



CONTENT

02 Social Justice Project Updates

- 02..... Siyakhathala – Khayelitsha Township
- 02..... Vredelus
- 02..... Lindelani
- 02..... Bonnytown

03 Legal Services

- 03..... Maria Mulindi
- 03..... Sherwin Daniels

03 Conclusion

SOCIAL JUSTICE PROJECT UPDATES

■ Siyakhathala – Khayelitsha Township

Report: Emma Hagle

For the past few months we have been working on a case where our client, a young boy, was diagnosed as a slow learner. Due to the client's learning disability, he is unable to attend a regular school so his mother came to us for assistance with getting him into a special skills school. We contacted the Department of Social Development who advised us to seek the assistance of an occupational therapist. They would then evaluate the client and provide us with a report, which we could use to motivate his need to be placed into a school catering for students with special needs. After months of the client attending visits with the occupational therapist, obtaining all the necessary documentation, searching for a special skilled school and following up with the relevant parties involved; our client was finally enrolled in a school.

■ Vredelus

Report: Natalie White

We did a workshop called 'Life after detention'. We discussed the different educational, employment and social options available to them whilst they are at Vredelus, as well as after they are released. We also discussed the different problems they are facing with their family and in their daily lives, as well as how to tackle these problems one-by-one. The girls were listening attentively and were receptive to the workshop.

■ Lindelani

Report: Emma Hagle

This weeks' session was more of an informal workshop, which was titled 'who are you and who do you want to be?'. The session was filled with activities where the girls got the opportunity to thoroughly think about the person they were, are and want to become, as well as think about what they want for their future. This session also created a platform where the girls and volunteers were able to connect with each other as some of them had similar goals, and were able to give each other tips, advice and words of encouragement.

■ Bonnytoun

Report: Louise Rollings

At this week's workshop we talked about teenage pregnancy with the young men. We talked about safe sex, as well as the consequences of having unprotected sex, such as the different types of contractible diseases, as well as how life drastically changes when you are a teenage parent. Some of the boys could relate to the topic as they already have children. This topic led to the boys openly sharing their personal experiences on how challenging fatherhood is. For many of the boys the realisation of their children growing up without a father was concerning, and many of them vowed to turn their life around and be the type of father they needed when growing up.

Some of the boys who did not have children also vowed to abstain from sexual intercourse or to ensure that they always use protection.

LEGAL SERVICES

This month we received 70 new cases from all the legal clinics in total.

■ Maria Mulindi

Aleshia Stevens – Labour Matter

The client resigned from her previous place of employment upon receiving a letter of appointment from the company director who was to be her prospective employer. She was informed that her start date would be 1 April 2016. However, to date, she has not been assigned duties or a work station and has not been paid. The director of the company has made numerous promises telephonically and via email that he would pay her soon and that he is awaiting funds to be released in order to pay her. The client has now suffered a loss as she tendered her resignation, is with no income and her current situation is affecting her credit record. We seek to make demand of the company director for deliberately misleading the client who has suffered. We are in the process of lodging a claim against the company with the CIPC.

■ Sherwin Daniels

Benjamin Middleton – Property Matter

Our client came to us for assistance as he was unlawfully evicted from his apartment. The client states that the landlord came with a group of people and forcibly threw him, his wife and his five children out of the apartment. This happened whilst it was raining and causing damage to their personal property. The client also states that no written notice of eviction was given, only a verbal notification. The client filed two separate complaints against the landlord: one for damage of personal property and the other for the unlawful eviction. A hearing was held; however the client lost the matter due to being in gross negligence of the contract (as he was two months in arrears with his rent). The case regarding the damage to his personal property is yet to be heard. The client also wants us to assist him in getting his initial deposit for the apartment back, which was paid to an agency, although half of the deposit has been deducted for the arrears in rent owed. The client and his wife are currently living on the street, whilst their five children have been divided to live with different family members. The client has also been in communication with an agency to find an alternative apartment, however thus far he has not been satisfied with their findings.

CONCLUSION

This month our volunteer numbers increased from 29 in July to 46 in August 2016. Our client numbers at the legal clinics have also increased tremendously, which now brings our number of open files to 815. At the end of August, PAHRO has successfully resolved and closed over 2400 cases. Sadly we have had to say goodbye to over 20 volunteers in August, however we are looking forward to welcoming the new group of volunteers in September 2016.