



SOUTH AFRICAN COUNCIL FOR SOCIAL SERVICE PROFESSIONS

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

MAY 2021

This edition has a special focus on child and youth care work in celebration of *International Child Youth Care Work Week 2021*

From the desk of the Registrar



I thank all social service professionals who diligently renewed their annual fees within the cut-off time (31 March 2021) to remain in good standing for continued service delivery to the vulnerable members of society. Colleagues, it is never too late to make things right, kindly contact the Registrations Division to verify your status and /or to make arrangement to pay your outstanding monies owed to Council.

April has been a month where we celebrated World Health Day amidst the ensuing COVID -19 debates on imminent 3rd or 4th waves and the safety issues around the vaccine. Social service professionals should continue to interrogate their modus operandi in order to remain relevant in a transient world where social ills and challenges keeps evolving. We should endeavour to remain solution-focused and 'in tune' with the current affairs in order to effectively mitigate the environmental issues affecting society. To this end, the SACSSP, supported by UNICEF continues to advocate for workforce strengthening and has commissioned training for the provision of community based mental health and psychosocial support in response to COVID-19, and gender-based violence (GBV) risk mitigation and protection of sexual abuse and exploitation.

Social service professionals are encouraged to subscribe or enrol for the webinar trainings that will be rolled out in the coming weeks. Not only will practitioners gain practical knowledge and skills, but also CPD points which further affirms that one is a practitioner who constantly searches for new ways of improving his/her interventions. To adapt to the current social problems requires a versatile and radical shift to the approaches used by practitioners. All social service professionals should interrogate what is their current business and also what should be their business in order to remain relevant to the needs of society.

As we mark *International Child Youth Care Work Week 2021* celebrations, we do so reflecting with sadness on the concerning upsurge of another form of violence led by adolescents and /or youth in school which is almost becoming a rite of passage or cult in most of our schools. The child and youth care workers have a meaningful role to play as part of a multi-disciplinary team whose primary task should be to free educators from attending to psycho- social issues, and restore the learning environment to be free from all forms of violence. We recognise the invaluable work contributed by the child and youth care worker cadres to transforming communities and society at large.

We salute all child and youth care workers - '*Champions of hope in challenging times*' for your continued commitment and passion to serve the vulnerable children and youth in our communities.

Langi Malamba
Registrar

Quote

for the month

"History will judge us by the difference we make in the everyday lives of children." - Nelson Mandela

What's on *for social service professionals*

May is Africa Month

3-9 May - International Child Youth Care Work Week

15 May - International Day of Families

16 May - International Day of Living Together in Peace

25 May - Africa Day

1 June - Global Day of Parents

4 June - International Day of Innocent Children Victims of Aggression

12 June - World Day Against Child Labour

Click on hyperlink for more information.

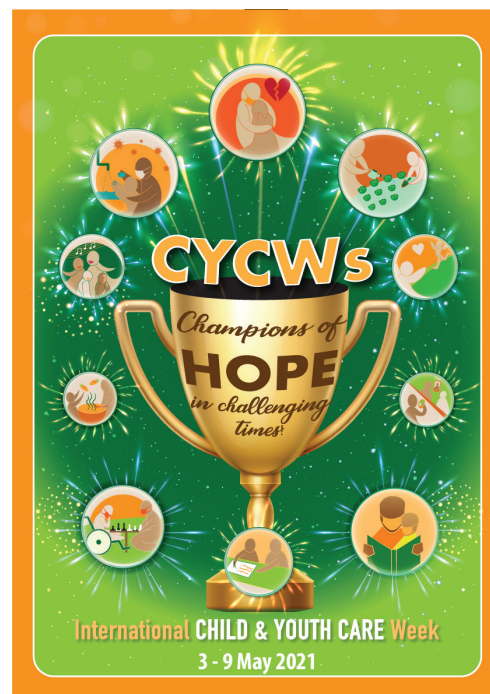
SHARE your important date or event in this column by sending an email before the end of any month to communications@sacssp.co.za

RESOURCE *Corner*

As we celebrate *International Child Youth Care Work Week 2021* and *International Day of Families* in May, we share two links to resources:

The **Global Social Service Workforce Alliance** has for many years highlighted the unique and important role of child and youth care workers in supporting families. Read more [here](#).

CYC-NET celebrates the contribution of child and youth care workers to the lives of children, youth, families, and communities. Read more [here](#).



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Tribute to AZIWE MAGIDA

Outgoing Chairperson of the Professional Board for Child and Youth Care Work



The South African Council for Social Service Professions (SACSSP) recognises and honour the service and dedication of Ms Aziwe Magida, the outgoing Chairperson of the Professional Board for Child and Youth Care Work (PBCYC). Ms Magida's commitment to the SACSSP, and especially the Professional Board started in 2010 when the second (2nd) Professional Board for Child and Youth Care Work was established. After ten years of excellent service to the Professional Board and the sector, Ms Magida resigned in February 2021 as the Chairperson of the Professional Board.

During her role as Chairperson of the Professional Board for Child and Youth Care Work, Ms Magida spread her infectious positive energy and fervour for the development of the child and youth care sector within South Africa. She quickly understood the profession and valued the work of child and youth care workers, significantly advancing the values and mission of the sector in her work on the Professional Board for Child and Youth Care Work. In this position of leadership, Ms Magida sustained good governance and built relationships of trust with Council, the Professional Board Members and the secretariat. She provided outstanding leadership and guidance to the Professional Board Members, and during her tenure played a key role in contributing to the development and implementation of the SACSSP's strategic plan.

Ms Magida built and maintained strong relationships with the sector, attending and representing the Professional Board for Child and Youth Care Work at three successive biennial conferences of the NACCW. In representing the Professional Board at these events, she connected directly with practitioners, and gave them hope in relation to the development of the profession. She also built positive working relationships with key stakeholders including the *Health and Welfare Sector Education and Training Authority (HWSETA)*, and the *Quality Council for Trades and Occupations (QCTO)*, and various institutions of higher education.

Ms Magida leaves the Professional Board for Child and Youth Care Work with significant developments in place, including the imminent introduction of further degree-level qualifications, to advance the training of over 8 043 registered child and youth care workers at professional and auxiliary levels, mostly with NQF level 4 qualifications; the *Continuing Professional Development (CPD) Policy for Child and Youth Care Workers*, which has been finalised and submitted to Council for approval; the finalised *Policy Guidelines and Code of Ethics for Child and Youth Care Workers*.

The Professional Board for Child and Youth Care Work and the entire SACSSP have benefitted greatly from Ms Magida's leadership as a Chairperson of the Professional Board. The Professional Board has worked as a functional and conscientious team under Ms Magida's leadership who worked long hours and set a positive work ethic. Above all, Ms Magida led with determination, courage and was a vocal advocate for child and youth care work development within Council and with the National Department of Social Development.

We invite you to join Council, the Professional Board for Child and Youth Care Work, the Professional Board for Social Work, and staff in expressing a heartfelt "thank you" to Ms Magida for her commitment to the child and youth care sector, for her integrity and for her generosity throughout the ten years.

LOCAL & international NEWS

INTERNATIONAL CHILD AND YOUTH CARE WEEK 2021

International Child Youth Care Work Week under the theme **Child and Youth Care Workers: Champions of hope in challenging times!** is celebrated from 3 to 9 May 2021. Posters for International Child and Youth Care Week 2021 can be downloaded from Council's website (www.sacssp.co.za) and the hashtag #cycweek2021 will bring together all the events, information and discussions during this week. Join the Professional Board for Child and Youth Care Work together with Council and the Professional Board for Social Work in celebrating #cycweek2021.

LANDMARK CHILD AND YOUTH CARE WORK SUMMIT

The Professional Board for Child and Youth Care Work hosted a landmark online full day Summit (in the form of a webinar) on the 6th May 2021 as part of *International Child and Youth Care Work Week 2021*. The theme of the Summit is "The crisis in the child and youth care sector in South Africa and its impact on the welfare of children and youth". The presentations, recordings and reports from this Summit will be shared on the SACSSP website and Facebook page as soon as it is available.

CABINET CONCERNED ABOUT BULLYING

Cabinet expressed during its last meeting on 21 April 2021 concern about the prevalence of bullying in our schools. In its statement after the meeting, Cabinet urged education stakeholders, including parents and guardians, to unite against bullying to create an environment that is conducive to learning. Cabinet further emphasised that it is the responsibility of everyone to speak up and report incidents of bullying to the relevant authorities, particularly where the victims are unable or afraid to do so.

Source: www.gov.za

DSD APP AND CHILD & YOUTH CARE WORK

The Department of Social Development recently published its *Revised Annual Performance Plan for 2020/2021* (read it [here](#)). In celebration of *International Child and Youth Care Work Week 2021* and linked to the *Summit* held by the Professional Board for Child and Youth Care Work on the 6th of May 2021, the following areas were extracted from the APP in relation to child and youth care work:

Social service practitioners are defined in the APP as "social workers, social auxiliary workers, *child and youth care workers*, and community development workers employed by the Department of Social Development or Non-Government Organisations". In Part A under Priority 3 on Education, Skills and Health, *child and youth care workers* are included as part of the Department of Social Development's contribution, while under Priority 7: A better Africa and World, *child and youth care work* is included in social sector jobs.

The APP refers to the out of court settlement was reached to develop "an inter-sectoral policy on children with severe or profound disruptive behaviour disorder is now in the process of being developed by the Departments of Social Development, Health and Basic Education" This court settlement (North Gauteng High Court) further provides for certain interim measures to be implemented in ensuring that children with a severe or profound disruptive disorder are provided with appropriate services including prevention and early intervention programmes to caregivers and families of those children.

One of the output indicators that relates directly to community based child and youth care work is: *Monitoring tool on the implementation of Guidelines on Community Based Prevention and Early intervention services to vulnerable children.*

Source: www.dsd.gov.za

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