

VOICES AGAINST VIOLENCE —THE— GBV GLOBAL INITIATIVE

Voices Against Violence: The GBV Global Initiative provides urgent assistance to survivors of extreme forms of gender-based violence and harmful traditional practices. The following explains who is eligible and how to apply for support.

1. Who is eligible?

- An individual who has been directly threatened or harmed by an act of extreme violence perpetrated on the basis of that individual's gender.
- An individual who has recently been harmed or is currently experiencing an urgent threat of harm (typically, the violence must have occurred within the last three months, and threats must be ongoing).
- An individual who has limited or no options for alternative assistance.
- An individual of any gender or sexual orientation.
- An individual seeking short-term, often lifesaving, emergency assistance.

2. What constitutes an extreme form of gender-based violence or harmful traditional practice?

- Extreme forms of gender-based violence are severe acts or threats of violence that target individuals or groups on the basis of their gender and result in, or are likely to result in, severe physical, sexual or psychological harm or suffering. This includes, but is not limited to extreme forms of the following: assault; battery; domestic violence; sexual violence; sexual exploitation; trafficking in persons; and attempted, or the threat of femicide or murder.
- Harmful traditional practices are discriminatory and often abusive customs that include, but are not limited to the following: early and forced marriage; attempted, or the threat of "honor" killings; female genital mutilation/cutting (FGM/C); and sex initiation rites.

3. What can be requested?

- By definition, emergency assistance is given to address an acute and recent act or immediate threat.
- The program can support individuals who meet the above stated criteria, with small, short-term emergency funds for expenses that include, but are not limited to, medical expenses, psychosocial support or counseling,

emergency shelter or other safe accommodation, temporary relocation expenses, temporary livelihood and dependent support (including foster care and other forms of child care), and legal assistance.

- This initiative can typically provide support for individuals for up to three months. Emergency support is not intended to be a long term solution, but rather an intermediary support mechanism where local service providers are unable to assist.

4. Who can request assistance?

- Individual victims/survivors of GBV can request emergency assistance directly or through intermediaries such as civil society organizations, services providers, community or faith-based groups, and/or family members.
- All funds given must go directly to the victim/survivor. Intermediaries cannot retain any of these funds.

5. How can you request assistance?

- If you would like to request assistance, contact gbvresponse@gmail.com. Please include a brief summary about the situation, including a timeline, type of assistance being requested, and your contact information.
- If you are not able to disclose this information over email, please contact gbvresponse@gmail.com with alternative contact information such as a phone number or Skype ID.
- Requests for assistance can be made in English, French, Spanish, Russian and Arabic.

6. How do we determine eligibility?

- All applications are reviewed to determine whether they meet the eligibility criteria and whether the assistance requested is reasonable under the circumstances presented. The review process independently verifies the information provided by the applicant.

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