

1. *Championing Safety: Domestic Violence Prevention Interventions by the KwaZulu Natal Department of Community Safety and Liaison (KZN DCSL)*

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Given the intimate and private contexts in which inter-personal crime is occurring, the KZN Department of Community Safety and Liaison has undertaken a number of interventions to raise awareness of and prevent violence within intimate and dependent relationships. Some programmes are aimed at promoting behaviour change and restoring positive values. Others raise awareness of protective rights amongst vulnerable groups targeting women, children, older persons and more recently, men. Provincial conferences are held regularly to serve as a platform for collaboration on the Province's domestic violence prevention work.

The Department designed and implemented a *Women's Safety Audit Project*, the first of its kind in South Africa, which serves as a resource for women to utilise in assessing their safety in their particular communities. A victim support network has been set up and the Department is integrally involved in improving the Province's Victim Support Centres through supporting existing facilities and adding capacity where possible.

Youth training and Traditional Leadership (Amakhosi) training in crime prevention offered by the Department includes modules on domestic violence and police station evaluations look at police performance on some aspects of implementation of the DVA. The flagship Volunteer Social Crime Prevention Programme has so far seen 1200 volunteers trained and deployed into communities to gain knowledge of localised social crime priorities and participate in localised action against interpersonal crime.

The 'Siyabonisana Campaign' uses various media to put out critical messages aimed at the empowerment of women. The Department facilitates the newly established KZN Justice, Crime Prevention & Security (JCPS) Cluster which monitors and coordinates a myriad of safety initiatives including the establishment of the Provincial Victim Empowerment Forum and the funding of shelters for abused women. Through these collaborative programmes, the Department is taking to new levels its support for those whose lives are touched by intimate violence.