SWWS provides support to women in distress, through its phone line and drop-in center, and advocates to change situations which have a negative impact on the lives of women and children. Tackling discrimination and violence remains a core concern of the organization. Through our networks with the renamed Joint Action Group (JAG) for Gender Equality; our own advocacy and collaboration with a range of government departments and civil society organizations, SWWS speaks up for women’s rights and helps empower women.

**OUR PURPOSE**

- To achieve gender equality and eradicate discrimination
- To educate women and girls on their rights
- To advance the position of women in society
- To increase awareness of the exploitation and abuse of women and girls in a range of situations

**FIND US**

**Contact Info**

- **Address**
  Unit 16, Level 4, La Promenade Mall 2, Hock Seng Lee Tower, Kuching-Samarahan Expressway, 94300 Kota Samarahan, Sarawak, Malaysia.

- **Email**
  info@sarswws.org

- **Land Line**
  082-368 853

- **Handphone**
  013-804 4285
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On behalf of the newly elected committee members for the year 2022-2024, I would like to extend my thanks and appreciation for the members’ trust and confidence in us. I would like to thank the old past committee members especially the past president Mdm Margaret Bedus for her great work and commitment in sustaining SWWS until today.

I hope the new committee members will continue this great work and achieve SWWS’s objectives and bring us to a greater height. As the pandemic is over, there will be more interactive programmes lined up this year including Randau with MPS, DVFAT workshop, capacity building training for CPL/WINNE paracounselors and our collaboration with the new Community Social Services Centre in the centre of Kuching. Hope we can continue to work together in good faith and with full commitment."

"First of all, I would like to congratulate the new Committee for creating this e- newsletter and also thanks for inviting me to pen a word or two. Secondly, I want to take this opportunity to thank all the previous Committees & all our members from the bottom of my heart for your immense support, co-operation and friendship during my tenure as SWWS President for the last 20 years.

You all have been a great team and I pray you all will continue to do the same for Dr Angie, the new President and her new committee. Congratulations!

My best wishes to everyone as you all continue to move forward and keep SWWS flag flying high, staying focused and true to our objectives and mission for gender equality & women empowerment. Last but not the least my warmest welcome to all the new members."
Women's Crisis Phoneline, operated by trained member since 1988, is a confidential service providing support to women in distress and aims to empower them to make their own decisions. It is a non-religious, multi-racial, and multi-lingual service.

SWWS Crisis Phone Line, now known as WINNE (Women In Need Need Empowerment) aims to provide a listening ear, empathy and empowering support to women in distress. We assist women to explore various ways to resolve their crisis and give women encouragement to make their own decisions.

**WHO CAN CALL?**
Women who:
- are in distress
- need someone to turn to for support.
- need someone to confide in and share their problems.
- need information to make their own decisions

**HOW CAN YOU HELP?**

- By being a volunteer
- By offering your professional expertise
- By helping us financially with cash donations
- By publicising the service
Figure 1 shows the medium used by clients to reach SWWS. In 2022, WINNE reported 60 cases:

- 29 via WhatsApp (text)
- 16 via phone call
- 6 via personal referral
- 6 via drop in centre
- 2 via Instagram
- 1 via e-mail

We received at least one case every month which included domestic violence concerns, mental health concerns, relationship problems, financial problems, divorce/legal enquiries, harassment and other issues. The majority of cases were domestic violence. The 15 classified as other consisted of enquiries, cases to be referred to other agencies and assaults by unrelated parties.

Some people raised multiple issues. For instance, a domestic violence situation that also involved mental health problems; another was about divorce as well as marital rape. Up until November 2022, we received 11 cases with multiple issues.

Out of the total 60 clients, 56 of them are female (93.3%), 1 male and 3 clients who preferred not to disclose their gender.

In addition to the new referrals shown above, SWWS members also continued to help several women who first contacted us before 2022.

Testimony from our long term client

"I have lived in fear, helplessness and hopelessness for many years until I met my lawyer and received help from SWWS. It is with the encouragement, counselling and continuous support from SWWS that got me to where I am today. SWWS enabled me to regain my courage and confidence and enabled me to break free from the abusive situation; to stop this domestic violence from happening, and learn to love myself again. The social workers in SWWS are patient in accompanying me in my personal journey without contempt and prejudice. They respect me as a human being."

(39-year-old Domestic Violence survivor/Chinese)
SWWS Sanitary Protection Donation Drive
ongoing project in 2022

50 sets of sanitary pads have been distributed to Kupo Sauh (Gereja Good News) and Kupo Raya, Kampung Sadir, Puncak Borneo (villages in remote areas of Padawan, Sarawak).

Up until the end of 2022, over 86,000 pieces of sanitary pads were donated.

SUHAKAM visited SWWS Drop-In Centre
25 JANUARY 2022

The Children's Commissioner of SUHAKAM (Human Rights Commission of Malaysia), Prof. Dato' Noor Aziah Hj. Mohd. Awal, Mr. Sophian Osman (SUHAKAM Sarawak) and their team visited SWWS to discuss how to uphold children's rights.

New Year Planning Workshop for SWWS Committee and Staff
JANUARY 2022

SWWS Committee met up to discuss and plan for our programmes in 2022.
Women’s Organization for Change based in Sibu visited Kuching specifically to meet with SWWS to discuss our work in the field of domestic violence. We had a very useful sharing session.

Meeting with UNICEF’s Social Policy team
11 FEBRUARY 2022

During their trip to Sarawak, Mr Stephen Barret (Chief of Social Policy) and Amarpreet Kaur (Knowledge Management Officer) arranged to meet with SWWS to discuss potential collaborative work and the Position Paper "Situation of Children in Sarawak", SWWS had written for the Child Rights Coalition of Malaysia.

IWD #breakthebias Campaign
4 – 8 MARCH 2022

In conjunction with International Women’s Day, SWWS collaborated with social media change makers for #breakthebias online campaign to raise awareness against bias and take action for equality.

SWWS thanks Shen-tel Lee, Alezxandria Kapple, Asyilah Tan, Jolynn J Chin, Amanda Lo and Alena Murang for sharing the message and being part of the movement to #breakthebias!
Through our #bukansalahkamek “Breaking Our Silence” exhibition, SWWS hopes to raise more awareness about the prevalence of sexual violence in Sarawak and provide a safe space for survivors to share their stories.

Let’s stand with survivors and end rape culture within our communities.

On the last 3 Saturdays at the “Breaking Our Silence” exhibition, SWWS and Bodhi Counselling collaborated to organise Children Personal Safety workshops in Bahasa Sarawak, English and Mandarin at Level 1, La Promenade Mall.

The purpose of the workshop was to empower our little ones with the knowledge of their own bodily rights, what safe and unsafe touches are and to identify their body parts.
SWWS Events

**SWWS interview on TVS about Child Marriage**
29 MAY 2022

Assistant Secretary of SWWS, Nabilahuda went on TVS to talk about Child Marriage in Malaysia. Watch the full segment of the interview on TVS' YouTube Channel.

**[LANGSUNG] SEJAHTERA ASIA, 29 MEI 2022**
(SWWS Segment Timestamp: 23:45 - 33:15)

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**Child Personal Safety Talk**
15 JUNE 2022

SWWS was invited to speak on Child Personal Safety on 15th June 2022 in SMK Batu Kawa.

2 sessions were conducted:
- one for Special Education Needs Students,
- another for teachers and counsellors (by Dr Dylan, an educational psychologist)

---

**Talk on Violence against Women and Children**
19 JUNE 2022

Ms Shoba Aiyar, a registered counsellor and social worker from KL shared her experience and knowledge in handling domestic violence cases and shelter homes with SWWS members and invited guests. SWWS thanks Ms Shoba for this insightful and helpful session at SWWS Drop-in Centre.
Girls Talk With MASPENA UITM Students
1 JULY 2022

SWWS Vice-President, Kimberley Tan gave a talk on women empowerment to UITM Students on 1 July 2022. The talk was conducted via Zoom and live-streamed on Facebook.

Sharing at Sarawak Counselling Colloquium
2 JULY 2022

Athila represented SWWS to share about SWWS and reach out to the people of Kampung Telaga Air.

SWWS thanks Year 3 UNIMAS Counselling students (2021/2022) for inviting SWWS to the Sarawak Counselling Colloquium 2022 “Counselling Builds Resilience in Community”.

Meeting with United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) representative
26 JULY 2022

Ms Yen Ne Foo (National Programme Officer, Human Trafficking and Migrant Smuggling division), visited to enquire about child-friendly interviewing facilities for vulnerable children (special interest smuggled/ trafficked but also CSA & others). The session enabled her to have some insight into the systems in Sarawak.

Father Alvin from Roman Catholic Church and SUHAKAM committee for Sarawak joined the meeting as well.
Margaret Bedus and Krystal Nantie visited Jabatan Wanita Keluarga Sarawak to meet the new Director, Puan Norita at Wisma Wanita.

**Meeting with One Stop Crisis Centre**
**10 AUGUST 2022**

As part of orientation week for our newly appointed social workers, we visited Sarawak General Hospital to discuss how our new staff could work with the hospital's One Stop Crisis Centre. We were very well received and procedures for collaboration were agreed.

**Visit to Jabatan Kebajikan Masyarakat**
**12 AUGUST 2022**

Likewise we had a very fruitful meeting with JKM to introduce our new staff and to learn about the current process for obtaining emergency protection orders and admission of clients to the JKM's shelter.
SWWS Events

Child Personal Safety Workshop
10 & 27 AUGUST 2022

SWWS was invited to conduct four Child Personal Safety Workshops at Faith Methodist Church for children and parents. The workshops were divided by groups of children aged 5-8 years old and 9-12 years old. It was conducted in English (10 August) and Mandarin (27 August).

Facilitated by Darleen Athila Leng, Ita Ling, Shannon Tan, Wee Bee Eng, Rose Bennit, Dr Ling How Kee, Chua Kuan Ching and Grace Pui

Visit To WCC Penang
25 AUGUST 2022

SWWS visited our sister NGO, WCC Penang to learn more about their work on crisis intervention and the operations of their shelter for women and children of domestic violence.
SWWS Events

Domestic Violence Talk
28 SEPTEMBER 2022
No of attendees: 58

Domestic Violence talk by Krystal Nantie at Pesta Tasik Biru, Bau.
Facilitated by Hurilain Hasya and Mary Ulok.

SWWS Members' Meet Up
3 DECEMBER 2022

This meet up was an opportunity for members who had joined during the pandemic to gather together at our new office and meet with older members.

The sharing session focused on the current activities of SWWS. Members were encouraged to participate in the upcoming events.

Booth at Sarawak Club Family Day
11 DECEMBER 2022

SWWS was invited to attend and set-up a booth at The Sarawak Club Family Day.

We thank The Sarawak Club for the generous donation and inviting SWWS to the family day.
Domestic Violence First Aid Training (DVFAT) Workshop

Training Workshop for Frontliners

Date: 20th & 21st July 2022
Time: 8:30 AM – 5:00 PM
Venue: Serapi Hotel

Limited Seating, by invitation only

Organized by: SARAWAK WOMEN FOR WOMEN SOCIETY
Sponsored by: JWKS

Organizing chairperson: Margaret Bedus
MC: Krystal Nantie
Key Speakers:
1. Dr Ling How Kee
2. Dr Angie Garet
3. Chua Kuan Ching
4. Gill Raja

The objectives of the training were:

i. To raise community awareness and understanding of domestic violence
ii. To build capacity of frontline workers to better support and advocate for survivors of domestic violence.
iii. To equip participants with the 3 R skills (Recognize, Respond, Refer) in addressing domestic violence.

Throughout this two-day Domestic Violence Frontliners Training (DVFT) Programme, we learned how to recognise domestic violence and intimate partner violence; how to intervene and respond to crisis as frontliners and about services provided by various departments and agencies.

Thank you to Jabatan Wanita dan Keluarga Sarawak (JWKS) for sponsoring this programme! The DVFT Programme is a kickstart to a series of awareness programmes on domestic violence by SWWS planned for the future.
In collaboration with Majlis Pembangunan Sosial Sarawak (MPSS), SWWS participated in their Program Randau Pembangunan Sosial. Through this Outreach Program, SWWS delivers workshops on:

- Child Personal Safety to Primary 1 - 6 students
- Healthy Relationship to students in Form 1 - 5.

These talks are conducted in local dialects according to the rural areas we are sent to.

**Long Bedian, Miri**

15th - 17th July 2022

**No. of Participants:**
- Child Personal Safety Program (ages 7 - 12): 57 pax
- Healthy Relationship Program (ages 13 - 17): 25 pax

Facilitator: Dr Angie Garet, Krystal Nantie

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**Munggu Tunggal, Debak**

19th - 21st August 2022

**No. of Participants:**
- Child Personal Safety Program (ages 7 - 12): 55 pax
- Healthy Relationship Program (ages 13 - 17): 35 pax

Facilitator: Krystal Nantie
No. of Participants:
Child Personal Safety Program (ages 7 - 12) : 52 pax
Healthy Relationship Program (ages 13 - 17) : 57 pax
Facilitator: Krystal Nantie, Dr Angie Garet

No. of Participants:
Child Personal Safety Program (ages 7 - 12) : 68 pax
Healthy Relationship Program (ages 13 - 17) : 25 pax
Facilitator: Krystal Nantie
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS CAMPAIGN

Starting from 6th October to 27th October, SWWS through an online platform launched a Domestic Violence Awareness Month campaign on Instagram & Facebook.

The posters are available in 3 languages: English, Malay and Mandarin.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Social Media</th>
<th>Total Reach</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Instagram</td>
<td>2418</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Facebook</td>
<td>4898</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>7316</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Online Views: 7,316 unique accounts

SWWS will be conducting this online campaign yearly to engage with more people in order to increase the awareness on domestic violence.
BREAKING OUR SILENCE BY
#BUKANSALAHKAMEK

#bukansalahkamek, SWWS’ localised #metoo movement held an exhibition in collaboration with What About Kuching (WAK) 2022 Festival.

The purpose of the exhibition was to create safe spaces for survivors to share their experiences with sexual harassment (SH) or sexual violence (SV). It was also held to raise public awareness on the prevalence of SH & SV in our community, especially amongst our children.

No of attendees: 1,649 pax

Feedback from attendees

Thank you for having this exhibition open for public eyes. Thank you for bringing this (taboo) topic of abuse to the WAK/public. I appreciate all the work knowing how difficult it is to talk about a recognised it as a problem in Asian culture.

- informative, well researched (child marriage) action plan ready
- impressive / shocking examples of reality
- open day on sexual abuse - very good
- resource for child marriage - important number of

Thank you, keep going!
Through this exhibition, we highlighted issues on sexual violence, child marriage and period spot check in schools. Thank you everyone and especially our volunteers for supporting this event!

Part of our exhibition included audio clips of survivors’ stories. Selected clips have been published on all our social media platforms for awareness.

During our #bukansalahkamek exhibition, we collected petition signatures to call on the government to ban child marriage in Sarawak.

Total signatures collected: 251

For more information about our #bukansalahkamek campaign, visit our campaign website at www.bukansalahkamek.my
14th February 2022 - SWWS applauds the statement from the Parliamentary Special Select Committee for Women, Children and Social Development reminding the authorities that when a mother appears to have ended her child's life within 24 hours after birth that she should be charged with infanticide not murder and have access to legal and psychological support.

10th April 2022 - SWWS fully supports the State Government’s decision to issue temporary documentation to stateless children as announced by YB Dato Sri Fatimah Abdullah recently.

NEW SARAWAK TRIBUNE
6 APRIL 2022

“We are often weighed down by taboo, stigma and shame... but, all these will not help the victims and survivors with their journey of trauma healing.” SWWS Vice-President, Kimberley Tan, told New Sarawak Tribune.

SWWS was invited to contribute to the following report on Malaysia’s Education Crisis, published on 9 May 2022 (accessible on NECIC website):

A National Emergency - Our Children’s Learning Loss: A Path to Post-COVID-19 School Recovery in Malaysia
SWWS is concerned about the recent news of sexual abuse by a teacher in a school in the Bintulu area. The accused has disappeared after questioning by police and was not detained as required by the law. The students reporting sexual abuse were under 16.

When such reports are made, it is essential all authorities take prompt action to make sure students are safe and have access to medical and psychological services.

"Whether students are already sexually active or not, we have to start by listening empathetically to them with open minds to hear how they see things." SWWS President Dr Angie Garet spoke to New Sarawak Tribune on this issue.

Press Release: SWWS is astonished and appalled by the recent majority decision of the Appeal Court which denies Malaysian Women married to foreigners the same rights as Malaysian men to automatically pass on their citizenship to their children born overseas.
NEW SARAWAK TRIBUNE
19 OCTOBER

The Sarawak Women for Women Society (SWWS) is gathering petition signatures to call on the government to ban child marriage in Sarawak.

The society stated that the petition signatures will be presented to the Sarawak State Legislative Assembly (DUN).

SWWS Press Release:

GE15 –
Long way to go for Gender Equality

7th November 2022

PRESS RELEASE
5 DECEMBER

SWWS is pleased to announce an extension of its service through the opening of the Kuching Community Social Support Centre (CSSC), a collaborative venture between the State Government’s Social Development Council and NGOs.

Thanks to the innovative CSSC project, women experiencing domestic violence, sexual harassment, sexual violence or other violations of rights can now meet with our social worker/counsellor in the centre of town.

7 NOVEMBER || GE15
- LONG WAY TO GO FOR GENDER EQUALITY

SWWS hopes voters will use the forthcoming general election to advance gender equality so we have a more just, caring and prosperous society.
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
(2022-2024)

President
Vice President
Secretary
Assistant Secretary
Treasurer
Assistant Secretary
Committee Members
Co-opt Members

Angie Garet
Kimberley Tan
Yvonne Yeo
Nabila Abd Malik
Sara Nadia binti Suib
Darleen Athila Leng
Ita Ling
Aronnyzer anak Sineng
Chua Kuan Ching
Margaret Bedus
Gill Raja
Ling How Kee

SWWS STAFF
Programme Officer
(Part-time)
Krystal Nantie

Digital Marketing Officer
(Part-time)
Grace Ong

Senior Social Worker
Mary Ulok

Social Worker
Hurilain Hasya

Account and Admin Officer
Nurfarah Izzati
Angeline Lim (ex-officer)
In 2022, SWWS received 22 practicum students.

UNIMAS: 18 Students completing their Community Service Project
Open University Malaysia (OUM): 2 Students in their Masters for Counselling

Apart for the practicum, SWWS also received multiple visits from UNIMAS social work, anthropology and sociology students and Taylor’s University Lakeside Campus for an interview. SWWS thanks the students for their interest in SWWS.
DONORS & SPONSORS
2022

| Contact Info |
| Address |
| Unit 16, Level 4, La Promenade Mall 2, Hock Seng Lee Tower, Kuching- Samarahan Expressway, 94300 Kota Samarahan, Sarawak, Malaysia. |
| Land Line |
| 082-368 853 |
| Handphone |
| 013-804 4285 |
| Email |
| info@sarswws.org |
| Find us at: |
| https://sarswws.org/ |

Sarawak Women for Women Society

ORGANISATIONS/ CORPORATION

THE SARAWAK CLUB
CAHYA MATA SARAWAK BERHAD
HOCK SENG LEE BERHAD
FAT SPOON SDN BHD
BOWERHAUS SDN BHD
SUPPAGOOD SDN BHD
JUNE BAKES COMPANY
TABUNG EKONOMI GAGASAN ANAK BUMIPUTERA SARAWAK
FACULTY OF MEDICAL & HEALTH SCIENCES UNIMAS - (COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECT)
HELP UNI STUDENTS (FOUNDATION OF ARTS 2022)
MALAYSIAN COMMUNICATIONS & MULTIMEDIA COMMISSION (MCMC)
MAXIS
JABATAN WANITA DAN KELUARGA SARAWAK

SWWS greatly appreciate and acknowledge every donation in support of our work. We apologize for not including individual donation due to limited space.

PARTNERS & SUPPORTING AGENCIES

Thank You

To all for your support to SWWS over the 37 years. Thank you for taking a step with us in making the community a better place for our women and children.

Your ongoing contribution is very much appreciated.

Account Name: Pertubuhan Wanita Untuk Wanita Sarawak (SWWS)
Bank: Maybank
Account No: 5612 3963 1577