



THE WESTERN CAPE NETWORK FOR
COMMUNITY PEACE & DEVELOPMENT

Network News

Our Vision:

Peaceful, Empowered, Cohesive Communities

Our Mission:

The Network ignites peace and development by amplifying the voice of communities through capacity-building and advocacy with its members

NETWORK
NEWSLETTER

MARCH
2015

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Words for 2015 from our Network Chairs:

Dear Network Members,

We trust that you all had a blessed and peaceful festive season and a promising start into the New Year 2015!

We are currently excitingly hosting the US delegation from University of Connecticut in exchange to our Network youth visiting them last year in October 2014!

We also have some Network staff changes as you know that our Administrator Anita is no longer with us and our Coordinator Dayana will be leaving us end of May. Your contact person will be our Vice Chair Jack Mahoney who is administrating Anita's Network email.

We remain committed to making a difference in working towards the creation of cohesive and peaceful communities. Our main focus for 2015 is capacity-building as well as advocacy through partnerships in the peace

and community development field and we intend to build on our successes of 2014!

We look forward to connecting with all of you, hopefully at our Network member meetings and/or the upcoming Kicking for Peace tournament!

Yours in Peace and Development,

Nariman Laattoe & Jack Mahoney
and the EXCO members



Upcoming Network Events for 2015

1st Quarterly Network Member Meeting: Tuesday, 17th of March, 10-1pm at our member ARESTA in Athlone.

Our first **Kicking for Peace** tournament for 2015 is happening Saturday, **21st March (Human Rights Day), 9am- 1pm** at UWC sports grounds. Please contact our KFP coordinator Jose Cabral for more details: ucrista@hotmail.com.

1st Peace-building workshop 2015: NVC Intro- *Learning the language of Compassion for a Culture of Peace:* on Thursday, 26th March, 9.30am-3pm. Reserve your place: peacenetw.coordinator@gmail.com.

2nd Peace-building workshop 2015: NVC Advanced - *Learning the language of Compassion for a Culture of Peace:* on Thursday, 30th April, 9.30am-4pm.

Please note the dates for our other three quarterly Network member meetings for 2015:

- 2nd: 21st May 2015 (Farewell Dayana Dreke)
- 3rd: 3rd Sep 2015 (Annual General Meeting)
- 4th: 5th Nov 2015

Looking forward to see you at the Member meeting and some of the Network events/workshops! Dayana

Feedback from past Network Activities:

The first quarter of the year was already a busy one for the Network. Apart from writing a comprehensive Annual Survey Report and doing various desktop research, our Programme coordinator Dayana Dreke organised the 4th Peace-building workshop and Gary Hirson's Youth Empowerment workshop, presented the Network at the monthly WC Youth Forum meeting, the International Dialogue on Citizen Safety and local Anti-Racisms Dialogues organised by the Goedgedacht Forum. She also attended with other Network members the fantastic Protective Behaviors Workshop organised via the WC Street Children Forum. More details below:

Personal reflections on the US Exchange "Sport for Change" in Oct 2014

Sanele Manqola from our Network member NGO Ithemba Labantu in Philippi shared his impressions from the US exchange programme: "As soon I was told I was referred to a rugby based organisation when visiting the US, I told myself that it will be a very exciting adventure. It really turned out to be a good one and I really enjoyed everything from day 1 to day 3 of my job shadowing at the organisation *Play Rugby USA*, situated in Manhattan, New York City - from the off the field programme in the office to on the field activities, attending practice trainings of different teams - from school teams to community clubs, travelling from community to community, meeting kids of different ages, genders and obviously, of different backgrounds.

The organisation really does benefit some communities across the country: keeping kids occupied and busy is a big thing, but keeping them developed and educated - changing their mind-sets, building their characters and making them to make right choices and good decisions is more than great. Such a sports-based-youth development organisation plays a very useful role to shape the country and to keep peace and sustainability in the communities.

What I learned during the job shadowing that I like to share back here is to encourage and motivate staff to work towards a joint mission and vision, introduce sports programmes to all school kids, use the good evaluation systems, try to link with colleges and universities to place kids after completing high school levels – and try to implement all other advices and ideas given." More infos about Ithemba Labantu: www.ithemba-labantu.co.za.



4th Peace-building workshop: Intro to Healing of Memories

The Network hosted its 4th Peace-building workshop: *Intro to Healing of Memories (HOM)* on Thursday, 29th of January 2015 at our Network member Beth Uriel in Salt River with 14 participants from five member NGOs (incl. Bicycling Empowerment Network (BEN), Beth Uriel, Embrace Dignity, Mamelani Project, New World Foundation) as well as from Catiza Training Academy and UNASA (United Nations Association of South Africa).

The full-day teaser workshop was facilitated by three facilitators from our member NGO Institute for Healing of Memories (IHOM) and we were very blessed that Fr. Michael Lapsley himself (IHOM founder) was doing an inspiring introduction to the workshop. Participants enjoyed the workshop and expressed in the feedback forms that they liked the open personal

story-sharing in small groups and learning about expressing their feelings and the importance of forgiveness to move forward. A participant wrote: "It was a wonderful introduction to the [long HOM weekend] workshop" and many shared that they would like to attend the full HOM workshops via their NGOs in future!



More infos about Healing of Memories here: www.healing-memories.org

Events in partnership with other stakeholders:

Protective Behaviors Workshop via WC Street Children Forum (WCSCF)

110 Social Service Professionals working with children in the Western Cape were trained in the Protective Behaviours Programme, a child abuse prevention programme, in January and February this year. The WCSCF was delighted to provide this training to 40 CYCW's, 16 Social Workers, 10 SAW's, 15 teachers, 2 Police Officials, 12 Community Development Workers, 6 Project Managers, 2 Psychologists, 1 ECD Principal, etc, from 42 Organisations (including the Peace Network and 4 of its members (Ark—City of Refuge, Imbali Stellenbosch, ARESTA, New World Foundation) from 35 areas in the Western Cape. We are excited about the lives of the children who will be changed for the good through the use of this programme!



International Dialogue on Citizen Safety in Cape Town

The Centre for Justice and Crime Prevention (CJCP) and African Policing Civilian Oversight Forum's Consortium on Crime and Violence Prevention (APCOF), together with other partners hosted a two and half day International Dialogue on Citizen Security and Crime and Violence Prevention from the 25-27th of February in Cape



Town. The purpose of the dialogue was to bring together international and local experts in violence reduction, citizen security promotion, crime prevention and stabilization to share experiences, identify promising practices, discuss challenges and contribute to shared learning. This dialogue formed part of a South-South co-operation on citizen security and highlighted lessons learned on issues of public security, justice reform, penal reform and violence prevention by experts from Brazil, Colombia, Kenya, Mexico, Mozambique, Namibia and South Africa. More infos about the Dialogue here:

<http://pt.igarape.org.br/citizen-security-dialogues-2/>

2nd Youth Empowerment Workshop: Self-Discovery & Goal-Setting

The Peace Network organised another successful youth empowerment workshop facilitated by Gary Hirson (professional photographer, motivational speaker, author of children's book & life coach) at our member NGO Beth Uriel in Salt River (thanks for hosting us again!) with 17 inspired youth aged 16-18 years. The participants were from three Network member NGOs (Amandla EduFootball, Beth Uriel, New World Foundation) and Yabonga, a NGO via our partner, the WC Youth Forum. Based on the feedback forms, the youth really left inspired and empowered, knowing more about themselves and how to achieve their dreams: "The workshop was absolutely amazing – it was relaxed

and very motivational", "That what I want to be, I must go for, even if it takes many years, but I must always think positive" and "Thank you for the chance to empower myself". More about Gary Hirson and his workshops:

www.calminstorm.com



Success Stories from our Network members

ARESTA's new workshops with SAPS on Refugee Rights & Laws

The South African Police Service (SAPS) is one of ARESTA's important stakeholders, and their intimate knowledge and influence in the community is paramount to ARESTA's work. SAPS officials are the first responders to conflicts and attacks involving foreign nationals and the local community. They are able to identify potential threats and issues on the ground before the threats and issues manifest into violence or worse. On the 25th of February 2015, ARESTA held the first Refugee Rights Awareness workshop with members of SAPS from the Bellville Cluster. Stations represented included Parow, Goodwood and Bothasig. The significance of such a workshop is massive and the benefits from the start of such a partnership for all parties will be many. To create an open dialogue between SAPS and ARESTA means that issues and challenges regarding foreign nationals can be addressed quickly and efficiently, by utilising the contacts and services of ARESTA and the UNHCR.

The first workshop of its kind was met with much anticipation; over 40 officers were in attendance including the Brigadier of the Cluster, Brigadier Mentoorn. The workshop consisted of 3 presentations from the different departments of ARESTA, as well as a presentation from the Head of the United Nations High Commission for Refu-

gees Field Office in Cape Town, Mr Patrick Kawuma Male. The presentations proved to be the catalyst for some rather engaging discussions, as many officers had questions and own experience to contribute. From the questions asked it is clear that there is a gap and disconnect between Department of Home Affairs (DHA) and the SAPS in regard to information about correct procedures when dealing with refugees and asylum-seekers.

The workshop proved very fruitful, as the Bellville station offered the use of its boardroom for future workshops and meetings. The Brigadier expressed his enthusiasm for such workshops in the future and also acknowledged the serious nature of the relations between foreigners and locals and the significance of SAPS officers attending such workshops. On that note, the following week, a Gender Based Violence workshop was conducted which involved members of the Somali female community and SAPS Officers.



Katlego Maboe becomes a HOPE Hero!

Katlego Maboe, presenter for TB." Katlego will not only be an advocate for the work we do but also actively participate in community outreach activities and programmes. We are very pleased to welcome Katlego as part of our team. His contribution towards our efforts will help us to serve our communities. Katlego recently officiated the opening of HOPE Cape Town's Toy Library at the Blikkiesdorp Community Crèche. According to HOPE Cape Town Donor Relations Manager, Fahim Docrat, "this will allow local children to play with high quality toys that would otherwise only be a dream for them, we have also set up a programme to encourage learning through play."

On the same day, Katlego also officiated the opening of the HOPE Cape Town School Uniform Shop which is an initiative to provide highly subsidised school uniforms to the local community and also donate clothing as the need arises. Docrat added, "We thank Katlego for supporting our initiatives and our donors for making both programmes possible."

HOPE Cape Town started in 2001 to impact the communities they work in by providing outreach, education and counselling at community level, focusing on HIV/AIDS and TB in the Western Cape. To support HOPE Cape Town or get more infos, please contact Fahim Docrat on fahim@hopecapetown.com or visit www.hopecapetown.com

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Success Stories from our Network members

New World Foundation (NWF) demands a National Strategic Plan on Gender Based Violence!



New World Foundation together with other South African organisations who are committed to reducing Violence Against Women (VAW) are demanding that the South African government commits to creating a National Strategic Plan (NSP) on Gender Based Violence (GBV). In early 2012, our SA government committed to creating the first NSP on GBV. During the “16 Days of Activism Against Violence Against Women and Children” in 2014, civil society marched to parliament on 27

My husband and I were returning home from a party on a Friday night. Suddenly, we heard so many noises around us. It was five men. They grabbed me away.

We go to the field, I must take my clothes off. There they rape me. They kill my husband too. When they were finished with me, they left me. I ran and asked for help. The police came and I must tell the story again and again. They found these five guys. A year later, when they must come to court, that was

the most hard time ever for me, in that court. My story failed because I had no witnesses. They told the judge, they were not there, they watched TV at home. When I heard they don't go to prison, I feel like I can also take my life. But I know just for my children, I must be strong. They all still live here around me, those guys. Maybe some of them know me, but all of them go on with their life as if nothing had happened.”



November 2014 in Cape Town demanding that government commits to creating and fully funding a NSP on GBV. South Africa has laws to protect women who are abused but the laws are sadly poorly implemented, especially by government offices like the police and healthcare services. The NSP on GBV is meant to hold any government and non-government offices accountable in providing services to victims of violence.

“I demand an NSP because it makes me feel like the rape meant nothing to the court, to the doctor who examined me or the police who didn't do their work right. The government must have a plan for the communities, so these things don't happen”.

The following is a story by Katy Spendell from Lavender Hill, a participant of this NSP campaign who agreed to have her picture on a postcard (see photo on right) that was distributed during the 16 Days of Activism NSP 2014 campaign: “I want to tell it because the story might help somebody else.

We are saying NO to empty promises and unfunded mandates. Civil society groups are demanding a National Strategic Plan on Gender Based Violence that is funded, inclusive and accountable.



More infos on the work of our Network member NWF: www.newworldfoundation.org.za.

About our Network (WCNCPD)

The Western Cape Network for Community Peace and Development is a collectively guided independent and registered non-profit umbrella organization (NPO 061-746) that aims to create peaceful, empowered and cohesive communities in the Western Cape via the common goals and joint activities of its network members.



THE WESTERN CAPE NETWORK FOR
COMMUNITY PEACE & DEVELOPMENT

WHAT WE DO?

- *Information & resource sharing and cross learning in the field of peace-building, conflict resolution and leadership development*
- *Developing capacity for peace-building in our member NGOs*
- *Youth development & leadership - promoting responsible citizenship*
- *Lobbying and advocating for peace*

Network Bank Details

Standard Bank

Account: 331 027 518

Branch Code: 050-410

Since its initiation in 2005, with the support of the University of Western Cape (UWC) and the German Consulate Cape Town, the Network has grown from strength to strength and consist today more than 20 NGO's, all working in the field of conflict resolution, child and youth empowerment, women, refugees, sport, HIV/AIDS, community development and peace building.

Contact us: If you like to become involved as a member, partner, sponsor, volunteer or just like to find out more about us, contact Anita: westerncapenetwork@gmail.com

Partnership with the "Eine Welt Netzwerk Bayern"

Since 2010, our Network officially collaborates with a similar NGO network in Bavaria, Germany based on the regional partnership between Bavaria and the province of the Western Cape. The two networks want to act together fair for worldwide sustainable development, especially in Bavaria and Western Cape.

Main areas of collaboration are:

- to learn more about the partner's work and to support it mutually
- mutual exchange about activities & research for common action (campaigns, workshops, seminars, conferences, training...)
- mutual assistance in dialogues between civil society & government

More Infos:

www.eineweltnetzwerkbayern.de

www.bavaria-westerncape.de



Preview: What's coming up in the next Newsletter?

- Feedback from the 2 NVC Peace-building workshops
- Update from the 1st Member Meeting 2015
- Presenting the Network's new Potential Partnerships
- Feedback from the 1st Kicking for Peace for 2015
- Success Stories from the grassroots level by our members contributing to community peace & development

Please send us your inspiring articles and bright ideas which are helpful for our Network members?
Any feedback for this newsletter? Please just get in contact: peacenetw.coordinator@gmail.com