

Lapeng Care Centre

The Lapeng Care Centre is a safe space where women, boys, and girls who have experienced gender-based violence can access free counselling services, referrals to other services, or temporary shelter. It is run by professional counsellors and nurses.

Survivors can access the Centre on their own accord or via referrals from family members, friends, traditional leaders, Community Councilors, faith-based organizations, learning institutions, Child and Gender Protection Units, lawyers, health providers, civil society organizations, development partners, or others.



SHELTER

Women and children survivors of gender-based violence who do not have a safe place to stay can seek refuge at the Lapeng Care Centre shelter from 1 day to 6 months.

The shelter accommodates up to 30 people with separate sections for nursing mothers, women, girls, boys under 12 years, and women with children. Boys ages 13 to 17 years must be accompanied by their mother. Boys older than 17 years cannot stay at the shelter.

For safety and protection, the location of the Lapeng Care Centre is confidential but referrals can be made by police Child and Gender Protection Units, the Department of Gender offices, and some civil society organizations.



SERVICES

- A nurse attends to minor ailments and injuries and refers serious cases to hospitals or clinics.
- A professional counsellor provides mental health screening, in person and by telephone.
- Social workers provide:
 - ✓ social needs screening (e.g., food, transportation, shelter)
 - ✓ psychosocial support and one-on-one counselling to walk through a care plan and address additional needs
 - ✓ one-on-one and group check-ins with shelter clients on general needs
 - ✓ assistance in finding permanent housing and employment
 - ✓ plan for community reintegration
 - ✓ referrals to legal and health services

INTAKE PROCESS

- A social worker conducts a needs assessment to identify needs and determine whether shelter is needed
- A nurse conducts a clinical assessment and makes referrals to emergency and non-emergency services
- Based on the needs assessments, the survivor is referred to medical services, legal assistance, law enforcement, and psychological services with follow-ups
- A social worker creates an implementation plan with continuum of care and support
- A social worker provides information on legal services and shelters for children.



CONTACT INFORMATION

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The Lapeng Care Centre partners with Women in Law in Southern Africa, Legal Aid, and the International Federation of Women Lawyers for legal services; child and gender protection units for law enforcement; Beautiful Dreams to shelter boys; Good Shepherd, SHE-HIVE, and Lesotho Child Counselling Unit for psychosocial services; and the Ministry of Health (all hospitals and clinics), Ministry of Social Development, Ministry of Justice, and Ministry of Education and Training.

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