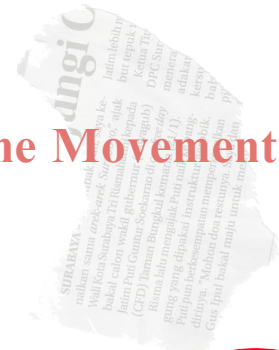


Gata Le LEGABIBO: Welcome Editon

Still We Stand: Your Monthly Step With The Movement



LEGABIBO CEO FOREWORD

As we reflect on the month of June, we do so with a deep sense of gratitude, pride, and unwavering purpose. This year's Pride activities — the community picnic and the historic Pride March held in collaboration with UNAIDS — were more than moments of visibility. They were acts of resistance. They were reminders that Pride, at its core, is a protest.

In a world where anti-rights sentiment continues to grow, our gathering was a powerful assertion of our presence, our dignity, and our right to exist fully and freely. Botswana has made tremendous strides in advancing the rights of LGBTQI+ persons — hard-won liberties that must not only be celebrated but vigilantly protected.

We marched not only for ourselves, but for those still denied their freedoms, and for future generations who deserve to inherit a more just and inclusive society. Thank you to everyone who showed up, stood up, and walked with us. Your presence is powerful.

Enjoy this month's newsletter!

Nozizwe



In this newsletter you can expect:

Introduction of LEGABIBO and History

Milestones reached by LEGABIBO

Drop In Centres (DICs) Informartion

Importance of LEGABIBO Newsletter

What You Can Expect in the Future

Where to Reach Us





Who We Are

Where We Come From

LEGABIBO is the first LGBTQI+ organisation legally registered in Botswana. We advocate for the rights, safety, and dignity of the LGBTQI+ persons, providing psychosocial support, Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity and Expression (SOGIE) training, advocacy, and legal support for the queer community while shaping national/public policies, shifting narratives, and shaping public understanding.

LEGABIBO began as a project under DITSHWANELO in 1998 and later offered legal and office space by BONELA in the early 2000s.

LEGABIBO fought for legal recognition and applied to register as an independent organization in 2005 and 2012. The government of Botswana denied the request, citing that LGBTQI+ rights were not protected under the Constitution. In 2016, after a long legal battle, LEGABIBO was officially registered as an independent organization.

Milestones Reached

- 2016, LEGABIBO was officially registered as an independent organisation.
- Decriminalisation of Same-Sex relations: LEGABIBO was admitted as Amicus Curiae and submitted reports and evidence of human rights violations that helped build a strong case for the repeal of Section 164 of the Penal Code.
- Beyond The Rainbow Campaign- a campaign that focused on building relations and raising awareness of challenges affecting the lives of LGBTQI+ persons in Botswana.
- Still We Stand Campaign- a campaign that embarked on research to determine the impacts of funding freeze on the lives of LGBTQI+ persons and foster resilience within the queer community.

What You Can Expect at LEGABIBO

When you walk through our doors or connect with us online, here's what you can expect:

- A safe and inclusive Space- free from judgement, stigma, or discrimination
- Access to Services- HIV testing, Psychosocial support (referrals) and more
- Information and Resources- on health, human rights, identity, and safety
- Community Support- peer connections, events, and safe spaces for expression
- Advocacy and Empowerment- Opportunities to speak up, organize, and lead.

Drop In Centres (DICs)

LEGABIBO Drop In Centres (DICs) are open in four regions, Gaborone, Chobe, Francistown, and Boteti- offering free and confidential HIV testing for everyone, regardless of identity, race, or country of origin.

You can also access psychosocial support, use free internet, printing services, and take a breather, unwind or distress, hang out in a safe, non-judgemental environment.

Whether you're queer or non-queer, our doors are open to you. Visit us and access safe, inclusive, and judgement-free services.

Please Note: Thursdays are dedicated strictly to HIV testing services.

Your health. Your space.
Your right.



LEGABIBO Membership

Join the LEGABIBO family by becoming a member today! As a member you'll have the following benefits:

- access to social building programmes nationally, regionally and internationally.
- opportunity to represent LEGABIBO in meetings, conferences, and workshops
- given first priority in training and capacity strengthening
- given first priority on volunteering opportunity locally and internationally.
- opportunity for engagement and consultation on LGBTQI+ issues
- access to information packages and research reports.



Where to Reach Us

You can connect with LEGABIBO at any of our Drop In Centres (DICs) across Botswana:

- **Gaborone** (head Office)- Plot 37823, Block 6, Gaborone
+267 3167425/ 71340794
- **Francistown**- Plot 1277, Government Camp opposite Jubilee.
+267 72987344
- **Chobe**- Botshabelo number 8, Street behind Bus Rank.
+267 77333089
- **Boteti**- Tawana, opposite Phudzi Hotel behind Bus Rank/Pink House
+267 77470667

Email:
legabibo@legabibo.org.bw



Website:
www.legabibo.org.bw



Socials: @LEGABIBO on Facebook, Twitter & Instagram





Thank you

Re a leboga! Thank you for taking the time to read and engage with our first ever newsletter. At LEGABIBO, we are deeply grateful for every member, ally, partner and supporter who walks this journey with us.

Whether you show up at events, volunteer your time, share our work, or simply stand in quiet solidarity- you are part of the movement.

Your support fuels our advocacy, strengthens our voice and creates safer spaces for LGBTQI+ individuals across Botswana and beyond.

As we continue to challenge injustice and celebrate pride in all forms, we thank you for standing and stepping with us.

Together we stronger. Together, we are louder. Together we rise.

Still We Stand. Still We Speak. Still We Step.



LEGABIBO Team

