



# **Annual Report**

**As at June 2016**

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## VISION AND MISSION



ZIMBABWE  
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### **LRF's Vision**

A Zimbabwe where human rights are upheld and all people have access to justice.

### **LRF'S Mission**

To improve access to justice and promote human rights in Zimbabwe through:

- § Providing legal and civic education / information
- § Offering legal services
- § Responding to human rights abuses
- § Training service providers in the justice system and public sector
- § Promoting law and policy reform
- § Promoting citizen participation in governance

### **LRF'S Values**

- § Integrity
- § Tolerance
- § Fairness
- § Professionalism
- § Gender sensitivity
- § Accountability

## **Trustees of the Legal Resources Foundation**

### Chairperson

Mr M T Makonese (elected March 2016, deceased April 2016)

Mr M McCartney (elected June 2016)

### Trustees

Mr T Bere (elected June 2016)

Ms S Hove

Mr E Jinda

Mr S Mugumisi

Mr E Ndebele

Ms B Parham Field

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Mrs K Wallace-Karenga

Mr M Warhurst (elected July 2015)

Mrs G Zvaravanhu (resigned May 2016)

### **Auditors**

KPMG Chartered Accountants (Zimbabwe)

### **Bankers**

Stanbic Bank of Zimbabwe

Barclays Bank of Zimbabwe Limited

### Legal Resources Foundation

P O Box 918

Harare

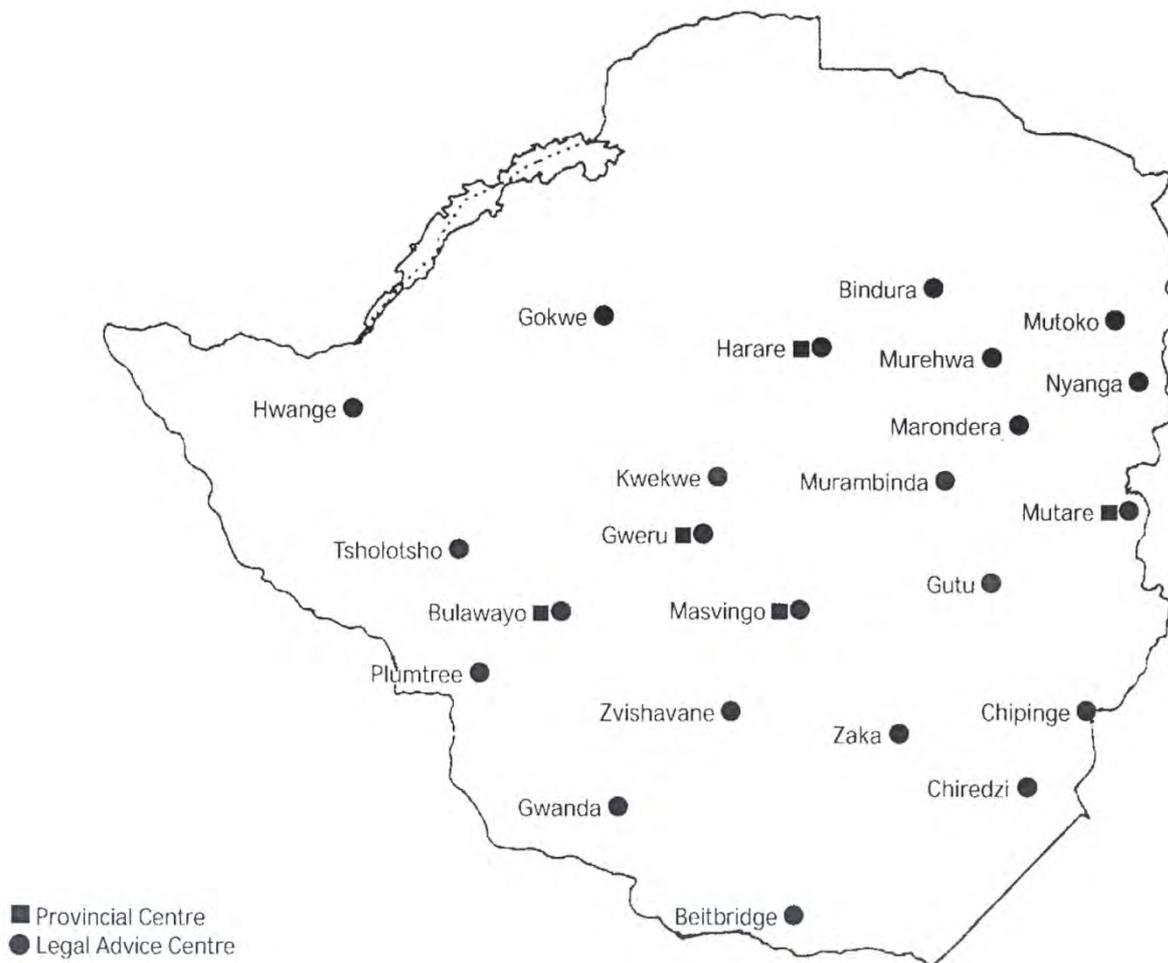
Zimbabwe

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## **CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE (1)**

The past twelve months have again been a very difficult time both for Zimbabwe and the Legal Resources Foundation so it is a measure of achievement that we got through the year. The economy has continued to decline, pushing more people into poverty and increasing the number needing the services of non-governmental organisations such as the LRF. On the political front the focus has been more on internecine battles within political parties than on governing the country to try to get it out of its decline. The cash crisis that developed in 2016 made doing business more difficult and more expensive.

Despite the many challenges faced, this report illustrates well the LRF's ongoing commitment to assisting marginalised communities and its successes in raising awareness of legal issues as well as enabling people to use their new knowledge to obtain redress when their rights have been obstructed. One of the strengths of the LRF over the past 31 years is that it has been rooted in the community and has earned people's trust and confidence. Sadly the changes in the international humanitarian field have seen diminishing resources available and the LRF during the coming year will have to reduce its national footprint. All efforts will be made to do this in such a way as to minimise the impact and it is coming at a time when there is growing focus on the importance of making quality legal aid available for the indigent. The 22 magistrates' courts being built, with support from the Danish Government and the LRF as Fund Manager, all have a legal aid office within the building and the LRF is working with other legal aid providers to develop a comprehensive system of providing legal services at the courts.

The Board was deeply saddened by the untimely passing on 28 April 2016 of the Chairman, Mkausi Thomas Makonese, a renowned human rights lawyer. He was the founding director of LRF Masvingo, established in 1991. When he stepped down from many years of wise leadership in that role in 2010 he joined the LRF Board of Trustees and was elected Chair of the Board in March 2016. He was a much respected and valued colleague and mentor who is sorely missed by the LRF and the wider legal fraternity.

I wish to thank my fellow Trustees for their support and I commend the management and staff of the LRF, who have soldiered on during the difficult months and individually and collectively ensured that the LRF delivered on its mandate. I am confident that the LRF will continue to play its vital role in the coming year.

Murray McCartney  
**CHAIRMAN**



## LEGAL EDUCATION PROGRAMME (1)

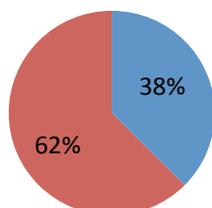
A 2016 evaluation of the work of the LRF found that the LRF has helped change lives in a variety of ways through making people aware of their rights and training them not only to claim those rights but also to assert them. Through its legal education programme, LRF has lent credence to Nelson Mandela's assertion that "education is the most powerful weapon we can use to change the world". A holistic approach was taken to the community sensitisation so that both victims and perpetrators of human rights violations were helped to understand the legal implications of their actions.



*Participants at an outreach in Mutoko*

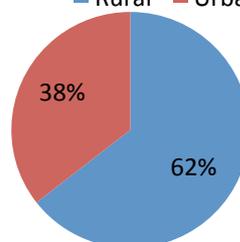
## Legal education participants by gender

■ Males ■ Females



## Legal Education participants by geographical location

■ Rural ■ Urban



Topics identified through needs assessments and subsequently addressed during outreaches and workshops included birth certificates, children's rights, civil and political rights, HIV and the law, inheritance, marriage and the law, socio-economic rights, sexual abuse and the writing of wills. The LRF's legal education contributed to positive changes in behaviour and attitudes among community members as demonstrated in the feedback from beneficiaries below:

*"Being a widow was more like a crime; relatives would take all the property as well as controlling your life, but the LRF liberated us."* (A woman from Gutu)

*"My late father was a member of the Johane Marange sect. He had three wives other than my late mother. Due to ignorance of the law, I intended to drive them from my late father's plot. However, as a result of this meeting I have acquired legal knowledge and will not do anything outside the parameters of the law. Thank you LRF for such a programme. Please extend this to other places."* (Mutoko)

*"Since we started working with the LRF, we have seen a lot of people registering property and reporting cases of human rights violations."* (Bindura Urban Community Development Trust Legal Officer)

*"We sometimes conduct outreaches with the LRF and immediately after conducting the outreaches we record an increase in the number of abused people who report cases to the police."* (Assistant Inspector for the Victim Friendly Unit, Nyanga)



*LRF Mutare paralegal Philip Mwatsika conducting an outreach*

## **Community Outreaches (2)**

Outreaches are conducted in such a way that people meet for a short time and therefore have the benefit of being more easily slotted into people's timetables. All people, regardless of gender, age and political affiliation, are given equal opportunities to participate and encouraged to help in the promotion of a culture of respect for human rights.



*St Marys Nyanga – men and women studying the pamphlets distributed*

Statistics show that 20% of the people who visited the LRF for legal advice came after attending outreaches, and 24% were referred by relatives who had attended. 46,061 people were reached, of whom 62% were women. 62% of beneficiaries lived in more remote areas routinely overlooked in the provision of information or services. Notable immediate results of the outreaches include an increase in number of people seeking to register births and a reduction in incidences of domestic violence cases in some areas, A specific example was a

40% increase in the number of people applying for birth certificates reported by the office of the Registrar General in Chigiji, Mashonaland Central.

	Outreaches	Rural		Urban		Total
		Female	Male	Female	Male	
<b>Bulawayo</b>	320	4,665	3,456	2,750	2,455	13,326
<b>Gweru</b>	184	3,256	2,189	643	473	6,561
<b>Harare</b>	400	2,587	2,078	6,272	1,545	12,482
<b>Masvingo</b>	220	2,299	1,715	617	245	4,876
<b>Mutare</b>	248	3,586	2,510	1,878	842	8,816
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,372</b>	<b>16,393</b>	<b>11,948</b>	<b>12,160</b>	<b>5,560</b>	<b>46,061</b>



*Participants at an outreach in Budiro*

### **Outreaches in prison (3)**

Besides conducting outreaches in communities, the LRF also remembered the “hard to reach” people such as prison inmates, amongst whom a popular topic was bail: what it is, how one applies for it and the factors that the Court takes into account before granting bail. The LRF visited 14 prisons routinely and over six months was able to advise 1,049 inmates, of whom 15% were women.

### **Impact of Outreaches (3)**

The outreaches generally raised awareness on unlawful conduct, often a result of ignorance, culture or tradition.

*“I used to be very abusive towards my wife but as a result of your education sessions, I now resolve our disputes in a better way. I have become good at cascading basic legal information to others wherever I am.”*

*“I am pleasantly surprised that the rights of widows/widowers are the same. I encourage all of us to inform others about this when we get to our respective villages” (Councillor)*

Highlighting the contribution of the LRF in reducing incidences of domestic violence, one participant during a focus group discussion said:

*“Men are now aware that if they beat us we report to Room 1 and the women are also now aware that if they beat their husbands they will report to the same room, so we are no longer beating each other.” (Gamba villager, Gwanda)*

### **One-Day Community Leaders' Workshops (2)**

The workshops targeted traditional and community leaders, equipping them with knowledge to apply a human rights-based approach in the conduct of their duties and act as watchdogs. The LRF demystified the law and helped vulnerable people to understand that they could access free legal assistance. An anti-domestic violence committee was formed in Mutoko after the LRF's intervention where they are resolving some incidences at community level.



*Role Play during a workshop in Seke*



*People with disabilities at a workshop in Murehwa*

In the Marange community in Manicaland people are slowly abandoning the practice of marrying young girls as the community leaders are now advocating for an end to child marriages.

*“After learning about child abuse, we no longer allow anyone to marry our young girls. We are announcing at all community meetings that early child marriages are wrong, as a result the cases of early child marriages have significantly gone down.”*

	Workshops	Rural		Urban		Total
		Female	Male	Female	Male	
<b>Bulawayo</b>	246	2,932	2,514	1,191	566	<b>7,203</b>
<b>Gweru</b>	62	616	1,117	196	334	<b>2,263</b>
<b>Harare</b>	94	1,502	1,411	1,049	490	<b>4,452</b>
<b>Masvingo</b>	70	560	691	100	200	<b>1,551</b>
<b>Mutare</b>	44	899	609	227	154	<b>1,889</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>516</b>	<b>6,509</b>	<b>6,342</b>	<b>2,763</b>	<b>1,744</b>	<b>17,358</b>

*“After receiving legal education, I no longer tolerate any form of abuse in my community; I make sure that people report to the LRF or to the police. We were taught that we have a mandate to protect human rights as community leaders.”*

*“Learnt about Customary Law inheritance how 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> wives benefit from husband’s estate and those children from 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> wives share equally.”*

*“We thank you (LRF) for bringing us this knowledge; I didn’t know that the Constitution had laid down so many rights. The last time I heard about my rights was during Copac.”*

*“Please come back and teach our children as well. They need to be educated on issues to do with child rights and inheritance as they affect them as well.”*



*Participants doing group work during a workshop held at Crossdale Primary School*

### **Training of Community-Based Organisations (CBOs) (3)**

The LRF embarked on activities designed to enhance the sustainability of its community-based work by building the capacity of selected CBOs, at this time specifically in Nyanga, Zvishavane and Chiredzi. Working from the premise that CBOs play important roles in communities and can be agents of change at community level, the training included project management, financial management, good governance and advocacy. During the lifetime of the project they will be assisted to link their communities with decision makers and employ practical advocacy strategies to bring about desired change in their communities. To date the LRF has worked with three CBOs and trained 57 members, 27 of them women.

### **Conversation cafés (2)**

Conversation cafés provide a platform for youth in communities to come together to discuss legal issues affecting them and the community at large. Although issues raised as challenges by the youth varied from place to place, the issue of child abuse and child marriages emerged from all discussions across the country. Other common issues were drug abuse, domestic violence, high unemployment and school drop-outs. The problems of corruption among public service officials and poor service delivery were identified as contributing to human rights violations. The challenges raised during conversation cafés were then escalated for discussion during outreaches and workshops as well as informing the LRF's advocacy work.



*Raising issues of concern, Hopley*

<b>Provincial Centre</b>	<b>Cafés Planned</b>	<b>Female</b>	<b>Male</b>	<b>Total Participants</b>
<b>Bulawayo</b>	16	173	118	291
<b>Gweru</b>	9	75	120	195
<b>Harare</b>	15	194	180	374
<b>Masvingo</b>	10	81	101	182
<b>Mutare</b>	10	134	167	301
<b>Total</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>657</b>	<b>686</b>	<b>1,343</b>

## **Collaboration (2)**

In financially straitened times it is increasingly important for organisations to work collaboratively and not competitively, a methodology to which the LRF wholeheartedly subscribes. The LRF in partnership with PLAN Chiredzi successfully contributed to the protection and promotion of children’s rights in the Chiredzi community. As well as providing legal services, the LRF equipped Peer Legal Advisors with information on the Declaration of Rights, children’s rights, forms of abuse and child protection laws, with the objective of enhancing child participation in access to justice. In Mutare the LRF in partnership with Family Aids and Caring Trust (FACT) trained rural women in Nyanga on gender-based violence, birth certificates, inheritance, and empowered them to identify and report cases of human rights violations emanating from their respective communities.



*The PLAs at the training in Chiredzi*



*Setting up a mobile legal aid clinic*

### **Help Desks (3)**

The LRF has for some time run help desks at a few courts and last year reported on its collaboration with the Judicial Service Commission in running a pilot help desk at the Harare Civil and Customary Law Courts. Clients were advised on the processes and procedures in court, to help smooth their path as self-actors, as well as being provided with appropriate referrals. The venture was deemed successful and the LRF is now coordinating the expanded partnership with Zimbabwe Women Lawyers Association, Zimbabwe Lawyers for Human Rights, Women and Law in Southern Africa and Justice for Children to provide legal

assistance to self-actors at courts around the country, wherever one of the partners is operating. Once the MOU with JSC has been signed this is expected to roll out before the end of 2016.

### **National Legal Assistance Strategy for Children in Zimbabwe (3)**

Arising from its ongoing assistance to children in conflict with the law, the LRF was commissioned to review the National Legal Assistance Strategy for Children in Zimbabwe and prepare a draft strategy for 2016 to 2020, which has been submitted to the Legal Aid Directorate and UNICEF for their input.

### **Information, Education and Communication (IEC) Materials (2)**

LRF has developed its IEC materials in simple language so that the legal concepts can be easily understood by all people, even those who do not manage to attend the actual legal education sessions. Community leaders and service providers use the pamphlets to cascade legal information to other vulnerable people. In Bindura a woman, popularly known as Sister Mimi, created a drama group and the LRF guided them in the creation of their drama scripts based on the IEC materials. The LRF offers 22 pamphlets, 7 leaflets (3 in multiple part sets) and 6 posters. An addition this year was a pamphlet on property rights. Over the year 55,331 pamphlets, 316 leaflets and 438 posters were distributed. (See the end of this report for full distribution statistics.)

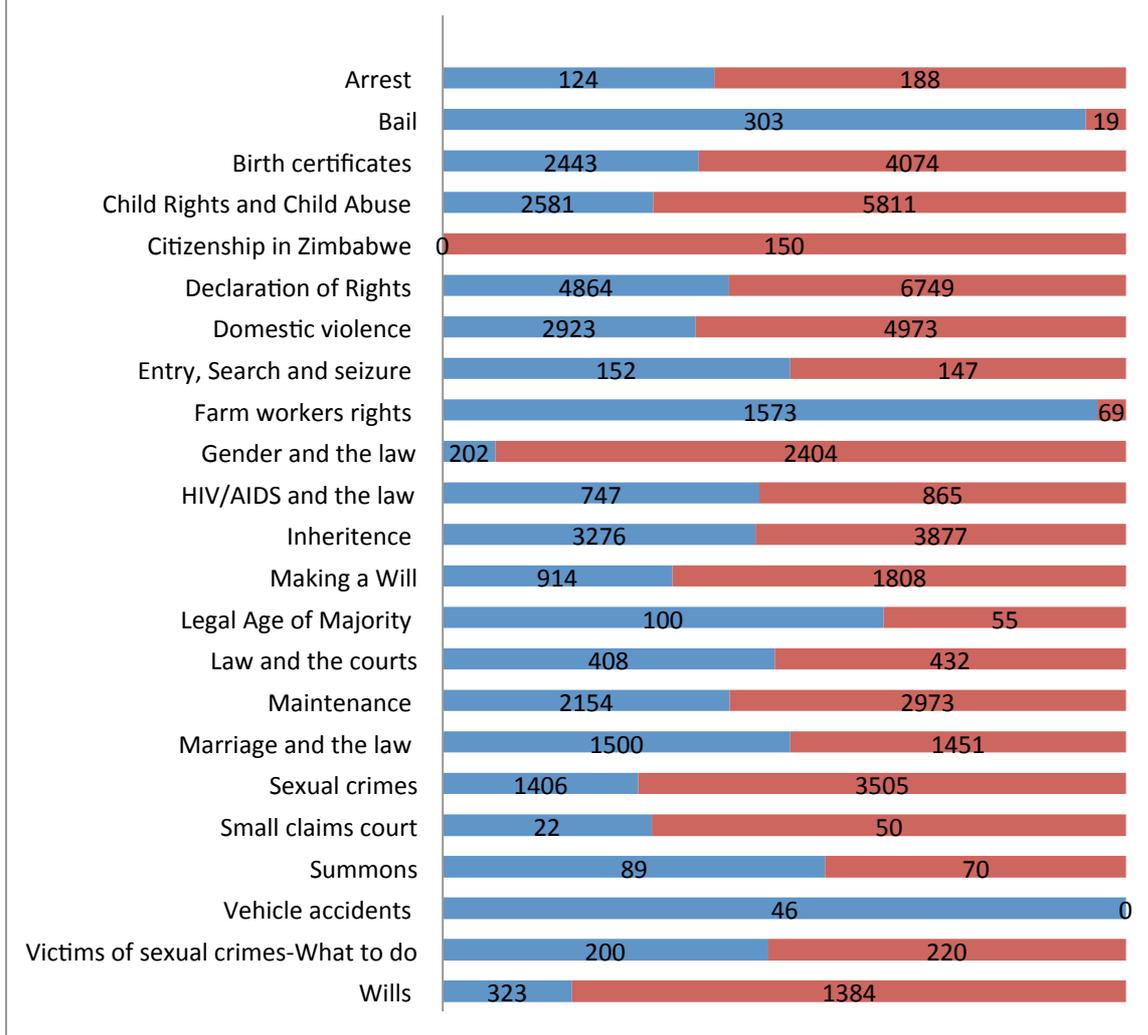


*LRF IEC distribution centre at Mutoko Magistrates Court*



*IEC Material at LRF office in Highfield*

## Pamphlets distributed



### Distribution Centres (3)

The LRF has established 68 distribution centres as community based LRF libraries in more remote areas where the LRF does not have a permanent base and these provide ready access to legal information. In Mutoko, a woman whose minor girl child was employed read the child rights pamphlets and as a result took her child out of employment and enrolled her in secondary school to complete her education.

The school head manning the distribution centre at a primary school in Hopley commented:

*“The Distribution Centre got inundated with a good number of locals enquiring on the duties or objects of LRF and how they may be accessed. The clients who came for inquiries were mostly the elderly who sought information as to how ‘aliens’ could access personal identity documents easily.”*

## LEGAL PUBLICATIONS UNIT (1)

The lack of progress in harmonising the laws with the Constitution has continued to hinder the publishing of legal texts. In an effort to promote legal writing in Zimbabwe the LRF organised a Writers' Forum in February 2016, attended by 26 published and budding writers – academics, private practitioners and NGO representatives. Existing gaps in legal information were identified and it was agreed that writing was to be encouraged, covering the range from textbooks to journal articles. Work has started on producing a comprehensive database of all published works and a steering committee was set up to coordinate the writing of the legal material for publication.



*Advocate Fadzayi Mahere, Mrs Sara Moyo, John Reid Rowland at the Writers' Seminar*

The LRF continued to seek ways to improve the dissemination of information and in light of this has explored platforms for both print and electronic publishing. The major achievement was the establishment of a partnership between the LRF and Juta Publishers for the online production of the *Zimbabwe Law Reports*, which service was launched in March 2016. A contract was also signed with Alpha Media Holdings to upload publications on its platform.

## Legal Texts Produced (2)

- |  |            |
|--|------------|
| • The Zimbabwe Law Reports 2013 Part 1                                       | 700 copies |
| • The Zimbabwe Law Reports 2013 Part 2                                       | 700 copies |
| • The Zimbabwe Law Reports 2014 Part 1                                       | 600 copies |
| • Index to Legislation in Force in Zimbabwe at 31 <sup>st</sup> October 2015 | 150 copies |



## IEC Materials Printed (2)

Pamphlets	Quantity
Declaration of Rights	English: 15 600
	Shona: 10 800
	Ndebele: 10 200
	Tonga: 4 100
	Shangaan: 4 100
Domestic Violence	English: 2 500
	Shona: 2 500
Birth Certificate	English: 2 500
	Shona: 2 500
Child Rights and the Law	English: 5 000
	Shona: 3 000
	Ndebele: 2 000
Property Rights	English: 5 000
	Shona: 3 000
	Ndebele: 2 000
Marriage and the Law	English: 2 500
	Shona: 2 500
Summons	English: 4 000

Sexual Crimes	English: 4 000 Shona: 3 000 Ndebele 2 000
<b>Total</b>	<b>92,800</b>

## Partnerships (2)

The LRF has actively sought partnerships with the corporate world to achieve a broader dissemination of its legal material. Key this year was the partnership entered into with Nyaradzo Funeral Group. The first phase of the project saw Nyaradzo contracting the LRF to conduct a baseline survey to assess the uptake of wills and will writing among Zimbabweans. The results will be used to establish the potential for bulk printing of the LRF’s pamphlets, specifically on inheritance rights and the writing of a will.

## LEGAL SERVICES PROGRAMME (1)

Legal aid is not readily available in Zimbabwe and the LRF’s legal services offer relief to the indigent, regardless of gender, political orientation or cultural beliefs, enabling clients to access justice that otherwise would be beyond their reach.

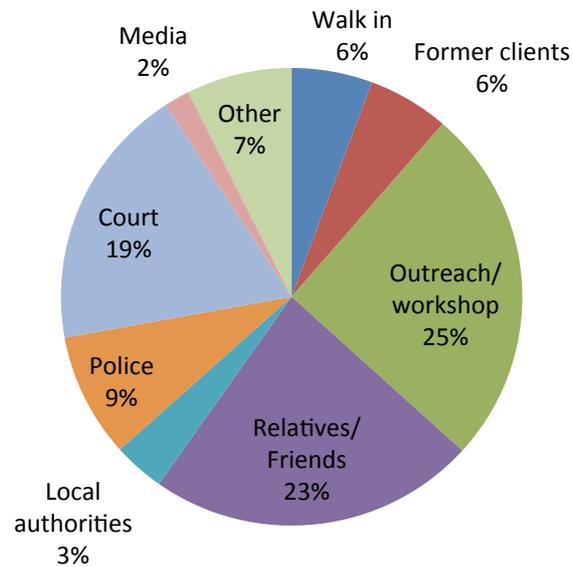
Statements from state officials garnered during monitoring and evaluation visits to Nyanga illustrate the impact of the LRF’s work. An Assistant Inspector for the Victim Friendly Unit in Nyanga underlined the importance of the LRF:

*“Usually when LRF closes in December we face challenges of where to refer people, we also face challenges when paralegals are working three days a week because that creates a very huge gap.”*

The Assistant District Administrator highlighted the significance of the LRF’s work in the community when he said:

*“Our people are very poor and not everyone is capable of paying lawyers, so the LRF is closing that gap.”*

## How clients came to know about LRF

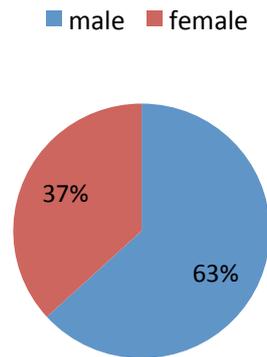


*LRF lawyer, Sibonginkosi Hlabanagana, advises a client.*

The assistance was rendered in different ways and alternative dispute resolution methods were utilised where possible as being quicker, less expensive and, given that the opposing parties often live in the same neighbourhood, avoiding conflict. 9,474 people came to the LRF to seek legal assistance during the year. 63% of clients were female and 56% of cases handled were from the rural areas, as the LRF reached the most vulnerable in the community.

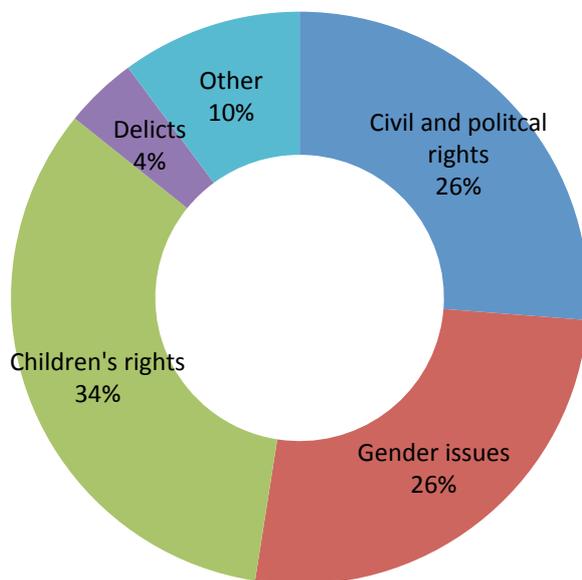
*““When I was referred to your offices by the clerk at the court with the summons, I was hesitant to approach your offices thinking that you charge consultation fees before giving advice. However, the attention I got from your office was overwhelming. The information you gave to me and the pamphlet helped me a lot as I wanted to settle my debt but didn’t know how to respond through court. My case is over now because I have paid. Thank you for your professional and friendly advice.”*

### **Distribution of clients by gender**



The most prevalent cases involved property rights, deceased estates, and gender-based violence. Most men brought cases relating to economic rights such as pension disputes, property rights and debt collections whilst women tended to bring cases of gender-based violence and maintenance.

## Type of cases handled by the LRF



*Clients waiting for legal service at LRF Bulawayo*

The LRF does not have the human resources capacity to appear in court for all its clients but uses its expertise to prepare court papers for the client to use as a self-actor. The clients are then coached so that they understand the process and have the confidence to represent themselves.

*“I want to thank the LRF for assisting me to get a share of the property after dissolving the union. My husband had lawyers assisting him, but I managed to get my share as a self-actor, thank you LRF, help others with similar problems the same way.”*



*LRF Bulawayo Centre Manager, Muchaneta Mundopa, giving legal advice to clients at a legal aid clinic*

**New cases (2)** See statistics at the end of the report for analysis of types of cases

New Cases	Rural		Urban		Total
	Female	Male	Female	Male	
<b>Matabeleland</b>	1,031	511	812	583	<b>2,937</b>
<b>Midlands</b>	263	192	307	166	<b>928</b>
<b>Mashonaland</b>	950	319	711	361	<b>2,341</b>
<b>Masvingo</b>	478	454	245	86	<b>1,263</b>
<b>Manicaland</b>	625	505	567	308	<b>2,005</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,347</b>	<b>1,981</b>	<b>2,642</b>	<b>1,504</b>	<b>9,474</b>

### Resolved Cases (2)

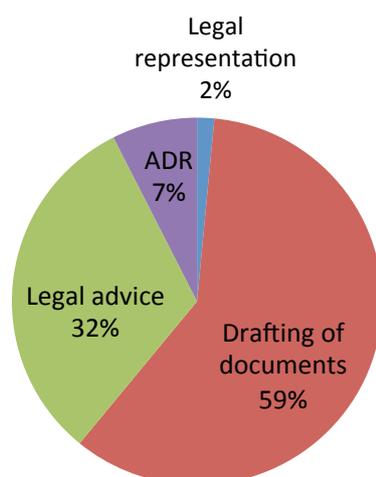
A total of 7,282 cases were resolved during the year, through drafting of legal documents, giving clients legal advice and through Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR). The use of less expensive methods of resolving cases make LRF legal services more efficient and relevant, assisting more people with fewer resources and within a short period of time.

		<b>Through</b>
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Province	Resolved cases	Legal Representation	Drafting of Documents	Legal Advice	ADR
Matabeleland	1,770	39	883	604	244
Midlands	721	9	309	349	54
Mashonaland	1,861	12	1,130	644	75
Masvingo	1,058	27	740	240	51
Manicaland	1,872	22	1,266	465	119
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,282</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>4,328</b>	<b>2,302</b>	<b>543</b>

*“I was assisted free of charge. When I arrived I was received with a warm welcome and I narrated my problem and they took their time to listen. An application for protection order was drafted for me and I went to court where a protection order was granted against my abusive husband. I am grateful for the assistance I got; I will refer other vulnerable people in the community to your offices for assistance”.*

### Methods of resolving cases



### Case Highlights (2)

- SM a 70 year old widow from Gutu was assisted with an application for guardianship. She had been looking after her two grandchildren without any assistance from the children’s mother who had since re-married. The children’s father was deceased. The children’s mother was getting pensions in respect of the two children and spending the money on her new family. The client had attempted to access the pensions but could not succeed without a certificate of guardianship. She has since been awarded guardianship of her two grandchildren. A testimonial she filed with us in the translated version says:

*“I had a problem when my son L.M. died and left two minor children and a pregnant wife. The wife soon after birth left the homestead and said she was going to look for employment and she never came back. As a result I had problems looking after the children for a long time. The children’s mother started getting benefits from NSSA but*

*could not look back to her children she had left me with as she had re-married. Instead she was spending the money on her new family. After being troubled by this problem, I spoke to others who advised me to approach the Legal Advice Centre. They promised me that at this office my problems would come to an end. Indeed I came and I was assisted with everything free of charge and this helped me so much that today I am now able to look after my grandchildren, paying all outstanding school fees, clothes and food. Honestly, I was assisted with respect, keep it up you help us a great deal.”*

- During a prison visit to Plumtree Prison, LRF lawyers interviewed a minor male who had been in custody for five months without trial. This meant that he was effectively serving before he had been found guilty by the courts. The centre lawyer made an application for bail at Plumtree Magistrates’ Court but bail was denied when the State declared that a trial date had been set for 21st October. On the date of the trial the young man appeared, represented by LRF and was told that the matter would now be postponed to 17th November as there was no magistrate available. On 17th November the matter was not heard as the State papers were not ready and the State witnesses were absent. An appeal was made to the High Court against the refusal to grant the LRF’s client bail. The matter was heard on 8th December, when the State again opposed bail, stating that the matter was set for trial for 10th December. Since the State had not notified the LRF of this, despite the fact that they were aware that LRF was representing the minor child, the judge ruled against the state, granting bail to the minor child. The judge also took into account the fact that the young man had been incarcerated for eight months.
- The LRF’s client had been married for 12 years in an unregistered customary law union when she was evicted from the matrimonial home by her husband without anything except the clothes she was wearing. The husband, a soldier, had so intimidated her that she would not attempt to get her clothes from their shared residence. She approached LRF Masvingo and was assisted with summons for the sharing of property on the basis of unjust enrichment. She received a judgment in her favour and the LRF is now assisting her with the writ of execution so that she can fully benefit.
- The LRF assisted a mother of three minors married in terms of the unregistered customary law union. The client’s husband approached the civil courts in Mutare seeking to evict her and the minor children from their matrimonial home in Dora. Legal representation was provided and the court dismissed the husband’s claim because the three minor children were still attending school and to move them would cause serious disruption to their education. The court also ruled that as the client’s husband had not offered alternative accommodation for her or the three children eviction would be tantamount to throwing them on the streets. One of the client’s children said:
 

*“We would like to thank you for the great job you did, May God’s power which resides in you help others as well”.*
- Client M in Masvingo suffered injuries through electrocution by ZESA cables. Through LRF’s intervention an out of court settlement was reached and ZESA offered to pay \$7,000 in full and final settlement of the claim against the \$10,000 which LRF had claimed on behalf of client. The client accepted the offer of \$7,000.

## Public Interest Cases (2)

The LRF also takes up cases which have a potential impact in the public's interest, beyond the immediate client. Two of this year's cases are summarised below.

- **Sheila Marwei Bomba and 40 others vs Murewa Rural District Council and Another HC 9326/15**

The LRF through Nyakutombwa and Mugabe legal practitioners is representing 41 villagers and their families in Murehwa who are being threatened with arbitrary eviction by Murehwa Rural district council from pieces of land which they have been occupying for over 40 years. The applicants are seeking a declaratauer that their displacement from their homestead is unconstitutional and a violation of sections 51, 52, 53, 66(2) paragraph (b), 68(1), 71 and 74 of the Constitution of Zimbabwe. In particular, they argue that their right to property and freedom from arbitrary eviction has or is being infringed by Murewa Rural District Council. The matter is pending at the High Court.

- **Chitungwiza Residents and Ratepayers Association vs. Chitungwiza City Council and Anor**

- LRF represented Chitungwiza Residents and Ratepayers Association (CRRA) in a Constitutional case where the Association was seeking to enforce their right to information in terms of section 62(2) of the Constitution. CRRA was challenging the City Council's refusal to furnish them with information pertaining to its budgets, financial statements and documentation, arguing that this information was critical for them to enforce their right to water. The application was dismissed on the basis that proceedings should have been instituted in the High Court. We are still looking to see whether we can reinstitute proceedings



LRF and CALR staff with CRRA representatives at the Constitutional Court

- The LRF was approached by the people of Dora, who were concerned that the Mutare City Council was dumping effluent and raw sewage into Mutare River, affecting the health and wellbeing of their livestock and the general community. Litigation was considered but LRF opted to mobilise Mutare residents to take up the matter with the Environmental Management Authority (EMA). When the LRF later engaged the EMA regional manager he reported that the pollution problem had been resolved as companies were now discharging pollutants into the rehabilitated Gimboki sewer plant rather than the river. The Ward Councillor confirmed that the water was now almost clean even though there was still some residual smell attributed to leakages at the plant

## **Prisons Programme (2)**

The LRF continued to visit prisons around the country on a monthly basis, to identify inmates languishing on remand – primarily women, youth and those requiring psychiatric or medical assessment – and assisting them with bail applications. The visits also facilitated the building of trust in the LRF on the part of the prison officers who were then prompt in alerting the centres to any cases needing attention.

During a visit at Mutimurefu the Officer-in-Charge cited a case in which a 15-year-old boy from Mashava was convicted of being in possession of dangerous weapons (knives) and was sentenced to one month's imprisonment at Mutimurefu Prison where he was exposed to hard-core criminals, which defies the process of rehabilitating juvenile offenders. He noted that where an offence was not serious, community service would be appropriate and that the incarceration of juveniles should be done only as a last resort. It was noted that eight children below the age of 18 were held at Mutimurefu in D Class, which is the categorisation for the most serious offences (six were convicted of rape, one of attempted rape and one of unlawful entry and theft). This is a clear violation of children's constitutional rights and child rights principles. Through the LRF intervention all the juveniles were transferred to Whawha Young Offenders Prison. The LRF lodged an appeal in respect of a 17-year-old convicted of rape and sentenced to 12 years in prison and the appeal is yet to be heard.

One inmate interviewed at St Thomas Prison, Marondera, was a juvenile aged 17 facing charges of indecent assault and aggravated indecent assault. The record in respect of the juvenile showed that bail was denied. It turned out that there was a mix-up at the courts. LRF pursued the matter and the minor was released into the custody of his parents. The court then removed him from remand and he will be summoned to court when the state is ready for trial.

A 17-year-old juvenile was arrested for murder when he was fifteen and had been remanded in the custody of his father. In August 2015, his father surrendered him to be remanded in custody at Mutoko Remand Prison, citing that he was no longer able to bring him to court as the accused was in the habit of disappearing. The murder was said to have happened when he was wrestling with the deceased. The LRF wrote to the National Prosecuting Authority for the juvenile's speedy prosecution and the NPA indicated that they were awaiting a psychiatric report as they suspect that the juvenile is mentally challenged and this would ensure that his case is heard before the end of 2016.

## **CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT - TRAINING OF SERVICE PROVIDERS (1)**

As an adjunct to assisting people to assert their right, the LRF believes it is important to work with relevant service providers and build their capacity to understand and protect people’s rights.

## **Prison Officers’ Workshops (2)**

Twenty workshops were conducted with the Prisons and Correctional Services (ZPCS) during the year, reaching 489 people, 358 males and 131 females, both junior and senior prison officers in all the provinces of Zimbabwe. The workshops covered issues directly linked to the day-to-day duties of the officers and aimed to capacitate them to uphold human rights. The range of topics included bail, UN Minimum Rules and Standards Applicable to Prisoners (Mandela Rules), the Declaration of Rights, law and the courts, the relationship between prisoner and prison officer, child rights and the law, and domestic violence. The pre-workshop tests demonstrated that the officers had low knowledge levels, negative perceptions of people’s rights, and were unable to explain key legal and human rights principles relevant to their work. Post-workshop evaluations illustrated a measurable gain in knowledge and appreciation of the importance of observing the rights of inmates.

*“We need more workshops of this nature in order for us to learn about promoting human rights as we conduct our work. I did not think human rights applied to my line of work but after this workshop, I now know better.”*



*Participants at the prison officers’ workshop in Binga*



*Prison officer's Workshop, Bulawayo*

The ZPCS has begun to place more importance on the correctional side of their work. One prisoner officer at Kadoma Prison said:

*“We used to call them by the name of their crimes, we did not know that our main role is to rehabilitate and correct criminal behaviour but after legal education, we have changed and we call them by their real names.”*

Prison Officers in Zvishavane observed:

*“We didn't like inmates to leave prison, we thought once inmates leave jail it means we would also lose our jobs but now we are helping them to apply for bail and we contact LRF to help those who will be in need of legal assistance.”*

### **Workshops**

	<b># conducted</b>	<b># of females</b>	<b># of males</b>
Police Officers	7	74	72
Prison Officers	20	131	358
Traditional Leaders	8	3	212
<b>Total</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>208</b>	<b>642</b>

### **Testimonials (3)**

*“Society in general has the perception that if someone works in a legal environment they are expected to know the law but it's not always the case. I would feel embarrassed when an inmate asked me a simple thing like how he can make an application for bail because before this workshop I did not know much on bail. However, after this workshop I am now equipped to assist inmates in that regard.”*

*“Before receiving legal education, we did not take seriously the inmates when they complained about sickness, we used not to listen to them and we were not aware that*

*we were actually committing a crime. After undergoing training, we make sure that each inmate who complains against illness is taken to the hospital because it is their right to get medication.” (Banket Open Prison)*

*“This workshop has indeed come at a good time, especially the topics on the rights of inmates and Declaration of Rights. At the depots we were mainly trained as officers and not correctional officers. I was not aware of what the Constitution says in respect of the rights of accused persons and the declaration of rights in general.”*

## **Police Officers’ Workshops (2)**

The main objective of the workshops was to capacitate Victim Friendly Unit officers with skills and knowledge to enable them to discharge their duties, particularly in gender-based violence cases. A total of seven workshops were conducted in Mutare and Bulawayo, attended by 146 officers, 74 women and 72 men. It was not possible to get clearance in other provinces. The topics covered were Declaration of Rights, essential elements of sexual offences with particular emphasis on wilful transmission, gender-based violence, child rights and access to justice for children, management of sexual cases, and docket compilation.



*Police Officers at a workshop in Chinhoyi*

## **Traditional Leaders’ Workshops (2)**

In its endeavour to improve access to justice for the rural population whose cases are governed by customary law the LRF developed a training module for traditional leaders in partnership with the Judicial Service Commission and the Chiefs’ Council and subsequently translated into both Ndebele and Shona. A training of trainers workshop for nine provincial magistrates and eight LRF staff was held on 18 March 2016. The main facilitators were the President of the Chiefs’ Council, Senator Chief Charumbira, his deputy, Senator Mtshane Khumalo, and

the Chief Magistrate, Mr Guvamombe. Key areas covered included grounds for review of cases by the magistrate; the statutory instrument on enforcement of judgments by local courts; issuing of warrants of execution by local courts; the issue of making a third party pay; jurisdiction of local courts both territorial and monetary; ethics and anti-corruption; and how to write a claim.

The national training programme took off on 8<sup>th</sup> April and over the next three months 215 chiefs, including three female chiefs, from eight provinces were trained. The training focused on the concept of law and court procedure and helped the chiefs understand their roles as presiding officers in community courts, how to handle issues involving their culture, customs and norms and which cases they should preside over and which were beyond their jurisdiction.



*Chiefs of Matabeleland South*



*Chiefs of Manicaland*

It was too early to evaluate the impact of the training but initial feedback from some provincial magistrates indicated that there was a positive attitude change with the traditional leaders developing a good working relationship with magistrates.

## **RESEARCH AND ADVOCACY (1)**

Part of the LRF's Mission is to promote an efficient and fair justice delivery system wherein democratic rights can be exercised. It identifies issues to take up through its different activities but the emphasis is on collaborative work with other partners, to create as much impact as possible.

### **Child Rights Coalition (2)**

A Child Rights Sector Coalition workshop in August 2015 discussed the Universal Periodic Review shadow report by the Child Rights Sector. The LRF worked with organisations in the Justice cluster to identify issues to be included. The draft UPR shadow report, which included input from other sectors, was validated, launched and submitted to the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights. The report was also used as an advocacy tool to push for the implementation of constitutional provisions affecting children.

The LRF worked together with members of the Child Rights Coalition, in particular Justice for Children, to come up with the heads of arguments for the Constitutional Court case on corporal punishment. The Constitutional Court reserved judgement in the case. The LRF and the Coalition's position is that corporal punishment is a violation of children's rights and should be done away with and the LRF will continue to advocate for its abolishment.

### **Meetings with Policy Makers (2)**

Late in the year under review the LRF managed to organise a dialogue meeting with 19 parliamentarians to discuss the SADC model law on child marriages now in place and push for Zimbabwe to pass a law to end child marriage. The policy makers indicated that they were in full support of the alignment of all children's laws to the Constitution as critical in protecting children's rights and were actively lobbying parliamentarians. The MPs highlighted that the law alone was not enough to deal with the scourge of child marriage; there was a need for budget support for the welfare system and also opportunities to learn from other SADC countries.

## **Radio / Television (2)**

The LRF made good progress during the year in accessing the media, particularly the radio, both commercial and community; 47 radio programmes and four television programmes were recorded and broadcast. These programmes not only helped to profile the organisation but the information disseminated was beneficial to a wider audience, reaching a variety of target groups, some of which do not get opportunities to attend LRF legal education sessions.

Examples of topics covered included women and children's rights; human rights and freedoms; the effects of gender-based violence on the girl child; the effects of increased school dropouts by the girl child and the need to increase support to keep her in school; and the effects of child marriages, calling for them to be outlawed.

LRF Harare recorded a series of radio programmes with Sport FM (SFM) as main guests on the programme 'Legally Speaking'. One programme on the different types of marriage and the relevant constitutional provisions provoked someone to phone in advocating for unregistered customary law unions to have the same legal recognition and protection as civil marriages, stating that it was unfair for the law to discriminate. The LRF also appeared on 'The Hot Seat', aired live on SFM, when callers had the opportunity to ask questions on human trafficking. Star FM broadcast live for two hours on 7<sup>th</sup> April 2016 featuring the LRF's programme in Epworth to educate people on the implications of child marriages in light of the recent judgment banning marriage before the age of 18. Radio programmes on privacy of communication in response to a landmark ruling by the High Court in which the judge emphasised the right to privacy even in marriages generated a lot of debate, as some people, particularly Christians, castigated the ruling arguing that it was unbiblical.



*LRF Harare Paralegal in the studio presenting legal issues on Spot FM*

The LRF reached minority groups when it was invited by ZBC to share legal insights live, as a guest on the News programme ‘Nhau’ on 8 March 2016, talking about domestic violence, highlighting its ills and the legal remedies available, as a backdrop to International Women’s Day. Mutare took advantage of the newly launched commercial radio station, Diamond Radio and recorded four radio programmes which covered the work of the LRF, domestic violence, sexual crimes and maintenance.

### **Community Radio (3)**

The community radio stations operating around the country are a useful mechanism for the LRF to get its information out to a broad-based audience, and helping to overcome common misconceptions held by the general public. The stations record outreaches and information sessions and this information is distributed on CD for people to listen to in the comfort of their homes as well as in commuter vehicles.

Amongst the legal issues covered were:

- Types of marriages in Zimbabwe;
- Inheritance and some of the common challenges faced by people with sharing of property after the death of the owner or in polygamous marriages.
- Wills – as with a number of the programmes, people were given an opportunity to call the station beforehand, in this instance to establish knowledge levels and attitudes towards writing a will. One man who called argued that people, particularly men, were not interested in writing wills because they feared being killed by their wives so they could take over the property. During the recording, the lawyer clarified the importance of writing wills and the benefits to all parties concerned.
- The legal perspective that any official when conducting his/her duties must act within the confines of the law and that assaults on vendors by municipal police were unlawful.

### **Multi-media initiatives (2)**

#### ***Facebook***

The Facebook page has grown in popularity with a total of 1,356 likes and a reach averaging 1,000 people per week. The legal advice posted has attracted much attention.

### **Website**

The website was regularly updated with a variety of stories including news and features. The direct link to LRF's Facebook page increased the flow of traffic, with the site averaging 40 page views per day.

### **Advocacy**

The LRF increased its reach by circulating various information tools electronically. *LRF's View* was a quarterly in-depth analysis of legal issues affecting a broad sector of the population. One that provoked a lot of interest was on the spot fine debate. *LRF in Action* highlighted work done by the LRF. This was circulated once or twice a month and demonstrated the impact the work of the LRF has on the lives of the vulnerable. Documentaries produced by the LRF to showcase the impact of its programmes were compressed and shared to different participating groups through the website and Facebook.

## **Commemorations (2)**

### **16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence (3)**

LRF Bulawayo, through its office in Beitbridge, joined hands with World Vision in November 2015 to commemorate the 16 days of Activism against Gender-based Violence, in coordination with the Ministry of Women's Affairs, Gender and Community Development and the Department of Social Services and Child Welfare under the theme: *From Peace in the Home to Peace in the World: Let us keep Girls in Schools*. Through its outreach programmes the LRF had noted an increase in the area in cases of women and child abuse with teenage pregnancies, early marriages and unspecified dropouts. The LRF's message was directed mainly at community leaders, government departments, parents and the girl child and called upon the Government urgently to align all laws that affect women and girls to the Constitution and ensure that girls enjoy their fundamental right to education.



*LRF Beitbridge paralegal, Regina Ndlovu, distributes branded water,*

The LRF also decided to commemorate Orange Day throughout the year. On the 25<sup>th</sup> of each month, LRF employees will be wearing orange T-shirts written “*Nothing good ever comes of violence*”, as a way of showing solidarity and commitment to ending gender-based violence.



*From left: LRF staff from National Office and Gweru pose for a photo on the “orange” day*

### **UN Human Rights Day (3)**

LRF Harare was in Chitungwiza on 17<sup>th</sup> December 2015 with a campaign under the theme: ‘*Our rights. Our freedoms. Always*’. The LRF collaborated with the Human Rights Commission and other NGOs including the Women’s Coalition, and the Child Rights Coalition in commemorating the day, making it a notable event for the Chitungwiza community.

### **International Women’s Day (3)**

A commemoration of the International Women’s Day was held in Mafarikwa village of Marange focusing on child marriage. This topic was chosen in order to build on the work that had already been done by the LRF and to raise awareness on the Constitutional Court judgment on child marriage. 88 people attended the commemoration (31 males, 57 females), including ten village heads and one councillor. The event was supported by members of the ZRP’s Victim Friendly Unit. The LRF distributed flyers explaining the provisions of the judgment and the challenges brought about by child marriage. All the village heads present promised the LRF that they would hold meetings in their communities to sensitise their people about the illegality of child marriages.

### **Day of the African Child (3)**

Commemorations were held in Harare, Chinhoyi and Chiredzi to mark the Day of the African Child under the theme: ‘*Conflict and Crisis in Africa: Protecting all children’s rights*’. Radio Zimbabwe broadcast live from Kamunhu shopping centre in Mabvuku to raise awareness on children’s rights. The LRF was working in collaboration with ZWLA and Justice for Children (JC), and lawyers from the three organisations took turns to highlight children’s rights as enshrined in the Constitution and how they should be protected by society. They went

through the judgment that outlawed all forms of child marriages and emphasized that it was the role of the community to protect children in this regard. Afterwards the people present were given an opportunity to seek legal advice from the lawyers and 15 were assisted on issues of inheritance, domestic violence and property rights.

In Chinhoyi the commemoration was held at Lion's Den, again working with ZWLA and JC. The event provided an opportunity to interact with Child Parliamentarians as well as raise awareness on children's rights. Issues raised by the Child Parliamentarians included the increase in child sexual abuse, withdrawal of domestic violence cases and lack of legal aid organizations in the province. Children participated in the commemoration through drama, poems and songs that encouraged the government to implement children's rights as they are highlighted in the Constitution.

The commemorations in Chiredzi were held in Davata, 200 km from Chiredzi and only 18 km from the South African border. Children from five schools and members of the general community emphasized the need for all stakeholders to respect children's rights. Presentations were made by Child Councillors on the challenges that children face in the area including the community having to rely on South African networks for communication, inaccessible police station, long distances to school, birth registration, child marriage, sexual abuse and poverty.



*Children from Davata community*

### **World Aids Day (3)**

World AIDS Day was commemorated at Kentucky Farm, Dora, Mutare. The centre lawyer made presentations on people's rights, gender and child policy in relation to HIV. The major highlights of the presentations were that those living with HIV enjoy the same rights as any other Zimbabweans and discrimination on the basis of HIV status was discouraged in all spheres of life. Participants were encouraged to prevent child marriages by all means possible. A total of 150 people attended the commemorations.



*LRF Mutare lawyer, Christine Sungayi, addressing people at Kentucky Farm*

## **Impact (2)**

It is not always easy to track the immediate impact of advocacy initiatives and whether the media advocacy has achieved its objectives. However, LRF Harare reported that 22% of their clients approached the office after hearing the radio and television programmes. Reaching out to marginalised communities such as Davata, in Masvingo Province, gave people, particularly women and children, an opportunity to learn and gain the confidence to raise their voices and demand their rights. Strengthened alliances and networks with partner NGOs and coalitions helped build the critical mass needed for successful advocacy initiatives.

## **TRAINING & INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT (1)**

### **Paralegal Training (2)**

The three trainee paralegals from Bulawayo and Gweru underwent Stage 3 training in February, which focussed on alternate dispute resolution, specifically negotiation and mediation. They wrote a theory paper and were assessed on the application of practical skills in these areas. They have still to complete a second assignment, after which they will get their Stage 3 certificates.

### **Paralegal Seminars (2)**

The paralegals attend seminars during the year as an important aspect of their continuing education. These not only help to update their legal knowledge and skills but also provide opportunities to share experiences and best practices. The LRF Monitoring and Evaluation Officer and the lawyers had identified gaps and weaknesses in programme implementation and paralegal skills and knowledge during their routine monitoring and the seminars were crafted to address these deficiencies. The 31 paralegals were trained on effective facilitation skills, approaches to community educational outreaches, including conversation cafes, and results-based reporting. The seminars were deemed very informative and helpful in providing new knowledge, although the participants felt they needed more exposure to results-based reporting.

### **Lawyers' Workshop (2)**

The annual workshop attended by eighteen lawyers and programme staff was held in November 2015 and focused on writing skills, court advocacy and results-based reporting. The Legal Programmes Director made a presentation on the dynamic environment in which the LRF was operating and the emphasis on 'value for money', results and impact, making it critical to streamline, re-engineer and prioritise programming. The session on courtroom advocacy was a practical session. The lawyers had been presented with a case the day before and appeared before a 'judge', Mr Tafadzwa Mugabe, either as the applicant or the respondent. Mr Mugabe observed that some of the lawyers needed more exposure in the High Court but in general he was impressed with the submissions made.

### **Administrators' Workshop (2)**

Centre Managers, Centre Administrators and all finance staff attended the annual Administrators Workshop on 17 March 2016. Topics covered during this refresher workshop included communication, a review of audit reports, budgeting, fixed asset accounting, financial management, and a review of policy manuals. Also covered was donor reporting, VAT accounting and the operational challenges faced by finance and administration staff.

### **Strategic Retreat (2)**

Trustees and management staff met for a strategic planning session in June 2016. An environmental analysis was carried out looking at the political, economic, legal and social contexts. This was then used to inform discussions around cost-effective management and resource mobilisation, and an action plan was drafted.

### **Job Grading Consultancy (2)**

The LRF last carried out a job grading exercise in 2006 and it was deemed important to re-evaluate the job grades and structure to iron out anomalies that had developed. The process was started in 2015 but lack of funds prevented it from being concluded until 2016. The consultants trained a job evaluation committee composed of representative staff members which then sat over two days and graded all jobs. The report was circulated and staff were given an opportunity to appeal their grade before the process was finalised.

### **Evaluation (2)**

An external institutional evaluation of LRF was conducted. The consultants commended the LRF for its good work whilst making recommendations for improved performance, efficiency and effectiveness. LRF is looking at these recommendations with a view to implementing them where feasible.

## **FUNDING (1)**

### **International Funding (2)**

The LRF held its annual meeting with donor partners on November 17, with 12 partners attending, a gratifying turnout. Programmatic and financial overviews for the year were presented for discussion and the event ended with the screening of a documentary on the constitutional challenge the LRF is mounting against forced evictions by Murehwa Rural District Council.

Institutional funding support from international funding partners, notably the European Commission, the German Development Fund, the Royal Norwegian Embassy, Sida and TRACE, was invaluable in sustaining the work of the LRF. Project specific support from the Friedrich Naumann Foundation, HIVOS, UNICEF, UNDP, PACT and Plan International also helped the LRF to reach out to communities in need of its services. The LRF is indeed grateful for the level of support from these donors amid the challenges in the global and local economy. The continued presence of the Knowledge Management and Communication expert seconded by Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) is appreciated by the LRF.

### **Local Funding (2)**

The LRF continued to benefit from subsidised rentals provided by the Catholic and UCCSA churches for some of our Legal Advice Centres. We appreciate this generosity from the Church.

### **Golf Day (2)**

The LRF organised a Golf Day, with the theme ‘Help Us Stop Child Marriages’, at the Royal Harare Golf Club, both as a fundraising initiative and also to raise the profile of the organisation in the corporate sector. A total of 20 participating teams took part in the event. A short DVD on the work of the LRF and linked to the day’s theme was shown at the prize-giving ceremony.



## **Fund Management (2)**

The LRF continued as Fund Managers for the Judicial Service Commission Strategic Plan project funded by Danida (US\$15.7m). The project involves the construction of 22 courts across the country, computerisation and case flow management within the JSC, training and staff development, development of training material and combating corruption. Although Denmark has sadly signalled its withdrawal from Zimbabwe, the legacy of this project in improving the justice delivery system will continue and the LRF has been proud to contribute to its success.

## **BOARD and STAFF (1)**

The Trustees have continued to volunteer their services, providing guidance and support during the year. The full Board met quarterly to consider the recommendations from the four specialist committees – Finance, Risk and Audit; Human Resources; Public Interest / Advocacy; and Publications.

Mrs Gloria Zvaravanhu retired from the Board in February 2016 having provided valuable service as Chair of the Finance, Risk and Audit Committee. The Board was pleased to welcome two new members, both lawyers in private practice, Mr Mark Warhurst, who joined the Board in July 2015 and Mr Tinoziva Bere in June 2016.

The Board of Trustees commends the loyalty of Senior Management, the Centre and Unit Managers and all the staff for the achievements of the past year and the effective manner in which they have coped with daily challenges and difficulties. The achievements and contributions of the LRF are only possible through the work of the staff and Trustees and the ongoing support and generosity of its partners.

## **CONCLUSION (1)**

Change is always difficult to manage and the LRF is going to have to deal with change in the coming year, reducing the size of the organisation and prioritising its areas of intervention so as to build a greater degree of sustainability in the future. At the same time this should be seen as an opportunity to refocus on identified priorities and work to achieve long-lasting results through its contribution to the quality of justice delivery and the capacity of the people of Zimbabwe to exercise their legal rights.

	Casework July 2015 to June 2016				
	Urban		Rural		Total
	Male	Female	Male	Female	
<b>TYPE OF CASE</b>					
<b>CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS</b>					
Right to property	249	406	471	387	1,513
Unlawful arrest/ detention	1		1		2
Assault by state agents	3	1			4
Electoral rights	3				3
Peace order	1	3	1	4	9
Citizenship	3				3
Prisoners' rights	1				1
<b>GENDER ISSUES</b>					
Gender based violence	267	1,085	464	975	2,791
Spousal maintenance	24	81	20	131	256
Sexual and reproductive rights	1	9	8	69	87
Sharing of property in UCLU <sup>1</sup> unions	120	252	146	346	864
Inheritance/Deceased	328	391	255	184	1,158
<b>CHILDREN'S RIGHTS</b>					
Custody, access and guardianship	108	171	176	268	723
Maintenance	40	259	73	296	668
Inheritance/Deceased Estates/Succession	56	57	65	74	252
Birth Registration	53	125	25	45	248
Child Abuse - sexual and other	9	9	21	21	60
<b>DELICTS</b>					
Road Traffic Accidents (RTAs)	45	19	25	17	106
Serious Assault Claims	51	19	41	22	133
<b>OTHER</b>	113	135	215	130	593
<b>ANNUAL TOTALS</b>	<b>1,476</b>	<b>3,022</b>	<b>2,007</b>	<b>2,969</b>	<b>9,474</b>

### Legal Education

	Rural	Urban	Total
<b>No of Outreaches</b>			1,372
<b>No of females</b>	16,393	12,160	28,553
<b>No of Males</b>	11,948	5,560	17,508
<b>No of community leaders workshops</b>			153
<b>No of females</b>	6,509	2,763	9,272
<b>No of Males</b>	6,342	1,744	8,086
<b>No of conversation cafes</b>			60
<b>No of females</b>			657
<b>No of Males</b>			686
<b>Total number of people</b>	26,606	14,483	64,762

<sup>1</sup> Unregistered Customary Law Union

<b>Pamphlets Distributed</b>			
	<b>Urban</b>	<b>Rural</b>	<b>Total</b>
Arrest	124	188	312
Bail	303	19	322
Birth Certificates	2,443	4,074	6,517
Child Right and Child Abuse	2,581	5,811	8,392
Citizenship in Zimbabwe	0	150	150
Declaration of Rights	4,864	6,749	11,613
Domestic Violence	2,923	4,973	7,896
Entry, Search and Seizure	152	147	299
Farm Worker's Rights	1,573	69	1,642
Gender and the Law	202	2,404	2,606
HIV/AIDS and the Law	747	865	1,612
Inheritance	3,276	3,877	7,153
Making a Will	914	1,808	2,722
Legal Age of Majority	100	55	155
Law and the Courts	408	432	840
Maintenance	2,154	2,973	5,127
Marriage and the Law	1,500	1,451	2,951
Sexual crimes	1,406	3,505	4,911
Small Claims Court	22	50	72
Summons	89	70	159
Vehicle Accidents	46	0	46
Victims of Sexual Offences - What to do	200	220	420
Wills	323	1384	1707
<b>Total</b>	<b>26,350</b>	<b>41,274</b>	<b>67,624</b>
<b>Leaflets/Flyers Distributed</b>			
Constitution Making (set of 7)	0	113	113
Economic social and cultural rights	101	292	393
<b>Total</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>405</b>	<b>506</b>
<b>Posters Distributed</b>			
Child Abuse	26	75	101
Birth Certificates 1 & 2	19	36	55
Domestic Violence	45	85	130
Inheritance- Customary Law	28	64	92
Inheritance - General Law	29	57	86
Peace	3	8	11
Sexual Offences 1 & 2	20	12	32
Maintenance	0	1	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>170</b>	<b>338</b>	<b>508</b>

## STAFF LIST

### NATIONAL OFFICE

National Director	Deborah Barron
Finance Director	Thabo Moyo
Legal Programmes Director	Lucia Masuka-Zanhi
National Accountant	Felicitas Tapfuma
Education & Training Manager	Emmah Gweshe
Advocacy Officer	Varaidzo Mudombi
Monitoring & Evaluation Officer	Alois Nyamazana
Knowledge Management Officer	Alexandra Ehrhardt
Administration Officer	Ronald Nyabadza
Accounts Officer	Eunice Tapiwa
Projects Finance Officer	Miranda Mpabanga
Personal Assistant	Christine Shumba (resigned July 2015)
Personal Assistant	Hadwick Chiweshe (appointed December 2015)
Receptionist/Secretary	Judith Charwadza (transferred from LRF- Harare Nov 2015)
Messenger/Driver	Alex Chikove
Messenger/Driver	Lewis Greson

### LEGAL PUBLICATIONS UNIT

Legal Publications Manager	Kamurai Mudzingwa
Production Officer	Douglas Mabhugu
Sales Officer	Lonkina Viriri
Print Finisher	Johnson Mutasa
Print Finisher	Paradise S. Kwadoka (resigned January 2016)
Print Finisher	Sipepelapi Ndlovu (joined Feb 2016)

### LRF HARARE

Manager	Cathrine Chimhanda
Administrator	Tariro Ndava
Lawyer	Phillipah Muchemwa
Lawyer	Maurine Mazanhi (joined Jan 2016)
Lawyer	Florence Chagadama (resigned October 2015)
Social Worker	Stella Maria Mavengere (resigned October 2015)
Librarian	Conrad Madziwa
Secretary	Debra Chida
Receptionist	Manyara Dzirutwe
Messenger/Driver	Cliff Garavada
Messenger	Jonas Mutangadura
<i>Paralegals</i>	
City	Noel Mudikundiona
City	Zephania Chakawa
Bindura	Christopher Hotera
Bindura	Eustasia Kupara
Chitungwiza	Maud Pachawo
Highfield	Jane Marutsi
Marondera	Jeremiah Bushu (resigned October 2015)
Murehwa	Marylyn Makurira
Murehwa	Betty Mbundire
Mutoko	Wonder Nyakabau

**LRF BULAWAYO**

Manager	Muchaneta Muponda
Administrator	Stembile Mandisodza
Lawyer	Sibongunkosi C . Hlabana
Lawyer	Cedric N. Dube
Receptionist	Lovelyn Manjengwa
Secretary	Ellen Tawa
Secretary	Orpah Ncube
Secretary	Sibusiso Tshuma
Library Assistant /Clerk/Driver	Eliot Biriyadi
Messenger/Driver	Innocent Chiteka
Messenger/Cleaner	Dorothy Muchesa
<i>Paralegals</i>	
City	Nobuhle Majenda
City	Albert Gasela
Suburban	Elen Phiri
Hwange	Settie Ncube
Hwange	Jenet Mpofu-Ncube
Beitbridge	Regina Ndlovu
Gwanda	Edna Ncube
Gwanda	Alaska Mafuka
Plumtree	Possent Msimanga
Tshlotsho	Gillian Hlatswayo
Lupane	Nokuthula Ncube

**LRF GWERU**

Administrator	Innocent Mazadza (resigned November 2015)
Lawyer	Sheila Fashu-Mhlanga
Lawyer	Tinomuda Shoko
Administrator	Chido Masore (joined January 2016)
Secretary/ Receptionist	Jaqualine Chikandiwa
Messenger/Driver	Danny Prikisi (resigned February 2016)
Messenger/Driver	Never Mukwarini (joined March 2016 )
<i>Paralegals</i>	
City	Watipa Rungano
City	Wilson Bonda Mangisi (resigned December 2015)
Gokwe	Emmanuel Tembo
Zvishavane	Modreck Maposa
KweKwe	Bernard Kafesu

**LRF MASVINGO**

Manager	Sharon Moffat
Lawyer	Lucy Chivasa
Projects Lawyer	Rongedzayi Fambisayi
Social Worker	Beulah Ruparanganda (resigned September 2015)
Administrator	Lucy Supikai Chisedzi
Receptionist/Secretary	Roseline Wevu
Messenger/Cleaner	Jeniva Gwengo
<i>Paralegals</i>	
City	Anthony Dehwe
Chiredzi	Juliet Manyanga

Chiredzi  
Zaka  
Gutu

Tichafa Lawrence Musada  
Jonathan Chikukwa  
Shepherd Ali Abraham

**LRF MUTARE**

Manager  
Lawyer  
Lawyer  
Administrator  
Receptionist/Secretary  
Messenger  
*Paralegals*  
City  
City  
Chipinge  
Nyanga  
Murambinda

Valerie Zviuya  
Christine Sungayi  
Edith Moyo  
Anna Chiruvu  
Emily Chatyoka  
Chesayi Mwabvu

Sheila Zimunya  
Phillip Mwatsika  
Lovemore Sango  
Fanuel Hazvinavamwe  
Allen Arumando