

## **SEPTEMBER 2017 UPDATE: CASES AT AI-FIDAA FOUNDATION WHITE DOOR CENTRE**

17 victims recorded for the month of September 2017 at the Al-Fidaa Foundation White Door Centre, 239 Durban Road, Korsten. Referrals included NICRO (National Institute for Crime Prevention and the Reintegration of Offenders) and Legal Aid. The following are brief summaries of cases seen:

1. 45 year old wife and mother seeking counselling for several issues including marital difficulties. The victim's spouse is allegedly abusive and refuses to contribute to the household. She feels that this has left her with no choice but to go out begging for money and food to support the family.
2. 51 year old male seeking counselling; according to the victim the physical abuse he endures at the hands of his wife and stepchildren has taken its toll physically and emotionally; he feels the situation is at breakpoint and is deciding on whether to obtain a protection order against them.
3. 39 year old divorced male with a substance abuse problem that he has been battling for 2 years now. He feels that his ex wife's alleged refusal to grant him access to their children is a direct cause of his addiction whilst ongoing difficulty he feels to get his life on track is hampered by these factors.
4. 45 year old single female seeking counselling for a legal issue. She is currently residing with a family member. The victim previously lived in her home (legally on her name) but disputes among family members ending with her being physically assaulted led to the break from the family. She is currently seeking legal counsel.
5. 39 year old single male requesting counselling at the White Door centre. His home was demolished in a fire and the resulting demise of his mother due to smoke inhalation was the final straw. The victim is battling to come to terms with the loss and is currently living in the ruins of the house as he has nowhere else to go.
6. 20 year old married female requiring counselling after a traumatic experience in which she was robbed en route home by 4 unknown assailants at gunpoint, making off with cash, jewellery and cell phone. The victim was left shaken and traumatized.
7. 28 year old unemployed single mother whose finances are allegedly being abused by a family member who misuses the government grant of the victim's child to support other family members. The victim also feels pressurised by her mother's insistence on getting married so that they can benefit financially from her marriage.
8. 42 year old ex convict allegedly rejected by his family due to his longstanding drug abuse. He served time after his arrest for theft. Rejection by his family, his HIV status, the substance abuse, and lack of an identity document has made his re-entry into society difficult. He was referred to NICRO (National Institute for Crime Prevention and the Reintegration of Offenders).
9. 43 year old widow unable to cope on her own any longer sought counselling. The victim is embroiled in legal conflict with other family members. A property feud has torn this family apart after 1 family member decided to take legal steps to evict other family members from the home.
10. 42 year old male approached the White Door Centre for some guidance and a referral; the victim is currently feuding with a former employer as wages due to him were allegedly withheld without reason. He is currently unemployed, leaving him feeling frustrated because he cannot meet his daily living expenses.
11. 36 year old female relocated to Cape Town after being promised an employment opportunity. Upon her arrival this was not a genuine opportunity leaving her disappointed, disillusioned and still unemployed upon her return to Port Elizabeth.

12. 71 year old female pensioner residing alone in a rental that utilizes all her pension funds leaving her without money for food or any other expenses. This victim feels isolated and struggling alone as she has no support from other family members.
13. 50 year old single mother who is sole caregiver to a physically and mentally disabled daughter. According to the victim, the father of the child refuses to assist in the upbringing or care of the child due to her disability.
14. 61 year old female pensioner diagnosed with several chronic illnesses. She feels overwhelmed because her pension is the only income in the household which is expected to support family members.
15. 38 year old divorced and unemployed mother approached the White Door centre. The victim is struggling to survive as her only income is the child support grant for 1 child. She feels that the economic situation has become unbearable after her former husband abandoned them and is not making an effort to support their child in any way.
16. 37 year old mother of 1 seeking counselling. She is unemployed and struggling to support herself and her child on a government grant; which barely covers basic needs, leaving her struggling to make the monthly rent and other living expenses.