**CBD MEETING MINUTES**

**6 February 2019**

**DSD Cape Town Office**

**9:30-12:00**

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**PRESENT:** Pat Eddy (CCID), Theo Hendricks (DSD CT Office) Pamela Feleza (DSD CT Office), Sue- Ellen McNeil (DSD CT Office), Alfred De Vries (DSD CT Office), Tatenda Mucharunga (CCID), Shanien Rich (CCID), Colleen Brookes-Gain (WCSCF) and Janice King (WCSCF)

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1. **WELCOME and INTRODUCTIONS:** Janicewelcomed everyone and introductions went around the room with a brief description of each organization present.
2. **CURRENT SITUATION AT CTLO**

New Designated SC SW’s:

Andrea went on maternity leave, leaving 2 teams (4 people) to cover the work that her and Theo did.  She meant to refer 33 cases to the community of origin before she left, in order to reduce the caseload before the new team took over.  But she did not manage to do this.

Then, within 2 weeks, one of the team members (the 2nd social worker) was reallocated to another job, leaving only 3 on the Street Children's Programme (1 SWker and 2 SAW's)(Young, new Swker and SAW).

Alfred (Supervisor) and his new team, are "OVERWHELMED" with admin, trying to handle 60+ street child cases from across the Metro (some from as far as Malmesbury).  They are not managing to address this administrative backlog, once with again due to a shortage of staff.

Andrea will be back in June; and they are not yet sure whether Theo will be part of the team.

Suggestion: Janice offered for her and Colleen to assist with the admin backlog of at least 2 hours a day at CTLO - but has to firstly run it by the EXEC.

Janice to chat to Robert and copy in Alfred.

A point of concern was the response time of Central admissions which causes all kinds of delays.

**Janice**: Leanna Goosen says that facilities are full with 300 on the waiting list. NGO’s are 95% full but it wouldn’t be feasible to send a hardened SC to an NGO facility.

Suggestion: Maybe it would be wise to write a paragraph on the application forms somewhere wrt the lack of placement and the impact thereof and who knows maybe it will be picked up.

1. **CURRENT SITUATION ON THE STREET**

**Pamela:**

* **Unaccompanied Foreign National Minors**

An Influx of unaccompanied foreign national minors are coming into the CBD without any form of documentation. They are not SC but displaced children looking for a place to stay.

They had 4 children in just 2 weeks aged between 11-12yrs whom they have placed with Safety Parents in the meantime. Without any documentation etc that is also a risk. But the children cannot be left on the street.

* **The other major concern is that more Unaccompanied FN Children are coming in**.

They don’t know whose transporting these children into Cape Town because the children do know one another. This need investigating. How are they crossing the border; they might be part of a stowaway wrt trafficking.

* **Challenges at Court wrt FN Children:**

No interpreter in Burundi at court which makes things incredibly difficult for all concerned.

Alfred and his team go to court to explain why the FN child is put at safety parents and why there is a lack of information on the child.

**Suggestions:**

* It would be prudent to contact CTMSC as they usually work with FN Children particularly because the FN Children are not hardened SC nor a flight risk.
* Connect with Lawrence House as they also take FN Children.
* Communicate to Central admissions the need for Early Intervention wrt Unaccompanied FN Minors being placed at Homestead, as it is a point of concern placing FN Children with Safety Parents.

Janice to forward the anti-Trafficking agent number to Pam and Theo which they can investigate.

**PCFF meetings are held every quarter and Janice will raise the question wrt the absence of SWorkers on the ground.**

1. **COORDINATOR OF CBD & SURROUNDS FORUM**

Pat accepted the role of coordinator for the CBD Forum and didn’t foresee a problem.

1. **Action and next steps**
2. **Next meeting:** Friday the 12th April at 10am at CCID (they can alternate with DSD CTLO)

**Enquiries**: Janice King (WCSCF Director Operations)

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