

Northern Suburbs Street Children’s Meeting

30th January 2020

9:00-11:00

Uitsig Dutch Reformed Church

 **Ridgeworth**

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Present:** Vanessa Brink (Badisa Bellville), Jacque Petersen (VRCID), Jannis Cloete (Badisa Kraaifontein), Marissa Fisher (Badisa Kraaifontein), Nadine Samuels (Badisa Bellville), Henry Davids (CTMSC), Natasha Davids (CTMSC), Portia Darries (Badisa Scottsdene), Amber-Rose Potter (Badisa Scottsdene), Jeanne Brown (Private), Colleen Brookes-Gain (WCSCF)

**Apologies:** Wilma Piek (VRCID), Bijou Bakole (EL THEOS), Crystal Fielding (Durbanville Kinderhuis), Magdalena Koch (Durbanville Kinderhuis), Wendy Bosse (Olympians)`

1. **WELCOME AND APOLOGIES**

Colleen welcomed everyone and Introductions went around the room.

**WCSCF Feedback**:

Mia has left WCSCF hence Colleen to chair the meeting today. Until such time when another Coordinator arrives, meetings will be held every second month and chaired by Colleen if necessary.

**Champion/s for the NS Sub forum:**

It is important for sustainability reasons that someone from the area champions this Forum; someone who works in the area, who has first-hand knowledge of the challenges faced, who is better able to build those vital relationships with other organisations in the area, relationships that are pivotal to strengthening and motivating the forum, to become a success. Then the onus rests on those champions to decide how many meetings they want a year and where they want to have it and how they want it to be structured. WCSCF would however remain in the position of **huge support** to guide the forum. It would be appreciated if the attendees were to give this some thought.

1. **Minutes of the previous meeting**:

In light of Mia leaving, the minutes will be carried over to the next meeting on 5th March.

**Matters Arising:**

**Matters arising from previous minutes to be carried over to the next NS Meeting**

1. **Guest speaker: Dr Jeanne Brown (Retired) from WCED**

**Abuse No More Protocol**

The purpose of the protocol is to assist all learners (victims) who are at public schools’ and perpetrators of child abuse, deliberate neglect or sexual offences.

It also serves as an approach for educators to be able to:

* Identify
* Intervene
* Report
* Provide support

Every person has a right to report a child in need of care and protection, however, Teachers and Social Workers in their professional capacity MUST (duty-bound) to report Abuse and the suspicion of Abuse.

A Form 22 must be filled in and it must be reported to SAPS or DSD.

One must always act in the best interest of the child.

**There are 3 forms of Abuse:**

 NB: At disclosure the learner must not be cross-examined but only relevant information obtained for reporting purposes. It’s important that the procedure that will follow is explained to the victim.

**Learner on learner:**

At disclosure the following role-players must be contacted:

* SAPS FCS unit in the case of sexual offences
* Designated social worker in the case of abuse
* The school social worker in the area
* The parents of both learners.
* The learner victim must be referred for counselling and psycho-social support by the school social worker where necessary.
* The learner offender must be referred to relevant role-players for emotional support and therapy and both learners need to be guided during this period.
* The code of conduct must make provision for the transgression and in decide the following most appropriate action to be taken with regard to the leaner offender:
* The age and developmental phase of the learner
* The disciplinary record and willingness to change
* Learners regret and willingness to the offence right
* Recommendations from professional service providers supporting the learner offender.

**Teacher/ Principal (WCED Employee) on learner:**

At disclosure the following role-players must be contacted:

* SAPS FCS unit in the case of sexual offences
* Designated social worker in the case of abuse
* The school social worker in the area
* SGB
* The parents of the learner
* Corporal punishment should also be seen as physical and emotional abuse dealt with in this policy.
* Be aware at all times of the learner victims developmental age with regard to questioning, concentration and the need for regular breaks, language and emotional status and time of interview or hearing.

**Community on learner**

 At disclosure the following role-players must be contacted:

* SAPS FCS unit in the case of sexual offences
* Designated social worker in the case of abuse
* The school social worker in the area
* The school must assist in ensuring the safety of the learner victim by communicating with the designated social worker or other child protection agency regarding a place of safety or a family member in the event the child cannot return home.

**In all of the above, the school (principal & educator) must provide continuous emotional support to the learner a victim and monitor the learners social, emotional and academic functioning, provide regular feedback to the social worker and also arrange for additional academic support if and where necessary.**

NB: Dealing with child abuse demands a multi-disciplinary approach in order to provide effectively for the needs of the learner victim.

The following are the relevant role-players and their responsibilities.

* DSD – Department of Social Development (ensures the safety of the victim etc)
* DOJC – via the Commissioner of Children’s Courts protects children from further abuse by order of the Children’s Court
* Parents -
* School – SGB assists with investigations and hearing in the event of an employee offender
* DER – investigate all complaints
* SAPS- receive and investigate
* NPA – provide assistance through the Thuthezela Care Centres
* DOH- conduct forensics

The Abuse No More Protocol Booklet is available from your nearest District office.

1. **Other:**

**Dr Jeanne invited** anyone who wanted to volunteer for an event for those in need, which will take place on the 15th Feb to be held at their church. **They should feel free to call her.**

**WCSCF Meetings**

**All Regions Meeting:**

The quarterly meeting is where valuable and important information and resources becomes available to all the Sub-forums attending. It all so means that all the sub-forums are represented which gives them a great opportunity of sharing about their challenges /successes that they are experiencing which in turn could serve to be helpful to other organisations who might be experiencing similar challenges but have no idea how to forge ahead .And visa versa. It’s a win-win.

 **ALL REGIONS MEETING Dates**

 **Venue:** **Salesians Institute**

**Time: 10:00- 12:00**

* 26th Feb –– WCED- Dr Rochshana Kemp, Topic: Abuse No More & SIAS Process.
* 20th May
* 19th August

**CNOYO Dates:**

**Venue Salesians Institute.**

**Time: 9:30 -11:30**

* 27th February at 9:30 – 11:3- **Guest Speaker Hettie Orffer from BEAT THE BULLY.** Over 500 teachers and 20 schools have benefitted from this talk with Sir Lowry’s Pass Primary into their 6th year already. An informative topic.
1. **Next meeting: NS: Venue NG KERK Uitsig,**

**Time; 9:00 – 11:00**

 **5th March -**

 **7th May**

 **2 July**

 **2 September 12:00 – 14:00**

 **5th November**