

March 2018 UPDATE: CASES AT AI-FIDAA FOUNDATION WHITE DOOR CENTRE

17 victims recorded for the month of March 2018 at the Al-Fidaa Foundation White Door Centre, 239 Durban Road, Korsten. Referrals included Council of Theologians. The following are brief summaries of cases seen:

1. 62 year old pensioner seeking counselling; the victim reports that her 2 adult children residing with her are verbally and emotionally abusive towards her as well as her husband. Constant hurtful words continue to wound her as she has made every effort to assist her children financially; immersing her in debt in the process, even taking out a loan at their son's request after he promised to uphold payments. The financial burden is on the pensioner couple now having to pay the instalments themselves towards his loan, out of the pension, leaving them with nothing for the day to day expenses.
2. 50 year old wife and mother to an adult son who is allegedly an addict and extremely aggressive towards her. The victim feels she is unable to bear his behaviour any longer. The addiction is an issue of contention in her marriage.
3. A 66 year old widowed pensioner discovering upon her husband's demise, that her daughter been left sole heir of the estate. According to the victim, her late husband assured her that their daughter would take care of her after his death but this is far from reality; the victim pays all her municipal accounts out of her pension leaving her with no money for necessities like food. She has tried applying for a municipal water subsidy to reduce her expenses but requires her daughter's ID, who refuses to assist with either the subsidy or the pensioner's expenses. The daughter allegedly withdraws funds monthly from her late father's provident fund, not giving the victim a cent.
4. 29 year old unemployed single mother grieving the loss of her toddler who lost her battle against brain cancer despite aggressive treatment including several operations. The victim is bereft and unable to come to terms with the loss, reporting feelings of emptiness and unable to continue with her life.
5. 53 year old single mother of 3 adult children received counselling at the White Door Centre for anxiety and stress; the victim claims her daughter is especially abusive - in public and private - and feels she cannot take the abuse anymore, she claims she does everything for her daughter and her grandchildren and feels disappointed and hurt at their behaviour towards her.
6. 23 year old male victim of a mugging seeking assistance. The victim had just started a new job and was attacked by 3 assailants on the way to work. Robbed of his bus fare and cell phone, the victim had to walk to work. Incident left the victim extremely upset and frustrated at his helplessness.
7. 40 year old divorcee residing with her friend seeking counselling for some family issues. The victim refuses to live with her brother who is allegedly a gangster and drug dealer. She admits to feeling very unsafe at his home due to the type of people who visit and the constant violence. The victim is afraid her sibling finding her whereabouts because of his tendency to emotionally blackmail her.

8. 42 year old concerned anonymous female called in to the White Door regarding a 77 year old homeless pensioner who sleeps on the street nearby. The caller was very concerned about the wellbeing of the pensioner, saying that it appears the pensioner's family has abandoned her.
9. 24 year old single mother of 2 referred to the Al-Fidaa Foundation White Door centre from Cripple Care organisation. The victim has been trying to obtain a child support grant for her baby daughter but since she is unemployed, unable to move forward with this. The victim was not in possession of an identity document at the time of giving birth therefore the baby was not issued a birth certificate by the government hospital. She is unemployed so unable to obtain an identity document for herself or apply for a child support grant for her baby.
10. 31 year old husband and father approached the office for counselling and transport assistance home to Kwa-Zulu Natal. The victim and his brother took up an offer of employment in Port Elizabeth with the would-be employer arranging transport to Port Elizabeth and back to KZN. Upon their arrival in Port Elizabeth they were unable to reach their would-be employer and were robbed shortly thereafter. They lost all contact with family back home and were stranded in Port Elizabeth.
11. 26 year old single mother of 3, unemployed since retrenchment several years ago; the victim is battling financially and according to her, the children receive no financial support from their father who resides in a friend's shack. The victim has not applied for a social grant for her children.
12. 46 year old male divorcee counselled at the office. The victim receives a disability grant after automobile accident years ago that damaged his kidneys. He currently resides with a sibling. The victim was robbed of his wallet by residents in the area and is unable to make ends meet for the rest of the month.
13. 23 year old unemployed single male residing with an aunt since his parent's death. The victim feels that his aunt ill treats him because he is unable to contribute to household expenses and feels downhearted about his situation and does not see a way out of it, especially since he has no other family or siblings to approach with his situation.
14. 21 year old wife and mother residing with extended family seeking counselling. The victim and her spouse are both unemployed; the victim's mother has a well paying job but according to the victim, has a gambling addiction and gambles the rent regularly, leaving the family with debt and at times no food in the household. The victim enquired about assistance with accommodation after the landlord gave her notice to vacate the property.
15. 43 year old single unemployed male residing with a family friend presented for counselling at the White Door Centre. The victim is HIV positive and diabetic. The lack of income and his state of health are constant stressors and he has lost hope of his circumstances ever improving.
16. 51 year old father of 4 seeking a referral; victim was under the impression he was divorced but found out while trying to apply for a new ID documentation that this was not the case. The client feels betrayed and duped by his ex wife, saying that she had lied about finances relating to the divorce procedure.