



SOUTH AFRICAN COUNCIL FOR SOCIAL SERVICE PROFESSIONS

The e-Bulletin is a monthly informal communique to persons registered with the South African Council for Social Service Professions and other stakeholders.

December 2019

From the desk of the Registrar



We look back on 2019 as a very eventful year for all South African as we started the year preparing for the national and provincial elections that culminated in the inauguration of the 6th democratic Parliament and the election of President

CM Ramaphosa. The election also signalled a new beginning for the social service sector as the new Minister for Social Development, Honourable Lindiwe Zulu was unveiled much to the appreciation of the people because she is a connecting and ever-present leader who listens.

SACSSP also started the year with the acquisition of the office block adjacent to the existing office which allowed for more development, which will add to the look and feel that the secretariat is working on. There are strides made as Council, the Professional Boards and Secretariat worked tirelessly to meet all obligations as mandated in the Social Service Professions Act 110 of 1978.

We still experienced minor administrative hurdles that impacted timeous resolution of queries received from the sector, however I can reassure the sector that management has got their pulse on the issues and is confident that in 2020 the pace will have improved drastically.

I want to thank all social service practitioners for ongoing understanding, positive feedback and constructive criticism that helped us to keep the eye on the ball.

There are successes to celebrate such as the installation of high-speed fibre in Council's offices which will ensure improved connectivity and high level IT overhaul, to the momentous high level meeting with the National Department of Social Development's acting Director General, Mr Mzolisi Toni, followed by a meet and greet session with Minister Zulu and the cherry on top, a session with Parliament's Portfolio Committee on Social Development. The value add of these historic meetings is that the issues affecting social service practitioners will be elevated to the right leadership structures and Council together with the Professional Boards will advise the Minister and Parliament without fail as envisaged by the Social Service Professions Act 110 of 1978.

Lastly, it is important to celebrate the advent of the final draft Bill that will soon be published in the government gazette for public comment. Council and the Department of Social Development worked tirelessly together with other stakeholders to ensure that relevant comments are included in the final draft. Special thanks to the technical task team i.e. Dr Marie Kruger, Ms Bessie Nkosi, Rev

Quote for the month

We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give - Winston Churchill

Barrie Lodge, Ms Rapoo, Ms Ludwaba, Adv Misser, Adv Ramatshimbila for their contribution and the support of Ms Lugodu.

To my team of Managers - Ms Masipa (Finance and Admin) Mr Sekhitla (Professional Conduct), Mr Hlabangana (Registration) and Ms Vilakase (ETD) without whom I can't be a good leader, a hearty thank you for helping me shine the light and raise the visibility of Council in all provinces.

I want to appreciate Council and the two Professional Boards for their ongoing support and encouragement. I want to thank all staff and interns for their selfless dedication to the furtherance of the business of Council.

Part three will address the ethical issues to consider when working with communities. The last part will look at the 4th industrial revolution and netiquette challenges.

To all newly qualified graduates in social work, social auxiliary and child and youth care work, please:

- Do not delay applying to be registered as a qualified practitioner.
- Do not leave it until the last moment when you are invited for a job interview
- Registration with Council guarantees that you will be considered first for employment (over other candidates) when opportunities arise because you will be declared 'fit and proper' to practice.

Wishing all social service practitioners and their loved ones a prosperous 2020.

Langi Malamba

What's on for social service professionals

6 January 2020 - SACSSP offices reopen

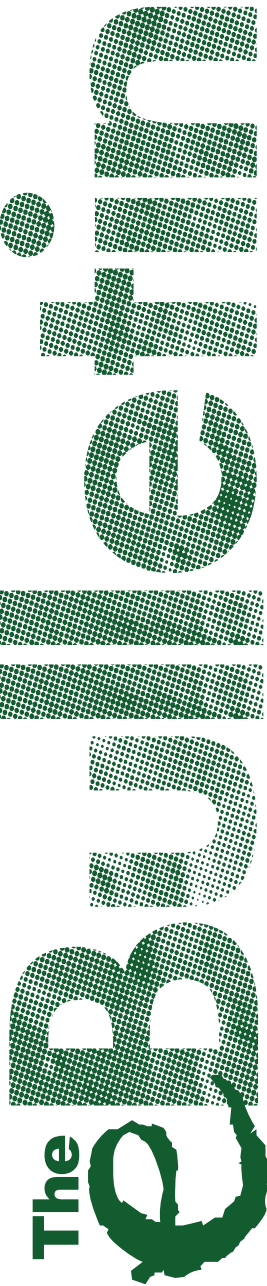
31 March 2020 - final date for payment of annual fees. NO concessions will be made!

SHARE your important date or event in this column by sending an email before the end of any month to: communications@sacssp.co.za

RESOURCE Corner

Child & Youth Services is an international academic journal devoted to advancing knowledge and thinking about relational engagement with children, youth, their families, and communities. You can access it [here](#).

International Journal of Child, Youth and Family Studies (IJCYFS) is a peer reviewed, open access, interdisciplinary, cross-national journal that is committed to scholarly excellence in the field of research about and services for children, youth, families and their communities. You can access it [here](#).



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3 questions to MZIKAYIFANIVILAKAZI

Member of Council



Tell us who is Mzikayifani the person?

Mzikayifani is the second born child. He was born in Zola, Soweto, Gauteng. He was not born disabled, his disability started when he was 8 months old and was admitted at Baragwaneth Hospital, spending most of his childhood there. He went to Tlamelang Special School for the Disabled in Lichtenberg, North West.

What is the biggest highlight in your career in advocating for rights of people with disabilities?

I have been advocating for people with disabilities especially physically disabled children, elders and mentally disabled in the education sector as they need to be employed, own companies and acquire accessible public transport and be accommodation in public

buildings so that companies will not hesitate to employ them as our main challenge is getting from one place to another on time due to inaccessible public transport. Also in housing, RDP houses are not accessible for the disabled community especially for the blind, paraplegia and crushes users because most of these building construction companies do not want to build accessible tailor-made houses for the disabled.

What is your vision for social service professionals in the country?

Most social ills in our country start from the grass root level in our communities and homes. We should try to prevent them instead of curing them in office desks. Social service professionals should prevent the scourge of drugs, child abuse and family matters like violence, teenage pregnancy and gangsterism. Social workers in policing department should play a vital role in preventing these social ills in our country with the assistance of the society. I will be pleased to see a diverse workplace of social service professionals that also include social workers and child and youth care workers with disabilities.

SOCIAL media

Most people are connecting and interacting with social media now. While there are many outlets you can follow on Facebook and Twitter, here are a few key sites that can be a stepping stone toward developing your online identity.

As always, be aware of what you post publicly online and consider the ethical implications of what you post.

LinkedIn Networking and Discussion Forum for Social Workers: Connect with other social workers in this professional social media format. You can also promote your business and skills by posting articles, questions, and answers. You must be a LinkedIn member to participate. You can access it [here](#).

This Twitter list of social workers:

Twitter is great tool for real-time interaction, even if on a microlevel. This list of over 300 social workers and institutions is filled with a variety of people you can add to your following list. You can access it [here](#).

Reddit: Essentially the modern online forum, the social worker subreddit goes more in depth than twitter's character limit allows. Many questions you probably have about MSW programs and social work in general will be asked and hopefully answered here. You can access it [here](#).

Managing loss, grief and continuous trauma

Do you need a tool to help you support your staff or clients who cannot escape their context of trauma?

This tried and tested programme improves overall health, self-esteem and gives hope in a context of despair. If you work in a resources deprived setting this could be what you are looking for. You will learn how to run the workshop in your own setting.

For more information visit:
<https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/managing-loss-grief-continuous-trauma-hilary-mclea/>

DATES:
19th, 20th & 21st February, 2020

COST:
R2250 (12 CPD points SACSSP)

VENUE:
eMseni Christian Centre, Benoni

TO APPLY CONTACT:
Hilary McLea at hilary@mclea.co.za
www.emsenichristiancentre.co.za

Advertisement

The South African Council for Social Service Professions wishes you and your loved ones a prosperous 2020

LOCAL & international NEWS

HARMFUL CONTENT FOR CHILDREN

Films and Publications Act 65 of 1996 was amended through the Amendment Act 11 of 2019, which introduces a number of changes, including harsher rules to protect children from disturbing and harmful content, and to regulate the online distribution of content such as films, games amongst others. Find it [here](#).

CABINET DECISIONS TO NOTE

On 13 December 2019 Cabinet approved the following reports, plans and bills that are significant for the social service sector:

Report on 25-Year Review of Women's Empowerment and Gender Equality in South Africa: 1994-2019, which will serve as the Country's Report Back to the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (Beijing+25) of the United Nations (UN). The UN Commission on the Status of Women is scheduled to make the 25th anniversary of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action in March 2020. South Africa is the signatory to the Beijing Declaration. The report highlights progress in a number of areas in respect of women empowerment and attempts to narrow the gap of gender inequality. Whilst it affirms that South Africa has comprehensive gender-responsive legislative and policy interventions to redress sexism, challenges of transforming historical gender imbalances and addressing the persisted patriarchal practices and stereotyping remain.

Gender-Based Violence (GBV) and Femicide National Strategic Plan (NSP) (2020-2030), which provides a multi-sectoral, coherent strategic policy and programming framework to ensure a coordinated GBV national response by government and the country as a whole. Cabinet approved that all funded programmes of the plan must be implemented by the various affected departments. Cabinet directed that further work be done in refining the proposed institutional and coordination arrangement of this work. The following Ministers were directed to do further work in this regard: Social Development Minister Ms Lindiwe Zulu; Justice and Correctional Services Minister Mr Ronald Lamola; Police Minister Mr Bheki Cele; Women, Youth and Persons with Disabilities Minister Mrs Maite Nkoana-Mashabane. Minister Mrs Nkoana-Mashabane will convene this team.

The publication of the **Victim Support Services Bill of 2019** for public comment. The Bill provides for integrated and multi-disciplinary intervention approach towards the needs of victims of crime and violence. Through this bill the activities and services by various departments in the Justice, Crime Prevention and Security Cluster and the Social Cluster will be better coordinated as part of a singular value chain.

The **Social Services Practitioners Bill of 2019** to be published in the Government Gazette for public comment. The Bill was developed to expand the regulation of social service practitioners by recognising that there are both professional and auxiliary levels within the social service occupations. This Bill once it is legislated, will repeal the current Social Service Professional Act 110 of 1978.