

WAAPO SEMI ANNUAL SAFEHOUSE REPORT.

Date : Jan-June 2023



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WAAPO Shelter is the only safe house exists in Somaliland. We provide critical care and support for the survivors of Gender-based violence with real security concerns and child protection. The Safe House provides both direct assistance and multi-sectorial responses such as safety and security, psychosocial support and counseling, medical-legal assistances through referrals and case management support.

The Safe House provides three months of

temporary housing, meals, hygiene supplies, child recreation material, family mediation and a reintegration program to assist survivors of GBV in reintegrating into their families of origin. WAAPO, for instance, runs three safe houses in Somaliland in three main cities Incl. Borama, Hargeisa, and Burco, as part of the WAAPO's efforts to support survivors of SGBV and CP to offer quality safe house services.

Key service include:

1. Accommodation and basic needs
2. Comprehensive support service
3. Empowerment and skill building.

Safe house locations Map

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	(Implementing Partner Name)	(IP Vendor Number)
WAAPO Hargeisa Safe House 1 Hargeisa Somaliland	Ibraahin koodbuur	9°34'08"N 44°02'33"E
WAAPO Burao Safe House 2 Burao, Somaliland	FARAH OOMAAR	9.52628° N, 45.52776° E
WAAPO Borama Safe House 3 Borama, Somaliland	Sheikh Ali Jowhar	9°56'43"N 43°11'11"E

1. Progress Information

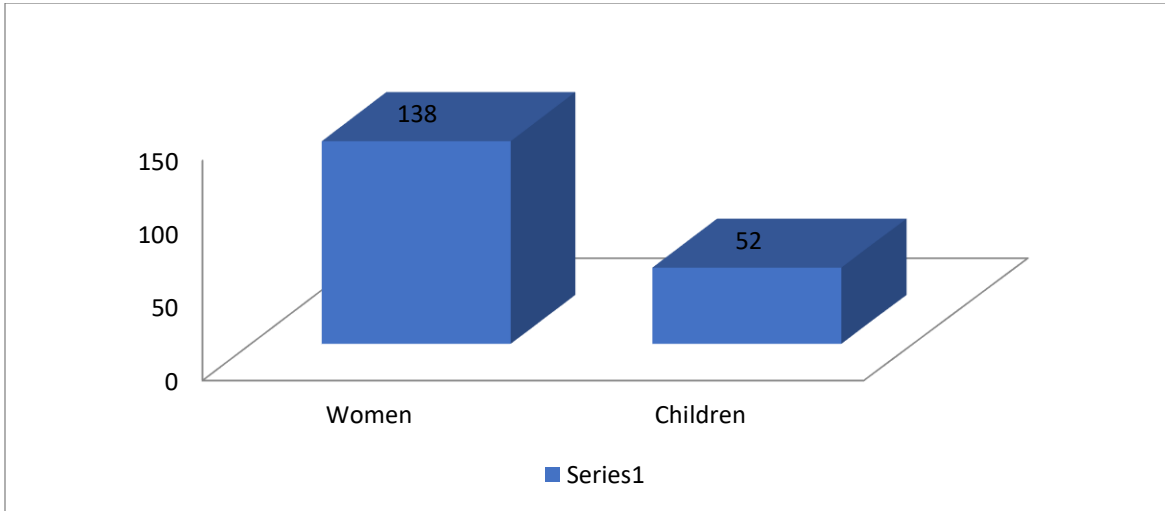
3.1 Safe house Progress

From Jan-June, WAAPO Safe House accommodated 138 survivors of gender-based violence and 52 child abuse cases, including 9 rapes, 29 domestic violence, and

12 physical abuses. They received services like accommodation, literacy skills, and counseling, as well as case management

support, medical-legal services, follow-ups

and relocation support.



3.2 MHPSS support for the survivor of GBV in the Safe houses and Communities:

WAAPO’s psychologists, and clinical psychiatric as well as the social workers and case managers who are attached to the WAAPO safe house in Hargeisa as well as Child protection desks in Sheikh Nour and Stadium assisted 450 F and 187M and provided counselling with survivor’s psychosocial problems or with the signs and symptoms of traumatic depression and stress due to the SGBV problems, and abuse by them self or family members through group counseling, one by one counseling and referral. They have also given quality and ethical supportive services through case management system such psychosocial counseling and MHPSS.

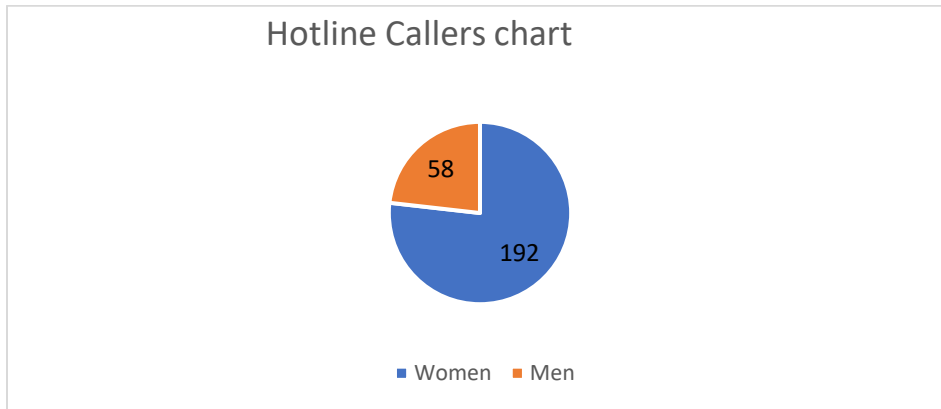
No	Status	IDPs person and Host Communities		Safe house beneficiaris		Total
		M	F	M	F	
1	Sex					
2	Total	187	312	0	138	637

3.3 Free Hotline:

The goals are to enhance referral routes through phone-based referral pathways, offer crisis intervention assistance and case management through hotlines, and help survivors of CP and GBV. A dedicated focal person, or hotline handler, has been designated by WAAPO to collect, record,

and respond to complaints as well as to provide periodical reports. The hotline is located in the Hargeisa Safe House. Through help lines and phone assistance, 250 people (192 F and 58M) were contacted. They were given remote PSS, referrals, and details

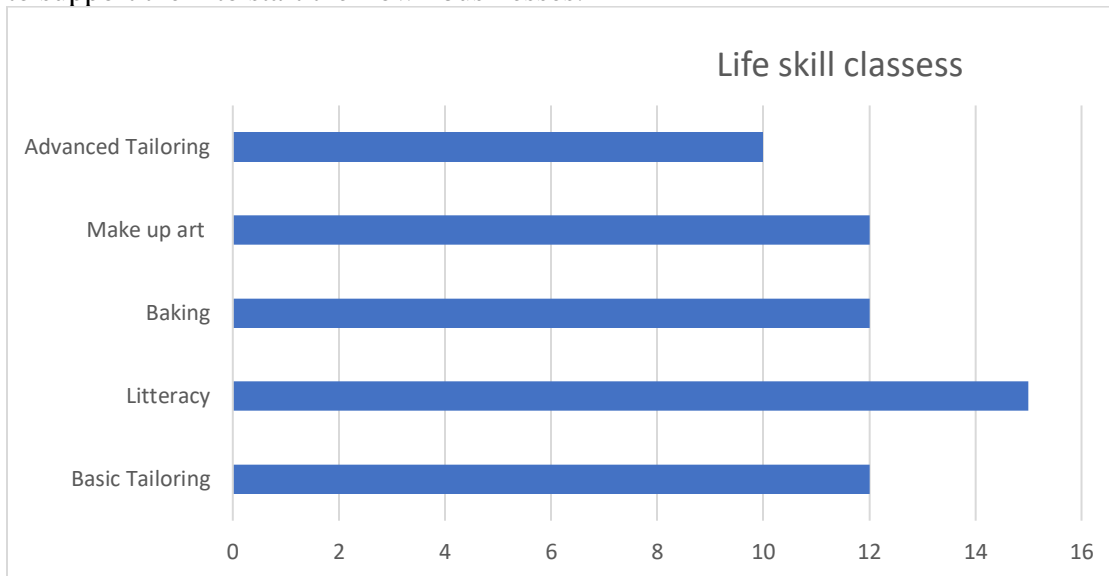
about the services that WAAPO offers to others.



3.4 Life Skill Program at the Safe House:

In Hargeisa, 27 students are enrolled in a life skills program, with 15 enrolled in math and Somali, and 12 in tailoring. The program focuses on improving students' comprehension of math, Somali, and sewing. Students learn basic skills like writing names, alphabet, and sentence building. Additionally, they learn fundamental tailoring techniques like cutting clothes and making hijabs and Batis. The program started on September 2022 ends on May 31st 2024.

There also ongoing life skill classes which includes baking, makeup art and advanced tailoring classes benefitted primarily by the survivors of the safe house. During the reporting period of Jan-Jun 2023, 34 girls and women graduated from those classes and also received graduation kits to support them to start their own businesses.





4 Primary Challenges

- Gender-based violence (GBV) survivors often experience severe emotional and psychological distress, including PTSD, anxiety, despair, and terror. These effects can impact their ability to function in daily life, relationships, and self-esteem. Social shame and stigma are common, leading to feelings of loneliness and self-blame. Survivors may face discrimination and judgment from society, making it difficult to share their experiences and seek help.
- Getting justice for GBV survivors can be challenging due to lack of knowledge about the law, insufficient police assistance, and insufficient funds to file a lawsuit. Offenders may escape punishment, perpetuating the cycle of injustice and violence. GBV can also negatively impact a woman's physical and reproductive health, leading to sexually transmitted infections, unintended pregnancies, persistent pain, and complications from improper abortions. Access to quality medical treatment and support services can be challenging.
- Financial security is also affected by GBV, as survivors may be mistreated financially, lose jobs, or face difficulties finding new work. This can result in financial reliance and increased susceptibility to mistreatment. As a result, many women may return to their former abusers.

5 Suggestion Actions to address challenges

To prevent future GBV incidents, solutions include providing financial support for survivors, enabling them to start businesses, empowering them through life skills programs, and developing programs for disabled girls and women. Additionally, increasing GBV prevention awareness and advocacy through public outreach campaigns can help them find a stable home and basic needs. These strategies can help women of GBV survivors overcome the challenges of GBV and achieve a better future.

6 Case story

In the bustling city of Hargeisa, a resilient baby girl named Amira was abandoned by her parents due to their financial struggles. Fortunately, fate smiled upon her, and she was adopted by a loving family who embraced her with open arms. As Amira grew older, her schoolmates began

to tease her about not having a biological family, causing her great distress. Determined to find her roots and put an end to the teasing, Amira took matters into her own hands and sought the help of the local police. She bravely locked herself up, refusing to leave until they unearthed the truth and found her long-lost family. With her unwavering determination and the support of the police, Amira's story spread throughout the community, inspiring many to join the search. Eventually, her biological family was located, and Amira's dream of reuniting with them finally came true. Through her strength and resilience, she not only found her biological family but also taught her schoolmates the importance of acceptance and compassion. Amira's story became a symbol of triumph over adversity and a reminder that true family is defined by love and not solely by blood.

