

Guyana Responsible Parenthood Association

RIGHTS FROM THE START FACT SHEET

The Rights from the Start project uses feminist and human rights-based approaches to promote and advance comprehensive sexuality education and sexual and reproductive health and rights.

We work collaboratively with allies from civil society movements, community leaders, educators, researchers, decision-makers, health care workers, women, men, and young people in Bolivia, Ecuador, Guyana, Peru, and Canada. We are working to ensure the delivery, promotion, and advancement of sexual and reproductive health and rights for women, men, and young people—especially adolescent girls.

Sexual and reproductive health and rights are at the heart of the most critical decisions that all people, especially adolescent girls, will make in their lives. We want all people everywhere to be empowered to make free and informed decisions that are right for them.

How this project contributes to improving the lives of women, girls, and young people

The impact of the Rights from the Start (RFTS) project has been incredible, especially the delivery of sexual and reproductive health (SRH) services to our vulnerable women and girls through our static clinic, where women and girls benefit from much needed SRH services. Further to this, the response to our comprehensive sexuality education (CSE) sessions has been well received thus far. The support from the school head teachers has been encouraging where we are invited to do repeat sessions.



Main objectives of our organization under Rights from the Start

- To widen the CSE and SRH Knowledge to women, youth and girls in Guyana. This aligns with the work of GRPA, as over the years, the GRPA has worked assiduously to make CSE information accessible to all.
- To provide life saving SRH Services to our vulnerable women, girls and youth in rural Guyana. Since the establishment of the GRPA over 47 years ago, the GRPA provides subsidized care to youth, women and girls. The RFTS project has made it possible to offer services to more individuals in the rural areas in Guyana.
- To increase SRH Community Advocacy; GRPA consistently strives for continuous advocacy. The RFTS project has aided in further strengthening this capacity through communities.

Organizational change under Rights from the Start

In an unprecedented time, where the COVID-19 pandemic has push the GRPA to come up with innovative ways to deliver the much needed SRH and CSE information to bring awareness, we were able to utilize online platforms to deliver both SRH and CSE session to a wider demographic as compared with in-person sessions.

“ As a youth and a young woman who has benefited from both CSE training and SRH services at the GRPA under the RFTS project, I am now well informed and well aware of my SRH rights, which has ignited a desire in me to educate youths, young women and girls on CSE and SRH. As a trained CSE facilitator, I now deliver CSE session under the RFTS project in various communities across Guyana.

—Alexdendrina Persaud

<https://grpaguyana.org>

www.actioncanadashr.org/rfts/about-rights-start