

## FBC News

### Multi-stakeholder effort needed post TC Winston

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Report by: Roland Koroi

#### **A multi stakeholder effort is needed to help people who are left traumatized due to Tropical Cyclone Winston.**

Lautoka based NGO, FRIEND has been working closely with cyclone affected communities in Ra and its director Sashi Kiran says although people are moving on, many are still trying to cope.

Nabukadra Village headman Raivulita Malani told FBC News people in his village, especially children and the elderly often panicked when there was rain or wind.

The same sentiments were shared by Verevere Village headman Simone Koroicakau who said children at Verevere often cried whenever there was heavy rains.

At Nayavutoka Village where two people died during the cyclone, Village headman Timoci Naibogibogi said they were still very scared and were always ready to run for safety when winds picked up.

FRIEND director Sashi Kiran says the trauma will stay with them forever and the best that can be done is help them cope.

*“They need mass support. Support for children’s trauma healing because at the moment the fear is there whenever it starts raining, children are scared. Imagine living like that for the last seven months. And this is going to have an ongoing effect in their lives so they need ongoing trauma healing support for children, for mothers and for the elderly.”*

Kiran adds, with the trauma healing, people in cyclone affected areas also need to be prepared on how to respond and react to future disasters.

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