



# **SOUTH AFRICAN COUNCIL FOR SOCIAL SERVICE PROFESSIONS**

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## **STATEMENT ON 37<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF PROFESSIONAL BOARD FOR CHILD AND YOUTH CARE WORK**

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14 June 2019

The Professional Board for Child and Youth Care Work held its 37<sup>th</sup> meeting from 14 to 15 May 2019 in Pretoria at the newly acquired office block. During the meeting the Professional Board deliberated extensively on the NQF level 4 learning material that will be phased out in 2024 due to its poor quality. Last year in November during the 34<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Professional Board one of the key matters for engagement was a review of the current NQF level 4 learning material for child and youth care work commissioned by the HWSETA. The Professional Board had further engagements with HWSETA and a service provider to develop the new learning material for the Level 5 qualification was appointed by HWSETA. The Professional Board also welcomed the positive partnership formed with both the Quality Council for Trades and Occupations (QCTO) and the HWSETA in all their processes involving the child and youth care work professionalization. A task team was formed to address some concerns with SAQA and HWSETA relating to the extension period of NQF level 4.

The Professional Board noted the progress made by the newly appointed HWSETA service provider, National Association of Child Care Workers (NACCW) in reviewing the NQF level 5 learning material which is to be finalized by 31 July 2019. The education, training and development division has received more than 10 applications from service providers who want to offer this NQF level 5 training and an assessment tool to guide such an assessment is being developed by the Professional Board. A resolution was taken by the Professional Board that subject matter experts in Gauteng province be utilized with each assessment panel chaired by one education training and development committee member.

Professional Board received feedback that continuing professional development (CPD) policy has been submitted to Council for approval through a round robin, and once it has been approved the sector will be notified.

Progress made by the professional conduct division whose mandate is to promote and guide the standard of professional conduct for social service professionals and the professional conduct committee was appreciated by the Professional Board. The committee held its workshop from 27 to 28 March 2019 where focus was to workshop members on Social Service Professions Act, relevant Rules and Regulations, roles of Committees and establishment of committee for Preliminary Inquiry and for disciplinary hearings. Draft Policy Guidelines for Course of Conduct, Code of Ethics and Rules for child and youth care workers, auxiliary child and youth care workers and student child and youth care workers were discussed. The Professional Board is reviewing these documents that will guide child and youth care workers and comments from the sector will be requested soon.

The Professional Board noted the activities that took place during Child and Youth Care Week 2019 which was celebrated from 6 to 12 May 2019 under the theme "I am, because you are". Messages of support from the Registrar, members of Council and the Professional Boards for Child and Youth Care and Social Work were widely circulated to celebrate child and youth care workers and their work. Amongst other organisations that joined in the celebrations is the National Association of Child Care Workers (NACCW) in Kimberley, who promoted service delivery through professional engagements with families to ensure effective and efficient service delivery according to the needs identified.

The Professional Board concluded its 37<sup>th</sup> meeting by expressing appreciation to the members and staff for their participation.

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#### **ENQUIRIES:**

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#### **ABOUT THE SOUTH AFRICAN COUNCIL FOR SERVICE PROFESSIONS**

The South African Council for Social Service Professions (SACSSP/ Council) is a statutory body established in terms of section 2 of the Social Service Professions Act No. 110 of 1978 (the Act). Council has two professional boards under its auspices: the Professional Board for Social Work and the Professional Board for Child and Youth Care Work. Council, in conjunction with its two professional boards, guides and regulates the professions of social work and child youth care work in aspects pertaining to registration; education and training; professional conduct and ethical behaviour; ensuring continuing professional development; and fostering compliance with professional standards. It protects the integrity of the social service professions as well as the interest of the public at large. In order to safeguard the public and indirectly the professions, registration with Council in terms of the Act is a prerequisite before practising social work and child and youth care work. Registration is mandatory for social workers, social auxiliary workers, student social workers, student social auxiliary workers, child and youth care workers, auxiliary child and youth care workers, student child and youth care workers, and student auxiliary child and youth care workers.