

Handover Ceremony of Grassroots Project
“The Project for Construction of a Clinic for Survivors of Gender-Based
Violence at Mpilo Central Hospital in Bulawayo”

On 25 April 2023, the handover ceremony of a new clinic providing counselling, treatment and psychosocial support to survivors of Gender-Based Violence (GBV) was held at Mpilo Central Hospital in Bulawayo. The project was funded through Japan’s Grant Assistance for Grassroots Humanitarian Projects (GGP) scheme with the amount of US\$ 90,905, and was completed by a local NGO, Family Support Trust. The Ambassador of Japan, H.E. Mr Satoshi Tanaka; the Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Women Affairs, Community, Small and Medium Enterprises, Mr Moses Mhike; the Director of Family Support Trust, Mr Muchinguri; hospital staff and other stakeholders attended the ceremony.

For many years, Family Support Trust has provided counselling and treatment to victims of GBV at its previous premises in the main building of Mpilo Central Hospital. However, there was insufficient space and, with other clinics also located in the same premises, they could not provide adequate privacy for the girls and young women.

The new, detached “one-stop” child-friendly clinic will enable victims of GBV to receive a comprehensive range of services, including counselling, treatment, and psychosocial support, all under one roof. It is expected to treat 2,000 victims each year, as well as reach 20,000 people each year through awareness-raising activities in the community to change social norms concerning GBV.

Speaking at the ceremony, Ambassador Tanaka said he hoped that the new clinic would allow victims of GBV to receive the care they deserved, as well as promote gender equality and improve the human security of women. He further emphasised ownership of the clinic by all the stakeholders, including Family Support Trust, the local authorities, the community and parents of victims, so that it would contribute greatly to ending GBV in Bulawayo and beyond.

(Photos below)



Speech by Ambassador Tanaka



Stakeholders at the handover ceremony



Introducing the facility to Ambassador Tanaka



Newly constructed clinic



Group photo with stakeholders



Counselling room