



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.

February 2020

From the desk of the Registrar



A new year, a new beginning for newly qualified graduates, and those who are embarking on a new journey either as a student- child and youth care worker; social auxiliary worker; social worker, community development practitioner and maybe even as a caregiver. Welcome on board for those who will be registering with SACSSP for the first time. Your onward journey requires constant positive self-talk, self-discipline and resilience because your personal values are going to be tested as you venture into the field of social services.

What lies ahead for existing registrants is the need to focus on developmental approaches geared at transforming society on different levels because there are too many social ills besetting our communities. My message to all is to foster deliberate intergrade programmes that will impact all social strata. Our interventions must without a doubt restore hope and promote self-reliance. I am particularly concerned about the following:

- 1. Increasing violence against women and children** - where are social service practitioners to conduct research so as to develop cogent intervention programs to assist young people (men and women) to cope with the demands within their social environments and their relationships. What are the cries of the perpetrators of gender based violence? Are we connecting with what causes them to act out in the way they do?
- 2. Family homicide and suicide** - maybe there is collective term for such types of gruesome murders where one spouse kills the children, the partner and then takes his /her own life.
- 3. School based bullying** - we have lost one too many lives of children who commit suicide because they are being bullied. We need to connect with the forces at play here to give support to the bully and the bullied, as well as extended interventions for the onlooker and families.
- 4. Substance abuse in schools and in general across communities.** Illicit drugs are destroying school children and families who can't cope with the child who is slowly sucked into the world of drug abuse.
- 5. Unemployment within the social service sector** - there are far too many young excited graduates who end up despairing because of the unemployment situation.

The list can go on and on, however I am flagging the above because they give me and maybe somebody out there sleepless nights. On points 1 to 4, I am challenging all social service practitioners at the coal face of service delivery and their supervisors, not to look away or switch the TV off when the social ills are reported on, but rather gather around and discuss intervention strategies to support both the perpetrators and the affected parties.

On point 4, I am challenging all social service managers and administrators and /or those responsible for policy development to lobby and advocate for transformation of our sector. Members of Council and the Professional Boards should also do likewise to ensure that the interests of the public are protected by unlocking opportunities that supports the growth of practitioner who serve those members of the public.

One love,

Langi Malamba

What's on for social service professionals

20 February 2020 - World Day of Social Justice

21 February 2020 - International Mother Language Day

1 March 2020 - Zero Discrimination Day

8 March 2020 - International Women's Day

17 March 2020 - World Social Work Day

20 March 2020 - International Day of Happiness

31 March 2020 - final date for payment of annual fees

Click on the word Day to find out more about the specific day.

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

The NDP & children

The National Development Plan 2030: Our Future-make it work rallies all South Africans – adults and children - to work together towards the future of the country. The second National Planning Commission has a Commissioner responsible for children's rights, Christina Nomdo, and her commitment to the rights of children, and in particular their right to be heard and taken seriously, is evident in the work of the National Planning Commission under her leadership that culminated in the following two **must read** reports:

[The Children's NDP: Final process report \(2019\)](#)

[Children's participation in governance: lessons from the children's NDP initiative \(2020\)](#)

Quote for the month

At the end of the day, the most overwhelming key to a child's success is the positive involvement of parents - Jane D. Hull

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3 questions to CROSBYNOKO

Member of Professional Board for Social Work



Tell us who is Crosby Noko the person?

I was born in 1981 in a rural town called Schweizer-Reneke in the North West Province, the first born of a family four (4) siblings, a very compassionate man, with sense of humility, respect and a committed humanitarian. My belief has always been that understanding the universe and everything in it. This has been I think a primary goal of mankind. I am a voracious reader, and this has always been essential to my intellectual growth and understanding of what I believe, who I am, and what my goals will be. In particular I read the work of Paulo Freire, John Gastil and Steve Bantu Biko which contains profound meditated ideas about

human condition and has been corner stone of my world view and perception of life.

What is the biggest highlight in your career as a social auxiliary worker?

My biggest highlights are too many to mention, but I will single out one if not two. The first one should be the task I was given to facilitate and coordinate the Men's Forum Dialogue in Soweto that included young boys to have discussion on various issues, but pertinently to child abuse, gender-based violence and rape. It was a journey I could go back to do all over again. The second highlight will be being nominated, and ultimately elected to serve in the current Professional Board for Social Work, a mammoth task I must say, but one I have come to enjoy and have learned from seasoned professionals from different generations. It has been a privilege, an honour and a learning process to be able to contribute immensely towards shaping the profession first hand in various portfolios of Council. I have witnessed the transformation agenda of Council taking shape, the amount of work and commitment by many others to steer the ship to promising horizons, I can safely say I'm proud to have been amongst the best man and woman in this profession.

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

Our ability to imagine new ideas, new methods and build up detailed opinions of the world will mark us distinctly different from our forefathers, and those who have walked this path in the name of social services in this country. The examination of human condition and the condition in which humans exist, has sparked the most fascinating cultivation and exchanged of critical thoughts ever in me. Social service professionals have a developmental focus, so if social service professionals were to maintain their position within the sector, concepts such as equity, relevance, acceptability, accessibility, accountability and appropriateness can be taken into consideration and not be disregarded as mere clinches.

My vision is, despite the professional elitism which has developed, that the social service professionals will preserve the proud history of serving the poor, the marginalised, the weak and the vulnerable. That the principles and values which are set out in Council's motto – not for ourselves - will form part of their daily conduct, when servicing those that I have just mentioned.



INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE CONSULTATION ON THE 'GLOBAL SOCIAL WORK AGENDA: THE NEXT TEN YEARS 2020-2030'

The *Global Agenda for Social Work and Social Development* started in 2010 when 3000 social work representatives and social development professionals came together to set the priorities for the profession until 2020. This significantly successful period of the *Global Agenda* has been an essential voice in proactively setting and fulfilling the Sustainable Developmental Goals, working towards more peaceful and just societies and strengthening the voice of the social work profession.

Now, the social work profession needs to examine new themes and processes to expand the *Global Agenda for Social Work and Social Development* for the years 2020 to 2030. The International Federation of Social Workers launched a consultation process, where your input is essential to build a robust and inclusive Global Agenda that meets the real needs of all people. The consultation period will end in July 2020.

Please make your contributions to the *Global Agenda for Social Work and Social Development 2020 – 2030* by filling in the comments box at the bottom of this [page](#).

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LOCAL & international NEWS

NEW REGULATIONS SERIOUS ABOUT PARENTING

The amended regulations to the Basic Conditions of Employment Act 75 of 1997 sets out three new entitlements for parents. While maternity leave remains unchanged at four months, parental leave, where an employee who is a parent of a child will be entitled to 10 consecutive days' (calendar days not working days) parental leave. This applies irrespective of the gender, which means it would include parents in same sex relationships. This replaces the three days' paid paternity leave previously provided for in the BCEA. An adoptive parent is entitled to 10 consecutive weeks' adoption leave and if there are two adoptive parents, only one is entitled to 10 consecutive weeks' adoption leave, while the other adoptive parent is entitled to 10 consecutive days' normal parental leave. The adoptive parents decide themselves who takes adoption leave and who takes normal parental leave. Another form of parental leave is commissioning parental leave that relates to surrogate motherhood. The commissioning parent who will primarily be responsible for looking after the child (primary commissioning parent) will be entitled to 10 consecutive weeks' commissioning parental leave, while the other parents will be entitled to 10 consecutive days' normal parental leave. All three of the new categories of leave are unpaid, as is the case with maternity leave. However, employees that take this leave may claim benefits from the Unemployment Insurance Fund. The regulations (Government Notice 83 published in Government Gazette no. 42986 of 31 January 2020) can be downloaded [here](#).

SOURCE: Labourwise. Read the full article [here](#).

DRAFT NATIONAL YOUTH POLICY - 2020 TO 2030

The draft National Youth Policy - 2020 to 2030: A decade to accelerate a positive youth development impact, was published in Government Notice 48 of 2020 in Government Gazette no. 42999 of 7 February 2020. It does not indicate whether comments are invited and where it needs to be sent to (contact the NYDA at 087 158 6345 / 5738 or info@nyda.gov.za for more information in this regard). It can be downloaded [here](#).

CHINESE SOCIAL WORKERS ACTIVELY ENGAGED IN THE FIGHT AGAINST THE CORONA VIRUS

The *Chinese Association of Social Workers (CASW)* has been actively engaged in the fight against the coronavirus. As soon as the outbreak of the coronavirus epidemic was announced, the CASW started a series of actions, for example, the release of "the National Social Workers proposal" to call on social workers for personal protection, and fulfilling the mission of the industry to support the prevention and control of the epidemic. The Association also published *The Social Worker Support Manual on the Prevention and Control of Pneumonia Caused by the Coronavirus Infection*, which proposes the basic working principles and methods to social workers during the prevention and control period. The CASW has launched an online training course to *Fight Against the Epidemic based on the Community — Series of Social Work Courses*, to provide professional guidance and psychological support for social workers to effectively participate in the prevention and control of the virus. Click [here](#) for more information.

SOURCE: International Federation of Social Workers (IFSW)