

VRYGROND LAVENDER HILL Child Protection Forum

12th February 2019 @ SOZO FOUNDATION

**­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­ATTENDANCE:** Marion Thomas (KBSJSRA), Samantha Gorridon (KBSJSRA), Marjory Jofana (Living Hope), Exsaviour Mutabana (VCC), Candice Domingo (VCC), Lorraine Moko (Sozo Foundation), Tony Lawrence (The Guardian), Prudence Nitshangase (WRB MEET), Janice King (WCSCF), Colleen Brookes-Gain (WCSCF).

1. **Welcome.** Janice welcomed everyone. Each person present introduced themselves and gave a brief history of their organization.
2. **Looking at the last meeting.** The following was discussed at the last meeting:

* Vision and Mission
* the purpose of the Forum
* Looking to integrate the 2 communities so that there are referral pathways, bridging gaps, strengthening each other, and sharing of ideas and resources.

**2.1 Current concerns:**

**Exsavier (Village Care Centre):**

* there is a definite need in the community.
* he is currently the only social worker in the area – Mildred, the social worker (at New World Foundation) resigned, no other social worker was appointed to date.
* There is still a definite lack of resource.
* People have to walk great distances to DSD.
* More people are needed to assist the community.
* Schools need social workers to intervene and do assessments for kids going to skills schools.
* Exsavier has a meeting planned with the social worker from Grassy Park.

New world Foundation in Capricorn has social workers Monday Wednesday and Friday

NB: Working in silos prevents us from working with people. There’s a book called “The SILO Effect” that speaks about the very negative outcome of businesses who stopped to talking to each other.

*Suggestions: To invite social workers from Grassy Park to our meetings. To invite SAPS as well.*

*Every 2nd Thursday of the month SAPS Muizenberg has an open community meeting.*

Action: Marion to send us the email of the dates to these meetings for the year. Everyone to invite other organisations to the next meeting.

* 1. **The purpose of the meetings.**
* The meetings must have purpose and only such purpose-filled things need be spoken about: ie what will we achieve. Must be action orientated.
* Answering: How do communities’ handle situations? Good practice modules can be shared with other communities who’s suffering the same situations that you had.
* There should be good support and collaboration with SAPS, DSD and the CIDS.
* Look at the needs of the children and then look at the way forward.
* Networking is key.
* Churches and ECD’s also need to get on board

*Suggestions:*

*It would be helpful to invite Imelda from DSD to the next meeting so that this forum can understand what they are experiencing and that they can tap into the capacity here.*

*For a while it would be good to have various speakers starting with DSD.*

*Community based programs need be implemented within the communities like the Rene Roman Search and Rescue Team who walks the streets at night taking children home that are being sent to the spaza shops late at night. Invite the Rene Roman Search and Rescue Team to the meeting to share how and when to start a rescue operation.*

*Action: Janice will have Lucy Jameson to come and speak again as SA has a problem with baby rape. Stats show that 60% cases are withdrawn because the system is biased against the child’s testimony. There’s also very poor inter-sectoral collaboration between systems and that’s where children and cases fall through the gap.*

*Action: Lorraine to connect with Rene Roman Team & Churches. Janice to contact Imelda at DSD/ SAPS.*

***Reflection:***

*What kind of interventions was in place when:*

* *they have a minor whose complaining that step dad was making advances.*
* *Another where Dad was orally stimulating a minor.*

***DSD says that as long as penetration hasn’t taken place then its not their case. Whose case is it then?***

*Suggestions: These are the kind of questions to pose to DSD when they are invited to the meetings.*

1. **Champion.** The forum definitely needed to be driven by someone from the area/ working in the area as that person would have a better understanding of what’s happening in the area. Lorraine is a possibility. Are there any other volunteers?
2. **Venue.** Alternate between Lavender Hill and Vrygrond.
3. **Frequency of Meetings.** To be discussed. But currently every 2 months.
4. **Other Business.** Tony Lawrence from The Guardian

Tony is a child protection specialist and finger print technician for the Guardian who specialize in crime against children. He offers training and development.

1. **The Reporting anonymously app:**

The Guardians school app can be found in Playstore which must be downloaded by the children and by parents. It’s an empowerment tool. It is preventative and deals instantly with situations.

Action: Tony to sed the FB link to Janice who show it at the next meeting.

1. **Screening:**

**An**yone who works with children need to be screened on

* the Sex offenders Register and
* the Child Protection Register (form 29 and form 30) including gardeners/ cooks/ caretakers.

If you are found to be on these registers you MAY NOT work with children.

To have the Guardian assist your organization in being screened against both registers costs R300 per person and the results are available within 10-14 days.

2 organisations can be done in one sitting which is roughly 1 hour per organisations.

For transparency purposes, a Certificate of compliance is issued to the organisations who have had their people screened.

1. **Next meeting: 16th April @ Village Care Centre**

**DSD to be the Guest Speakers.**



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16th April – Village Care Centre, Lavender Hill

AGENDA

1. **Welcome, Apologies & Introductions**
2. **Minutes & Matters Arising**
3. **The Guardian App – Short DVD Advert**
4. **Screening and Vetting of employees and volunteers – CPR & SOR**
5. **Guests: DSD Metro South**
6. **Questions for DSD**
7. **Any other business**
8. **Next meetings: 11 June**

**Where:**

**Guest:**

**Future Meeting this year: 13 Aug, 15 Oct**

**WCSCF All Regions: 22 May, 18 Sept, 13 Nov**