

# SEPHOKONG COUNCIL RAPID ASSESSMENT OF ADOLESCENT SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH (ASRHR)

JANUARY 2022



## FACT SHEET

This fact sheet is a summary of the findings of the ASRHR Rapid Assessment undertaken in Sephokong Council as part of an eight-country study<sup>1</sup> from November 2019 to December 2020. The research aims to strengthen youth-led and focused efforts to promote ASRHR through gender and youth responsive local governance. Gender Links Lesotho conducted the study in nine Centers of Excellence for Gender in Local Government.<sup>2</sup> In Sephokong, the study covered three clinics namely Emmanuel Health, Maryland Health and St Margaret Health Centres with 70 respondents: 57% Female and 43% male (see table overleaf). This fact sheet should be read together with the Lesotho and the Southern Africa ASRHR Rapid Assessment research pamphlets. Key findings include:

### Accessibility

- Overall 41% of respondents confirmed walking 10km to the three clinics with St Margaret at 46% as highest and 35% at Emmanuel at lowest.
- Overall 5% of respondents confirmed facilities open after school and 0% on weekends, this is very worrying as it shows that young people struggle to access health services after school or even on the weekends as facilities do not open.
- Over 92% of respondents from St Margaret agreed that the facility has a comfortable waiting and consultation area as compared to 90% from Emmanuel and 88% at Maryland Health Clinics.
- The three facilities do not charge fares.

### Quality of care

- About 61% of respondents in Sephokong mentioned that peer counselors are available as compared 68% in St Margaret as highest and 54% in Maryland Health clinics as lowest.
- Over 75% of young people in St Margaret Health Centre highlighted that they were treated with respect as compared to the overall with about 63% and Maryland at 62% and 50% at Emmanuel Health Centres.
- About 75% respondents at Emmanuel confirmed treated without parents or guardians as compared to 71% in St Margaret and 65% in Maryland Health Centres.
- Fifty three percent overall, young people had privacy as compared to 75% highest in Emmanuel and 33% in St Margaret.

<sup>1</sup> Botswana, Eswatini, Lesotho, Madagascar, Mauritius, South Africa, Zambia and Zimbabwe.  
<sup>2</sup> Kanana, Lilala, Mafeteng Urban, Mámants'o, Mazenod, Qibing, Sephokong, Siloe and Ts'ana Talana.

- About 40% in Emmanuel had confidentiality as compared to 31% overall and 27% in Maryland and 29% in St Margaret, the figures here shows that the level of confidentiality at the facilities is very low and that is worrying as it can demotivate young people to visit health services.
- Over 96% of respondents in St Margaret Health Centre received appropriate information as compared to 90% in Emmanuel and 81% in Maryland Health centres
- About 75% in St Margaret confirmed health workers spent sufficient time with them as compared to Emmanuel at 55% and Maryland at 50%

### Sexual and reproductive health services

- Overall 70% of respondents requested contraceptives with almost 75% at Emmanuel, 73% at Maryland and 63% at St Margaret.
- Over 93% of young women at St Margaret received contraceptives as compared to 87% at Emmanuel and 79% at Maryland.
- About 45% of respondents at Emmanuel clinic, requested pregnancy tests as compared to 14% at St Margaret.
- Over 100% at St Margaret received pregnancy tests as compared to the 14% who requested it as compared to the 69% overall.
- Over 100% received pregnancy tests at St Margaret none of the young women tested positive as compared to the 14% at Maryland and 36% at Emmanuel.
- Even though pads are not provided at the clinics; about 27% of young women at Emmanuel requested pads and 33% received as compared to Maryland at 20% requested and 33% received.
- Overall 47% of young men requested male circumcision as compared to 55% highest at Maryland and St Margaret at 40% lowest.
- Over 100% at St Margaret received circumcision appointments as compared to 40% requested while Emmanuel stands at 75% received appointments as compared to 44% requested.
- Again, 100% respondents at both Emmanuel and St Margaret received HIV tests as compared 75% and 67% requested.
- Over 100% at Emmanuel received ARVs as compared to 16% requested, however, there is a major shortfall as none received at Maryland while there is 8% requested. This is very worrying as in Lesotho ARVs are free and does not make sense how people requested something free but did not receive it.

FOR MORE INFORMATION go to:

<https://genderlinks.org.za/what-we-do/governance/local-action-for-voice-and-choice/>

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KEY DATA FROM THE RAPID ASSESSMENT OF ASRRH SERVICES IN SEPHOKONG COUNCIL LESOTHO

Indicator	Sephokong	Emmanuel Health Centre	Maryland Health Centre	St Margaret Health Centre
Total sample	70	20	26	24
% female	57%	55%	58%	58%
% male	43%	45%	42%	42%
<b>Logistic information on health facilities</b>				
Health facility within 10km from your home %	41%	35%	42%	46%
The facility opens after school? %	5%	0%	0%	14%
The facility opens on weekends? %	0%	0%	0%	0%
The facility has a comfortable waiting and consultation area? %	90%	90%	88%	92%
Does the facility charge a fee? %	0%	0%	0%	0%
Average fee in USD				
<b>Quality of care</b>				
Peer counsellors available %	61%	60%	54%	68%
Young people treated with respect %	63%	50%	62%	75%
Young people are treated without parent present %	70%	75%	65%	71%
Young people have privacy %	53%	75%	54%	33%
Young people have confidentiality %	31%	40%	27%	29%
Health workers spend sufficient time with young people %	60%	55%	50%	75%
Young people receive appropriate information %	89%	90%	81%	96%
<b>Sexual and reproductive health services (%)</b>				
<b>Maternal health</b>				
% Young people who requested contraceptives	70%	75%	73%	63%
% Young people who requested contraceptives that received contraceptives	86%	87%	79%	93%
% Young women who requested a pregnancy test	33%	45%	43%	14%
% Young women who received a pregnancy test	69%	40%	83%	100%
% Young women who were pregnant	15%	36%	14%	0%
<b>Menstrual health</b>				
% Young women who requested pads	15%	27%	20%	0%
% of those who requested pads that received pads	33%	33%	33%	
<b>HIV and AIDS and STI</b>				
% Young men who requested male circumcision	47%	44%	55%	40%
% of those who requested male circumcision received an appointment	79%	75%	67%	100%
% youth who requested PREP	3%	10%	0%	0%
% youth who received PREP	0%	0%		
% who requested post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP)	3%	10%	0%	0%
% of those who requested who received PEP	0%	0%		
% who requested HIV test	71%	75%	73%	67%
% of those who requested who received HIV test	94%	100%	84%	100%
% who requested STI test	13%	15%	23%	0%
% who requested who received STI test	100%	100%	100%	
% who requested anti-retrovirals (ARVs)	7%	16%	8%	0%
% who requested who received ARVs	60%	100%	0%	
% who said Health worker asked about mental health	17%	21%	12%	21%