My life has completely changed because of these goats. My goats increased to 4 goats and I sold 2 for USD70. I used the money to buy educational stationery. I am planning to sell another goat to pay for 2 or 3 subjects for my 'O' level examinations. These goats also benefit my family since we get milk and manure for our garden. Looking back I am seeing God's intervention in my life. I want to thank Bethany Project and OAK Foundation for a job well done." In the year 2021, 239 girls in situations comparable to Ratidzo's benefited from the goat pass-on schemes while 219 boys in equally vulnerable conditions also benefited. Also see Figure 11 for details on chicken pass-on schemes

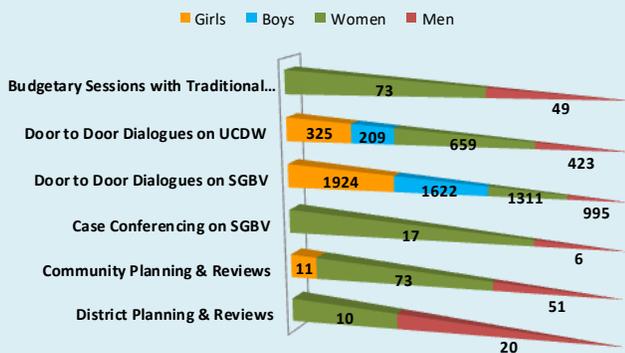
## 5.4 Community Capacity Building

“Nothing for them without them”

Communities are at the centre of Bethany Project's work that is why “nothing for them without them” is our operational motto. Community based volunteers initiate, plan, implement, monitor and review all the projects. Projects are planned together with community leaders and volunteers then evaluated with project members, and other stakeholders. Figure 12 confirms that communities and District based stakeholders plan and review projects implemented by Bethany Project. Young women and girls are the organization's major decision makers when planning and reviewing projects at community level as indicated in Figure 13. Communities do not just participate in decision making only but implement the projects. For instance, 101 adolescent girls and young women in the Pamumvuri Movement are working as door to door dialogues volunteers championing the girl child and young woman's causes.



**Figure 13: Community Engagement in numbers**



Currently the organization is working with 300 community based volunteers supported through provision of bicycles (see picture below), goats, stationery and hampers. Volunteers are also trained in community mobilization, development facilitation and other relevant skills.

Project members are also involved in case conferencing so that they provide feed back to service providers on how they are performing in terms of service provision. Case conferencing sessions have enabled service providers to have a deeper understanding of challenges faced by survivors and other girls and young women. It has been difficult to involve the judiciary in the fight against SGBV, only to win the Zvishavane magistrate through case conferencing. This made it easier to arrange a link and learn visit to the

magistrate's court by Pamumvuri members so that they understand how the judiciary system works, and where the bottlenecks are in terms of litigation.



**Traditional Leaders in Mapirimira Ward dialoguing on Gender Responsive Budgeting**

Door to door dialogues involve family members and create a supportive environment within the home.

Creation and implementation of gender responsive budgets at local Government level starts with informed communities, hence the sessions held with community leaders.

**Ngomeyebani Ward Community Champions receiving their bicycles**



## 5.4 Community Capacity Building Continued

### School Based Income Generating Projects

Table 2: School Based Income Generating Projects	
School	Project
1.Chivizina High School	Indigenous Chickens
2.Mhototi Primary School	Sheep rearing
3.Zeruvi Primary School	Broiler keeping
4.Zeruvi Secondary School	Goat rearing
5.Mawani Primary School	Broiler keeping
6.Rengwe Primary School	Broiler keeping
7.Mpandashango High School	Broiler keeping
8.Utika Secondary School	Broiler keeping

School based projects which were affected by the COVID-19 lockdown in the year 2020 were revamped in the Third Term of 2021. Six (6) affected school based projects were able to resume broiler keeping projects. Using proceeds from the school based projects 37 disadvantaged learners (20 boys and 17 girls) were assisted. Chivizina High School paid Term 1 fees for 7 students, Zeruvi Primary School paid exam fee arrears for 2020 and 2021 exam fees for 10 vulnerable learners, Mawani paid school levies for 5 learners who were managing the project, Mpandashango paid fees for 4 students while Vutika paid for 5 students and Rengwe assisted 6 learners.



Vutika Secondary School in Mberengw a District Poultry Project that has assisted 5 children (Left)



Rengwe Primary School in Mberengw a District, Poultry Project that has assisted 6 children (Right)

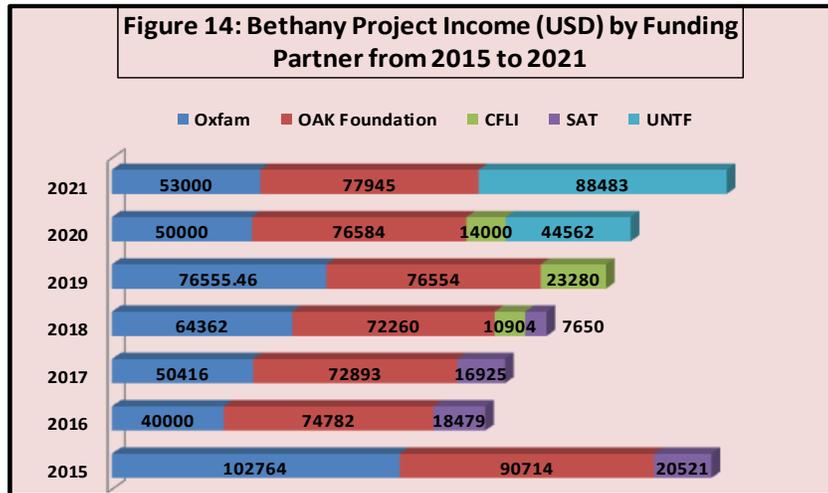
“School based income generating projects required a lot of commitment from teachers who struggled to avail themselves due to COVID-19 lockdown disruption. Poultry Projects generate income faster than goats and sheep. As a result children can benefit within a short period of time. Schools administration also benefited since they had access to 20% of the proceeds from the projects and 80% directly benefited learners. “Moving forward schools should look into the time the project will take to produce tangible results in order to prevent burn-out.” One of the School Heads when asked to comment on the future of these project



Mhototi Primary School Sheep Project

## 6.0 Financial Performance

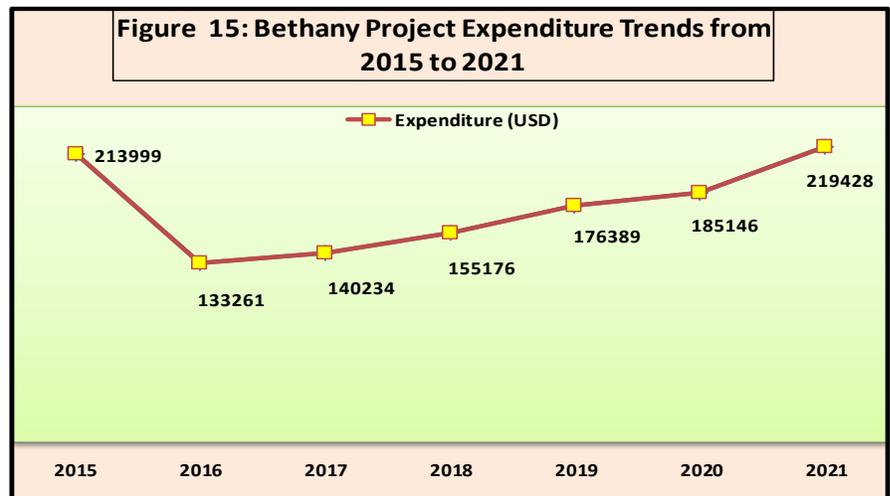
In the year 2021 Bethany Project had 3 main funding partners: Oxfam, OAK Foundation, and the United Nations Trust Fund to End Violence against Women (UNTF).



This was the second year of the UNTF which has a three year funding contract with Bethany Project, which started on 1 January 2020 and is ending on 31 December 2022. Contributions of each funding partner are indicated in Figure 14, which also indicates the funding partners that have been contributing to the organization's coffers over a seven year period. What is also captivating is the consistence of OAK Foundation and Oxfam that have continued to fund the organization over more than ten years. It is a seal of confidence in Bethany Project's way of doing business and its accounting systems. Figure 15 indicates the trend in the organization's expenditure over a 7 year period. Previously, the year 2015 was the best for the organization in terms of resource mobilization, this has since changed, the year 2021 is now the

best. Bethany Project is now on a rebound despite the successive global economic recessions and emergencies caused by floods and other pandemics like COVID-19. The organization is looking forward to continue on this path and mobilize more resources for the subsequent years.

It is a big plus for the organization's staff and Board members who continue to produce unqualified audit reports. The financial prudence has been confirmed by renowned auditors-KPMG during the 2015 to 2016 period and KPF Chartered Accounts during the 2017 to 2020 period. Bethany Project has a very robust resource accounting systems enabling it to professionally account for all resources made available to it. This has built confidence in the current funding partners of the organization.



Bethany Project has not only attracted international donors but locals are also proud to be associated with the organization. Currently the organization is constructing a safe house / shelter for girls and young women who face SBGV and other abuses– it is now at wall plate level. This is being constructed using resources contributed by local business people, churches and individuals. Table 3 below indicates the number of children supported by individual donors

**Table 3: Local Individual Donors that worked with Bethany in the year 2021**

Donor	Project	Beneficiaries		
		Girls	Boys	Total
Donor A	School fees	4	1	5
Donor B	Goat Pass-on	5	7	12
	Chicken Pass-on	50	50	100
Donor C	School fees	9	7	16
	Chicken Pass-on	15	10	25
Donor D	School fees	5	5	10
Donor E	Chicken Pass-on	3	3	6
Donor F	School Uniforms	6	17	23
Women Emancipation Dream	Food, Clothing and Sanitary Pads	78	30	108
<b>Total</b>		<b>175</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>305</b>

Bethany Project's strategic resources will not be complete without mention of the material and labour contributions from the beneficiary communities. For instance, for the garden projects, Bethany Project just provides the mesh wire while the beneficiaries provide the poles, the strain wire, tying wire, nails and their labour. They are the ones who are looking after the chickens and the goats that they pass back to the organization after completing the pass-on cycles. No donation is less important, everyone who makes available material and financial resources is accorded the same status.

## 7.0 Strategic Resources

Options to generate unrestricted funding are not very easy to come by, nonetheless Bethany Project has invested in strategic resources that are helping to deal with funding gaps and project implementation. The organization is contributing 48 goats towards the UNTF funded project. These are goats that come from previous pass-on schemes which are ploughed back by the communities to assist other deserving people.



**Fish Breeding Ponds and a healthy maize crop in the background for the piggery project all at the Bethany Project Community Centre in Zvishavane Town**

As its strategic resources the organization has invested in fish breeding, indigenous chickens, goat and rabbit rearing projects. These projects are used to support the organization's programs

Strategic resources also include the safe house/shelter and community hall under construction. A public address system, tent and chairs owned by the organization are sometimes hired by individuals and the organization generates funds to support its projects and programs.

As already indicated the organization has earned trust from the private sector. Platinum Holdings, a company

linked to Mimosa Mine has built a state of the art netball pitch at the Bethany Project stand for its netball team the Platinum Queens. Bethany Project has a football pitch which it allows neighbouring schools like Makwasha Primary and George Chipadza Secondary Schools to use free of charge as a service to the local community. The organization also offers free WIFI to youths in Zvishavane town, particularly those in the locality. These strategic resources add immeasurable value to the organization's programs.

**Rabbits at Bethany Project**



**State of the art netball pitch built by Platinum Holdings at the Bethany Project Community Centre**

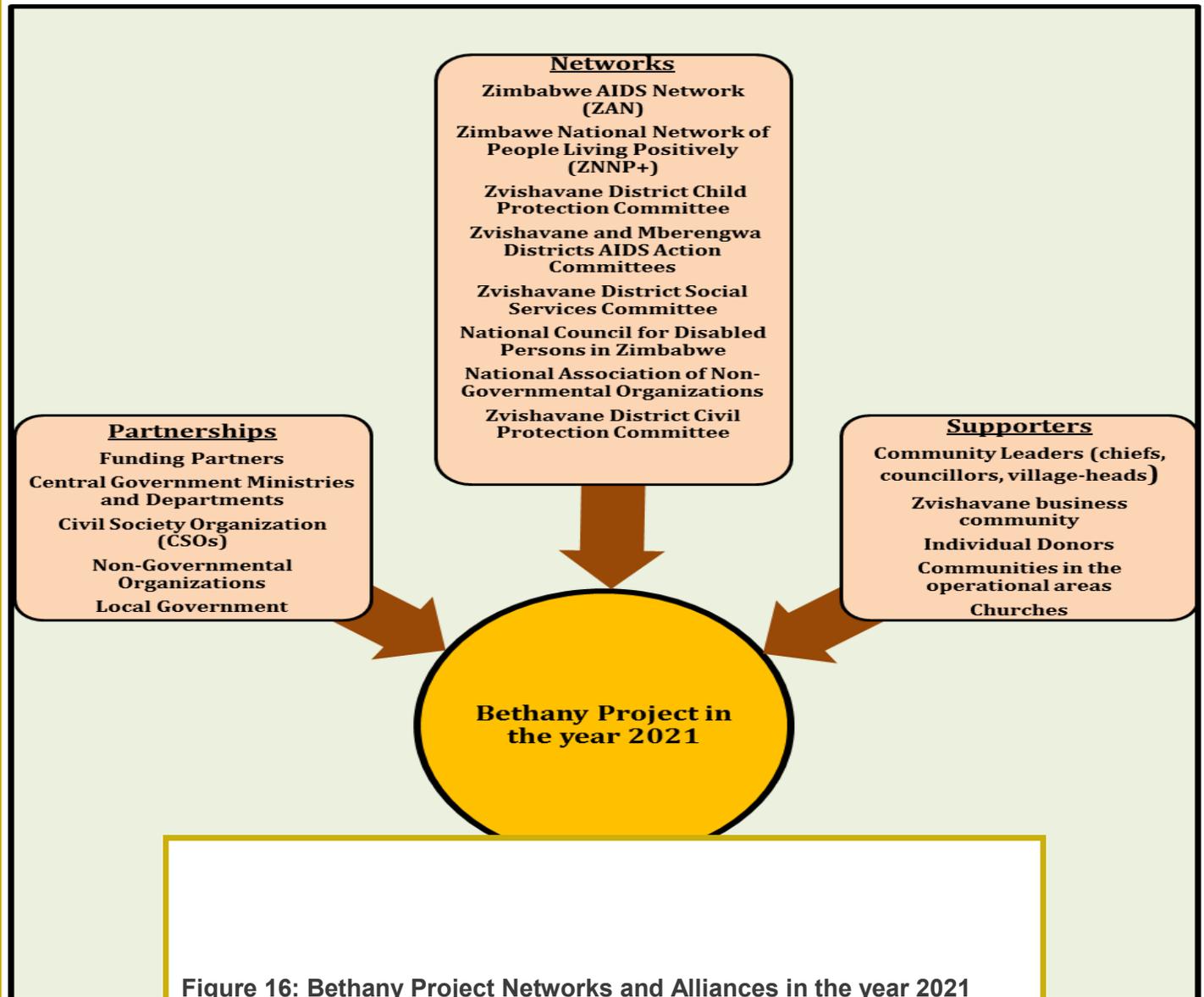


### ***Our appeal to you***

Bethany Project's Appeal to you the readers of this annual report is that together with you or your organization or business enterprise we can make a huge difference to the lives of children and youths. Every donation counts and we have proven strategies and approaches to make the resources beneficial to the communities we support. It all starts with a phone call, a written or one on one enquiry, and everything will fall in place as our professional staff members engage with you. Thank you for believing in us and entrusting your resources to us.

## 8.0 Networks and Alliances

Bethany Project strongly believes that support and care for children and other young people is a collective responsibility which can only be accomplished through a collective response. Figure 16 indicates the organization's partners, supporters and networks for the year 2021. Every link was established in order to provide holistic support to children and youths.



## Conclusion

Bethany Project is indebted to its year 2021 funding partners: Oxfam, Oak Foundation, and the United Nations Trust Fund to End Violence against Women (UNTF); individual donors in particular Women's Emancipation Dream which provided clothing and food to children and sanitary pads to young mothers; other partners, supporters and networks. You can be part of us. Contact us and explore how you can contribute to the wellbeing of children and youths. Our contact details are on the last page.

## 9.0 Strategic Transition

A very bright and promising future is beckoning at the Bethany Project. The organization is fully on line, one can catch-up with its work on Twitter; Facebook; WhatsApp, YouTube and its Website. For instance, a significant 778 and 96 people are following the organization on Facebook and Twitter respectively. Bethany Project will be implementing a new strategic plan starting in the year 2022 and ending in the year 2026. It was prepared in a participatory manner that involved project members; stakeholders; Board and staff members; key Government Ministries; Local Government and Civil Society Organizations (CSOs). The process was facilitated by the very experienced Symacon Consultancy firm.

### Moving into the future our values shall be:

**Accountability:** We commit to account for every resource which will be entrusted to us. Resources will be accounted for to the project members, stakeholders and partners,  
**Transparency:** We commit to share information on what we do, using on and offline means, with all project members, partners, and stakeholders  
**Excellence:** We commit to do and produce the best and high quality outcomes for our project members using available resources  
**Team-work:** We believe that by working in partnership we can pool skills and resources, share learning, and have greater impact.  
**Integrity:** We commit to be professional in all we do and uphold everyone's human right  
**Inclusiveness:** We believe that no-one should be left behind in all development processes we engage in

Project members; stakeholders; Board and staff members; key Government Ministries; Local Government and Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) directed the organization to focus on the following strategic pillars:

Strategic Pillar	Areas of Focus
Social and Economic Empowerment	School based income generating projects; individual and group social and economic enterprises for the benefit of girls, young women and youths 35years and below. Creating market linkages, value addition, branding and showcasing; monitoring and evaluation
Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights	Dissemination of information on the use of PRE and PEP; Condom programming; Menstrual health programming; child marriages; family planning services; HIV and AIDS; other social vices like drug abuse
Sexual, Gender Based Violence	SGBV awareness campaigns; Case conferencing with all key stakeholders; Training of community leaders; Support to SGBV survivors; SGBV empowerment programs; Male participation Monitoring and Evaluation of initiatives
Food Security	Conservation Agriculture (Pfumvudza/Intwasa); Small grains input distribution; Field days for learning; Knowledge brokering on infant feeding options; Training of caregivers in nutritional support and ISALS; Establish community based nutritional gardens; Training of farmers on leadership, record keeping, production, value addition, packaging, market gardening and linkages; Establish solar powered water systems for small-scale drip irrigation schemes and for potable water.
Community Capacity Building	Cultivate an understanding and ownership of Bethany Project programs; sensitize Communities in all Bethany priority areas; community leaders trained in leadership, gender equality; women and girls participation in leadership; Train and support volunteers;
Institutional Strengthening	Train Board and Management in Civic governance; Resource mobilize to fund Bethany programs; Increase unrestricted funds over 5 years to 25% of total Budget requirements; Staff development in identified areas of need: Strengthen e-programming capacity

The future still looks very bright at the Bethany Project, be part of it. Get in touch and together we will make it happen. Our contact details are on the last page.



Partnering in the interest of children and youths with

OAK  
FOUNDATION



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