



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.

JUNE 2019

From the desk of the Registrar



May month which was dedicated to the child and youth care workers has afforded us an opportunity to appreciate the services offered to vulnerable children and troubled youth who sometimes can also be in conflict with the law. I am in awe of the

selflessness of the women and men who dedicate their lives to serving this interest group either in a child and youth care centre or a secure care centre. There needs to be a closer scrutiny at the training of child and youth care workers, the legislated scope of practice, the job descriptions, the expected outputs, the preparation or orientation to work in the 'life space of a children or youth'. The work of social service practitioners promotes connections and healthy interactions in an endeavour to foster healthy human relationships. Practitioners must be encouraged to be reconnected with their inner self and identify their own areas of needs and be willing to ask for help and to receive care and support. Carers need to look after their own psycho-emotional needs in order to be connected with the needs of their clients. All practitioners have an ethical obligation to themselves on different levels for self-care and self-development. To neglect oneself (physical, mental, emotional, spiritual etc.) could result in causing harm to clients because of clouded judgement which could lead to one making unethical decisions. Reflecting on the code of ethics and ethical dilemmas that practitioners face on a daily basis requires more robust engagements with the affected parties - regulators and employers - because a disconnect may result in frustrated practitioners and /or employees.

Registration of child and youth care workers is still a cause for concern. I am urging all employers to promote compliance to the Social Service Professions Act 110 of 1978 by ensuring that all their appointed staff in designated posts for child and youth care workers are registered and licenced to practise. Practitioners operating in secure care centres and child and youth care centres need to take pride in being called a child and youth care worker and take responsibility to be registered. I would like to applaud all the practitioners who continued to pay their annual fees since 2015 despite the technical challenges of not receiving practice cards and certificates on time. I apologise for all the inconvenience that practitioners experienced as a result. If you are still unsure how to get registered, please contact the office of the registrations manager registrationsmanager@sacssp.co.za

I want to assure child and youth care workers that Council and the Professional Board for Child and Youth Care Work are aware of the multitude of concerns and complaints raised on different platforms. They are being attended to. There is a future for child and youth care workers in this country. *Phambili* with the recognition and appreciation of child and youth care workers, *Phambili*.

Langi Malamba

What's on for social service professionals

15 June - World Elder Abuse Awareness Day

16 June - Youth Day

21 June - National Epilepsy Day

26 June - International Day against Drug Abuse & Illicit Trafficking

2 to 4 July - 22nd NACCW Biennial Conference and the 4th CYC-Net World Conference

31 July - REMINDER to all training institutions (e.g. universities, colleges, etc) are reminded that they **must submit the following lists** to Registrar by **31 July 2019** as contemplated in Regulation 10 of the *Regulations regarding the registration of student social workers and the holding of disciplinary inquiries* (Government Notice R. 102 published in Government Gazette No 34020 dated 18 February 2011) and *Regulation 11 of the Regulations for child and youth care workers, auxiliary child and youth care workers, and student child and youth care workers* (Government Notice R. 838 published in Government Gazette No 38135 dated 31 October 2014):

- every student enrolled in Social Work in their second year of study and/or every student enrolled in Child and Youth Care Work on 1 May this year;
- all student social workers and/or student child and youth care workers who abandoned their studies during the previous twelve months (specifying the date of abandonment)
- all students who after temporary abandonment of their study resumed their study during the previous twelve months, specifying the date of resumption; and
- all student social workers and/or student child and youth care workers who during the previous twelve months obtained their qualifications.

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

This month in recognition of Child Protection Week, we focus on resources that will be of interest to those professionals working in the child protection system.

Child protection resource pack - How to Plan, Monitor and Evaluate Child Protection Programmes:

The purpose of this resource pack is to strengthen the evidence base of child protection through clear and practical guidance for improved planning and M&E practices and documentation of good practices and lessons learned. Download it [here](#).



Quote for the month

Our children are our greatest treasure. They are our future. Those who abuse them tear at the fabric of our society and weaken our nation.

Nelson Mandela

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3 questions to LUCKY JACOBS

Member of the Professional Board for Child and Youth Care Work



Tell us who is Lucky Jacobs the person?

I'm a down to earth father of 4 children and a husband married for 19 years. I regard myself as a passionate child and youth care worker with 21 years' experience. I believe that my patience and humility makes me a people's person.

What is the biggest highlight in your career as a child and youth care worker?

My travels in the field have given me the privilege to mentor and train hundreds of child and youth care workers over a couple of years. In 2016 I attended and made a presentation at the FICE International Conference in Vienna, Austria. But my highlight definitely has to be the special program called *Young Men Empowerment Program* of which I conducted many with different groups of boys across the country. This program allowed me to interface with boys and assist them to unpack and explore their issues through a well-coordinated process. It dealt with cultural and societal issues and allowed me to demonstrate positive male role modelling. I just love being in contact with children.

What is your vision for child and youth care work as a social service profession in the country? ?

I have a vision where the playing field is levelled for all social service professionals and we as child and youth care workers are given the respect and acknowledgement we deserve. A South Africa where as child and youth care workers we do not have to explain who we are every time we enter a room or sit in a meeting.

CHILD PROTECTION employers

Employers should check the National Child Protection Register before they hire people to work with children, which would help to prevent abuse by those who have been convicted of crimes against children.

Section 111 of the Children's Act 38 of 2005 mandates the Department of Social Development to keep and maintain a Child Protection Register. The Child Protection Register consists of Part A and Part B. Part A is used to record all reports of abuse or deliberate neglect of a child while Part B keeps details of persons declared unsuitable to work with children.

In terms of section 126 of the Children's Act 38 of 2005, all organisations working with or having access to children are required to assess and verify the suitability of their employees and potential employees. Employers whose employees' job responsibilities require them to work with or have access to children need to verify their suitability to work with children against the Child Protection Register (CPR). This step helps employers or potential employers to take reasonable steps to minimise the risk of child abuse, neglect and exploitation.

In order to establish whether the person's name appears in Part B of the Child Protection Register, the employer should complete a Form 29, which they can obtain from the Department of Social Development and send it to CPRenquiries@dsd.gov.za. The contact number for the Registrar is 012 312 7554.

Adapted from media release issued by the Department of Social Development.

DID YOU KNOW?

All social service professionals, including students, have a legal responsibility to ensure that their particulars as inserted in the Registers kept by Council are up to date.

The Registrar of the South African Council for Social Service Professions must be notified, as prescribed by law, within three months of any name change with supporting evidence and within six weeks of any change in residential or postal address or other contact details as to enable the Registrar to update the Registers of social service professions as contemplated in section 19 of the Social Service Professions Act 110 of 1978.

Our website is under construction. We aim to have all information uploaded by the end of June 2019.

LOCAL & international NEWS

NEW MEMBER ELECTED TO COUNCIL

Prof Willem Jan Roestenburg (10 – 07690) has been elected in accordance with section 5(1)(a) of the Social Service Professions Act 110 of 1978 to serve on the 4th South African Council for Social Service Professions from 2019 to 2021. We extend our sincere appreciation to all registrants who participated in the election process, and we congratulate and welcome Prof Roestenburg.

NEW NDA BOARD APPOINTED

The Minister of Social Development, Ms Susan Shabangu, MP, appointed the new National Development Agency Board with effect from 01 April 2019. The new Board members are:

- Dr Zoleka Nobathembu Sokopo
- Ms Sarah Ntsau Olga Choane
- Dr Roseline Lynette September
- Ms Marie-Louise Neolene Samuels
- Ms Carmen-Joy Abrahams
- Ms Judy Hermans
- Mr Abram Stefanus Hanekom
- Bishop Rasebusi Sidwell Mokgothu
- Ms Zamandlovu Sharon Ndlovu
- Mr Olwetu Sipuka
- Mr Tebogo Flavius Mopeloa

MINISTER OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

President Cyril Ramaphosa appointed honourable Lindiwe Zulu, MP, as the new Minister of Social Development, and reappointed honourable Henrietta Bogopane-Zulu, MP, as Deputy Minister of Social Development.

CHILD PROTECTION WEEK

2019 marks the 22nd anniversary of the Child Protection Week. This year the campaign will be observed under the theme: **"Let us Protect All Children to Move South Africa Forward"**. The Department of Social Development, custodian of the National Child Protection Register, reported that there are 9,153 reported cases of child abuse, neglect and exploitation on Part A of the Child Protection Register, while 509 names of persons declared unsuitable to work with children have been entered into Part B of the Register. The Department had received 140 029 suitability check enquiries from employers and individuals by the end of March 2019.

LAW talk for social service professionals

This month we look at the five sources of law in South Africa:

The *Constitution of the Republic of South Africa* which is the highest law in the country.

Statute law (legislation) is written law made by Parliament as the highest law-making body in the country and also made by Provincial Legislatures. Metros and municipalities also make written laws in the form of bylaws.

Common law is not made like a law-making such as Parliament. Common law in South Africa comes from Roman-Dutch law and English law.

Customary law can be written or unwritten which develops from the customs of a community – fixed practises that people use and believe in.

Court decisions or judgments depending on the facts of the case. This is also referred to a precedent set by a court to be followed by other courts.

Source: Section 27, Introduction to the legal system.

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