

MAY 2016 UPDATE: CASES AT AL-FIDAA FOUNDATION WHITE DOOR CENTRE

A total number of 34 victims for the month of May seen at the Al-Fidaa Foundation White Door Centre, 239 Durban Road, Korsten and the satellite office container based in Schauderville. We have seen an increase in the number of ageing pensioners struggling to keep head above water and being a source of income to their families. Below is a brief summary of cases:

1. A 38 year old female living in fear from a physically and sexually abusive partner. She has entrusted the care of her children to a parent and is currently pregnant with a child conceived during a rape from said partner. A case mentioned in the White Door Centre April update, the victim was referred to a social worker, specializing in adoptions, who provided legal information and options relevant to her situation.
2. A 29 year old expectant mother of 2 filing for divorce after confirming that her husband has been having an extramarital affair. In the hopes of giving her children a better future and avoiding a traumatic custody battle, she is considering entrusting her children to their grandparents. She attributes her recent miscarriage to the severe emotional stress she has been experiencing.
3. A 20 year old victim pregnant out of wedlock. She is fearful of breaking the news to her father; a respected community person. Family friction is already evident as her parents do not approve of her fiancé. A similar situation that occurred with a sibling several years ago ruptured the family unit and victim feels unable to proceed with nuptials until she gains parental approval.
4. 41 year old unemployed male seeking residence and employment in order to sustain himself. He is currently in financial difficulty and is not hopeful of prospects as he feels the job market and economic climate is discouraging.
5. 32 year old mother concerned about her teenaged daughter's behavioural and emotional changes. She feels frustrated with the red tape and what she feels is a lack of interest by a large government service provider she approached for assistance.
6. A 31 year old victim urgently in need of a kidney transplant as current functionality is minimal. Doctors have advised and referred the victim to a centre overseas. Medical difficulties are compounded by financial difficulties as victim and spouse are unemployed and are barely keeping up with day to day expenses.
7. A 37 year old recently divorced mother of 3 dealing with the limitations of her current financial situation. A recent retrenchment has rendered her dependent on the support of family. She is currently dealing with issues like depression, anger and fear about the future of herself and toddler.
8. 40 year old couple stranded on the street after they relocated to Port Elizabeth to seek employment on the understanding that they will reside with a family member. After their arrival in Port Elizabeth the living situation did not work out. They were referred to a nearby shelter.
9. 40 year old mother concerned about her son's future. He was recently diagnosed with a learning disability and while she hopes to transfer him to a technical school, feels the financial cost is currently insurmountable.
10. A 26 year old female victim previously referred to the Council of Theologians came to the centre for a follow up counselling appointment regarding her situation with her husband

neglect of and disinterest in making their marriage work. She feels unable to handle the situation any longer.

11. 28 year old mother of 5 striving to give her children the best in life but is struggling with financial difficulties. The father only supports the children when he feels the need to and his contact with them is infrequent.
12. 31 year old single male residing with his mother who has no source of income. Victim has been the sole breadwinner ever since his father passed. He is struggling to find employment at this point in time.
13. 63 year old father of 3 having financial difficulties and suffering with a terminal illness. Victim was diagnosed with cancer several years ago and is trying to come to terms with the illness after being in denial for some time.
14. A 78 year old pensioner residing with her children and grandchildren. While she feels the need to be the support in the family, the behaviour of a 28 year old grandson is causing conflict as he persists in stealing household items to support his drug habit. Victim is preparing to take legal action with regards to her grandson who is vandalizing property and involved with the "wrong crowd". His behaviour and actions of vandalism, including stoning the victim's property, prompted her call to the police whereupon he was taken into custody.
15. 80 year old pensioner is helping her 77 year old sister every month financially is now battling to make ends meet. She feels it is her responsibility to provide financial assistance but is overwhelmed by the expense of supporting another on her pension.
16. A 39 year old victim willing to take on the responsibility of ageing parents due to family members financially abusing the pensioner's funds.
17. 59 year old Limpopo born male now stranded in Port Elizabeth. He has refused referral assistance as he feels his situation is temporary.
18. 53 year old female previously dependent on an adult daughter who has since moved to a new city. Victim has lost her sole support and is currently finding it difficult to meet her daily expenses.
19. A 40 year old widow coming to terms with the loss of her husband and child in a tragic accident that left her in a coma for 3 weeks. She is now residing with her in-laws.
20. 39 year old mother of 4 bewildered and concerned that her husband been away for 7 months without contact. She is currently finding it difficult to support her family.
21. 24 year old unemployed male residing in a shelter and finding it difficult to make ends meet as well as maintain the trust of family members who are sceptical of his assurances that his abstinence is permanent this time.
22. A single 29 year old mother of 2 finding it hard to make ends meet. With no support from family, the harsh economic realities are on the forefront of her mind.
23. 32 year old mother of 2 the only source of income is the child support grant is struggling to meet her day to day expenses.
24. 33 year old widow and mother of 3. Her late husband was the sole breadwinner and victim is now trying to support her young family.
25. 50 year old mother of 5 concerned about an adult son residing with her. He refuses to provide child support for his child and victim suspects that he is an addict and is afraid of losing him.

26. 19 year old male currently in high school, living in a physically abusive environment. He feels that the negativity and his poor school performance contribute to the tension between himself and his father. His mother is very supportive of him.
27. 42 year old unemployed father of 3. He tried to find employment but with no avail. He feels guilty that he is not providing for his family as his wife's income is the only source of income.
28. 48 year old mother of a 14 year old son left permanently disabled after a shooting. She is currently seeking employment, having resigned from her previous job to take care of her son. She is dealing with feelings of guilt at not being able to be at home full time and also the need to carry on with her life.
29. 30 year old unemployed male residing with his father and 5 siblings. Victim receives financial support from his father. He feels disappointed at the lack of support from siblings as he is currently undergoing financial difficulties.
30. 18 year old male living with his parents and 2 other siblings. Victim clashes with parents and especially his father who has an authoritarian style of parenting. Victim feels that while his father does have his best interests at heart, he feels stifled by the household rules.
31. A 45 year old unemployed former convict feuding with family over property he legally signed over to them several years ago. He is currently remorseful and wants to make amends. He feels the need to take responsibility for his actions and is under additional pressure after news of his partner's pregnancy.
32. A 34 year old single mother of 1 completing her community service sentence after being convicted of shoplifting. She feels that the leniency of the conviction is a second chance for her to start her life afresh.