

## **Handover Ceremony of Counselling and Education Centre to Solve the Problems of Violence against Women and Girls in Murehwa District**

On 2<sup>nd</sup> April, 2019, Ambassador Iwado officially opened a new Counselling and Education Centre to stop abuse against women and girls in Murehwa District, Mashonaland East Province. The new Centre was completed through Japan's Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Projects (GGP) scheme, and was implemented by a local NGO, Rozaria Memorial Trust. It consists of a shelter, training block, counselling block, ablution block and furniture.

Previously, Rozaria Memorial Trust did not have sufficient space to conduct their activities to counsel, educate and protect women in Murehwa who suffered from violence. With the new furnished counselling and education centre right in the heart of the community, Rozaria Memorial Trust is now able to provide education, counselling and shelter to a much larger extent.

Speaking at the occasion, Ambassador Iwado said that violence against women and girls still exists in Zimbabwe, whether inside or outside the home. He emphasised that everyone needs to stand up and change attitudes so that this is no longer tolerated.

We look forward to many generations of women and girls benefitting from the new Centre, and to a more inclusive society without any violence against women and girls in Murehwa and beyond.

(See pictures below)



Ambassador speech



Unveiling ceremony



Girls with Japanese flag



National Anthem by local students



Volunteer girls



Experiencing the Nhangas, a safe space for girls



Shelter



Education Block



Nhangang



Dance performance