

MARCH 2017 UPDATE: CASES AT AI-FIDAA FOUNDATION WHITE DOOR CENTRE

33 victims recorded for the month of March at the Al-Fidaa Foundation White Door Centre, 239 Durban Road, Korsten. Below is a brief summary of some cases:

1. 70 year old grandmother seeking counselling. She is her grandchild's guardian and is concerned about her grandchild and feels that some of the behavioural difficulties she is experiencing with him are attributable to abandonment by his mother. The victim's daughter is an addict and has remarried. She has made it clear to her mother that she is not interested in seeing her mother or her son despite the victim's pleas.
2. 49 year old mother of 1 approached the centre for counselling. Victim is going through financial and emotional difficulties spanning a few years. After a back injury resulting in hospitalization, she was dismissed from her job. She was hijacked twice in the same year and suffers nightmares reliving the incident.
3. 53 year old mother of 2 adults and 1 teen battling to make ends meet. The teenager attends a school for the mentally disabled. The victim is struggling with additional expenses as a hearing aid needs to be replaced. The victim is also caregiver to her own mother. The father of the child is not supportive and she has little contact with him because of his drug habit.
4. 63 year old widowed pensioner battling financially and emotionally after losing her husband in a hit and run motor vehicle accident 2 years ago. According to witnesses, the driver was under the influence of alcohol. Her adult children are of no support and do not visit. The only occasion she sees them is when she walks to their homes and then back home.
5. 50 year old single mother of 2 adults trying to make ends meet. The victim was diagnosed with epilepsy at the hospital. The victim feels isolated and constantly worried about her financial situation. At times she does casual jobs but whatever income and groceries she receives from this is immediately appropriated by her adult son who refuses to contribute to his mother in any way. The victim is also burdened with the responsibility of a grandchild – mother of child prefers an outgoing lifestyle and does not hesitate to dump the baby at the victim's door.
6. 45 year old mother of a teen addict approached the centre for a referral. He has become increasingly aggressive and a visit to his father resulted in a strained relationship as he now wants nothing to do with the father. The victim feels she has tried everything but her attempts to persuade him to seek treatment has failed. The victim was referred to the Ernest Malgas Centre in Port Elizabeth.
7. 49 year old single grandmother seeking counselling. Victim suffered severe stress at previous position in another province and moved to Port Elizabeth where she was diagnosed with depression. There is currently no income in the household and this adds to the victim's stress as she worries night and day about where their next meal would come from.
8. 43 year old single mother of 1 residing with friends. Victim resided with her partner but ended up on the street after some disagreements. She sought a referral to a shelter. The White Door counsellor made enquiries to put the victim in touch with a local shelter.
9. 70 year old pensioner living in constant fear and anxiety due to the high incidence of robbery and gang shootouts in her area. The victim's niece resides with her at night after an attempted break in on 2 separate occasions. The victim is alone at home during the day.

10. 45 year old concerned mother of a married daughter with whom she has not had contact with for a year. Mother was concerned as she feels her daughter may be a victim of domestic violence and needs help. The case was dealt with simultaneously by another service provider.
11. 56 year old mother and wife battling financially. The victim and husband have been struggling financially. Several years ago they lost their son in a shooting incident and then their business. They have no income or support from their family and surviving has become an uphill battle.
12. 59 year old victim residing in a shelter and earning an income by doing casual cleaning jobs. Her marriage ended in divorce after enduring years of domestic violence. Currently, she is struggling financially and emotionally as she has no fixed income and the relationship with her adult son is strained and rapidly deteriorating as does not offer assistance in any way.
13. 49 year old widowed mother dealing with the shock of her daughter's pregnancy. The victim is unemployed and battles to put food on the table. While her late husband provided for the children's schooling, she feels disappointed in her daughter falling pregnant while in school, especially as she faces challenges daily to support the family on the child support grant.
14. 43 year old married female seeking counselling. The victim was robbed at her workplace earlier in the year and robbed at knifepoint on a second occasion. She reported the incident to the police. The victim is still suffering the trauma of the incident but has recovered to be able to get back to the work as her husband is ill and unable to work.
15. A 47 year old recently widowed father of 3 seeking counselling. The victim is still grieving for his wife and decided to leave his children in the care of a family member as he is unable to support them financially.
16. 41 year old widower and epileptic seeking counselling at the centre. The father of 1 is currently finding it very difficult to meet his living expenses as he is epileptic with back problems and currently unemployed. Victim is trying to rehabilitate himself as he was involved in drugs and gangs. His back injury was sustained while he was still a gang member.
17. A 35 year old single mother residing with her father and battling financially after losing an ex partner in a shooting incident. The identity of the shooter is still unknown and the victim is currently trying to keep a roof over her children's heads.
18. 41 year old male residing with family members and dealing with issues of anxiety and depression. The victim received a disability grant at some point but not any longer. Years of incarceration and dealing with gangs have left him with nightmares and fears that he may be attacked in an act of revenge.
19. 35 year old unemployed father of 2 seeking counselling. The mother of his children left them in his care months ago and left without a word only to reappear and insist he give the children up to her parents. The victim was advised by his family members to apply for full guardianship but he decided against that because he is unemployed and fears he may not be able to support them.
20. 42 year old wife and mother of a toddler seeking counselling. The couple are both HIV positive and unemployed. The lack of food makes it difficult for them to take their medication and the odd casual jobs they do obtain are few and far between.
21. 31 year old unemployed single mother struggling to find a job. The family suffered a tragedy the previous year when a family member was shot under suspicious circumstances i.e amid

- rumours that he was shot while trying to break into somebody's home. The victim is dealing with these issues as well as the lack of financial support from the father of her child.
22. 56 year old husband and father of 5 struggling financially. The only income in the household is a child support grant for 2 children. The older adult offspring are unemployed and the victim attempts daily to find employment but is thus far unsuccessful.
 23. 37 year old wife and mother separated from her husband seeking assistance at the centre. The victim and her husband separated after she discovered his extra marital relationship. Added to this heartbreak, the victim is dealing with a child who she suspects has been using marijuana for some time now.
 24. 10 year old victim of divorce. Victim resides with mother and has telephonic contact with father. Animosity between the parents is affecting the child while hopeful of contact and visits by the father, the mother has long lost patience with her ex-husbands empty promises and finds it hard to hold back bitter comments.
 25. 8 year old learner in the care of a grandmother. The victim was abandoned by the mother who has remarried and has no interest in including the child in her new life. Despite attempts by the grandmother to develop a relationship between mother and child, the victim's mother is not interested. The victim's behaviour in school has started to become problematic including picking fights with other learners.