



EMALAHLENI CHILD & FAMILY WELFARE

SOCIAL SERVICE PROFESSIONAL STAFF REPORT

(SOCIAL WORKERS AND SOCIAL AUXILIARY WORKERS)

2025

Social Workers: 1 APRIL 2024 -31 MARCH 2025



Nomusa Mashimbyi	: Principal Social Worker
Ivy Ratlhogo	: Senior Social Worker
Jaqueline Maskaneng	: Senior Social Worker
Emanuel Munzhelele	: Senior Social Worker
Gudani Mukhwantheli	: Senior Social Worker
Bathobile Magagula	: Senior Social Worker
Phumelele Mdabe	: Junior Social Worker
Gugulethu Mathebula	: Junior Social Worker

Social Auxiliary Workers : 1 APRIL 2024 -31 MARCH 2025



Getrude Baloyi : Senior Social Auxiliary Worker

Gugulethu Nkosi : Senior Social Auxiliary Worker

Patience Mogohlwane : Senior Social Auxiliary Worker

INTRODUCTION

Emalahleni Child and Family Welfare is a Child Protection Organization that is Non-Profit, Non-racial, and Non denominational.

Emalahleni Child and Family Welfare envisages a world where the most vulnerable members of the community have access to social services that are effective and address their basic needs. Our goal is to ensure that children's rights are protected, families are preserved, and individuals are empowered in order to understand, appreciate, and enforce the rights that they have under the Constitution. Every child deserves an optimal beginning in life, which is why the organization offers services for the community's most at-risk and vulnerable children. ECFW provides social and developmental services to children, families, and communities within its service areas.

SERVICE AREAS ALLOCATED TO EMALAHLENI CHILD AND FAMILY WELFARE



3. COMMON SOCIAL PROBLEMS FOUND IN OUR SERVICE AREAS

3.1 Die Heuwel, Highveld Park, Blanchville and Jackaroo Park The aforementioned areas are among the low-density suburbs in Witbank. The majority of residents in these locations are financially secure; nonetheless, the incidence of divorce is elevated, leading minor children to be vulnerable as they are caught in the midst of their parents' separation. The organization provides mediation services for parents and aids in the formulation of parenting plan agreements to facilitate access to minor children in instances where one parent is denied access of the children following a breakup, separation, or divorce.

3.2 Ext 5 and Ext 10 (Witbank town). The aforementioned extensions are in proximity to the Witbank Central Business District. Prostitution and substance abuse are prevalent in these areas, leading to minor children susceptible to conditions detrimental to

their natural growth and well-being. Incidents of severe child abuse are reported. The organisation frequently facilitates alternative placements for abandoned children. Furthermore, awareness campaigns are done for purposes of providing education on child protection and parental responsibilities and rights.

3.3 Schoongezicht

The socio-economic issues prevalent in the Schoongezicht area include substance abuse and alcohol dependency, resulting in significant maltreatment of minor children. The organization provides parenting skills training to individuals and groups. Children who are neglected are promptly removed and placed in alternative care. Certain clients receive material support in the form of donated food and clothing.

3.4 Hlalanikahle Ext 1,2,3,4, Waghuis, Phases 1,2,3,4 and Kwa-Guqa Ext 4,5, 14 and Clewer

The aforementioned areas are among the high-density suburbs in eMalahleni. The majority of residents in these areas face financial difficulties, with a high unemployment rate and those employed occupy low-wage positions, leading to elevated poverty levels. Instances of child abuse due to poverty are frequently reported, alongside reports of child support grant top-up or foster care application due to parental death and the alleged anonymity or absence of certain parents.

4. SERVICES RENDERED TOWARDS CHILDREN AND FAMILIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS:

Emalahleni Child and Family Welfare, as a child protection organization, provides services on cases of poverty alleviation, care and protection of vulnerable groups, family preservation and re-unification services.

- Poverty alleviation – The organisation facilitated temporary support for those in urgent need of material assistance, enabling them to fulfil their or their families' most basic needs. This generous action contributes to the reduction of crime and risky behaviours in children, including criminal activity. Food parcels are distributed to child-headed households, and school uniform is purchased for children from disadvantaged families. The clients are linked with suitable resources for additional support and aid families in urgent need of material assistance, such as clothing and food received from donors.
- Care and protection of vulnerable groups – The organization assisted in caring and protection of vulnerable groups in communities such as orphans, abused children, abandoned babies and people living with disabilities. Orphans are placed in the care of their relatives with recommendations of a child support grant top-up or foster care placement where necessary. Children whose parent/s misuse their child support grant (CSG) were assisted with the transfer of the grant to a person deemed responsible and will be able to cater to the child/ren's basic needs. A more suitable alternative placements were arranged for abused and abandoned children. These children are placed in alternative care and ultimately adoption or foster care with suitable adoptive parents or foster parents. People living with

disabilities were linked to organizations which assisted them further in accordance to their individual needs. A parenting skills programme was rendered to parents and caregivers who are in need of such a service. This programme is an educational intervention designed to improve caregivers' abilities in areas like child behavior management, parent-child communication and promoting child development. It further provides parents with knowledge and practical skills through a workshop, to build stronger relationships, set boundaries and manage challenging situations effectively and positively.

- Family Preservation - Social workers provided prevention services to families through mediation sessions amongst family members who are in conflict or disputes to improve communication and resolve conflicts. This intervention assists in prevention of family breakdown. Social Workers and Social Auxiliary Workers provided parenting skills, child and family counselling to families, in order to enhance family ties and foster a sense of belonging to the affected children.

5. STATISTICS ACHIEVED BY THE EMALAHLENI CHILD AND FAMILY WELFARE FROM 1 APRIL 2024 TO 31 MARCH 2025 :

- Number of clients on the screening register : 1308
- Number of intakes received : 111
- Child abuse Cases done : 11
- Children Placed in Foster Care : 31
- Children Placed in Temporal Safe Care (CYCC) : 04
- Children Placed with Temporal Safe Care Parents : 06
- Family Preservation Cases : 122
- Finalized Cases of Adoption : 03
- Children Re-unified with their Families : 04
- Group Work : 05
- Awareness Campaigns : 05
- Educational Programmes : 07

CAMPAIGNS

- Child Protection Week : 762
- Mandela Day : 15
- Disability Day Celebration : 30
- • 16 Days of Activism on Violence Against Women And Children : 254
- World Aids Day : 41

6. FEATURED PROGRAMMES

6.1 After Care programme

Total number of 60 children monthly are beneficiaries of the aftercare programme which is facilitated by Social Auxiliary Workers and volunteers in the drop-in centre which is located at Phase 4, Hlalanikahle Township. In this programme, children are assisted with homework, they are grouped according to grades and complete activities to help solidify the information they are taught in the classroom. Furthermore, they are taught life skills and a variety of extra mural activities.



6.2 Holiday Programme

A holiday programme was conducted during school holidays. This is an ongoing programme which seeks to protect children by removing them from the streets during school holidays. The children are constructively occupied by a full-programme and are provided with a meal. The programme includes life skills training, sport development and promotion of cultural values in education and moral regeneration dialogues.





6.3 Asiphileni Soup Kitchen Project

Asiphileni soup kitchen project is an ongoing project that is based at Ext3 Hlalanikahle Community Health Care Centre. The soup kitchen runs once a week, on Wednesdays from 08:00am – 09:00 am. Asiphileni soup kitchen project is a short-term project which runs based on money received from sponsorships. The Clinic assists with the place to prepare and serve the meals.



6.4 Support group for single parents

Twenty-three clients were empowered with parenting skills on how to raise their children as single parents and were also provided with education pertaining to challenges, they constantly experience with raising teenage children.



7. AWARENESS CAMPAIGNS

Emalahleni Child and Family Welfare is continuously involved in awareness campaigns to sensitize children and communities with regards to children's rights and child protection issues. Many of these awareness campaigns are focused on national and international days such as Child Protection Week, Heritage Day, 16 Days of Activism for No Violence Against Women and Children and World AIDS Day.

7.1 Child Protection Week

A total number of 762 children were empowered with knowledge about their rights and responsibilities, as well as ways on how to protect themselves from any type of abuse and contacts of organizations they can contact should they or any person they know encounter such an unfortunate act. Different stakeholders like Department of Social Development, CMR, Emalahleni Child and Family Welfare, ELDAC, SANCA and NICRO were invited to make presentations with regards to child protection. The campaign was done in the following schools, Siyanqoba Secondary School, Besilindile Primary School, Banana Creche and Leonard Ntshuntshe Secondary School.



7.2 Mandela Day

Sixty seven minutes for Mandela day was celebrated at SAVF Immergroen (Home for the Elderly). A total number of 15 morning shoes and fleece blankets were given to the elderly of SAVF Immergroen from a donor and the staff and board members of Emalahleni Child and Family Welfare assisted with cleaning the premises, cooking and laundry. The elderly were further informed about services rendered by Emalahleni Child and Family Welfare (ECFW) to children and families. Food parcels were donated to the office by Legal Aid for Mandela Day. The food parcels donated were issued to two families which are Nkosi family in Extension 1, Hlalani-kahle and Mthembu family in Extension 3, Hlalanikahle.



7.3 Celebrating Heritage Day

Heritage Day was celebrated at our Drop-in Centre where children from Besilindile Primary School and Kroomdraai Primary School participated in different cultural activities such as traditional dances, gum boots dance, drama and rendering of a poem. A total number of 45 children participated in the programme. Different traditional food was prepared for the children as refreshments and they were also given sweets and snacks.



7.4 16 Days of Activism for No Violence Against Women and Children

16 days of activism for no violence against women and children was implemented in the following areas: Panorama Laer Skool, KG Mall, door to door in KwaGuqa Extension 5, Extension 3 Hlalanikahle Clinic and a roadshow was done at Schoongezicht and Clewer. A total number of beneficiaries reached was 254. Pamphlets containing information on child abuse and domestic violence were disseminated during the campaign.



7.5 World Aids Day

The organization conducted a door-to-door campaign in Extension 5 (Witbank down town) and patients from Hlalanikahle Clinic in commemoration of World Aids Day where the importance of protecting the rights of people living with HIV/AIDS and ensuring their access to care without discrimination was emphasized. Furthermore, the beneficiaries were educated on the importance of knowing their health status, using protection and ways to maintain a healthy lifestyle. Pamphlets with information of services rendered by Emalahleni Child and Family Welfare were issued to the beneficiaries. A total number of 41 beneficiaries was reached.



8. SATELITE OFFICE

The satellite office at the Drop-in Centre operates on Wednesdays on a weekly basis. Social Workers take turns in working at the satellite office. This initiative was done for the purpose of bringing services closer to the people.

9. TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT

An accredited 1 day workshop on “Professional Report Writing: Enhancing Your Children’s Court and Psycho Social Reports” was attended by all Social Workers on 18 September 2024 in Middelburg facilitated by Ms Crystal Theron.

10. CONCLUSION

If children receive love, compassion, appropriate guidance and essential resources, they will surpass their aspirations. The organization strives to continuously safeguard vulnerable children and families in our communities by positively influencing their lives.

I would like to express our sincere gratitude to our valued sponsors, your unwavering support makes a significant impact to the lives of our beneficiaries. Furthermore, I would like to sincerely acknowledge our Board Members for the tremendous support they provide to us as the organization’ staff. We are truly grateful for the time, expertise and dedication you generously provide to us and the organization. Your active participation in the leadership of Emalahleni Child and Family Welfare has made a tremendous difference.

To my fellow colleagues, I take pride on how professionally you conduct yourselves and the quality of service provided to the clients who come to consult in our offices. May you continue to maintain positive professional relationship with our clients and stakeholders and may the organization persist in forming networks and alliances that will guarantee the protection of children and preservation of families.

Thank you

Compiled by : Mrs Nomusa T Mashimbyi

(Principal Social Worker)