



**Schedule of
Presentations
27-29 September 2023**

Hosted by



Association of South African
Social Work Education Institutions

IN ASSOCIATION WITH



Schedule of Presentations

27-29 September 2023

SESSION 1 (8):

VENUE: PLENARY VENUE

Session Chair	Marichen van der Westhuizen
Session Co-Chair	

1. Topic:	The role of psychosocial services during adverse events and resultant trauma from a Human rights perspective (Unique number: 001)
Content:	The Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, Act 108 of 1996, herein referred to as the Constitution, affirms that all human beings are having human rights. Despite this affirmation, human beings and particularly women and children, go through victimisation either by a stranger or somebody known to them. These victimisations, depending on its intensity, can cause trauma to the victim's lives. In dealing with these damages (physical, emotional, psychological and otherwise), psycho-social support services are rendered. Resilience theory became a lens. This study was qualitative in nature, and desk-top review was employed to collect data. Document analysis was used. The findings are that adverse events can be traumatic and needs psycho-social support services to help the survivors to develop resilience. Adverse events can take place during childhood and if left for long time without being addressed, can cause post-traumatic stress disorder
Presenters:	Dr. Matshemo Moganedi, Mr. Buti Kulwane
2. Topic:	Association between coping styles and secondary traumatic stress among forensic social workers in South Africa (Unique number: 002)
Content:	Forensic social work in South Africa is challenging, increasing the likelihood of secondary traumatic stress among its practitioners. Proactive coping strategies are necessary to reduce the impact of secondary traumatic stress on forensic social workers. The aim of this study was to describe the association between the frequency of different coping styles and the frequency of secondary traumatic stress symptoms in forensic social workers. The study applied a quantitative approach with a cross-sectional descriptive

design. An all-inclusive willing participation sampling method was used, focussing on all qualified Forensic Social Workers who graduated from a South African university. IMB SPSS Statistics version 28.0 was used to analyse the data. The study found that avoidant and emotion-focused coping styles were linked to an increase in secondary traumatic stress symptoms. Employers and clinicians can assist forensic social workers by providing strategies that promote problem-focused coping styles to reduce perceived secondary traumatic stress symptoms.

Presenter: **Dr Pieter Boshoff**

3. Topic: **Human rights-based psychosocial services, applying Dembour's Four Schools of Human Rights Framework** (Unique number: 003)

Content: Applying a human rights perspective to the delivery of psychosocial services in response to trauma and other shocks that people experience, can be more effective if Dembour's Four Schools of Human Rights Framework is used to design these services. The four schools are the naturalist, deliberative, protest and discourse schools. Based on an in-depth literature study and my social work practice, I have adapted Dembour's four schools to design and deliver social work services that encompass the multifacetedness of human rights-based social work practice. This paper will explain what the four schools entail and how they can be applied to the delivery of psychosocial services, especially services to individuals, groups and communities that have to stand up against trauma and adverse circumstances.

Presenter: **Dr. Corlie Giliomee**

4. Topic: **Management of Vicarious Trauma for Victim Empowerment Social Workers: Intimate Partner Violence** (Unique number: 004)

Content: Intimate Partner Violence forms a large proportion of the violence faced by the country and remains on the increase. In response to the rising challenge of IPV, Victim Empowerment has been designed to deal with the impact of IPV on victims and implementers. This study employed the qualitative research approach, seeking to explore experiences of service implementers to inform guidelines for practice. The goal of the study is 'to provide management of vicarious traumatization of Victim Empowerment Social Workers. Semi-structured interviews was used to collect data with a sample of social workers. Purposive sampling method will allow the researcher to use her judgment by purposively selecting persons because they are accessible, suitable, and embody some characteristics of the study. The VEP was initiated within the broader NCPS, in order to recognize the negative impact of crime on individuals, families and communities and also to prevent secondary victimization. The program deals with victimization, however in dealing with victims of IPV, implementers of services are left with long lasting scars because of Vicarious Trauma. The guidelines for practice include psychosocial support for VEP social workers and debriefing services.

Presenter: **Ms. Mary Kgole**

5. Topic: **Social Work with Vulnerable Groups Within the Criminal Justice System: Challenges and Opportunities Emerging in Practice** (Unique number: 005)

Content: The social work profession has a chequered history of working with vulnerable groups within the criminal justice system. In South Africa, the president recently signed legislation aimed at strengthening efforts to protect distinct vulnerable groups while also expanding the list of persons who are to be protected to include other vulnerable persons. Through the phenomenological study design, this paper aimed at exploring and describing the challenges and opportunities of social workers working with diverse

vulnerable groups within the criminal justice system. The authors triangulated the purposive, convenience and snowball sampling techniques to select social workers. The qualitative data was collected through individual semi-structured interviews. Thematic data analysis was used to analyse the collected data. The findings of the study indicated that the prevention of secondary victimization of vulnerable children within the justice system was a major challenge for some social workers working as court preparation officers and court intermediaries.

Presenters: Mr. Thembinkosi Singwane, Prof. Selelo Rapholo.

6. Topic: **The Six Cs model for Psychological First Aid (PFA): Empirical Evidence**
(Unique number: 006)

Content: The acute stress responses (ASR) following traumatic events predicts post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). There is a need for a short psychological first aid (PFA) that non-professionals can learn, to help mass casualties. This study tested the Six Cs model (Cognitive, Communication, Commitment, Continuity, Challenging and Control) in an experimental design on ASR signs. Sixty-three participants were randomly assigned to the Six Cs intervention or to supportive emotional expression (controls). They listened to an emergency phone call. Before, immediately after, and 5min later participants' anxiety, heart-rate variability (HRV) and mental resilience were measured. All Time x Group interactions were statistically significant: The Six Cs participants showed lower anxiety and less reductions in HRV and resilience than controls immediately after the stressor, and they recovered faster than controls on all three outcomes. The results clearly demonstrate a profound superior effect of the SIX C's method over the control method, in all outcomes, immediately after a simulated stressor and 7min later, thus truly showing a better effect on resilience. This study has implications for training people worldwide in a simple, effective and evidence-based method as a new form of PFA.

Presenter: Dr. Moshe Farchi.

7. Topic: **Enhancing Resilience in the Face of Climate Change: The Role of Social Workers in Durban Floods** (Unique number: 007)

Content: The Durban floods that occurred in April 2022 and June 2023 serve as a reminder of the devastating consequences of climate change. In response to such catastrophic events, a collaborative effort among stakeholders is essential to protect, support, and enhance resilience in affected communities. It is recommended that social workers be employed as part of the first responders' team. These social workers can provide vital counselling and debriefing services to individuals who have witnessed and experienced the destructive power of climate change. The integration of social works into the emergency response system will contribute to the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals 8 and 11, which emphasize sustainable economic growth and resilient infrastructure, respectively. Furthermore, to reduce carbon emissions, social workers can play a role by adopting environmentally conscious practices. Shifting from physical assessment tools to digital alternatives. Such change aligns with the broader global efforts to promote sustainable development and combat climate change. Fostering stakeholder partnerships and empowering social workers, community resilience can be enhanced and support those affected by traumatic events can be provided. Integrating social workers as first responders and adopting environmentally friendly practices will contribute to a sustainable and resilient future in the face of climate change.

Presenter: Ms. Sphokazi Gambushe.

8. Topic: **Meeting the multifaceted needs of patients with drug-resistant TB**
(Unique number: 008)

Content: While TB can have detrimental effects on a person’s health, the social ramifications of such a diagnosis and the treatment process may have devastating implications. Disruptions in a patient’s life facing a chronic and stigmatized disease like DR TB may hinder work or opportunities to earn an income, care for family members, social isolation and lower self-esteem. Although social workers give psycho-social support such as patient and family counselling, support groups, and make referrals to external agencies for ongoing and relevant long-term support, patient material and financial support is often a pressing need. Availability of the disability grant can compensate for income loss, and meet patient material and financial needs. However, the strict qualifying criteria exclude many patients and must be challenged. There is a further need for social workers in all government and NPO agencies to work collaboratively to enhance the journey of the patient as they travel through the healthcare system.

Presenter: **Ms. Silindile Mageba.**

SESSION 1 (8):

VENUE: BREAKAWAY ROOM 1

Session Chair	Shahana Rasool
Session Co-Chair	

9. Topic:	Social Work Role in Differentiated Service Delivery for People with HIV/AIDS and Multidrug Resistant Tuberculosis (Unique number: 009)
Content:	For people living with HIV/AIDS, Differentiated Service Delivery (DSD) has focused on enhancing resilience, self-efficacy, and engagement. For people co-infected with HIV/AIDS and multidrug resistant tuberculosis (MDR-TB), there are severe challenges associated with treatment, including stigma, social and structural barriers. We used empirical adherence data and qualitative research based in KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa, to identify longitudinal barriers to medication adherence to inform an MDR-TB/HIV DSD-model incorporating social work interventions that address psychosocial/structural barriers to care engagement. Based on these data, DSD for people with MDR-TB/HIV should 1) intensify support for severely adherence-challenged subpopulations, while adherent patients may require less intensive support, 2) address decreased adherence over time and 3) account for psychosocial, behavioural, and structural challenges linked to discrete treatment stages. Social work role in DSD to address the psychosocial dimensions of health can improve outcomes for individuals with MDR-TB/HIV and the health and well-being of their families and communities.
Presenter:	Prof. Jennifer Zelnick, Mr. Karl Reis
10. Topic:	Ma’at Institute’s role in adverse situations: Collective autoethnographic reflections of facilitators rendering African-centred psychosocial interventions (Unique number: 010)
Content:	This paper synthesises findings drawn from the Ma’at Institute facilitators’ reflective experiences of rendering African-centred psychosocial interventions with clients in distress. Ma’at Institute is a multidisciplinary centre established

through partnership between the UKZN and the HWSETA. This paper explores how the facilitators describe their developmental process and what it means to be a Ma'at Institute facilitator in an African-centred context. This article is based on the reflection stories and experiences of five facilitators. It is framed within the autoethnographic framework influenced by the reflective practice approach. Four themes that emerged are self-critical approach, maximised orientation to African-based skills, personal-cultural connection and maintaining of personal-professional balance. The paper concludes with the view that the Ma'at Institute provides an intermediate platform for practitioners transitioning from a theory-based learning context to an African-centred practice context. The paper recommends the need for the expansion of centres of this nature to bridge theory and practice effectively.

Presenters: Dr. Mbongeni Sithole, Ms. Nokukhanya Zondi, Ms Zamansele Nqayi

11. Topic: Meeting the multifaceted needs of patients with drug-resistant tuberculosis: A frontline perspective (Unique number: 011)

Content: A drug-resistant TB diagnosis can be devastating for patients and their families. Long-term hospitalization and facing a stigmatized disease leads to loss of income, disruptions in families, social isolation, and lower self-esteem. Social workers (SWs) are well-placed to enhance social protection for patients, families, and communities. Involving the patient as a central member of the healthcare team may improve health outcomes. SW knowledge of the healthcare system may help patients navigate this often-complex system. Families and other treatment supporters may benefit from treatment literacy, infection control strategies, and the management of side effects. Community awareness involves TB education that may help to destigmatize TB. This presentation draws on cases from the perspective of a SW at a TB referral hospital in KwaZulu-Natal to develop recommendations for how SWs can use their expertise to link patients with resources and work collaboratively outside the healthcare system to meet multifaceted patient needs.

Presenter: Prof. Jennifer Zelnick

12. Topic: Exploring Social Workers' Response to Gender-Based Violence: Skills, Training, and Recommendations (Unique number: 012)

Content: This study examines social workers' expertise in addressing gender-based violence (GBV) and its impact on victims. Utilising a phenomenological design, participants engaged in focus group discussions and interviews, also using document analysis for data collection. Resilience theory helped understand resilience within social workers' expertise, highlighting core intervention strategies for assisting GBV victims. Findings revealed social work interventions relying on values, ethics, and essential skills like communication, probing, partializing, and active listening to support GBV survivors. However, more training on trauma-informed care is needed, as social workers face distressing circumstances affecting their well-being. Recommendations include enhancing assessment and intervention skills, advocacy, prevention strategies, policy and systems change, and promoting networking and collaboration. Social workers' expertise significantly contributes to addressing GBV, necessitating continuous trauma-informed training. Integrated networks are crucial to combat GBV and

raise awareness among individuals supporting victims. The study emphasises comprehensive efforts required from social workers to effectively combat GBV.

Presenter: Ms. Sithuthukile Myeni, Prof. John Rautenbach

13. Topic: **The resilience of social workers rendering services to distressed communities: coping strategies** (Unique number: 013)

Content: The concept of resilience is increasingly gaining universal recognition amongst the helping professionals and the social scientists. It is a term used to provide explanations about the individual complexities and the responses of groups and communities to stressful, emotional, depressive, traumatic and challenging situations. Since the profession of social work is considered the emotionally demanding field, resilience is a concept of much relevance. The research methodology in this study was qualitative in nature and was used to understand the resilience of social workers who render services to distressed communities. The primary goal of this study was to develop an in-depth understanding of resilience in social workers' rendering services to distressed communities. The study conducted face-to-face, semi-structured interviews through the use of purposive method of sampling. The Interview guide was utilized as a data collection instrument. The study employed exploratory research designs. Ethical requirements such as informed consent, debriefing, beneficence, confidentiality and avoidance of harm were adhered to. The study employed the resilience theory.

Presenter: Mr. Tumelo Sekgobela

14. Topic: **Youth Transitioning Out of Residential Care in South Africa: Toward Ubuntu and Interdependent Living** (Unique number: 014)

Content: This qualitative study, informed by a descriptive-interpretive research design, examined the experiences of 16 youth transitioning from Child and Youth Care Centres (CYCCs), together with perspectives of family caregivers and service providers in eThekweni Metropolitan, KwaZulu-Natal. The results indicate that youth were unprepared for transitioning out of care. CYCCs fostered dependency by virtue of their structure and operation. Instantaneous graduation from childhood to adulthood involved 'adult' role expectations on transitioning, without the safety nets and rights afforded in care. Multiple risk factors associated with pre-care kept youth in care and impacted their post-transition experiences. Against all odds, some youth demonstrated resilience and the value of interdependency and Ubuntu. More caring and less controlling supportive healing from toxic shame and trauma and stakeholder engagement to mitigate risk factors are recommended. The neoliberal discourse on independence is critiqued, with a call to shift to interdependence and Ubuntu in policy and practice for a humane response to past trauma, present vulnerability, and future risks.

Presenter: Dr. Rajeshree Moodley

15. Topic: **Evaluation of psychosocial support services rendered to victims of natural disasters at Dannhauser Municipality by Social Workers.**
(Unique number: 015)

Content:	The province of KwaZulu Natal experienced extreme weather conditions in April 2022. A significant number of people in Dannhauser became survivors of natural disasters in April 2022. The aim of this paper was to evaluate the psychosocial support services rendered to victims of natural disasters by social workers. Descriptive qualitative analysis was used to review fifty social work reports on psychosocial support services rendered to survivors of natural disasters. Findings showed there is no; indication of response time to victims of trauma, clear description of psychological trauma experienced by victims, and intervention services focused on material loss. There is no indication of how many survivors were removed from their homes. The developed plan of action does not indicate holistic intervention service. Recommendations; holistic psychosocial support services must be provided to victims of trauma.
Presenter:	Ms. Thobeka Mbatha
16. Topic:	The improvement of the psychosocial health and well-being of children: Lessons from the Thari-programme (Unique number: 016)
Content:	Behavioural problems such as gang activity, substance abuse, volatile behaviour and class disruptions can negatively impact the health and well-being of children. The Adopt-a-school Foundation developed the Thari-program to provide psychosocial support to women and children. Interventions in schools, Safe Parks and a stakeholder forum strengthen the school community and promote the health and well-being of all. Eight schools in Botchabello, Free State that experienced high levels of gangsterism, poor academic results and other social issues formed part of this pilot project. Although a mixed methods approach (QUAL/quant) was followed to explore and describe the programme, this paper will only focus on two elements of the qualitative research: the behavioural problems children present with and the changes seen in schools during the implementation of the programme. Results show a decrease in gangsterism and psychosocial issues and less disruptive behaviour. Learners and educators also feel much safer in schools, and there was a change in the school culture. Lessons learned from this project will serve similar programs that would like to enhance the safety and well-being of school learners.
Presenter:	Prof. Roelf Reyneke

SESSION 1 (8):

VENUE: BREAKAWAY ROOM 2

Session Chair	Busisiwe Nkala-Dlamini
Session Co-Chair	
17. Topic:	Rethinking Adequate Housing and Inclusive Neighbourhoods as a Strategy to Mitigate Vulnerabilities Against Older Persons (Unique number: 017)
Content:	Particularly in South Africa, vulnerable populations contend with a nexus of interrelated vulnerabilities. As they age, senior citizens require optimum social care in safe and secure housing and neighbourhoods. UN SDG 11 stresses that as part of social policy, adequate housing is the bedrock for inclusive development to mitigate

a myriad of physical and psychosocial risks particularly for vulnerable populations. Employing a human rights perspective, this qualitative study explored the intersection of housing and subjective wellbeing for older persons in a low-income community in Johannesburg. Data were collected from nine participants utilising semi-structured interviews. After transcription, it was analysed through content analysis. The study found out that the quality of housing and neighbourhood environment influenced their perceptions of vulnerability. Risks to sexual abuse was determined by overcrowding, for example. In conclusion, housing is not only just brick and mortar but also undergirds key social and economic relations that mitigate vulnerabilities.

Presenter: Prof Mziwandile Sobantu

18. Topic: Provisioning of services by social workers and community volunteers to children in foster care living with HIV: The need for a collaborative effort.

(Unique number: 018)

Content: This paper discusses the services provided by social workers and community volunteers in the City of Johannesburg to children in foster care living with HIV. A mixed methods approach was used to gather both quantitative and qualitative data using self-administered questionnaires and semi-structured interviews from a sample made up of both social workers and community volunteers. The results showed that even though social workers provided services to these children, the services were not adequate due to various challenges they faced. On the other hand, community volunteers provided HIV services that social workers could not. However, there was a lack of collaboration between the social workers and community volunteers. Therefore, this study recommends an inter-disciplinary collaboration between social workers and community volunteers to strengthen the services to children in foster care living with HIV.

Presenter: Mr. Jeffries Khosa, Prof. Priscilla Gutura

19. Topic: Social support among South African older persons during COVID-19: Enhancing resilience through gerontological social services

(Unique number: 019)

Content: COVID-19 was managed through protective measures, such as physical distancing and the banning of social gatherings, with potentially negative consequences for older persons' experience of social support. A cross-sectional study explored possible risk and protective factors of social support among a sample of South African community-dwelling older persons (N = 118). The online questionnaire incorporated the MOS Social Support Survey. Bivariate and regression analyses explored changes in social support pre- to during COVID-19 and the variables that contributed to emotional/informational, tangible, affectionate supports, positive social interaction, and overall social support. All types of social support decreased significantly during the pandemic. Gerontological social services, embedded in a socio-ecological perspective on resilience, are recommended to navigate towards desired social support. The paper contributes to sub-theme 1.2 to shed light on the protection of the psychological health and well-being of older persons.

Presenter: Prof. Stephan Geyer

20. Topic: **Guidelines to assist social workers to prepare children for the children’s court.**
(Unique number: 020)

Content: The children’s court aims to protect children by acting in the best interests of the child. Another function of the children’s court is to determine whether a child needs care and protection (Children’s Act 38 of 2005). Court proceedings can be stressful for the child, who is already abused, neglected, and removed from their normal environment. There are limited resources within the South African context regarding the preparation of children for children’s court proceedings. This social work research study identified which guidelines could assist social workers in preparing children for children’s court proceedings. This was a qualitative study. The researcher conducted semi-structured interviews by following a purposive sampling method with social workers from the Department of Social Development in the ZFM (Zwelentlanga Fatman Mgcawu) district with the purpose of exploring the views of social workers regarding the content of such a guideline. The findings indicated that social workers do not have a specific guideline to help them in preparing children for the children’s court. Some guidelines/themes that were identified by the social workers included: a guideline which is age appropriate, therapeutic techniques, understanding the need for the children’s court, mock trials, and a discussion on what happens next.

Presenter: **Dr. Elzahne Simeon De Jager**

21. Topic: **A World of their Own: Qualitative study on Life Experiences of People with Albinism in Botswana** (Unique number: 021)

Content: It has been observed that, despite the efforts of various stakeholders to raise awareness on oculocutaneous albinism globally, regionally, and nationally and despite various studies surrounding the issue, stigma and marginalisation plague in many communities, including Botswana. The study seeks to explore the life experiences of people with albinism. It seeks such understanding through the direct testimony of people with albinism. In addition, the study will contribute to existing knowledge focusing on a disability that is more visible on the surface than its physical and mental limitations. Thus, it may contribute to awareness of what appearance means cross culturally and suggest ways in which the situation may be addressed and enhanced.

Presenter: **Ms. Tendani Moseki-Lowani**

22. Topic: **Reasons for COVID-19 vaccine hesitancy among National University of Lesotho students** (Unique number: 022)

Content: COVID-19 is a contagious disease caused by coronavirus. Vaccine hesitancy is the delay in acceptance or refusal of vaccines despite availability of vaccination services. This paper looks into the reasons for COVID -19 vaccine hesitancy among National University Lesotho students. The study used purposive and snowball sampling methods to select 24 participants; 21 students and 3 key informants. The study found reasons for vaccine hesitancy to include possibility for side effects, conspiracy theories, religious beliefs, short time for vaccine development, fear of needles, preferred natural immunity and lack of information. This paper addresses the gaps in COVID -19 vaccine hesitancy studies as most were conducted in western countries and not much in Africa especially in Lesotho. The study recommends educating

people about the benefits of taking the vaccine while disseminating information on what COVID -19 is.

Presenters: Ms. Reatile Polaki, Ms. Ntoetse Matsoso

23. Topic: **Psychosocial damage to children who experience sexual and physical abuse in Mafikeng Ha Motoko** (Unique number: 023)

Content: Numerous children worldwide face abuse in different forms including sexual and physical abuse, in most cases inflicted by someone close or their family. This study examines the psychosocial impact of such abuse on children, considering the perspectives of victims, caregivers and key informants. The findings highlights a range of detrimental effects, including post-traumatic stress disorder symptoms, depression, impaired interpersonal relationships, and social isolation. It is recommended to raise awareness through campaign, educating caregivers on how to handle cases of abuse. To address this study, a fitting methodology was identified. In this study interpretivism has been used in regard to the research paradigm. The study also adopted a qualitative research approach and qualitative study design. In-depth interview was also used for collection of data and such data was analysed and assembled in a comprehensive fashion. Implementation of the study was inclusive of ethical considerations such as confidentiality, informed consent and trustworthiness.

Presenter: Ms. Nkotseng Mokhele, Ms. Thato Mphatle, Ms Mantema Khetheng

24. Topic: **Reflecting on collaboration practices between teachers and social workers in supporting learners' psychosocial development: a qualitative pilot study** (Unique number: 024)

Content: Addressing learners' psychosocial developmental challenges effectively necessitates collaborative approaches involving teachers and social workers. This aligns with the Global Agenda for Social Work and Social Development, emphasizing interdependencies in field of humanities and the need for respectful cooperation in designing and implementing an inclusive education system. This qualitative exploratory pilot study, conducted with teachers and social workers (n=6) from a bigger research project in two Gauteng District 11 schools, articulates this collaborative practice and explores the experiences of teachers and social workers in providing psychosocial support to learners. Findings highlight diverse shared responsibilities, including provision of counselling, motivating learners, engaging parents, conducting assessments and home visits, and establishing psychosocial support programs. The participants identified challenges that they experienced during their process of supporting learners to include limited teacher and school participation, lack of parental involvement, reluctant and resistant learners, and inadequate social work resources. The study recommends a collaborative structure that involves social workers, teachers, parents, community members, and organizations, which emphasizes the necessity of a multidisciplinary approach in schools.

Presenter: Mr. Gift Khumalo

SESSION 1 (8):

VENUE: BREAKAWAY ROOM 3

Session Chair	Ntando Maphosa-Dladla
Session Co-Chair	
25. Topic:	Hearing children’s voices in creating safe living spaces (Unique number: 025)
Content:	Children are vulnerable, but children living in a high-risk community are considerably more so. It is essential to protect these children against forms of abuse to ensure their wellbeing. This must be done by fostering a safe living space. In order to create safe living spaces, we need to include the children’s voices to participate in matters that affect them. The purpose of this study was to explore children’s perceptions on community safety in relation to child sexual abuse prevention. Purposive sampling was used to recruit 32 children aged 11 – 12 years living in a high-risk community. Four focus group discussions were used for data collection and included visual data collection methods such as The Child Protection Community Map of Courage. The data was analysed using thematic analysis. The findings indicated that the children experience their community as unsafe due to various factors.
Presenters:	Dr. Lizane Wilson, Ms. Sylvester Ramotopo
26. Topic:	Identifying and supporting children with developmental delays and/or disabilities in rural child and youth care centres (CYCCs) (Unique number: 026)
Content:	Historically, there is a lack of structured assessment and intervention protocols to support the care of children with developmental delays and/or disabilities (DDD) in rural child and youth care centres (CYCCs) across South Africa. A three-phased research project produced a protocol to fill this gap. It is called the Ecosystemic Assessment and Intervention Protocol (ECO-AIP). The purpose of this presentation is to introduce the ECO-AIP. The presentation will mainly focus on the algorithmic steps followed, and the accompanying assessments that need to be conducted as part of the protocol. The protocol was implemented in two rural CYCCs between 2020 and 2021. This presentation shows the benefits of the protocol, as found during empirical research. Three journal articles have been published on this research (of which one is international). The training and accreditation process that should be followed before the ECO-AIP can be implemented in a CYCC is also discussed.
Presenters:	Dr. Yolande Heyns
27. Topic:	National initiative to support older persons traumatized by elder abuse (Unique number: 027)

Content: Studies indicate that while 1 in 6 persons over the age of 60 have experienced elder abuse (Yon Y, 2017) only 4 % of cases are reported. (Stride, 2020) The high rate of abuse within this vulnerable age group is exacerbated by socio economic factors such as poverty, unemployment, substance abuse and lifestyle stress. Under-reporting is attributed to various factors, including fear of retaliation, inaccessible reporting structures and complexity of the reporting process. This paper will outline how Tafta’s intervention, the National Toll-free Elder Abuse Helpline is designed to provide an uncomplicated platform for older persons, in all communities of South Africa, to report abusive behaviour inflicted by family, community members or organizations, receive crises counselling and be linked to appropriate service providers. facilitates interdisciplinary collaboration between health care professionals, social work, legal and police services in strengthening stakeholders’ response to protecting and supporting older persons experiencing elder abuse.

Presenter: Ms. Carmel Murugen

28. Topic: **The value of using a storybook to protect the psychological health of children during COVID-19 in resource-limited communities in South Africa**
(Unique number: 028)

Content: Globally, the COVID-19 pandemic has caused poor mental health, parental loss and food insecurity in children. At the pandemic's peak, context-relevant and child-friendly COVID-19 tools for child counselling and education were limited in low-income communities. Researchers and social work practitioners created the Uhambo Lwami storybook in isiZulu to initiate conversations with children about COVID-19. Using the Afrocentric framework, the authors present evidence from interviews with 13 purposively selected community-based social workers and child and youth workers who integrated the storybook into child counselling during the pandemic. The central theme discussed is the value of using the storybook to educate and support children during the COVID-19 pandemic. The results indicated that the storybook could be helpful for grief and bereavement counselling and communicating COVID-19 information in a child-friendly way. The storybook further promoted child engagement and participation in sessions, strengthening the school's response to support children during the COVID-19 pandemic. The paper suggests that well-designed Afrocentric storybooks are a cost-effective communication tool to support counselling with children.

Presenter: Dr. Maud Mthembu

29. Topic: **Long-term Effects of Gender-Based Violence on Children: Social Workers perspectives.** (Unique number: 029)

Content: Gender-Based Violence (GBV) is one of the leading social ills that remains a challenge in South Africa. It is usually violence between two adults, however, not much is spoken about the children who witness the violence. Due to the poor living conditions that some Black families find themselves living in urban South African townships, children are often exposed to violence within the home

environment. These circumstances include dire living conditions experienced in informal settlements or overcrowding where families of more than three people dwell in one backroom. This study explored the long-term effects that affect the children who witness GBV as they get affected indirectly. The study employed a qualitative research approach and adopted a case study design. Eight social workers from organizations in four townships in Gauteng who had worked with child victims of GBV were interviewed. The participants were invited through snowball sampling techniques. Data was collected through one-on-one individual interviews using a semi-structured interview schedule. The findings of this study revealed that there is a need for child secondary victims of GBV to get access to counselling services after witnessing violence at home as a way of processing and dealing with the long-term effects of psychological trauma.

Presenter: Ms. Muriel Dlamini

30. Topic: Exploration of professional supervision of probation officers from the perspectives of their supervisors in SA. (Unique Number: 030)

Content: This paper presents the findings of a study which explored the supervision of probation officers (POs) in SA. The research design was mixed methodology & involved POs and their supervisors. This paper presents the findings from the perspectives of the supervisors which were gathered through in-depth qualitative interviews. The study found that most supervisors did not hold any postgraduate qualification in probation practice and/or in supervision. Their key performance areas included performing management & human resources tasks, overseeing the implementation of a variety of programmes, mentoring & supervision to DSD-funded organisations. Key challenges regarding supervision of POs included some provisions of national supervision policy such as appointment of supervisors, finding time for supervision, irregular supervision, postponement of cases at courts, lack of expertise knowledge & experience in probation practice, reliance on NGOs for intervention programmes, and lack of resources.

Presenters: Prof. Thulane Gxubane

31. Topic: The impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on the remote learning of high school learners with hearing impairment disabilities in Durban, KwaZulu-Natal (Unique number: 031)

Content: The Covid-19 pandemic has had a significant impact on the education sector, especially the with regard to the education of hearing-impaired learners. Although these actions had significantly slowed the spread of the virus, they have also caused a number of difficulties that have had a negative impact on educational systems for children with hearing impairment disabilities the world over. Online learning has presented a particular set of challenges for education for learners with hearing impairment during Covid-19. This paper will investigate the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on the remote learning of the high school learners with hearing impairment disabilities in Durban, Kwa-Zulu Natal. The research findings that are presented are intended to assist policy makers, teacher,

parents and learners to learn about the impact of Covid-19 on the remote learning of high school learners with hearing impairment disabilities

Presenter: Dr. Annie Singh

32. Topic: **Financial barriers to accessing health care services: caregivers of children with physical disabilities.**
(Unique number: 032)

Content: This qualitative study aimed to understand the financial obstacles faced by the caregivers utilizing health care services in the public health sector for children with physical disabilities in Nongoma, KwaZulu Natal. Data from the interviews showed that the social grant is insufficient, high cost transport impede access, absence of assistance in caregiving responsibilities, unavailability of mobility aids such a wheelchairs and also the care burden often place as a strain on caregivers. It is recommended to improve health care services and access to health care services, appropriate assistive device allocation be made available at lower cost, disability awareness and anti-discriminatory training for frontline workers be implemented.

Presenter: Ms. Nokuthula Zulu

SESSION 1 (8):

VENUE: BREAKAWAY ROOM 4

Session Chair	Linda Smith
Session Co-Chair	
33. Topic:	The utilization of a Multi-Sectoral approach when working with children awaiting trial in the secure care centres (Unique number: 033)
Content:	South Africa is confronted with social ills that impact negatively on the lives of children exacerbating their vulnerability. Over 120 children were in conflict with the law in 2021-2022 due to peer pressure, substance abuse and gangsterism. The Child Justice Act 75 of 2008 allows for the admission of children in conflict with the law to secure care centres where they receive psycho-social interventions, residential diversion and therapeutic services and recreational activities to reduce recidivism among youth offenders. While these interventions are undertaken collaboratively with probation offices, prosecutors, police, and community stakeholders, and have reduced re-admissions to secure care facilities, after care services are lacking when working with children awaiting trial.
Presenter:	Ms. Vanessa Singh

<p>34. Topic:</p> <p>Content:</p> <p>Presenter:</p>	<p>An investigation into the experiences of adolescents taking antiretroviral from birth in KwaZulu -Natal (Unique number: 034)</p> <p>South Africa is confronted with social ills that impact negatively on the lives of children exacerbating their vulnerability. Over 120 children were in conflict with the law in 2021-2022 due to peer pressure, substance abuse and gangsterism. The Child Justice Act 75 of 2008 allows for the admission of children in conflict with the law to secure care centres where they receive psycho-social interventions, residential diversion and therapeutic services and recreational activities to reduce recidivism among youth offenders. While these interventions are undertaken collaboratively with probation offices, prosecutors, police, and community stakeholders, and have reduced re-admissions to secure care facilities, after care services are lacking when working with children awaiting trial.</p> <p>Ms. Charity Sithabile Dlamini</p>
<p>35. Topic:</p> <p>Content:</p> <p>Presenter:</p>	<p>The view of care-leavers on the opportunities of foster care placement in South Africa. (Unique number: 035)</p> <p>The aim of this study is to understand the view of care-leavers on the opportunities of foster care placement in South Africa. The researcher has adopted a qualitative research approach as well as explorative, descriptive, and contextual research designs. This study comprised of 18 social workers and 18 care leavers from the Department of Social Development (DSD) and several Child and Youth Care Centres (CYCC), and these participants were purposefully selected for the study. The process of data collection followed a semi-structured interview. The theories utilised are Ecological Systems Theory, Social Support Theory, Resilience Theory and Attachment Theory. Findings indicate that there are opportunities for foster care placement in South Africa, namely; provision of basic needs, shelter, recreational activities, strengthening of relationship with the society, independency, helps to alleviate poverty, provision of therapy, educational opportunities and care and protection.</p> <p>Dr. Sandile Dhludhlu.</p>
<p>36. Topic:</p> <p>Content:</p>	<p>Understanding the vulnerabilities of migrants linked to their life stories aimed at trauma-informed care. (Unique number: 036)</p> <p>Globally people are displaced from their countries of origin due to war, traumatic exposure, atrocities, poverty, and climate change. Migration unfolds in distinct phases, namely the time in the country of origin, the journey to the new country, and the adaptation in the new country. All these phases have numerous challenges and adversities. This research focused on the life stories of migrants in the North West province, South Africa, to develop guidelines for trauma-informed social work. Narrative inquiry guided the research and data were collected with semi-structured interviews supported with visual data collection strategies (photo</p>

elicitation, a timeline, and the Tree of Life). Data were thematically analysed. Findings will be presented in the framework of the three time-spans. The challenges of the border crossing into South Africa of undocumented migrants were a particular concern. The presentation will conclude with guidelines for trauma-informed social work with migrants.

Presenters: Prof. Mariette Van der Merwe, Ms. Kopano Ramongale

37. Topic: **Overcoming challenges to acculturation: insights and suggestions from immigrant adolescent learners in South Africa.** (Unique number: 037)

Content: Immigrant adolescent learners are vulnerable to challenges such as discrimination, xenophobia, poor academic performance, cultural confusion, and acculturation gap. However, there is limited research that gives voices to immigrant adolescent learners to come up with their own solutions and recommendations to alleviate these challenges. Thus, this study aimed to use the Participatory Action Research (PAR) framework within the qualitative research methodology to capture recommendations from immigrant adolescent learners through the technique of Photovoice. Human capabilities approach and acculturation theory were the underlining theoretical frameworks. The study was conducted in strict accordance with established ethical guidelines, and a comprehensive set of measures was implemented to ensure trustworthiness. The evidence recommends intercultural training for educators, awareness campaigns, methodical and continuous language support, a culturally responsive curriculum, concerted effort by civil society and the government against xenophobia as well as responsible reporting by media outlets to avoid the perpetuation of stereotypes against immigrants

Presenters: Mr. Agrippa Mabvira, Dr. Roshini Pillay, Dr Poppy Masinga

38. Topic: **Multi-institutional collaborations in creating safety nets for vulnerable women involved in scrap collection in the rural Eastern Cape of South Africa.** (Unique number: 038)

Content: Waste collecting has evolved into a lucrative industry for the unemployed throughout the world. Women make a living and provide for their children by working in the informal economy, primarily by collecting and selling waste. In order to explore the livelihoods of female scrap collectors in the rural Eastern Cape of South Africa, this qualitative study used a multiple case study design. From the many case studies used as research sites in the Eastern Cape, participants were recruited using a convenience sampling. The results showed that the covid had a terrible impact on the women participating in the scrap-collecting endeavor. Their livelihoods had been destroyed, and the viability of the labour they do is moot. In order to develop policy that addresses social inclusion of scrap collectors in the formal systems of waste collecting structures and to provide safety nets for women, the recommendations emphasise the necessity of multi-institutional collaborations.

Presenter: Mr. Mzukisi Xweso

39. Topic: **The vulnerability of rural women in small businesses and the implication of social work practice.** (Unique number: 039)

Content: Women have a crucial role to play in socioeconomic development in impoverished rural areas in South Africa. Despite the commitment that the government has expressed to raising standards of living in rural areas, progress has been extremely slow, and women have borne the brunt of poverty, often being obliged to engage in the informal survival strategies such as engaging in small business activities. This qualitative study leaned on narrative interviews to determine the strategies that the purposively selected rural women in Alice of the Eastern Cape province develop to operate successful and sustainable small businesses and earn a living for their families. The findings revealed that the strategies that they used to ensure the survival of their businesses were resilience, resourcefulness, and an ability to make accurate observations. The recommendations provide guidelines for women to be protected and empowered in the wake of adversity by social workers and other stakeholders in the development fraternity.

Presenter: **Dr. Zukiswa Gwam**

40. Topic: **The perceptions and attitudes of primary school learners towards same-sex parenting in South African townships.** (Unique number: 040)

Content: The increased availability of choices for same-sex couples to become parents contributes to the growth in same-sex parenting. Although most children born to same-sex couples are the biological offspring of one of the parents, an increasing number are the product of donor insemination, surrogacy, foster care, and adoption. Adolescents with same-sex parents reported feeling more connected at school. Another study reported that children in gay and lesbian households are more likely to talk about emotionally difficult topics and are often more resilient, compassionate, and tolerant. There is still a dearth of literature that speaks to school learners in townships. This paper explores the perceptions and attitudes of primary school learners on same-sex parenting. This study draws on queer theories and analyses a subset of qualitative data with ten school learners.

Presenters: **Mr. Sethenjwa Nduli, Mr. Mfundokayise Muthwa**

SESSION 1 (8):

VENUE: BREAKAWAY ROOM 5 (Fully online presentations)

Session Chair:	Zibonele Zimba
Session Co-Chair	

41. Topic: **Spirituality and Religion as Coping Strategies for Older Persons Living in Korogwe District.** (Unique number: 041)

Content: In this paper, I explore religion and spirituality as coping mechanisms assisting Older Persons Living with HIV (OPLHIV) in Korogwe District in Tanzania. Specific attention is to OPLHIV religious conduct, how OPLHIV perception of God influence their wellness, influence of religious and spiritual practices in coping mechanisms applied by OPLHIV. Findings of the study result from in-depth interviews conducted with 13 purposefully selected OPLHIV living in Korogwe. In the article, findings are categorized as follows; (i) OPLHIV consider being spiritual or more religious after being diagnosed with HIV, (ii) Understanding God, His Messengers and his 'messengers' directly affects the health of OPLHIV and (iii) Religion and Spirituality bring optimism about the future the older one grows with HIV infection. Thorough analysis of the findings direct the study towards recommending thatÉ (i)Religious leaders must state clearly their health policy before the central, local government and the people (ii) More awareness is needed, backed by empirical evidence on religious and spiritual practices that have taken OPLHIV to their doom (iii) Social works must have adequate knowledge and context related skills to make people aware on how to apply spirituality and religious practices to improve their quality of life physically, mentally and socially.

Presenter: **Ms. Abigail Kiwelu**

42. Topic: **Understanding the perspectives of caregivers labelled neglectful in a selected local community, KwaZulu-Natal.** (Unique number: 042).

Content: Child neglect in South Africa remains complex in terms of causes, forms, and required interventions. Caregivers/parents are often labelled as neglectful either wilfully or circumstantially, or both by social service professionals when children are removed from their care. This study was in line with supporting families in reducing vulnerabilities. A qualitative study was conducted in KwaZulu-Natal, with 12 caregivers using in-depth interviews. In this study four main themes were identified. The study findings revealed that parents understood neglect as inadequately providing for children. The study also found that parents/caregivers faced numerous social adversities such as poverty, unemployment, and domestic violence. These social adversities were found as the contributing factors to the high rates of child neglect. The study recommended that the Department of Social Development link caregivers/parents with facilities for life skills training. Furthermore, the study recommended that parents/caregivers undergo economic skills training that will equip them for sustainable livelihoods.

Presenter: **Ms. Zinhle Mqadi**

43. Topic: **Insider and outsider positionality: Reflexive log on a supervision research partnership on HIV-seropositive patients' adherence on antiretrovirals.** (Unique number: 043)

Content: The study that informs this reflexive log, interrogates a HIV-seropositive supervisor and HIV-seronegative supervisee's relationship while engaging in a qualitative

master's study on the Factors affecting adult patients' adherence on antiretroviral therapy at Municipality clinics in Alfred Duma Local Municipality, KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa. Both team members narratives explore their insider/outsider positionality that is based on honest disclosure and their transparency while highlighting their challenges, similarities, and strengths in an endeavour to develop and complete an ethically sound, and relevant study. This was achieved through the use of reflexive bracketing, reciprocal communication, disclosure of both positionalities and HIV status, a respectful research relationship and the recognition of the fluid relationship of both. The research team recommends that such honest disclosure of both positionalities from the onset, provides opportunities for discordant supervisor-supervisee relationships to pursue and engage in more HIV research and destigmatise HIV and other chronic and sexually related illnesses.

Presenters: Dr. Delarise Mulqueeny, Mr. Bheki Dlamini

44. Topic: Factors influencing the decision-making processes of social workers rendering foster care services. (Unique number: 044)

Content: This paper examines the factors that influence the decision-making processes of social workers providing foster care services, with a focus on quality management and enhanced social services. Evidence shows that social workers adopt a mixed approach, leaning strongly toward intuition in decision-making. The study on which this paper is based is qualitative namely a case study design, informed by the explorative, descriptive and contextual designs. The populations of the study were social workers rendering foster care services in government and non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and their supervisors. Triangulation of data collection methods were utilised, namely, case file analysis and semi-structured interviews with social workers and supervisors. This paper aims to shed light on the decision-making processes of social workers in all phases of rendering foster care services, contributing to the improvement of services and outcomes in this critical domain.

Presenters: Dr. Pat Naicker, Prof. Petro Botha

45. Topic: Navigating complexities in supervising social work students with multi-faceted challenges during their field placement (Unique number: 045)

Content: Practicum placements offer learning opportunities to apply knowledge and skills in real-life situations with diverse and vulnerable populations. Effective supervision of internships becomes uniquely demanding when guiding students through field placements characterised by a confluence of challenges such as unethical behaviours, incompetence, or vulnerability, e.g., suicidality. Field instructors must balance adequate support and maintaining professional boundaries to ensure optimal learning, skill development, and ethical practice. Existing literature reviewed to explore the potential strategies for addressing this interplay recommends a supportive and empathetic education and supervisory environment, promoting ethical practice and providing effective self-care strategies. These strategies have not delivered the desired results. The

presentation will showcase selected case studies of the experiences of field instructors and lecturers confronted with these challenges. The aim is to start conversations with colleagues on how they address or mitigate the issues. The outcome will aim to inform social work education to build the capacity of the undergraduate social work student to become a professional, ethical, and competent practitioner able to render effective and efficient interventions to service users.

Presenter: Ms. Aisha Abrahams

46. Topic: The perspectives of social work supervisees on the quality of supervision.
(Unique Number: 46)

Content: The study was intended to explore the perspectives of social work supervisees on the quality of supervision in the Giyani region of South Africa. A qualitative research approach was adopted to explore, describe and contextualize their perspectives. The data for the study was collected from 13 social work supervisees through semi-structured interviews and was analyzed using Creswell's (2014) steps of data analysis. The study concluded that majority of the participants 10 of 13 are not offered quality supervision by their supervisors in the Giyani region. The participants, amongst other reasons, attributed the poor quality of supervision to the fact that supervisors were not appointed to their supervisory positions but that they are employed as social workers who are then delegated to the supervision tasks without any remuneration for the supervision duties that they render.

Presenter: Mr. Tsunduka Maluleke, Dr. Gladys Bathabile Bhuda

47. Topic: The Role of Digital Tools in Social Work: A Hybrid Perspective.
(Unique Number: 47)

Content: Social workers are now able to expand their services by utilizing digital tools, such as online community management and therapeutic interventions. While these tools can enhance service quality and customer satisfaction, they also pose professional, ethical, and organizational challenges. Finally, they raised the topic of how social workers' roles change in a digital culture where services and knowledge are readily available. This lecture is based on empirical and theoretical literature that evaluates the current state of the social work profession while forecasting future changes, such as the rise of artificial intelligence and big data. I underline the significance of social workers acknowledging how to plan and conduct interventions using modern technologies from a hybrid perspective, in which digital tools are utilized to supplement and expand "traditional" face-to-face practices. This approach views the use of digital means to enrich "traditional" face-to-face practices and to expand their boundaries.

Presenters: Dr. Nir Wittenberg

48. Topic: Support services utilised by adults with an acquired disability.
(Unique Number: 048)

Content: While at least a billion people have a disability, excluding their families that are also affected, the necessary support and recognition are often lacking. Persons with disabilities (PWDs) can be considered a minority group deserving of all the rights and respect that granted to any other minority group. PWDs who acquire their disability later in life utilise several support services as they adjust and ‘grieve’ the life prior to the disability onset. The goal of this study was to explore what support services are utilised by PWDs. According to the ecological perspective support services could occur on a micro-, meso- exo- and macro level. A qualitative study with an explorative and descriptive design was utilised to meet the goal of the study. Nineteen PWDs and five social workers took part in the study. Data collection took place during Covid-19 restrictions therefore interviews were conducted online. Ethical clearance (SU13290) was obtained for this study. Findings of the study indicate that support services across the different levels of the ecological perspective were used by PWDs including family members, community facilities, social workers and healthcare systems. A bottom-up approach is recommended for inclusion of PWDs in service delivery to them and their families.

Presenter: Dr. Noreth Muller-Kluits, Dr. Ilze Slabbert

SESSION 2 (7):

VENUE: PLENARY VENUE

Session Chair	Stephan Geyer
Session Co-Chair	
49. Topic:	Gauteng Provincial Strategy to empower and mitigate adult street homeless people against vulnerability: Progress and Challenges (Unique number: 049)
Content:	South Africa has encountered several uncertainties, with coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic accentuating already existing vulnerabilities that include street homelessness. Inadequate housing street and homelessness undermine human dignity. In 2020, the Gauteng Provincial government mandated its Department of Social Development to develop an integrated multi-sectoral strategy to coordinate responses to address homelessness. Leaning towards Ubuntu and empowerment perspectives, this paper is a product of a synthesis of literature on homelessness and the authors’ practice observations of homelessness in the province. The paper explored progress and challenges of the Gauteng City Region Strategy to address adult street homelessness. Among others, the study found out that there is commendable progress to combat homelessness and mitigate the challenges that the homeless face. For example, provision of shelter and skills empowerment are some of the practical steps taken by government to empower

the homeless. The paper recommends research to generate reliable data and improved stakeholder collaboration.

Presenters: Dr. Emmison Muleya, Dr. Mzwandile Sobantu

50. Topic: Exclusion of Migrant Youth from the South African Welfare Services: A Case Study. (Unique number: 050)

Content: This case study presents qualitative findings on migrant youth's coping strategies on their exclusion from the welfare services of South Africa. South Africa like any other country experiences an increased number of young people who migrated from their countries of origin. Several studies show that immigrants including migrant youth upon their arrival in South Africa face challenges of exclusion from welfare services. It is from this background that this study sought to explore migrant youth' coping strategies for their sustainable livelihoods. Ten migrant youth in Musina town who are accommodated in shelters managed by churches were used as a case study and were purposively and conveniently selected to participate in this study. Ethical certificate was obtained from the University of Limpopo research ethics committee and all sources are acknowledged. Data was collected through face-to-face semi-structured interviews and analysed thematically through the assistance of the Nvivo software. Resilience theory was used to guide this study. Findings reveal various coping strategies that migrant youth employ to mitigate their exclusion from the South African welfare services. Recommendations, integrated intervention, and future research are provided in this paper.

Presenters: Mr. Dillo Justin Ramoshabe, Mr. Selelo Frank Rapholo

51. Topic: Strengthening Resilience of Community-Based Structures: A Multi-Sectorial Approach to Addressing Adverse Events. (Unique number: 051)

Content: Communities worldwide, face vulnerabilities due to environmental threats, disasters, and pandemics. Strengthening the resilience of community-based structures is crucial for understanding, withstanding, and overcoming adverse events. This presentation discusses how adopting a multi-sectoral approach to building community resilience fosters sustainable development, adaptation, and responses to adverse events. It is based on a desk review of the literature which examines four crucial components of building resilience, namely: (i) Resilience through skills, knowledge, and resources development, (ii) Using community assets for copying, recovery, and risk reduction, (iii) proactive measures to lessen vulnerability, and (iv) Community-based flexible multi-sectoral structure development to handle uncertainties. It further, discusses the roles of social workers in promoting resilience before and during crises and challenges faced by community-based organizations in strengthening community ownership and effective response. This presentation will contribute to the advancement of sustainable approaches to disaster risk management and Community stability in the face of adverse events.

Presenter: Ms. Dainess Ziba Amukwelele

52. Topic: **Integration of Indigenous model vs Formal Child Protection System: A case of Para social work model in Tanzania Mainland.** (Unique number: 052)

Content: Tanzania experienced a significant increase in the number of orphans and vulnerable children (OVC). The increase in OVCs was influenced by the HIV and AIDS pandemic, poverty, urbanisation, and unemployment. HIV and AIDS pandemic destroyed customary support systems that were used to protect children under Ubuntu values. The paper used the Ubuntu conceptual framework to guide the review of the para social work model in Tanzania. The review showed that stakeholders reformed a sort of African ubuntu mechanism known as para social work cadre with voluntarily and community owned aspect to serve OVC, and this modified voluntary cadre embraced African cultural values, ecology and formal social welfare system improved the welfare and quality of life of children and their families in Tanzania. Para social work model proved that African indigenous models and the formal social welfare mechanism can work together. Conclusively, it's an urgent call to re-open doors for new strategies that integrate formal social work system and indigenous model on child protection that can be applied in Africa.

Presenter: **Mr. Meinrad Lembuka**

53. Topic: **How to grow rice on a desert: The irony of imported social work pedagogy and praxis in Africa.** (Unique number: 053)

Content: Literature showing that Africans use traditional African indigenous knowledge before approaching Western knowledge and medicine is abundant. Secondly, individualisation, a founding Social Work Principle, calls for social work interventions guided by clients' beliefs and perspectives. Imported social work pedagogy and epistemology, however, are possible barriers for full integration of the complimentary knowledge systems in praxis while a complimentary African-Western model would seem most appropriate in Africa. This conceptual idea therefore proposes an integrated African-Western social work praxis for Mental Health Promotion and Treatment in Africa. The presentation will therefore demonstrate how African indigenous knowledge may be integrated into social work epistemology and praxis through: (i) partnering with African indigenalists in training, (ii) collaborating with African indigenalists in treatment of complex psychosociological conditions such as Anxiety Disorders, (iii) forging a multisectoral referral community-tertiary services network between social workers and African indigenalists.

Presenter: **Dr. Sophia Thabane**

54. Topic: **Psychosocial service provision using technology: Reflections from Botswana.** (Unique Number: 054)

Content: There is no doubt that the world has been experiencing diverse adversities resulting in deaths, injuries, economic losses, and trauma. Social work is one of the helping professions that is called upon to respond, mitigate, and reconstruct

social structures following adversities. Drawing from our experiences during the COVID-19 pandemic, we contend that the use of technologies can be instrumental in providing psychosocial services, monitoring, and providing updated information to individuals, families and communities on emerging trends associated with the adversity. Failure to adapt technology may deprive beneficiaries of needed services, information, and somehow complicate the response measures by human services practitioners. This paper contends that preparedness measures for adversities should incorporate the identification of technologies that would aid assessment, relief, counselling, monitoring trends, and guiding responses.

Presenters: Dr. Morena Rankopo, Dr. Kgosietsile Maripe

55. Topic: **The Impact of Disasters on the mental well-being of social workers: Developing Resilience informed social work guidelines towards navigating mental wellbeing during disasters.** (Unique Number: 055)

Content: Social workers play fundamental roles in disaster response, recovery, preparedness and planning for future occurrences, by being among frontline practitioners who respond to the complex challenges posed by disasters. However, they get exposed to similar mental stressors and societal shifts as the public. Working in the frontline setting has been repeatedly identified as a risk factor for poorer mental health among social workers. This means that social workers are not immune to disasters' damaging and traumatic effects. Despite this, the frontline workers' mental well-being, especially social workers, is often overlooked. There is an evident gap in the literature on the mental well-being of social workers during disasters. This is the case against the urgent need to ensure that social workers are well supported to respond to the overwhelming needs of service users emerging during disasters. It is important to explore the mental well-being of social workers in mitigating the ravages of disasters and developing strategies to safeguard their mental well-being during similar disaster scenarios.

Presenter: Ms. Lehlogonolo Poopedi

SESSION 2 (7):

VENUE: BREAKAWAY ROOM 1

Session Chair	Lizane Wilson
Session Co-Chair	Sithuthukile Myeni
56. Topic:	Advocacy for and reducing the vulnerability of undocumented migrants: A Botswana experience. (Unique Number: 056)

Content: Migration is prompted by various factors including climate change, economic, disasters, civil strife, and health adversities. While there may be international protocols to guide humanitarian responses for migrants, the protocols provide a framework that is too narrow and limited to address the needs of migrants during adversities. Thus, undocumented migrants are always left behind. Interventions to address vulnerable populations are led by civil society organisations who operate with inadequate information on this population, and often operate under resources constraints. This paper discusses the legal and policy framework on social protection during the COVID-19 pandemic in Botswana focusing on undocumented migrants. For the first time in the history of adversities, the social work profession was on all media platforms as the first line of response and mitigation against the effects of COVID-19. The paper suggests how the social work response could be strengthened in future to promote social inclusion of the most vulnerable populations.

Presenters: **Dr. Morena Rankopo, Dr. Kgosietsile Maripe**

57. Topic: **The Community of Practice for Social Systems Strengthening to Improve Child Wellbeing Outcomes.** (Unique Number: 057)

Content: The Community of Practice for Social Systems Strengthening to Improve Child Wellbeing Outcomes (CoP) study is a community of practice approach that is centred in schools and on early grade (R-3) learners and their families, who are beneficiaries of the Child Support Grant. Meeting children’s needs holistically requires an inter-sectoral and transdisciplinary response. This presentation highlights the social work intervention component of the CoP. Combined with the use of a locally developed digital Child Wellbeing Tracking Tool (CWTT) and a partnership with the Gauteng Department of Social Development’s School Social Work unit, it demonstrates how innovative multi-sectoral interventions that intersect with individuals, families, public and community services can be delivered by social workers. In so doing, it makes a valuable contribution to pro-poor developmental social work within a school setting.

Presenters: **Tania Sani, Sandra Madella**

58. Topic: **Transnational Children on the Move: Adopting Nature-based and Culturally Responsive Social Work Interventions.** (Unique Number: 058)

Content: Millions of children ‘move’ both within and between countries. Children may move with their families, peers or do so independently. Children migrate for a variety of reasons: to escape poverty, abuse, violence, or conflict, for adventure, to join their families, or to access education, jobs, and basic services or because of climate-related push factors. The children’s movement takes many forms, and their experiences are extremely varied. Children on the move continue to be invisible in social work debates on the child protection-migration nexus. In addition, the limited interventions available to them are often fragmented and inconsistent with their needs. Based on a critical review of literature, this paper highlights the children’s common rights-based protection needs and illustrates how nature-community based responses can be adapted to their specific needs.

Presenter: **Prof. Ajwang' Warria**

59. Topic: **Intergenerational family life and care of older people in South Africa.**
(Unique Number: 059)

Content: This paper examines intergenerational family life, which is the most common African household type, and its inclusion in care service provision for older people in social work and social development in South Africa. The paper draws on the findings of a qualitative research study that was conducted in a religious-cultural environment with older people and their caregivers to identify areas of family vulnerability amidst the difficult socio-economic conditions of South African society. On this basis, various dimensions of inter-sectoral collaboration that are necessary to support families facing adversity are identified. Emphasis is placed on the importance of engaging religious, cultural, and indigenous practice frameworks, and relevant stakeholders to promote appropriate policy and services for clients in relation to their lived realities. These aspects are central to empowering communities in terms of minimizing the vulnerabilities that are attendant to intergenerational family life and care.

Presenter: **Dr. Somaya Abdullah**

60. Topic: **Factors contributing to the abuse and killing of people with albinism in KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa.** (Unique Number: 060)

Content: The study aims to demonstrate how people living with albinism are abused and murdered in KwaZulu-Natal. The main objective was to explore the factors contributing to the abuse and brutal killing of people with albinism in KwaZulu-Natal. Ecological systems theory and resilience theory guided the study. Semi-structured interviews were used to find the participants' experiences and perceptions on the abuse and brutal killing of (PWA). The collected data was analysed using thematic analysis. The results showed that people with albinism agreed that they are abused and brutally murdered by the public. Several recommendations were made which are not limited to a need for government to be fully involved in raising awareness of the abuse of people with albinism.

Presenter: **Dr. Mbongeni Mfanasibili**

61. Topic: **The Community Oriented Substance Use Programme in the City of Tshwane: a cross sectional survey of stakeholder perceptions.** (Unique Number: 061)

Content: Globally, the vast number of psychoactive substances consumed contributes to significant physical, mental and social harms. The City of Tshwane and University of Pretoria's Community Oriented Substance Use Programme (COSUP) is an applied research intervention addressing drug use-related harms by using a harm reduction community-oriented primary care approach. Researching stakeholder perceptions of South Africa's first publicly funded community-based harm reduction programme. During 2021, purposively sampled respondents were surveyed using a cross-sectional survey. Data was electronically collected. Most (70–80%) thought COSUP improved client well-being, family relationships and

community re-integration. Most (76%) considered harm reduction to be the best approach to manage harmful drug use in the city. Respondents favour a harm reduction approach to drug use and believe COSUP should be sustained and expanded indicating the focus on harm reduction philosophy as an emerging treatment model. The presenter identified several basic principles shared with social work, such as respect, self-determination, strength-based, whilst facilitating growth and self-discovery. The study implies the significance of stakeholder partnerships to support, protect and enhance the resilience of persons living with substance use.

Presenter: Dr. Magriet Coetzee Spies

62. Topic: An investigation of sexual violence against women mitigation strategies targeted at individuals and families: Case of Maseru district of Lesotho.
(Unique Number: 062)

Content: Violence against women (VAW) perseveres worldwide despite efforts made by various governments, civic organizations, communities and individuals to combat this social problem. In this presentation, I explore the VAW mitigation strategies that target individuals and families. I problematize the social construction of gender that occurs in most patriarchal families since it favours men over women, inculcating male supremacy. Therefore, I will elicit participants' views on what individuals and families can do to curb VAW within their communities. Heise's (1998) ecological model of violence against women will underpin this study. The study places focus on the ontogenic level and the micro-level only, unearthing VAW mitigation strategies that focus on individual people and families in rural and urban areas of Lesotho. Based on the findings I will make recommendations on what social workers can do to building sustainable, resilient, and self-reliant families that are capable of combating VAW. Results are envisaged to assist policy makers to proffer relevant social policies that are informed by empirical research.

Presenter: Dr. Josphine Hapazari

SESSION 2 (7):

VENUE: BREAKAWAY ROOM 2 (Fully online presentations)

Session Chair	John Rautenbach
Session Co-Chair	
63. Topic:	Online Support for Youth at Risk: Reaching Out Through Technology. (Unique Number: 063)

Content: This lecture presents research on the use of the Internet as a source of support for youth at risk experiencing distress, providing insights into online communication and help-seeking behaviors. Due to a lack of knowledge, fear of exposure, and stigma, many adolescents avoid seeking help. However, the online world offers unique opportunities for information, support, and a sense of belonging, and has proven to be equally effective in establishing therapeutic alliances as those conducted in person. The study employed a Grounded Theory approach with a sample of 602 young people aged 12-25. The data collection methods included interviews, questionnaires, and support group messaging. Five main patterns of online help-seeking behavior were identified: self-reliance, problem solving, self-discovery, social engagement, and the need for counseling relationships. This study enhances the understanding of online support for youth and has organizational and clinical implications for internet-based outreach, counseling, and the development of therapeutic alliance.

Presenter: Dr. Nir Wittenberg

64. Topic: **The what, why and how of capacitating social service professionals regarding their roles in social protest actions.** (Unique number: 064)

Content: The mandate to engage in socio-political action to attain social change is endorsed by both the Global definition of social work and the South African Council for Social Service Professions' ethical code. However, genuine activism for human rights and social justice remains contentious to operationalise by social workers in South Africa. Among other factors, professional boundaries, reliance on government funding, professional and personal threats, and ineffective collaboration of the social work fraternity are central to the lack of involvement in social actions by social workers. These were some of the key findings in a qualitative study with four sampling cohorts, consisting of frontline social workers, their supervisors, organisational managers and academic experts on radical social work. The paper reflects on this research and presents recommendations to strengthen multi-sectoral and inter-disciplinary responses that are essential to building the professional capacity of social service professionals regarding their roles in social protest actions.

Presenter: Dr. Nyasha Hillary Chibaya, Prof. Lambert Engelbrecht

65. Topic: **"Didn't they teach you that at varsity?" A scoping review of continuing professional development for enhancing work readiness of newly qualified social workers.** (Unique number: 065)

Content: Newly qualified social workers (NQSWs) are expected to be work ready; however, certain professional development can only take place within the work environment. The bridging process between obtaining a degree and entering the work place therefore requires specific support and development to enhance work readiness. A scoping review was conducted to map existing support and development needs, as well as the structures that have been developed for addressing these needs of NQSWs. The review followed Arksey and O'Malley's methodology. Based on the PRIMASc process of 10 electronic databases, 40

articles met the inclusion criteria for thematic analysis. Identified support structures for NQSWs include protected caseloads, supervision and orientation programmes. The findings of the scoping review signal ways to cultivate a work environment characterised by lifelong learning and professional capacity building of NQSWs as they transition into the workplace. The paper contributes towards sub-theme 4.2, i.e. building professional capacity in social services professions.

Presenters: Ms. Leanne Jordaan

66. Topic: Emotional poverty of older persons in residential facilities
(Unique number: 066)

Content: Statistics indicate that the number of persons over 60 outnumber children younger than 5 years. It is estimated that in 2050, 80% of older persons will live in developing countries where resources to ensure their wellbeing are limited. A biopsychosocial perspective is significant to assess the wellbeing of older persons. It is often older persons in residential facilities that are prone to emotional poverty, thus feeling isolated and depressed that is awaited detrimental to their wellbeing. It is especially the experiences of losses such as decline in health, death of loved ones and limited freedom that contribute to emotional poverty. It is against this background that this qualitative study was conducted to explore the experiences of older persons in residential facilities as well as social workers rendering services to older persons. Twenty older persons and ten social workers took part in this study. Ethical clearance was obtained for this medium-risk study. The findings of this study indicate the vital role social workers play in the Gerontology field as part of the multidisciplinary team to reduce the emotional poverty of older persons. More social work research is needed to improve the wellbeing of and service rendering to older persons.

Presenter: Ms. Melanie Human, Dr. Ilze Slabbert

67. Topic: A work-life perspective on the subjective wellbeing of social workers.
(Unique Number: 067)

Content: During the COVID-19 pandemic an array of situations needed the attention of frontline social workers, who already faced high caseloads and who were expected to push aside their own families' challenges to render services in often unsafe environments in uncertain times. This paper reports on a study, which seeks to gain an understanding of the subjective wellbeing of social workers from a work-life perspective. In this qualitative study, a semi-structured interview schedule was used to interview 11 frontline social workers and 12 supervisors. Key findings suggest that participants felt stressed and overworked and they do not receive adequate supervisory support, other than related to work issues, and they admitted to struggling with work-life balance.

Presenter: Dr. Sandra Bredell, Prof. Lambert Engelbrecht

68. Topic: Lived Experiences of Single Teenage Mothers at Mtubatuba Local Municipality, KwaZulu-Natal. (Unique Number: 068)

Content: In an era marked by the complex challenges confronting young people, addressing teenage pregnancy requires a comprehensive multisectorial response that empowers and supports adolescents on multiple fronts. This qualitative study's objectives were to explore the psycho-social experiences of single teenage mothers from northern KwaZulu-Natal, understand their experience of absent fathers in the parental relationship, identify sources of support, and provide recommendations to multiple sectors. Thirteen participants were sampled by snowballing, data and participated in face-to-face interviews and focus group discussions, that were manually coded and thematically analysed. The empowerment theory was used as a framework. The study's findings highlight several key areas for multi-sectorial interventions to address teenage pregnancy, that include psycho-social challenges, social rejection, disrupted life plans, academic difficulties, financial problems, father absenteeism, and poor mental health.

Presenter: **Ms. Nontobeko Mthethwa, Ms. Thobeka Ntini-Makununika, Dr. Delarise Mulqueeny**

69. Topic:
Content:
Presenters:

SESSION 2 (7):

VENUE: BREAKAWAY ROOM 3

Session Chair	Nokuthuka Mthethwa
Session Co-Chair	
70. Topic:	Mitigating child maltreatment through assessment in child protection services: A South African perspective. (Unique Number: 070)
Content:	In South Africa, the implementation of child protection service assessments assumes paramount importance in the endeavour to address and mitigate child maltreatment, ultimately facilitating the realisation of children's rights to care and protection, as stipulated in international, regional, and domestic policies and legislation. Social workers are important role players in the care and protection of children in South Africa because they are the only professionals who are legally tasked with undertaking assessments of at-risk children. The research study therefore investigated the challenges faced by social workers in assessment practice in child protection services. A qualitative research methodology was employed and explorative and descriptive research designs were utilised. The most important conclusion indicates that social workers utilise the prescribed actuarial-based risk assessment tool and that there is a lack of the utilisation of the consensus-based assessment tool. Recommendations are presented on the actions that could be taken to improve assessment practice.

Presenters:	Dr. Moreblessing Memory Ndonga, Prof. Marianne Strydom
71. Topic:	Social work and police services in advancing mental health support services to families. (Unique Number: 071)
Content:	In South Africa, the Mental Health Care Act (MHCA) proposes a collaborative relationship between the South African Police Services (SAPS) and mental health care practitioners (MHCP) such as social workers. Police officers are often contacted when a family member is experiencing a mental health crisis. The way in which these families and patients are treated can impact their human rights. There is a lack of published data on this issue; hence the need to investigate the views of social workers about the challenges experienced by families with police services. A qualitative research methodology was employed, and explorative and descriptive research designs were utilised. The most important conclusion indicated that the experiences of families with SAPS support were poor. Recommendations are presented on the actions that could be taken by social workers to improve relationships between SAPS and families of relatives with a mental illness to improve support services.
Presenters:	Dr. Uwarren September, Prof. Marianne Strydom
72. Topic:	Community development, ecotourism and traditional leadership interface in biodiversity conservation. (Unique Number: 072)
Content:	Ecotourism is one of the main economic drivers of community development. The degradation of land and extinction of species along the coast, because of natural disasters may be regarded as the main threats to sustainable livelihood. This paper serves to explore if the interface of community development, ecotourism and traditional leadership serve as the key drivers for economic development and sustainable livelihood. A qualitative design was used to conduct the study, involving traditional leaders, programme officials, project managers and owners of ecotourism ventures in four local municipalities situated in Northern KwaZulu-Natal in South Africa. 20 participants from uMkhanyakude District Municipality were recruited through a purposive sampling method. The Sustainable Livelihoods Approach (SLA) was used as an explanatory lens. In findings, the interface of community development, ecotourism, and traditional leadership serves as the key drivers for economic development and sustainable livelihood in uMkhanyakude District Municipality. The paper concluded that the human beings' reliance on plants and animals is indispensable.
Presenters:	Dr. Fikile Xaba, Ms. Nondumiso Hadebe
73. Topic:	Psychosocial effects of COVID-19 and its vaccine on the National University of Lesotho community. (Unique Number: 073)
Content:	This study aims to investigate the psychosocial effects of COVID-19 and its vaccine on the National University of Lesotho community, on their academic level and

social level. The findings were obtained through interviewing 20 participants. Quota sampling was used and thematic analysis for analysing the data. The analysis showed that most people did not vaccinate voluntarily. The vaccinated students and the unvaccinated, both experienced fear, anxiety and depression. Schools had to adapt to a new learning platform that is online, NUL not being an exception. However, it resulted in poor academic performance. Lastly, Lesotho government did not take heed of every citizen's mental health including people living in the rural areas with limited access to resources for acquiring knowledge. It is a crucial need to have people with relevant skills to hold awareness campaigns that equip people with knowledge to care for themselves during such pandemic.

Presenters: Ms. Thandiwe Lucy Khatakane, Ms. Liteboho Rosemary Kibi, Ms Reitumetse Mathaba

74. Topic: **Building Resilience: Strengthening Mental Health Services for Disaster Preparedness and Recovery: A Social Work Perspective.** (Unique Number: 074)

Content: This paper stresses the importance of resilience and mental health services in disaster preparedness and recovery, specifically from a social work standpoint. It highlights the role of social workers in addressing mental health needs during and after disasters, exploring the connection between resilience and mental well-being. Factors contributing to resilience in individuals and communities are discussed, alongside the unique role of social work in disaster preparedness, including the integration of mental health services. Strategies for strengthening mental health services in disaster-affected communities, such as collaboration, trauma-informed care, and community engagement, are presented. Case studies, best practices, and lessons learned demonstrate the impact of social work in promoting resilience. The abstract concludes by addressing challenges, opportunities, and recommendations for policymakers, practitioners, and stakeholders, highlighting the significance of a social work perspective in enhancing mental health services for disaster resilience.

Presenter: Prof. Nontembeko Bila

75. Topic: **Student social workers' understanding of the concepts of 'culture', 'cultural identity' and 'decolonisation'.** (Unique number: 075)

Content: This presentation reports on meanings student social workers attach to the concepts of culture, cultural identity and decolonisation. Utilising the framework of the Active Force of Currere, the aim was to explore 1) their perceptions and experiences of the concepts, 2) how past experiences influence present understanding on a personal and professional level, and 3) to develop a collective description of these concepts. A qualitative approach was followed, utilising the phenomenological research design. A purposive sampling strategy was implemented to access participants from the population of registered student social workers at the UWC. Data was collected through World Café focus groups, followed by thematic data analysis. Voluntary participation, confidentiality and the management of data guided ethical practice. The findings reflect aspects that influence the participants' understanding as well as their shared definition of the

concepts as a contribution to decolonised education; including lived experiences, perceptions and understandings in curricula.

Presenter: Prof. Marichen Van der Westhuizen

76. Topic: Gender-based violence experiences among women living with physical impairments: Towards integration of services to meet the needs of vulnerable women. (Unique Number: 076)

Content: This study was a qualitative inquiry which sought to explore and describe gender-based violence encountered by women living with physical impairments in Tshwane Metro, Pretoria. Semi-structured interviews were conducted with twelve women and the findings revealed that they experienced physical, emotional, sexual, financial and structural violence. Certain risk factors increased the likelihood of the participants' victimisation and these included stereotypes associated with physical impairments and non-disclosure of the violence experienced. The participants however adopted protective factors to prevent further violence and these included seeking professional help, disclosing violence to informal and formal sources of help and adopting self-acceptance to one's condition. It was concluded that gender-based violence among women living with physical disabilities is a rarely known reality, tangled with the intersection of disability and gender. The matter calls for social workers' multi-disciplinary collaborations in gender-based violence initiatives to protect this forgotten cohort at risk.

Presenters: Ms. Yeukai Muruzi, Prof. Priscilla Gutura

SESSION 2 (7):

VENUE: BREAKAWAY ROOM 4

Session Chair	Mpumi Ncube
Session Co-Chair	
77. Topic:	Mental wellbeing and multiple bereavements: The experiences of social workers working in Employee Assistance Programme. (Unique Number: 077)
Content:	Social Workers who work in Employee Assistance Programme (EAP) are members of the Employee Assistance Professionals Association of South Africa (EAPA-SA). They address a range of issues, such as work-life balance, mental health, and addiction in the workplace. While dealing with some of these issues, social workers in EAP had to deal with multiple bereavements caused by COVID-19 pandemic including their own bereavements. This qualitative study seeks to explore the mental wellbeing experiences of social workers in dealing with multiple bereavements. Purposive sampling will be used to sample the participants and semi-structured interviews will be employed for data collection. Thematic Analysis will be used for data analysis. It is evident that COVID-19 has left social workers to deal with complicated grief and mental wellbeing

challenges. This study will assist with the development of a strategy on how to care for the caregivers which may be used for future handling of pandemics.

Presenters: Dr. Matshemo Moganedi, Ms. Smangele Simelane

78. Topic: Exploring the Efficacy of Microfinance Interventions in Enhancing the Resilience of Low-Income Women in Botswana. (Unique Number: 078)

Content: Financial empowerment of low-income populations has long been hailed as a strategy that could foster their long-term resilience. However, little is known about how which microfinance programs are associated with the resilience of low-income women in Botswana. Through the lens of the resilience theory, this phenomenological study explored resilience experiences of 19 low-income women enrolled in a microfinance program. Content analysis was adopted to develop themes around participants' strengths, talents, skills and personal traits they used to overcome adversity. The findings revealed that women's strengths included being industrious, dexterous and caregivers, and talented in baking, sewing, crocheting and hairdressing. Religion and prayer were a source of hope during difficult times while their entrepreneurial skills were a means of survival. This study demonstrates that interdisciplinary collaborations between microfinance providers and human behaviour practitioners could strengthen economic empowerment interventions to leverage on clients' positive attributes to respond to their non-financial needs.

Presenter: Dr. Kefentse Kubanga, Dr. Zainab Suntai, Dr Edson Chipalo

79. Topic: The Experience Incubator as an economic empowerment modality for strengthening sustainability and self-reliance in older persons. (Unique Number: 079)

Content: With only 1 in 6 South African's having saved for retirement (Business Tech, 2022) and the ageing population growing at a rapid rate, the conservative retirement age limits formal work opportunities, rendering the majority of older persons destitute, vulnerable to abuse and financially dependent on the State or family. In collaboration with the Global Institute for Experienced Entrepreneurship (GIEE); Tafta launched a Pilot Experience Incubator® (EI) Programme. This paper will explain how the EIP capacitates older people with entrepreneurial skills by utilising modules designed to support the development of ideas and expansion of existing businesses with marketing, financial and business skills. The program helps to build resilience and self-reliance in older persons through entrepreneurial opportunities whilst using their life experience to sustain and supplement their livelihood. It builds on the experiential knowledge and skills of older persons to promote their economic empowerment thereby enhancing their resilience and self-reliance.

Presenter: Ms. Yougendri Moodley

80. Topic: **Social work and faith-based organizations collaboration: strengthening response to mental health problems in rural areas.** (Unique Number: 080)

Content: Mental health problems have become prevalent concern that affects individuals, groups, and communities significantly. Social workers and faith leaders are often the first point of contact when individuals and families face mental health problems or traumatic events. While social work is known for its role in promoting mental health and preventing mental health problems, faith-based organizations can play an important role in supporting individuals and families experiencing mental health problems and encouraging them to seek help. Faith-based interventions appear to be a culturally sensitive way to address mental health problems. Drawing on secondary data and the author's research on mental health related issues in rural areas, this paper explores the opportunities that can be created because of collaboration between social work and faith-based organizations. It will analyze their role in dealing with mental health problems. The paper will also explore how this collaboration can strengthen response to mental health problems.

Presenter: **Dr. Thabisa Matsea**

81. Topic: **A review of the impact of COVID-19 pandemic on gender-based violence in South Africa.** (Unique Number: 081)

Content: The COVID-19 pandemic is a crisis that has negatively affected the ordinary functioning of people worldwide and continues to increase rapidly. The study sought to explore the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on gender-based violence in South Africa. To understand GBV against women, the radical feminist theory which is based on the oppression of women in a social order dominated by subordination, including through sexuality and bodies was used. Data were obtained from secondary sources, journal articles, news articles, and news reports on GBV. Findings indicate that COVID-19 restrictions and regulations have contributed to gender-based violence. The study also found a high prevalence of gender-based violence during the lockdown, particularly against women. These findings reflect that South Africa is fighting yet another deadly pandemic of gender-based violence. This study also provides implications for social work policy and practice. It can be concluded that this pandemic has brought massive misery across the world, especially regarding violence.

Presenter: **Dr. Zintle Ntshongwana.**

82. Topic: **Gender-based Violence and Femicide Interventions- Perspectives from community members and activists in Evaton, South Africa.** (Unique Number: 082)

Content: Globally, Gender Based Violence and Femicide (GBVF) remains a multifaceted social issue in the 21st century. Despite the ratification of international treaties and national laws, South Africa continues to have alarmingly high levels of GBVF, which were worsened during the COVID-19 national lockdown. Despite copious studies on GBVF, the voices of local community members and activists as key collaborators in such research have been excluded. This study used a mixed methods and included forty (40) participants in a survey for the quantitative

aspect as well as a qualitative aspect of the study. Community members participated in gender-specific focus group discussions, while activists had a focus group of their own to obtain data on interventions. Findings show that while the South African government has made strides in its efforts to eliminate GBVF, there are no sustainable community level programming and intervention aimed at changing social norms and toxic masculinity that perpetuate GBVF. In conclusion, we recommend that efforts be made to implement intervention initiatives that go beyond creating awareness on GBVF, but partner with local NGO-led organizations to engage in programming and intervention that is aimed at changing social norms.

Presenter: **Dr. Motalepule Nathane-Taulela**

83. Topic: **Child Sexual Abuse: Indicative of social inequality and a failure to translate policy into practice.** (Unique Number: 083)

Content: Child sexual abuse in South Africa is astronomical, although the SAPS 2019/2020 statistics shows a decrease in the number of reported cases, an approximately 60 children succumb to abuse daily. Despite the array of policy and legislative frameworks aimed at protecting children and promoting an equal society in which children's rights are recognised as human rights, child sexual abuse remains amongst the highest in the world. This paper thus reports on the views of service providers regarding the policy and legislative frameworks guiding service provision to sexually abused children. The findings highlight the disjuncture between macro and micro level practice from an ecological perspective as policy and legislation are far removed for the realities of practice and insufficient resources impede service delivery. Recommendations include addressing the disjunction between macro level practice and direct service provision at micro and meso levels and calling for improved collaborations between service providers.

Presenter: **Dr. Tasneemah Cornelissen-Nordien.**

SESSION 2 (7):

VENUE: BREAKAWAY ROOM 5

Session Chair	Nadia von Wielligh
Session Co-Chair	
84. Topic:	Integrated intervention by the State and Community structures in crime prevention. (Unique Number: 084)
Content:	In Jozini, Northern part of KZN; there is high number of children who are in conflict with the law. Crime prevention programmes were used to understand this

phenomenon. Findings revealed that most of these children are from dysfunctional families and born out of wedlock. Hence, children lack parental supervision and guidance. This makes them vulnerable to social illnesses which leads to committing offences. Integrated mode of service delivery can be used in the fight against crime. Such services must include family strengthening for the purpose of preservation.

Presenter: Ms. Nompumelelo Ntimbane

85. Topic: The quest for mitigating the vulnerability of children in child and youth care facilities: Interface of social work, child and youth care services and consumer science. (Unique Number: 085)

Content: This paper is premised on the need to mitigate the vulnerability of children in child and youth care facilities. The Nutrition Education Program and the appreciative inquiry are applied as a conceptual framework for explaining this endeavour. Unique in this paper is the interface of three disciplines, Social Work, Child and Youth Care Services and Consumer Science, and embracing the latter as a foundation for holistic development. The dichotomy between the two disciplines and overlooking Consumer Science as a component in child wellbeing is not unusual. This paper is based on a study that explored the understanding of food preparation and hygiene practices in the KwaZulu-Natal child and youth care facilities. This paper found the limitations and a lack of measures for the delivery of nutritious, safe, affordable and sustainable and healthy diets for all children. It further recommends the integration of consumer science in child care and protection programmes.

Presenters: Dr. Mbongeni Sithole, Dr. Mumsy Chibe, Mr Mbongiseni Nzuza

86. Topic: Adolescent Gender Attitudes and Norms: The Role of a Comprehensive Sexuality Education Programme. (Unique Number: 086)

Content: Harmful norms and unequal gender attitudes have been identified as risk factors to poor choices adolescents make with regards to their interpersonal relationships and violence. These perpetuate gender inequalities and predispose adolescents to gender based and domestic violence. Interventions addressing gender inequalities, particularly gender attitudes and harmful norms are crucial to improve the overall outcomes of psychosocial and gender relations for adolescents. Underpinned by the social learning theory, this paper suggests that adolescents can learn gender attitudes and norms through socialization, and these can be relearned. The paper draws from data collected qualitatively in an ethnographic manner using structured observations, transcribed session recordings, and field notes during the delivery of a Comprehensive Sexuality Education Programme (CSE) with 40 grade 8 learners in high school. Positive changes were observed on issues like gender relations which suggested the adoption of more equitable gender attitudes.

Presenter: Dr. Ntandoyenkosi Maphosa

87. Topic: **Making a Case for a Mandatory Recourse Program for the Victims and Survivors of Rape in South Africa: A Social Work Perspective.**
(Unique Number: 087)

Content: Rape remains one of the heinous crimes committed in South Africa, and in majority of cases, women and children are the victims and survivors. The purpose of this paper is to advance an argument from a social work perspective for the consideration, introduction and implementation of a mandatory recourse program for the victims and survivors of rape in South Africa. This purpose is informed by the fact that courts only incarcerate the offenders of rape while there is no mandatory recourse offered to the victims and survivors of rape, except in the cases of whereby they institute litigations against the perpetrators, which is time consuming as well as has financial implications. This desktop paper is divided into five sections. The first section is on problem statement, while the second section focuses on the theoretical framework. The third section discusses reasons for the consideration, introduction and implementation of a mandatory recourse program for the victims and survivors of rape in South Africa. The fourth section answers the question on who should benefit from the proposed mandatory recourse program and the last section focuses on the role of social work in the mandatory recourse program for victims and survivors of rape.

Presenter: **Dr. Daniel hadebe**

88. Topic: **Unveiling the Shadows: A Systematic Literature Review on Understanding Femicide in South Africa and its Socio-Cultural Determinants.**
(Unique Number: 088)

Content: Femicide, the intentional killing of women based on their gender, is a pervasive and disturbing issue globally, with South Africa experiencing alarmingly high rates. This SLR examines the socio-cultural determinants of femicide in South Africa. Through a comprehensive analysis of scholarly articles, reports, and studies, the review aims to enhance our understanding of the multifaceted nature of femicide in the country. Taking a socio-cultural lens, the review investigates factors contributing to femicide, such as gender norms, patriarchy, cultural beliefs, and practices. The review explores the intersections of gender, violence, and culture, analysing the consequences of femicide on victims, families, communities, and society. Identifying gaps in knowledge, the review emphasizes the need for further research and policy development. It concludes by providing recommendations for interventions, policies, and strategies to prevent and address femicide in South Africa. This review serves as a crucial tool to, promote dialogue, and guide evidence-based interventions against femicide.

Presenter: **Mr. Wiseman Ntlhari Mathebula**

89. Topic: **Denial of contact to unmarried fathers: the need for further training and support to social workers.** (Unique Number: 089)

Content: There has been a growing concern regarding children growing up without their fathers despite them being alive. Societal Norms and expectations often alienate men from parenting. Qualitative research was applied, and in-depth interviews were conducted with unmarried father and mothers or maternal relatives. The data show that fathers are not always absent by choice but other social (gender roles), Cultural (payment of Inhlawulo) and economic (unemployment) factors contribute to single parenting. It is imperative for social workers and other related professionals to understand the law, especially Section 21 of the Children's Act (2005) and policies on guardianship and parenting plans. Men can be involved in co-parenting before birth, for instance at ante-natal classes, and society needs to change its attitude towards socially constructed gender differences by acknowledging men's role as nurturers, not only as providers.

Presenter: Ms. Pinky Luthuli

90. Topic: **Employee Health and Wellness (EH&W) Performance Indicators for the Gauteng Department of Health.** (Unique Number: 90)

Content: Employers use EHWP to improve employee health and performance, but it needs management and financial support to be successful. EHWP effectiveness in South Africa is unclear due to a lack of evaluation of localized and indigenous programs. The purpose of this paper is to thoroughly examine crucial factors that significantly impact the well-being of employees at three Gauteng state hospitals. This in-depth analysis will enable EHWP administrators to more accurately assess the effects of local conditions and dynamics on employees' health and overall well-being investigating the extent of EHWP implementation in the program budget and how this directly affects the program's effectiveness. Using a structural equation model, the study identifies objective and subjective factors that contribute to employee well-being, namely Work Engagement and Psychological Capacity. Based on these findings, the study provides insightful recommendations on how this knowledge can be utilized to improve the effectiveness of service offerings for employees.

Presenter: Ms. Palesa Seodi, Prof. Willem Roestenburg

SESSION 3 (5):

VENUE: PLENARY VENUE

Session Chair	Peggie Chiwara
Session Co-Chair	
91. Topic:	Combating substance abuse amongst learners in South African schools. (Unique number: 091)

Content: Substance abuse is one of the pandemics that destroy the future of young people in South African schools leading to a number of social ills which exacerbate the economic deterioration of the country. This study explored the legislative framework in combating substance abuse among learners in South African schools. A literature review of legislative frameworks in different countries shows the causes of substance abuse and its effects on learners, their families, in schools, communities and the country at large. The findings show that although a legislative framework is available in South Africa, but the implementation part is lacking compared to other countries such as Germany and Netherlands. Implementing the existing legislation while adopting strategies such as harm reduction which is a proven method may be effective and might have a great impact in combating substance abuse especially amongst South African learners in all spheres of education from primary to tertiary.

Presenter: **Ms. Nozipho Babra Ngubane**

92. Topic: **Substance abuse and mental health: multi sectoral Approach.**
(Unique number: 092)

Content: Substance abuse is a global challenge that affects not only the user but the greater society. South Africa is no exception, as it is reported that 15% of the population abuse substances. As a complex phenomenon, I believe it needs an integrated approach to ensure the maximum impact. Social workers are confronted with substance abuse and its effects daily and we are expected to deal with a plethora of problems associated it. There seem to be a misalignment/disjuncture between the increased intervention against drug abuse and the increasing prominence of the drug problem in South Africa. This calls for a multi sectoral approach in order to effectively deal with substance abuse in South Africa. An ecological approach guided by programme theory will best explain how the different systems can be coordinated to effectively deal with substance abuse.

Presenter: **Ms Christabella Nthabiseng Latakomo**

93. Topic: **The Hope Revolution Vision -The process of establishing Community based substance abuse prevention and treatment.** (Unique number: 093)

Content: The Enyobeni tragedy of June 2022 East London, RSA where 21 young people lost their lives in a tavern, offers us a glimpse of the depth of the substance abuse scourge in South Africa, amongst an increasingly younger population. Unfortunately, the cost of substance abuse treatment is unaffordable for the communities where it is needed the most; and the relapse rate of persons who completed residential or outpatient treatment programmes are compelling a community-based response to both the prevention and treatment of substance abuse. Section 5 of the Prevention of and Treatment of Substance Abuse Act 70 of 2008 provides guidelines in this regard; and the National Drug Master Plan 2019-2024 foreground community-based treatment as the more sustainable response to substance abuse. This presentation describes the processes followed in a collaboration between Nelson Mandela University Engagement Unit, the

Dept of Social Development Professions and The Hope Revolution Vision (THRV) with communities in Gqeberha to establish a community-based substance abuse prevention and treatment programme. This collaboration with THRV gives effect to our Universities' focus to be of service to society, and honours the voices of community as knowledge keepers and multiple stakeholders as equalising partners for impactful change.

Presenters: Prof. Veonna Goliath, Dr. Jacobus Nomdoe

94. Topic: Addressing Colonial-Apartheid Legacy and Infrastructural Barriers in Access to Substance Use Disorder Treatment in South Africa's Eastern Cape Province. (Unique number: 094)

Content: Despite the official end of apartheid in 1994, systemic barriers to accessing resources and human rights continue to exist in certain parts of South Africa. One example of this is inadequate access to substance use disorder treatment, which exacerbates the problem. Substance use disorder is recognised globally as a multifactorial health issue, and South Africa's struggle to address this phenomenon is compounded by infrastructural deficits. To gain insight into the problem, a qualitative study was conducted, involving semi-structured interviews and focus group discussions with 15 participants in East London in the Eastern Cape, South Africa. The research findings revealed several problems, including a lack of substance use treatment centres, the impact of colonial and apartheid segregation on access to these centres, inadequate human resources for treating substance use disorder, and insufficient financial support for implementing treatment programmes. Inconsistencies in the treatment of substance use disorder pose a threat to the success of policies. The Eastern Cape is the most neglected area in terms of resource allocation and access to substance use treatment centres.

Presenter: Dr. Samkelo Bala

95. Topic: Re-examining the conceptualisation of a substance dependant service user in involuntary treatment, taking into account the South African legislation (the Prevention of and Treatment for Substance Abuse Act No. 70 of 2008). (Unique number: 095)

Content: Substance use is a widespread devastating global problem. The UNODC reports that approximately 269 million people use drugs, and the number of those with substance use disorders (SUDs) will rise by eleven percent globally and forty percent in Africa by 2030. Despite the high demand for treatment, many individuals with SUD seeks professional help involuntarily and often relapses shortly after treatment. This paper addresses the insufficient understanding of involuntary service users, impacting the delivery of their treatment services as defined by the Prevention of, and treatment for substance dependence act. Qualitative data was collected through interviews with 11 youth from UThungulu District in KwaZulu-Natal. The neglect of underlying user needs and the lack of personal motivation for treatment were the identified key factors contributing to treatment failures. This paper highlights the necessity for clear legislation to

define involuntary service users for establishing appropriate norms and standards for their treatment programs.

Presenters: Mr. Nkanyiso Mkhize, Prof. Rautenbach John Victor

SESSION 3 (5):

VENUE: BREAKAWAY ROOM 1

Session Chair	Thandeka Mhlungu
Session Co-Chair	
96. Topic:	Northern Cluster Social Work Seminar: An Exploration of Gender-Based Violence and Women's Place in Society. (Unique number: 096)
Content:	The Northern Cluster Social Work Seminar brought distinguished guests from the public sector, Higher Education, and Civil Society organizations together, focusing on gender-based violence (GBV) and its impact on women's place in society. A key highlight was the presentation of ongoing research on GBV, aiming to enhance knowledge, refine interventions, and provide essential services. The seminar explored the Global Social Work Month theme, advocating for social workers' competence in handling diverse populations. Attendees actively participated in addressing key questions related to traditional customs and beliefs, rational social action, current GBV interventions, barriers faced by social service practitioners, strategies promoting women's role in society, and support for practitioners as carers of GBV victims. Discussions and recommendations underscored the need to address cultural norms perpetuating GBV, strengthen National Strategic Plan implementation, and provide support and resources for practitioners. Promoting gender equality through legislation and empowerment programs emerged as essential in combating GBV, highlighting the importance of collective efforts to eradicate gender-based violence and promote women's rightful place in society, fostering continuous collaboration and action for a violence-free and discrimination-free society.
Presenters:	Ms. Sithuthukile Myeni, Ms Nokuthuthuka Mthethwa, Ms Angel Thandeka Mhlungu
97. Topic:	A Multi-Sectoral Approach in the provision of services to homeless people in Durban, South Africa. (Unique number: 097)
Content:	To contain the spread of Covid 19 during the national state of emergency in 2020, a level 5 hard lockdown was implemented countrywide in terms of the Disaster Management Act 57 Of 2002 in South Africa. In line with the promulgation, the Department of Social Development, together with other stakeholders viz SAPS, Department of Health and Non Profit organizations were tasked with the responsibility of ensuring the removal of homeless from the streets to safe facilities such as shelters provided by the Ethekwini municipality. Social workers

conducted assessments, rendered psychosocial, family reunification and recreational programmes to support homeless people in different shelters. At least 30 percent of homeless people were reunified with families, and they received support for substance abuse and mental health issues, which were identified. The multifaceted needs of people living on the streets need to be prioritized and a more integrated approach to be used.

Presenter: Ms. Vanessa Singh

98. Topic: Barriers to care for homeless people living with Mdr-Tb/Hiv in Kwazulu-Natal, South Africa. (Unique number: 098)

Content: Adherence to MDR-TB treatment comes with numerous challenges, among which is a high pill burden, the management of side effects, and navigating a complex, fragmented and often unresponsive healthcare system. These challenges are more intense and multiply for the homeless population. We analyze a case vignette drawn from a current study based in Sydenham, KwaZulu-Natal, using empirical data on structural, behavioural, and psychosocial barriers to assess the additional challenges faced by those experiencing homelessness. We find that long-term substance use, trauma, social exclusion, stigma, and loss of family combined with severe illness and housing instability create seemingly insurmountable barriers to care. However, local services, including social work and nursing, organized around the health and psychosocial needs of homeless people may create stability to facilitate care and create potential pathways to recovery. Social work can play a unique role in meeting the complex needs of this vulnerable population.

Presenters: Ms. Hlengiwe Pretty Nyilana, Prof. Jennifer Zelnick, Dr Boitumelo Seepamore

99. Topic: The disorientation of families by the COVID-19 pandemic in Polokwane, South Africa. (Unique number: 099)

Content: Several studies show that during natural disasters, individuals and families face challenges such as exacerbation of existing family problems or new difficulties accompanied by stress related to job loss, injury or illness, and parenting concerns. The negative impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on people's lives was also reported to be instigated by the safety measures such as isolation strategies and lockdown which led to more challenges such as change in activities and livelihoods. It is from this background that the researchers developed a hunch to explore the disorientation of selected families by the COVID-19 pandemic in Polokwane which is located in the Limpopo Province of South Africa. The researchers adopted a qualitative approach wherein a case study design was used. Data was collected through semi structure interviews wherein convenient and Snowball sampling techniques were used to select the respondents. Thematic content analysis was used to analyse the data. The findings of the study show that loss of family bonds, Job loss and domestic violence are what disorientated the selected families in Polokwane. Conclusions and recommendations are also provided in this study.

Presenters: Mr. Justin Ramoshaba, Prof. Selelo Frank Rapholo

100. Topic: Load Shedding and Its Impact on the Mental Psyche of South African Citizens.
(Unique number: 100)

Content: This paper examines the psychological, emotional, and social consequences of living in a power-constrained environment. The psychological impact of load shedding is explored, highlighting feelings of powerlessness, anxiety, and stress resulting from unpredictable power outages and the inability to carry out essential tasks. Emotional well-being is also affected, with heightened irritability, frustration, and a sense of deprivation. Load shedding has significant social consequences, straining relationships and family dynamics due to disrupted routines and increased responsibilities. Community well-being is also affected, evidenced by decreased social cohesion and increased crime rates due to reduced lighting and security systems. Economically, load shedding imposes financial burdens on individuals and businesses, leading to spoiled food, reduced productivity, and increased costs for alternative energy sources. Long-term effects on employment, economic growth, and investment are also considered. Vulnerable populations, such as the elderly and those with chronic health conditions, face disproportionate impacts from load shedding, necessitating targeted support and resources to mitigate health risks. Effective communication and transparent information are vital in managing the mental impact of load shedding. Public awareness campaigns, proactive communication from utility providers, and access to reliable information can reduce anxiety and enhance coping mechanisms among citizens.

Presenter: Prof. Nontembeko Bila

SESSION 3 (5):

VENUE: BREAKAWAY ROOM 2

Session Chair	Mbongeni Shadrack Sithole
Session Co-Chair	
101. Topic:	Culturally responsive marriage enrichment interventions: Strengthening relational well-being (Unique number: 101)
Content:	Traditional African marriage systems, rooted in indigenous governance systems, carried from generation to generation, reinforce satisfactory spousal healthy family outcomes. However, modernisation, neglecting core values of indigenous practices, upsurges divorce and vast falling apart of family structures. Marriage enrichment programs (MEPs) provide the necessary skills to eliminate future problems. Black Africans, hitherto, lack instruction on healthy functioning marriages, seeking help primarily once problems escalate. Empirically evaluated

culturally relevant programs, blending indigenous with current systems, are scarce. Often unskilled and lacking in numbers, practitioners face challenges addressing the high one-on-one need. This mixed method three-phase research, grounded on current empirical international and South African data, builds on the strengths of the Royal Bafokeng Nation indigenous community and reports on preventative education interventions to sustain, support, strengthen and preserve marriages, promoting sustainable, resilient societal structures, individually, collectively and cross-culturally. Findings can adapt and expand interventions to advance and direct practice and policy application.

Presenter: Dr. Susanne Jacobs

102. Topic: **An Evaluation of a Family- and Community-based Intervention: Sihleng'imizi 'We Care for Families'.** (Unique number: 102)

Content: In South Africa, the provision of social grants, such as the Child Support Grant (CSG), has the aim of addressing high poverty and inequality in post-apartheid South Africa. The CSG in particular has had positive impacts on the educational, nutritional and health outcomes of children. In countries such as Columbia, Mexico, Niger, Brazil and Peru, there has been a shift to scale up the positive impacts of cash transfer programmes by offering complementary interventions, otherwise known as 'cash plus care' programmes. A study by Patel, et al. (2017) indicated the need for an evidenced-based family intervention which would scale-up the positive impacts of the CSG. Emanating from the findings of the abovementioned study, the Sihleng'imizi Family Programme was designed. This paper will present the evaluation of the pilot Sihleng'imizi intervention, to inform the development of an appropriate programme to promote and improve child-well-being outcomes of CSG beneficiaries.

Presenters: Dr. Jenita Chiba

103. Topic: **Care for the Caregivers: Psychosocial Risk Factors Among gender-based violence Victim Support Social Workers in South Africa.** (Unique number: 103)

Content: This study explores the challenges (gender-based violence) GBV victim support social workers face in South Africa, focusing on psycho-social risk factors that can impact on their well-being and professional effectiveness. The study identifies specific risks these professionals face, such as increased workload, long working hours, emotional exhaustion, exposure to traumatic experiences, and blurring of personal and professional boundaries. Purposive sampling and document analysis reveals that there are psycho-social risks factors faced by these professionals, emphasising the need for comprehensive support services that prioritize the well-being and resilience of social workers. Measures such as work-life balance, organizational support, and adequate resources and training are crucial. Implementing these measures can create a supportive and sustainable work environment for GBV victim support social workers in South Africa.

Presenter: Dr. Matshemo Joyce Moganedi, Dr. Nkuke Evans Mohlatlole

104. Topic: Essential knowledge, values, and skills for environmental and green social work. (Unique number: 104)

Content: A generalist framing of social work draws from a common knowledge, skills, and value base that aids social workers in their quest for social justice. Climate change, the frequency and intensity of natural and human made disasters and their disproportionately negative impacts on service users call for intensified efforts in promoting social, economic, and ecological justice. The combined effects of poverty, inequality, human made, and environmental disasters furthermore necessitate a re-examination of social work's foundational base in view of grounding it within a sustainable development framework. This conceptual paper is drawn from a desk review of the Global Agenda (2012) theme on promoting environmental and community sustainability. It presents the essential knowledge, skills, and values for environmental and green social work which social workers could draw from in developing an integrated view of people and the environment and thereby intervening for people, planet, and prosperity.

Presenter: Dr. Peggie Chiwara

105. Topic: Work organizations and their social roles and responsibilities. (Unique number: 105)

Content: The goal of work organizational 'corporate citizenship' initiatives, such as corporate social responsibility (CSR) and employee wellness programs (EAPs), is to assist such organizations to help meet personal and socio-economic needs of employees, their families and hosting communities. This paper argues that Social Work professionals can assist such organizations to meet their positive 'corporate citizenship' objectives, in their work through wellness programs and corporate social (CSR) projects. These organizations assist nations economically and socially through employment of citizens and payment of corporate taxes, all which contribute towards assisting in meeting some of the national goals and plans. National legislations and programs may help ensure that attention is paid on CSR and similar workplace initiatives can go a long way to contribute towards democracy and national harmony, thus lower societal strives and conflicts. The presentation, thus, reflects on roles and dilemmas related to 'corporate citizenship' of work organizations, focusing on selected policy areas (namely, human resource, investment, environmental and philanthropy).

Presenter: Prof. Lobelo D. Mogorosi, Dr. Patricia S. Manganyi, Dr. N. Jimmy Budeli

SESSION 3 (5):

VENUE: BREAKAWAY ROOM 3

Session Chair	Mzwandile Sobantu
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Session Co-Chair	
<p>106. Topic:</p> <p>Content:</p> <p>Presenter:</p>	<p>The well-being of social workers in remote areas, who cares? (Unique Number: 106)</p> <p>Social work is a poorly understood profession that is rarely taken seriously. Social workers assist people in addressing a wide range of challenges by providing supportive and empowering environments. While social work is intended to promote and ensure the well-being of a constantly changing society, relatively little attention is paid to the well-being of the social worker. The basis of the article is primarily based on these areas as outlined by (Nortje, 2021): continuous self-development and growth, good social connections, the belief that one can overcome obstacles, and the belief that life has meaning, life has a purpose and a positive self-image about oneself. This choice is also based on recognising that a social worker's professional development is centred on these areas. Mental well-being is also a positive factor in workplace productivity. Therefore, a well-cared-for social worker will lead to effectiveness and efficiency in all aspects of her work.</p> <p>Ms. Veronica Nemitandani</p>
<p>107. Topic:</p> <p>Content:</p> <p>Presenters:</p>	<p>“Zifunani iziStabane La”. Remaining Resilient in the face of resistance, the voices of queer students residing in university residences in eThekweni Metropolitan. (Unique Number: 107)</p> <p>University residences have received little attention from scholarship on queerphobic bullying in South Africa. The issues surrounding same-sex identities and residence life remain a key challenge for residence departments and managers. Overwhelming evidence suggests that students living arrangements in university residences are often cis-heteronormative and present queer students with adjustment difficulties, homophobia and uncondusive studying conditions. While this is so, it is worth mentioning that the experiences of living away from home allow same-sex students to express and explore their identities freely and simultaneously have the liberty to negotiate their same-sex identities. There is still limited research that focuses on the resilience and resistance of queer students. Using photo voice to engage queer students to understand how they experience, respond to, resist, and remain resilient in queerphobic spaces in and around university residences. The study also centres on how the available resources and challenges aid queer students to stay resilient; furthermore, it also intends to recommend more informed interventions to enhance queer students' life in university residences.</p> <p>Mr. Sethenjwa Bonny Nduli</p>
<p>108. Topic:</p>	<p>Wellness of social work students and educators: risk and protective factors in social work training programmes at Higher Education Institutions in South Africa. (Unique Number: 108)</p>

Content: The social work profession is only as strong as the professionals who practice it. However, during their work and training, social workers and student social workers must manage many stressful and emotionally taxing matters that may affect their well-being. These stressors require practitioners to have inner strength and resilience. Rising awareness of threats to staff and student wellness in the social work training and educational environment affects graduates' outcomes and practice readiness. This study, therefore, embarks on a quantitative and qualitative investigation to determine both the risk and protective factors in social work training programmes across a selection of Higher Education Institutions in South Africa. It seeks to make recommendations for both the development of the curriculum and support structures that need to be in place to support both staff and students.

Presenter: Dr. Hanelie Malan, Prof. Wim Roestenburg

109. Topic: **Wrestling with the Gender-based violence pandemic: An Afrocentric social work perspective.** (Unique Number: 109)

Content: Gender-based violence (GBV) scourge has been placed in the national agenda by the South African (SA) government. While SA continues to wrestle with GBV, there has deliberations among social work scholars, academics, and practitioners to Africanise social work education and practice. Despite this, there is paucity of research that investigates GBV from a decolonised and Afrocentric perspective. Moreover, the education and practice are still relying heavily on the Eurocentric approaches, interventions and methods which have been criticised by many scholars. Informed by the Afrocentric perspective, this paper seeks to reposition social work in the Pan African Agenda to rethink alternative strategies to curb GBV by tapping into the indigenous knowledge and resources. This paper calls for a return to the drawing board and determine how the current social work education and practice can be blended with a traditional African knowledge base, approaches, and models to curb GBV.

Presenter: Dr. Goitseone Leburu

110. Topic: **Socio-Educational Coping and Survival Mechanisms Utilised by Lecturers and Students at the National University of Lesotho for Sustenance Amidst COVID-19.** (Unique Number: 110)

Content: It remains without a doubt that the outbreak of COVID-19 pandemic did bring with it ginormous of economic and other challenges, these which were less prepared for, particularly by less developed countries, Lesotho included. The lengthy lockdown which was abruptly imposed mandated of the National University of Lesotho to resort to online teaching and learning, the avenue which was not of popular preference before. A myriad of social and educational challenges accompanied this initiative. It necessitated by this reason that both the instructors and students' cohorts develop survival and coping mechanisms accordingly. The study does intent therefore to examine these mechanisms, using resilience theory to guide the study.

Presenter: Mr. Katiso Sehlabane

SESSION 3 (5):

VENUE: BREAKAWAY ROOM 4

Session Chair	Leon Holtzhausen
Session Co-Chair	
111. Topic:	Assessment of social work services towards addressing barriers to learning in public schools in Sibasa circuit, Vhembe district. (Unique Number: 111)
Content:	<p>This study investigated social work services in addressing barriers to learning in public schools, Sibasa Circuit in Vhembe District. The study was conducted in two public secondary schools, focusing on Grade 11 and 12 learners. A qualitative study that used an exploratory research design was conducted. Purposive sampling was used to draw a sample from learners, educators, and social workers. Semi-structured individual interviews and focus groups were used to collect data and were thematically analyzed. The findings revealed that learners encountered the following barriers: teenage pregnancy, substance abuse, bullying, peer pressure, and poverty, which disturbs them to focus on school activities. The findings also revealed that social workers should provide psychosocial counseling, and educational support in addressing barriers to learning. The researcher recommends that the schools appoint social workers permanently to address barriers to learning experienced by learners.</p>
Presenter:	Ms. Tshireledzo Vannesa Sikhitha, Dr. Mmaphuti Mamaleka
112. Topic:	Tools to guide parents through the adversity of social media: a literature review 2021-2023. (Unique Number: 112)
Content:	<p>Generation Z, born in a world driven by technology, has been identified as the most anxious cohort to date; where spending 9 hours daily online is a normal way to function and communicate. GenZ is at a heightened time of identity formation, navigating their emotional reactions and learning to regulate themselves. With the undercurrent of online platforms requiring constant interaction, emotions are aroused by a response or lack thereof on their posts; the response arousal can influence the user's well-being by taking the shape of mixed emotions including anxiety and rumination. A literature review of tools and guidance to empower and capacitate parents within their parental journey. Tools such as co-monitoring and joint parental use of online platforms have had a greater effect towards reduced online usage than applying restrictive measures with their adolescents.</p>
Presenters:	Ms. Robyn Coleman, Prof. Ulene Schiller

113. Topic: Developing an intelligent online counselling framework for an employee health and wellness programme. (Unique Number: 113)

Content: Fourth Industrial Revolution, described as the rapid and exponential development of internet technology resulting in concepts such as the internet of things and artificial intelligence being introduced in daily life, dramatically reshaping society. This presentation explores the possibility of supplementing counselling services by Artificial intelligent chatbots within the context of employee health and wellness programs, investigating whether the necessary social work relevant vocabulary can be developed for powering the intelligence of such conversational agents. Chatbots and conversational user interfaces have gained recognition as valuable tools to humans since 2016. While AI therapy agents have been developed in psychology, their application in social work remains limited. The research underpinning these efforts consists of the development of a conceptual AI generative chatbot counselling framework through a mixed-methods design, combining literature review, qualitative analysis of live chat transcripts and quantitative frequency analysis to converge in framework design using the Multinomial Naive Bayes theorem and Systems Development Life Cycle, and refinement through a Delphi study. The paper explains some of these methodologies in simplified terms, answering whether intelligent responding chatbots can be developed within social work.

Presenter: Mr. Ivan Kanes, Prof. Wim Roestenburg, Dr Hanelie Malan

114. Topic: Contributions of informal social security to the needs of their members. A qualitative study on stokvels in Soweto – Johannesburg. (Unique Number: 114).

Content: Stokvels, globally known as rotating savings and credit associations (ROSCAs), remain a major form of social protection for the poor within the South African context. The continued existence of stokvels is a reflection of the absence of a comprehensive formal social security system. However, stokvels have not been given adequate attention despite their contributions in protecting their members from diverse adversities. This empirical presentation, based on one of the objectives of my PhD, discusses the contributions of stokvels to the social protection of their members. Findings revealed that stokvels addressed income insecurity, provided for children's educational needs, provided access to health promotion, and enhanced access to a broader social capital base of their members.

Presenter: Dr. Nkosiyazi Dube

115. Topic: COVID-19 pandemic, higher education and online learning. (Unique Number: 115)

Content: The COVID-19 pandemic brought in its wake unforeseen challenges in higher education. Many institutions of higher learning prohibited contact learning and introduced the concept of online learning in institutions of higher learning. Distance learning which is generally known as online learning plays a vital role in the country's education system. It is undeniable that online learning provides ample of benefits to students. Nevertheless, there are also many negative

implications from online education. The University of KwaZulu-Natal faced challenges with online learning for undergraduate students. This paper intends to review challenges faced by students who used online learning as a core medium of learning during COVID-19 pandemic. The study was underpinned by the theory of teaching and learning. The study adopted the literature review approach using various sources to interrogate challenges of online learning on undergraduate students at the University of KwaZulu-Natal. Several challenges have been identified and these issues have to be resolved in order to sustain the quality of education for future generations. The study suggested that the institutions of higher learning must invest in devising and improving the existing online learning platforms, as well as expanding provision of internet access and provide training for the students.

Presenter: Ms. Nothando Lubanyana, Ms. Zamansele Nqayi

SESSION 3 (5):

VENUE: BREAKAWAY ROOM 5

Session Chair	
Session Co-Chair	
116. Topic:	A Dohari Narrative of Nepalese Grandmothers Providing Informal Family Support for Adult Children in Hamilton, Ontario. (Unique Number 116)
Content:	The population of people aged 55 and older is growing significantly in Canada. The aging population of Canada is also becoming more ethnically diverse, with South Asians making up the largest visible minority group in both the 2006 and 2016 census. Also, South Asian females represent the largest visible minority and comprise 5.4% of the Canadian female population and many of them are grandmothers who provide informal support for older adult children. However, the experiences of these grandmothers are missing in extant literature. Hence this paper will be adopting an innovative arts-based method-dohari narrative to explore and present the experiences of Nepalese grandmothers providing informal family support to adult children in the City of Hamilton, Ontario. The research found that the grandmothers feel obliged to take care of the entire family because of how busy their children are, and this might be a source of stress for them. This calls for a rethink for older care providers and provision of culturally sensitive interventions by social workers.
Presenter:	Ms. Kusum Bhatta

117. Topic: Testing Psychopathy as a Unified Theory of Crime and the Psychometric properties of the Youth Psychopathic Traits Inventory- Short Version among South African Youth. (Unique Number 117)

Content: While there is empirical evidence to support psychopathy as a unified theory of crime in literature, no known study has examined the applicability of the theory or the psychometric properties of associated scales among South African youth. The aim is to explore the psychometric properties of the Youth Psychopathic Traits Inventory- short version (YPI-S) and the applicability of Psychopathy as a Unified Theory of Crime among 213 young adults in South Africa. Reliability measurements, principal factor analysis, Spearman's Rho correlations, chi square and multiple regression were used to explore the theory and associated scale. Results from factor analysis and reliability measures indicated the YPI-S had good psychometric properties when applied to the South African sample, however applicability of the behavioural dimension was a challenge. The results related to the association between deviant behaviours and psychopathic traits suggested that Psychopathy as a Unified Theory of Crime could be applied in the South African context. It is however important to note that future research should explore the challenges in applicability of scales and how the relevant scales could be culturally and contextually adapted for better psychometric outcomes.

Presenter: Dr. Emma Campbell

118. Topic: The Effects of Adverse Childhood Experiences on Altruistic Behaviour in a South African Sample of Emerging Adults. (Unique Number 118)

Content: The role of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) in early development has consistently been proved to lead to specific deviant behavior, criminal justice involvement and crime. Conversely, very little research attention has been focused on the link between Adverse Childhood Experiences and altruistic behavior. The purpose of this study is to examine the influence of Adverse Childhood Experiences on deviant and altruistic behavior found in emerging adulthood. The sample population consisted of 413 young adults between the ages of 18 and 20 from the Western Cape, South Africa. Data was collected making use of the following self-report questionnaires: The Adverse Childhood Experiences questionnaire, the Deviant Behavior Scale, and the Altruistic Scale. Pearson correlations found that experiencing childhood physical neglect and exposure to domestic violence were the two strongest correlations with deviant behaviors. Furthermore, Chi square tests for association revealed significant associations between childhood adversity and altruistic attitudes. Early detection and intervention of Adverse Childhood Experiences could potentially reduce criminal justice involvement and increase altruistic attitudes during emerging adulthood.

Presenter: Prof. Leon Holtzhausen

119. Topic: RDP housing program and family preservation: the experiences of youth in rural area of Ilembe district. (Unique Number 119)

Content: The RDP initiative, designed to address housing disparities and uplift vulnerable communities, holds significant implications for family preservation and social cohesion. This abstract under the theme of strategies towards the normative development of society, explores the experiences of young adults from rural areas of Ilembe with the provision of Reconstruction and Development Programme (RDP) housing program. The abstract will examine how the provision of RDP houses has impacted family dynamics, economic prospects, and social integration in rural communities. The abstract will shed light on the challenges and opportunities young adults encounter within the context of improved living conditions and how these factors influence their sense of belonging, empowerment, and well-being. Moreover, the abstract will emphasize the importance of sustainable social development and family-centered interventions. This abstract will contribute valuable insights for policymakers and practitioners seeking to enhance community resilience and foster positive outcomes for vulnerable populations in rural areas.

Presenter: Ms. Hloniphile Khuzwayo

120. Topic: The effectiveness of Community-Based Participatory Partnerships in combating children’s vulnerability in Maseru, Lesotho. (Unique Number 120)

Content: The complex nature of child vulnerability cases in Lesotho has contributed to the need for Community-Based Partnerships in addressing the scourge. Using a qualitative research approach and an explorative design, the paper explored the effectiveness of these partnerships in combating child vulnerabilities that manifest themselves through teenage pregnancy and early marriages. The population of the study was constituted of members from the Child and Gender Protection Unit, child welfare organisations, Social Development officers and the traditional local authorities. The findings of the study show the relevance of traditional child protection mechanisms, the strength of collaboration and optimal resource utilization. However, the study findings also show the effects of migration on the family system, cultural barriers, competition and lack of commitment.

Presenter: Dr. Mulwayini Mundau

SESSION 4 (7):

VENUE: PLENARY VENUE

Session Chair	Zoleka Soji
Session Co-Chair	

121. Topic: Early childbearing in the context of the Child Support Grant in a rural area in South Africa. (Unique Number 121)

Content: Despite the government's many health initiatives, teenage pregnancy is nevertheless common in South Africa. The Child Support Grant (CSG) is often blamed for escalating teenage pregnancies. Few qualitative studies have examined the link between teenage pregnancy and CSG. Fifteen young women aged 18-24 years who had their first child as adolescents were interviewed in Mtubatuba, KwaZulu-Natal. The findings indicate that young women did not deliberately fall pregnant to receive CSG benefits. A lack of sexual and reproductive health education and access to contraception, gender relations, and risky behaviours such as transactional sex contribute to teenage pregnancy. To remedy this, a multi-sectoral approach from different departments such as Health, Education and Social Development together with families and communities should work together to reduce teenage pregnancy.

Presenter: Ms. Nokuthula Ngubane

122. Topic: **The Integrated round table intervention method in teenage pregnancy awareness within uMzinyathi district in the Kwa-Zulu Natal Province.**
(Unique Number 122)

Content: Teenage pregnancy is a major public health and social concern in South Africa, particularly in the Kwa-Zulu Natal Province. This conceptual paper aims to study the effectiveness of the integrated round table intervention method in raising awareness about teenage pregnancy and promoting safe sexual practices among adolescents. A statistical analysis method was used, quarterly reports from the Department of Social Development on the round table intervention for three local municipalities under the uMzinyathi District Municipality were utilized. The analysis showed that there has been a slight decrease in teenage pregnancy statistics mainly due to implementation of the round table approach, this approach includes children, parents and stakeholders where dialogues are held with both children and parents, the issues raised are then attended to by relevant departments. It is recommended that Local Municipalities strengthen the implementation of the round table intervention.

Presenters: Ms. Nompumelelo Khumalo, Mr. Mthandeni Mtshali, Miss Nozipho Mbele

123. Topic: **The use of technology and its implication during social work field practice.**
(Unique Number: 123)

Content: The COVID-19 has brought unprecedented situation in social work education, which had an impact in teaching and learning as well as field practice. Technology advances have greatly expanded opportunities for teaching institutions to deliver education and explore other methods. Social workers are challenged to embrace the use of information and communication technology-supported interventions and services to address emerging issues, challenges and risks in society. Therefore, student social workers should recognize that the use of digital technology and social media may pose threats to the practice of many ethical standards including but not limited to privacy and confidentiality, conflicts of interest, competence, and documentation and must obtain the necessary

knowledge and skills to guard against unethical practice when using technology. Thus, this paper argues that irrespective of the technology advancement and adopting it as a mode of practice in social work, the effective and ethical use of technology should be guided by principles and code of conduct to avoid harm and violate client' privacy.

Presenter: Dr. Patricia Manganyi, Prof. Lobelo David Mogorosi

124. Topic: **Moving with the times- Embracing technology in delivering social work services in healthcare settings.** (Unique Number: 124)

Content: Social workers are seen as ports of entry for patients and their families in healthcare with regard to meeting their social, economic, psychological and emotional needs. The role of the social worker is to make sure that the patient and his/her family receive the best care and support as possible. Findings from the study on the resilience of caregivers of cancer patients showed that social workers in hospitals are not able to do follow up visits on discharged patients. This leads to patients and families not aware of the role and services of social workers. Embracing technology such as using websites and social medial accounts is crucial in enhancing the marketing and delivery of services to patients and families. This paper will critically look into the impact of caregiving on caregivers of cancer patients, social work services and provides recommendations thereof focusing on the adoption of technology in rendering services.

Presenter: Ms. Felistus Ndamba

125. Topic: **Social work educators and practitioners experiences and perceptions of e-social work training within the South African social work context.** (Unique Number: 125)

Content: The latter part of the 20th century the world witnessed the unprecedented emergence of the digital age and its impact on human functioning. Traditionally social work practice has a strong "face-to-face" practice foundation, and the digital era is now presenting a review of this approach to service rendering with the emergence of e-social work. A qualitative study was conducted that explored social work educators and practitioners' perceptions and experiences of e-social work and its infusion in social work curriculum and further training. Semi-structured interviews were conducted with social work educators and practitioners. The findings indicate that there exists limited understanding and experience with e-social work. Capacity-building is thus crucial in order to engage with client systems both in the offline world and online spaces that people inhabit.

Presenter: Mr. Mohamed Safodien

126. Topic: **Navigating Through The Protection Of Personal Information Act No 4 Of 2013: Implications For Social Work Practitioners.** (Unique Number: 126)

Content: The commencement of the Protection of Personal Information Act 4 of 2013 (hereinafter referred to as POPIA) in South Africa imposed a regulated environment from unregulated common practices when processing personal information. Under the Act, certain conditions were introduced to establish requirements when processing personal information. Among responsible persons involved in processing personal information is social work practitioners who are instrumental in protecting and supporting vulnerable members of our populations such as children, persons with disabilities, the elderly persons, refugees, and others. Despite the implications of POPIA on their practice, there is scanty literature around the subject of POPIA and social work practitioners, hence this paper provokes thoughts around the best ways for social work practitioners to navigate through the conditions imposed by this enacted law text. The paper also outlines the implications of POPIA on social work practice and proposes an approach towards practicing in compliance with this legislation.

Presenter: Dr. Maditobane Lekganyane

127. Topic: South African-born international adoptees searching for their origin
(Unique Number: 127)

Content: Intercountry adoptions take place when a child’s permanency placement cannot be addressed in his country of birth. An average of 200 children have been placed with adoptive parents yearly since intercountry adoptions from South Africa began in 2000, mostly in Europe. There has been an increase in requests for origin searches from South African-born adoptees and their birth parents. Given the diversity of African cultures and the history of adoption, there appears to be a need for more evidence-based research to help professionals who provide origin search services to these adoptees and their biological families. This presentation is based on a study that develop the content of a post-adoption social work program to assist adoptees in their origin search. The qualitative approach was used to first explore adoption social workers experiences and processes regarding origin search. Secondly, the life experiences, cultural views, and expectations of South African-born adult adoptees, adoptive parents, and the biological parents in the origin search were explored.

Presenter: Dr. Hanelie Malan, Ms. Rene Ferreira

SESSION 4 (7):

VENUE: BREAKAWAY ROOM 1

Session Chair	Roelf Reynecke
Session Co-Chair	
128. Topic:	The intersection of culture, tradition, and delayed disclosure of child sexual abuse: insights from the Vhavenda Tribe. (Unique Number: 128)

Content: Child sexual abuse (CSA) is a global problem that interrupts the willpower to encourage the healthy development of children in societies. Although CSA is a global issue, culture and tradition play a significant role on how people perceive and respond to the abuse. This qualitative study used an exploratory design to understand the intersection of culture, tradition, and delayed disclosure in the context of the Vhavenda tribe. Five adult survivors of CSA, seven caregivers of survivors of CSA, four social workers, and two traditional leaders were purposively sampled to participate in the study. Data was collected through semi-structured interviews and thereafter, it was arranged and analysed thematically. The findings of the study contribute to a deeper understanding of the cultural dynamics at play and highlights the need for culturally sensitive interventions to facilitate timely disclosure, support survivors, and foster protective environments. Indigenous systems should be recognised and strengthened to fight, preserve and protect children from sexual abuse.

Presenter: Dr. Livhuwani Ramphabana

129. Topic: Exploring the end-of-life care and re-integration of elderly offenders released on medical parole in eThekweni Municipality, South Africa. (Unique Number: 129)

Content: The increasing number of seriously ill offenders re-entering society as elderly parolees after incarceration has severe ramifications for post-incarceration service providers, especially those providing social work programmes, monitoring, and supervision services in community correctional centres (COMCOR). Elderly parolees experience several difficulties, including maintaining their livelihoods, as they are well past work age and often lack family members to assist them after their release from incarceration. Often, post-incarceration social work programmes do not prioritise the needs of elderly parolees during service delivery, further straining the transition process of elderly parolees released from custody. The study aims to explore the experiences of caregivers and correctional service providers during the reintegration process of elderly offenders released on medical parole after incarceration. The study will utilise qualitative methods to explore the perceptions and experiences of elderly parolees and correctional service providers in the Department of Correctional Services. The study was situated in Durban Community Corrections (COMCOR), a reintegration centre under the Durban Management Area in the KwaZulu-Natal Province. The sample comprised fifteen (n=15) caregivers and ten (n=10) correctional social workers responsible for rendering social work programmes.

Presenter: Mr. Sethenjwa Nduli

130. Topic: Psychological First Aid: Supporting Individuals and Communities in the Aftermath of Disasters. (Unique Number: 130)

Content: The paper highlights the importance of Psychological First Aid (PFA) in providing immediate and compassionate support to individuals and communities affected by disasters. It emphasizes the need to address the psychological well-being of survivors alongside their physical needs. The abstract explores the core principles

of PFA, including safety, comfort, and connection, and discusses the psychological reactions and emotional distress commonly experienced by survivors. It also emphasizes the significance of cultural sensitivity and individualized approaches in delivering PFA. Furthermore, the abstract outlines specific strategies and techniques employed in PFA, while addressing the challenges and ethical considerations faced by social workers. Overall, the abstract underscores the vital role of PFA and social workers in disaster response and recovery, emphasizing the importance of providing empathetic support to promote psychological well-being.

Presenter: Prof. Nontembeko Bila

131. Topic: **The Shutdown of Church Services During COVID-19 in South Africa: A Social Work Perspective.** (Unique Number: 131)

Content: From a perspective of social work, this conceptual paper analyses the negative effect of the temporary closure of churches to stop the spread of Coronavirus disease 19 (COVID-19) on classical conservative Pentecostals in South Africa. The paper argues that physical church meetings provide spiritual resources needed to cope with life's challenges and problems. Therefore, the closure of churches left the Pentecostal extremely vulnerable. Social workers are challenged to learn from Pentecostals the importance of people's reliance on church meetings for spiritual resources needed to overcome life's problems.

Presenter: Prof. Selelo Frank Rapholo

132. Topic: **Challenges faced by MA'AT Institute therapists during COVID-19 and flood disasters.** (Unique Number: 132)

Content: COVID-19 and the KwaZulu Natal flood disasters have had a profound effect in the provision of psychosocial support in MA'AT Institute therapists. This paper investigates the challenges and experiences faced by the MA'AT Institute therapists who provided psychosocial support while affected by the societal stressors of COVID-19 and the Flood disasters. In writing the paper a semi structured questionnaire was used, as a self-interview guide to gain insight on the experiences of the therapists during COVID-19 and flood disasters. The impact of COVID-19 and floods resulted in an investigation around mental health and wellbeing of the therapists; having work/life boundaries, connectivity issues and the therapists being prone to teletherapy which was a new intervention method in psychosocial support for the therapists. The concept of therapy is used in a sense relating that therapy was used by all persons, not only those who are predisposed to Western methods of working. During COVID-19 and Flood disasters the support provided by the MA'AT Institute therapists included Individual therapy, group work and community work. The provision of psychosocial support by the MA'AT Institute therapists, was adequate support to meet the needs of the services users despite the societal stressors.

Presenter: Ms. Zamansele Nqayi, Ms. Wenzile Madlala

133. Topic: **Engaging men and boys to prevent intimate partner violence: A holistic approach to change gender attitudes and behaviour.** (Unique Number: 133)

Content: There is a global movement to engage men in initiatives to reduce gender-based violence and increase awareness of the negative societal impacts of violence against women and girls. This paper explores the efforts to engage men in preventing intimate partner violence in South Africa. A qualitative study was conducted by fifteen participants who run programmes involving men and boys in Gauteng Province. The findings reflect broader debates within the gender and development literature around “bringing men and boys in” and may thus be relevant in justifying the greater need of involving men and boys in efforts to reduce intimate partner violence. Further, the findings reflect that interventions engaging men and boys have the potential to change gender attitudes and behaviours. This paper concludes that efforts to engage men and boys are essential. Holistic approaches should be taken to end all forms of intimate partner violence through men’s inclusive programmes that build the capacity of men and boys.

Presenter: **Prof. Priscilla Gutura**

134. Topic **The interface between patriarchy, gender-based violence and femicide in South Africa: A review of existing literature.** (Unique Number: 134)

Content: Egalitarianism is a philosophical perspective that advocates against the leading factors of GBV and femicide, which are patriarchy and elite. Statistics show that women are more susceptible to gender-based violence (GBV). Gender-inequality has been observed to be ahistorical and eternal, with little focus on how its complexity contributes to GBV and femicide. Therefore, this review aims to explore how egalitarianism in intimate and other relationships can fight against GBV and femicide. Literature search from various databases was used. Retrieved articles were screened to incorporate peer-reviewed and grey literature. Thematic analyses were conducted on relevant studies with a focus on promoting egalitarianism as response to GBV and femicide. The screened studies revealed that in cultures where patriarchy is exercised, it grooms boys under the mindset of being dominant which leads them to be aggressive toward females while girls are passive, subordinate, and dependent. This somehow shapes women to be economically vulnerable, and inferior in refusing any form of GBV. Gender-inequality and exposure to GBV increase the risk of femicide in our communities. Religious leaders and community-based organizations can be used as medium of communication to promote egalitarianism in communities.

Presenter: **Ms. Samkelisiwe Ngubane**

SESSION 4 (7):

VENUE: BREAKAWAY ROOM 2

Session Chair	Tashneemah Cornelissen-Nordien
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Session Co-Chair	
<p>135. Topic:</p> <p>Content:</p> <p>Presenter:</p>	<p>Conceptualisation of supervision in social development as a social service organisation. (Unique Number: 135)</p> <p>Social work supervision is core in enhancing the delivery of quality services to clients while enhancing the professional development of social workers. The historical development of social service supervision reflects that professional and organisational demands do not co-exist without challenges. The tension that often manifests between professional and managerial supervision, is explained using the analogy of “polity dualism”, a concept widely used in political science to describe the co-existence of democratic and traditional rulership. The study adopted a qualitative exploratory-descriptive design underpinned by an interpretive paradigm. Seventeen social workers and supervisors were purposively sampled from one district. The findings were presented using two main themes and two related subthemes, respectively. These included participants’ understanding of supervision and relating supervision understanding with experience. The recommendations point to the need for supervisors to adhere to supervisory responsibilities with the allocated number of supervisees, decreasing administrative duties and provision of ongoing capacity-building programmes.</p> <p>Mr. Sandile Ntethelelo Gumbi</p>
<p>136. Topic:</p> <p>Content:</p> <p>Presenters:</p>	<p>The State of Social Work Supervision in South Africa. (Unique Number: 136)</p> <p>Social work supervision is a support, mentoring and professional development platform for social workers. It also must develop their knowledge, skills, abilities and disposition to deliver effective services. The main problem in the practice of social work supervision is that it focuses primarily on social workers delivering on their caseloads with little attention paid to their professional and emotional needs. More challenges include: Lack of theoretical framework in its practice; lack of resources; lack of training and lack of policies. The aim of this study was to explore the state of social work supervision in the South African welfare sector.</p> <p>Dr. Joyce Ramabulana-Ndzuta</p>
<p>137. Topic:</p> <p>Content:</p>	<p>Sustainable Livelihood Approaches and the foster care grant as preservative approaches: Social Security. (Unique Number: 137)</p> <p>Foster Care Grants (FCGs) are a poverty alleviation strategy for millions of South Africans and this is also the case in KwaZulu-Natal, Msunduzi Municipality. This qualitative study investigated the role of the FCG on poverty alleviation by interviewing 14 foster parents who had been fostering children for more than five years. The participants' testimonials suggested that the grant helped them realize some of the Sustainable Livelihood Approaches (SLA's) major capital</p>

assets and provided beneficiaries with financial resources such as future savings, the ability to budget as well as a reliable monthly income. The researchers Robert Chambers and Gordon Conway developed the sustainable livelihood approach (SLA) in the mid-1980s to examine diverse settings of vulnerability and to improve the effectiveness of development cooperation (Kollmair & Gamper, 2002). The study also highlighted (a) emotional challenges as a result of death of biological parents of the children, (b) fostering child being difficult due to child's behaviour, (c) the grant application process being too long, and (d) the grant amount being not good enough. It can thus be concluded that FCG play a huge role in poverty alleviation.

Presenter: **Mr. Nkosiyakhe Joseph Shabalala**

138. Topic: **Supervision as a critical element in Social service professions.**
(Unique Number: 138)

Content: Professionalism in social services workplace has lost its value, due to the lack of proper supervision, support and development. Hence this study seek to uplift the professional capacity building in supervision since it is vital for the motivation of employees, and helping them advance in their careers and profession its self. Interviews carried out with ingwavuma social workers, in Kwazulu-Natal; discovered that there is poor performance and lack of interest as one-on one and group supervision sessions are no longer carried out. Social workers also cited favouritism when appointing employees to attend training and workshops for development as another problem. Close supervision sessions, fair training and workshop nominations will enhance positive change in building professional capacity in social service professions through supervision, support and development.

Presenter: **Ms. Sithembile Mdletshe**

139. Topic: **Effective Supervision is still a major concern: Challenges observed during the training of supervisors.** (Unique Number: 139)

Content: The paper shares some experiences gathered during the supervision training of some supervisors for the Limpopo and Mpumalanga provinces. The University of Venda, Department of Social Work conducts workshops for supervisors who assist in supervising the 4th-year-level students. The observation made shows challenges that question the validity of supervision as key in social workers' training. Challenges such as academic base particularly on the application of theories, supervision processes, and functions as key factors are wanting. Failure to address these challenges affects social work as a practice-based profession and an academic discipline as defined by IASSW & IFSW (2014). Measures to be deployed in mitigating the challenges observed will be shared. The recommendations will make a significant contribution to enhance the training and practice of social work as a profession.

Presenter: **Dr. Mmaphuti Mamaleka**

140. Topic: Barriers to and facilitators of self-disclosure by male victims of child sexual abuse. (Unique Number 140)

Content: Child sexual abuse (CSA) is a prevalent and enduring social and health problem with global ramifications. Male victims have difficulty disclosing their abuse due to traditional gender norms and associated fears. Understanding the factors that inhibit and facilitate disclosure among male victims of CSA is crucial for enhancing access to gender-specific services. This study employed a rapid review methodology to synthesize the literature on barriers and facilitators of self-disclosure among male victims of CSA. A total of 15 studies met the predefined inclusion and exclusion criteria. The findings underscore the significance of increasing awareness regarding male victims of CSA and emphasize the need to re-evaluate societal norms and challenging prevailing gender expectations. The study highlights that prevailing standards of masculinity can discourage male victims from disclosing their experiences of sexual abuse. The study identifies important practical implications for practice and future research.

Presenter: Dr. Sufran Smith, Ms. Rachele Snyman, Mrs Karlien Van Schalkwyk

141. Topic: Capacitate professionals to build theories with grounded theory from data on the ground: Phases one and two of Generation Z social media experiences. (Unique number: 141)

Content: Researchers have avoided utilising grounded theory due to its viewed complexity of having both evolved and stayed the same since 1967. Navigating the giants of grounded theory takes patience to wade through its density and various approaches, however, the research outcome supersedes this. The statistical fact Generation Z is the most anxious cohort fuelled this study to obtain data to further understand this phenomenon within the context of social media engagement. This study has adopted the constructivist grounded theory approach which requires an open mind to hear participants, without the influence of previous theories and literature intruding on the study. The data from the ground is systematically obtained, iteratively and comparatively analysed while being co-constructed with the researcher towards building a theory. The iterative data that has been collected and analysed for phase one and phase two reveals the significance of obtaining data from the ground.

Presenter: Ms. Robyn Coleman

SESSION 4 (7):

VENUE: BREAKAWAY ROOM 3

Session Chair	Nondumiso Hadebe
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Session Co-Chair	
<p>142. Topic:</p> <p>Content:</p> <p>Presenter:</p>	<p>The effects of internal and external risk factors in forensic social workers' experience of secondary traumatic stress (Unique number: 142)</p> <p>The primary focus of this study is secondary traumatic stress (STS) among forensic social workers, who are exposed indirectly to distressing narratives from sexually abused children. Unlike general social workers, they face the dual challenge of serving as both expert witnesses and therapists. The research aims to explore the impact of internal and external risk factors on STS experiences in forensic social workers, a topic that has received limited attention in international and South African studies. An all-inclusive willing participation sampling method was used, focussing on all qualified Forensic Social Workers who graduated from a South African university between 2006 and 2019. The study utilized a quantitative cross-sectional descriptive design, employing Google Forms distributed via email to collect data. Data analysis was conducted using IBM SPSS Statistics version 28.0. The findings indicate that internal factors, such as race and relationship status, and external factors, including clinical supervision, social support, and exposure to traumatic criminal events, had varying effects on STS symptoms.</p> <p>Dr. Pieter Boshoff.</p>
<p>143. Topic:</p> <p>Content:</p> <p>Presenter:</p>	<p>Development of an innovative strategy to address child sexual abuse investigations in the Eastern Cape, South Africa. (Unique number: 143)</p> <p>This research article examines the investigation of child sexual abuse cases in the Eastern Cape, South Africa. It highlights the challenges faced by different role players and discusses recommendations based on international literature. The findings suggest that a conceptual framework combining theories can enhance investigation efficiency. However, monitoring and evaluation of the proposed model are necessary for improvement. Despite progress in policy formulation, implementation remains a significant issue. The study emphasises the need for more effective responses to address the escalating problem of child abuse in South Africa.</p> <p>Mr. Sivuyile Nqaphi, Prof. Ulene Schiller</p>
<p>144. Topic:</p> <p>Content:</p>	<p>The implementation of legislation that guides service delivery to child headed households: A Social work perspective. (Unique number: 144)</p> <p>Section 150 of the Children's Act 38 of 2005, as well as the Children's Amendment Act 41 of 2007, consider children living in child headed households as children in need of care and protection. In an effort to protect these children, Section 137 of the Children's Amendment Act give specific guidelines on supervisory services to child headed households in South Africa. Although the Children's Act has set guidelines for service delivery to child headed households, there is no certainty of the successful implementation of these guidelines to address the needs of this target group. This study attempted to find out what social workers' views are</p>

regarding the implementation of legislation with regard to social work services to child headed households.

Presenters: Dr. Elzahne Simeon De Jager

145. Topic: **Navigating trauma-informed social work practice in a resource-limited context: Insights from social workers in the Waterberg District, South Africa.**
(Unique number: 145)

Content: Social workers are confronted with persons' experiencing extreme levels of trauma in South African communities. However, limited research on social workers rendering trauma-informed services in South Africa has been documented. This study aimed to explore the experiences, challenges and coping strategies of social workers rendering trauma-informed social work services in the Department of Social Development (DSD), Waterberg District, Limpopo Province. A qualitative research approach and a phenomenological research design were utilised. The ecological systems theory and trauma-informed perspective were the underlining theoretical frameworks. Semi-structured interviews were used for data collection from a sample of purposively selected social workers. The study complied with ethical principles. The evidence suggested a need for a trauma-informed organisational structure and workforce in the DSD.

Presenter: Dr. Elizabeth C Erlank, Ms. Rhulani Sherlock Bopape

146. Topic: **Perspectives of state prosecutors on the expected content of forensic social workers' court reports.** (Unique number: 146)

Content: Sexual violence against children is a gross violation of children's rights. Corroborative evidence in these cases is rare. Because of this reason, cases of child sexual abuse, is often referred to forensic social workers for further investigation, who on their turn, will compile a report with their findings and testify in court on the matter. During such testimony, state prosecutors would sometimes express their frustration about forensic social workers' reports. This study aimed to address this aspect and to make some recommendations to forensic social workers, based on the feedback, gained from 12 state prosecutors by means of semi structured interviews, regarding their expectations of court reports. Ethical clearance for the study was obtained from the NWU.

Presenter: Dr. Sufran Smith

147. Topic: **Compassion fatigue among social workers employed in government hospitals – how can we help?** (Unique number: 147)

Content: Social workers in government hospitals are tasked to render social work support services to patients and their families within a multidisciplinary team approach. This qualitative study explored and described government hospital social workers' experiences and reactions to compassion fatigue by applying exploratory, descriptive, and contextual research strategies with a sample of

these social workers in Gauteng. Semi-structured interviews with questions contained in an interview guide. The data was analysed using the eight steps of Tesch (in Creswell, 2014), and data verification was applied. Ethical considerations were adhered to throughout the research process. This study's findings will boost the service delivery offered to patients because social workers who can recognise and deal with compassion fatigue will be able to provide a better quality service. Finally, the study will guide managers and supervisors to recognise compassion fatigue and the importance of supporting social workers in dealing with compassion fatigue and provide content for policy reviews, education and development.

Presenter: Prof. Heiletje Marili Williams, Mr. Clement Motshana

148. Topic: Social Workers reflecting on the intersecting realities within the Transformative Agenda. (Unique number: 148)

Content: While globalization and neoliberalism play a pivotal role in bringing development internationally, grave concerns remain locally in South Africa that many social workers in the Child Welfare organisations contextually interact within deprived under resourced systems which has implications for managing such communities. This paper presents the policies practices and structures that include deliberations on the implementations of political socio economic and global issues that directly impact the day-to-day functioning of social workers in executing their duties. The study adopts a qualitative approach. The findings revealed that despite social workers commitment to a transformative agenda to improve the lived realities of the poor and vulnerable, various contextual and national challenges come to exist and persist within the neoliberal work environment.

Presenter: Dr. Velo Govender

SESSION 4 (7):

VENUE: BREAKAWAY ROOM 4

Session Chair	Fikile Xaba
Session Co-Chair	
149. Topic:	Patient-centered care in HIV/DRTB care: healthcare worker challenges in a KZN hospital. (Unique number: 149)
Content:	The complexities of treating and caring for people with drug-resistant tuberculosis and HIV (DRTB/HIV) demand multiple allied supports. However, few studies have examined how diverse categories of healthcare workers, with

different training, orientation, value base, and roles, work towards patient care. This study used three focus groups to investigate the experiences and perceptions of social workers, pharmacists, and nurses at a centralised TB hospital in KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa. Across the 16 healthcare workers, a lack of specialized training and resources to deliver optimal patient-centered care for illnesses as complex as DRTB-HIV, concern for personal, and routine exposure to two life-threatening diseases were concerns. Each cadre of healthcare workers felt underappreciated by others and stigmatized by other workers in the wider healthcare system through association with DRTB patients. Role overlap, lack of staff development and job-specific training, and an overriding sense of feeling unappreciated hinders patient-centered care.

Presenters: Dr. Boitumelo Seepamore, Prof. Amrita Daftary

150. Topic: **Mentoring Social Work unemployed graduate through the DSI-HSRC mentorship program: The Reflections of Social Work Academics at UKZN.**
(Unique number: 150)

Content: Mentoring has been identified as a key mechanism to assist early career academics with career progression' (Iversen, Eady & Wessely, 2014:). This paper explores the experiences of social work academics who participated in the DSI-HSRC mentorship program that is designed to provide work experience to unemployed graduates. This paper highlights the importance of volunteering to mentor unemployed graduates as a mechanism in building professional capacity of social work graduates. It reflects on the lessons learnt by social work academics on developmental mentoring and good practices, the benefits of the internship program for interns, and for mentors. Due to high levels of graduate unemployment in South Africa, the authors propose and encourages social service practitioners and academics to consider the opportunities that are awarded by similar programs on internship and absorb the unemployed graduates into their workspace.

Presenters: Ms. Babalwa Dano, Dr. Boitumelo Seepamore

151. Topic: **Developing a social development empowerment model for women's participation in poverty reduction programmes in Umzinyathi District-KwaZulu Natal.** (Unique number: 151)

Content: Women who reside in rural areas and farms are particularly marginalized and live in extreme levels of poverty which are below the national income standard. Poverty continues to be on the agenda of many countries in the international arena. The history of apartheid characterised by systematic oppression and marginalisation of 'black citizens has contributed to studies documenting the extent of poverty in South Africa. The study adopts a qualitative approach that has assessed the experiences of twenty women who participated in poverty reduction programmes in uMzinyathi District, in Kwa Zulu Natal. Interpretative Phenomenological Analysis is the design that enabled the researcher to delve into the circumstances of women influencing or impacting their participation in poverty reduction programmes. Further the study was guided by an

empowerment theory which asserts that poverty reduction programmes must consider the social and historical experience of the disadvantaged women in processes of enhancing their livelihood and development.

Presenter: Ms. Nelisiwe Ignatia Vilakazi, Prof. John Victor Rautenbach

152. Topic: **Transformational and epistemic decoloniality: Critical considerations.**
(Unique number: 152)

Content: A complete disruption is required to transform the materiality of coloniality and colonial dynamics of power, being and knowledge. This paper explores 'colonization of the mind as the destruction of history and subjugation of languages. It proposes: 1) understanding epistemic Eurocentrism as the ideological interests of the ruling classes; 2) embracing surrealism, creativity and imagination 3) exercising epistemic disobedience through Southern knowledges; 4) destabilizing colonial hierarchies; 5) refuting the characterisation of knowledge as indigenous; 6) subverting the colonial project of the University; and 7) accepting that there can be no real decoloniality without material transformation.

Presenter: Prof. Linda Harms-Smith

153. Topic: **A conceptual model for Decolonising Teaching & Learning.**
(Unique number: 153)

Content: Since the early to mid-20th century, calls for decolonization have been made across African states, but little progress has been made beyond a mere shift in political power. Africa's underdevelopment persists, while its people increasingly imitate European and North American cultures. Despite extensive research and discussions on decolonization, it seems that true decolonization, especially in education, has not been achieved. This presentation focuses on the tenets of decolonisation in learning and teaching, and how it contributes to knowledge production in Africa. The objective is to advance the broader goals of the decolonial project. The paper reviews existing literature and explores the need for decoloniality and practical strategies for decolonizing academic institutions.

Presenter: Dr. Mpumelelo Ncube

154. Topic: **The role of child and youth care workers in a multidisciplinary team in times of disasters. (Unique Number: 154)**

Content: Multidisciplinary teams are becoming more and more recognised as essential partners needed to respond to devastating natural challenges, especially those caused by natural disasters. Despite this acknowledgement, there hasn't been much research on how child and youth care workers can collaborate with other professions during such crisis. The purpose of this paper is to present the role of child and youth care workers as an integral partner in the multi-sectoral approach to working with young people affected by and vulnerable to disasters and trauma. These unanticipated incidents do significant harm to communities and have a

negative impact on the wellness of children, families and communities. Thus, purporting a multi-sectoral approach is critical to helping vulnerable young people.

Presenter: Ms Mirriam Siluma

155: Topic: Promoting positive role models in gender relational contexts
(Unique number: 155)

Content: Gender based violence (GBV) is a global challenge, affecting everyone including men and does not consider human right as per the South African Constitution. Even though the statistics indicate that majority of the victims are women and children, men are not immune to this challenge. This study followed qualitative approach and desk top review was used for data collection. Empowerment theory served as a lens. Thematic analysis was used to analyse the data. The findings are that there are good men (positive role models) who respect women and children as human beings. These men continue to raise awareness in communities and are leading by example of being good fathers, husbands, brothers, and community leaders. Even though GBV continue to hit the world hard, positive male role models are making a difference in their small spaces. Good practice can be learnt from those men and be adopted.

Presenter: Dr. Matshemo Moganedi, Mr. Buti Kulwane

SESSION 4 (7):

VENUE: BREAKAWAY ROOM 5

Session Chair	
Session Co-Chair	
156: Topic:	Social Protection for Elderly Widowed Women in Uganda: An Afrocentric Perspective (Unique number: 156)
Content:	Social protection programs have been implemented globally as part of poverty mitigation strategies for vulnerable groups. The government of Uganda provides social protection to vulnerable people such as the elderly, but no policy nor program targets female headed households and especially the elderly women. Informed by the Afrocentric perspective, this paper analyses the social protection systems for households headed by elderly widows in Kamuli District. The researcher(s) employed a qualitative case study design to investigate the lived experiences of 30 elderly widows in a bid to understand the related social protection systems. In-depth interviews and focus group discussions were used to gather data and later analysed it using thematic content analysis. Among others, this study found that elderly widowed women experience multiple vulnerabilities related to age and undue burden of poverty. The authors

recommend gender aware social protection policies that also integrate decolonial Afrocentric strategies.

Presenters: Dr. Deborah Atwine, Prof. Mziwandile Sobantu

157. Topic: Mwacha Mila ni Mtumwa: A Critical Exploration of Trauma-informed Approaches in Schools of Social Work in Africa. (Unique number: 157)

Content: Challenging life experiences can impact any individual's present-day functioning and achievement of goals and dreams. This has given rise and endorsement of trauma-informed care and practice globally, including in Africa. This calls for curriculum development as a direct means of transmitting professional ideals and values from current academics to future generations of social work practitioners, activists and researchers. Although some social work academics in schools of social work in Africa adopt radical positionality in their writing and teaching, very few social work programmes incorporate critical perspectives in their social work curriculum. This paper is not questioning people's challenging life experiences, but rather it acknowledges that emotional distress and pain is a reality for many and that it can have harmful consequences. It also emphasizes that transformative social work training ought to include sensitive, helpful, and relational responses - ensuring appropriate social supports and interpersonal connections, rather than specific trauma-based interventions.

Presenter: Prof. Ajwang ' Warria

158. Topic: Advancing Decolonial and Afrocentric Education, research, and Practice. (Unique number: 158)

Content: Critical frameworks that aim to counter the predominately Eurocentric viewpoints in academia and society include decolonial and Afrocentric education, research, and practice. This abstract will make the case for expanding these frameworks through a multidisciplinary approach that incorporates numerous scientific disciplines, including literature, history, sociology, anthropology, and psychology. The decolonial perspective aims to undermine colonial systems of privilege and power that still influence how knowledge is produced and disseminated. Afrocentricity, on the other hand, emphasizes African-centered perspectives and experiences while analyzing societal issues. Together, these concepts support social justice, equity, and inclusion while providing a potent criticism of neocolonialism, racism, and patriarchy. In order to build more inclusive and culturally sensitive environments, this abstract will stress the significance of infusing decolonial and Afrocentric viewpoints into educational curricula, research methodology, and professional practices.

Presenter: Ms. Andiswa Pamella Mdlankomo

159. Topic: An Indigenised Parenting Skills Development Programme Guided by Ubuntu-Based Principles. (Unique number: 159)

Content:	<p>Social work professionals are challenged to decolonise group work practice and incorporate indigenous modalities. Not much has been written on the use of the Ubuntu Bowl with a diverse group of parents who are experiencing challenges in raising adolescents. Observations from practice suggest a need for Ubuntu-based principles to be incorporated in working with diverse parents. An integrative review methodology was used to conduct a bibliographic search on parenting skills development programmes and decolonial/indigenised approaches. The Ubuntu-based principles and the Collective Fingers Theory (CFT) informed the design of the programme. It is recommended that group work curriculum should be indigenised to empower social work students and practitioners to work in diverse contexts. Considering the need to integrate indigenous knowledge systems and practice, the Ubuntu-based principles and the Ubuntu Bowl has proven to be effective in facilitating sharing of knowledge and skills between group members to navigate parenting.</p>
Presenter:	Ms. Kgomotso Ntlatleng, Ms. Thando Msimango
160. Topic	Advancing a Decolonising-First Approach to social work education: Experiences in a social work classroom in Australia. (Unique Number:)
Content:	<p>There is some widespread consensus about the need to create a decolonised social work education but the question remains: how do we do this? There are limited examples of how decolonisation-in-action looks like. Drawing on practical examples and experiences of a black African social work educator teaching domestic and international students in a social work classroom in Australia, the presentation will demonstrate how a decolonisation-First approach was applied to social work curriculum, teaching model, students' assessments, to disrupt social work's complicity in colonising project. Students' reflections on the subject content and teaching approach will be shared to give participants insights into how decolonising curriculum is experienced by end users.</p>
Presenter:	Dr. Sharlotte Tusasiirwe
161. Topic	Building a multidisciplinary workforce for an early childhood home-visiting programme in South Africa. (Unique Number: 161)
Content:	<p>This paper examines the roles and involvement of various disciplines in an early childhood home-visiting programme. These findings emerged from a qualitative study that aimed to develop an early childhood home-visiting programme for vulnerable children in the Eastern Cape province of South Africa. Findings determined that for such a programme the most effective workforce would be a multidisciplinary workforce which brings together local community-based knowledge and professional expertise from across a range of disciplines.</p>
Presenter:	Dr. Kim Schmidt
162. Topic	
Content:	
Presenter:	

SESSION 5 (3):

VENUE: PLENARY VENUE

Session Chair	Frank Rapholo
<p>163. Topic:</p> <p>Content:</p> <p>Presenter:</p>	<p>Black African social workers' historical and contemporary understanding of the social development approach. (Unique Number: 163)</p> <p>Colonialism and apartheid influenced South African social welfare policies. After 1994, democratic laws like the White Paper for Social Welfare were implemented. However, poverty, unemployment, and inequality still marginalise most South Africans. This study (PALAR) uses participatory action learning action research to develop a social work practice approach for African social systems in South Africa—a critical, transformational, and democratic research method. This paper reports on one objective, to understand social workers, and social work educators' historical and contemporary conceptualisations of the social development approach, focusing on Black African social workers. Preliminary findings suggest that social development in South Africa fails to address structural inequalities like race and land, leading to large-scale poverty and unemployment. The approach is welfarist, disempowering, and insensitive to African culture. It also fails to consider the holistic needs of African clients and is not community-based. Social development services are not adequately integrated. South African social work needs to be reimagined.</p> <p>Mr. Nkqubela Aphiwe Jackson Ntloko</p>
<p>164. Topic:</p> <p>Content:</p> <p>Presenters:</p>	<p>Political activism and social work practice in South Africa: A reality or an anomaly? (Unique Number: 164)</p> <p>The study sought to explore factors that inhibit political activism among social workers in South Africa. Grounded Theory, Multiple case studies and Exploratory design assisted in achieving the goals of the article. Data was collected using semi-structured interviews and open-ended questionnaires with social work practitioners in South Africa in their respective private spaces. Data was analysed thematically using content thematic analysis. The general consensus was that the colonial social work curriculum failed to prepare students for political activism and ignored the critical lens towards contemporary systemic and neo-liberal realities which were said to be exacerbating disunity and fragmentation within the profession. The paper is envisaged to set a way forward for further debate on the radical field of social work as a vehicle for the alteration of the social work education in South Africa.</p> <p>Ms. Winnifred Kwakwa, Ms. Prudence Mafa</p>

165. Topic: The use of African Proverbs in Advancing Afrocentric Social Work: A cultural competence practice. (Unique Number: 165)

Content: African proverbs are considered as an integral part of African cultures and are used to share knowledge from one generation to the other for centuries. African proverbs offer advice, teach, or reinforce morals, make an argument, relieve interpersonal tensions, aid in understanding, or to console or inspire others. In this conceptual paper, widely known African proverb such as It takes a village to raise a child, You strike a woman, you strike a rock, and Umuntu ngumuntu ngabantu. Cultural competence practice is used as a framework to demonstrate how African Proverbs can be used during intervention stages in social work practice. The paper concludes that the use of African Proverbs social work will inclusiveness and collaboration with African people and their environment.

Presenter: Dr. Zibonele zimba

SESSION 5 (3):

VENUE: BREAKAWAY ROOM 1

Session Chair	Sandile Dhludhlu
166. Topic: Student's perspectives of supervisory relationship during fieldwork practice at the institutions of higher learning in Limpopo Province, South Africa. (Unique Number: 166)	
Content: Fieldwork placement is a critical component of the Bachelor of Social Work (BSW) curriculum. During fieldwork placement, the students' learning is facilitated by fieldwork supervisor and the development of healthy relationship between the students and the supervisor makes learning easy for students. This qualitative study explored the student-supervisor relationship from the two rural-based universities, in South Africa. The findings revealed that students had varied experiences of relationship with their supervisors, with the majority reporting to have had good and outstanding relationship with their supervisors, while few reported undesirable relationships with their supervisors. It is therefore recommended that consideration should be made by supervisors to improve how they academically relate with their students so as to improve their practical outcomes.	
Presenter: Dr. Jimmy Budeli, Prof. Lobelo Mogorosi, Dr Patricia Manganyi	
167. Topic: Reflections of Social Work Interns on The Experiences of Transitioning from Classroom to Real-World Setting (Unique Number: 167)	
Content: Internships have gained significant popularity as an educational resource for students, bridging the gap between theoretical knowledge gained in the classroom and practical experience in real-world settings (Du-Babcock, 2016). O'Higgins & Pinedo (2018) cited in the Employment Policy Department say that	

there is relatively little solid evidence on the impact of internships on subsequent labour market experiences of young people. Internships are progressively being recognized as a crucial component of the transition from school to the workforce and continue to facilitate a polished shift from the academic setting to the practical world of work (Anjum, 2022). This presentation draws on my experiences as an intern in an academic institution.

Presenter: Ms. Nothando Lubanyana

168. Topic: **Capacitating Students in Field Training.** (Unique Number: 168)

Content: This paper highlights the challenges faced by social work students during their fourth-year field placements. The research was conducted among social work students at two historically disadvantaged universities in South Africa in order to understand the field experiences of final-year Bachelor of Social Work students from historically disadvantaged universities. A qualitative study was undertaken among current and past social work students. The findings highlighted issues pertaining to limited placements, poorly managed student placements, access to communities, and supervision challenges. However, the key findings indicate that once placed, the students felt abandoned by their training institutions and left to rely solely on their field supervisors for academic, administrative and developmental guidance. The study recommends that universities be more adept at fulfilling the needs of students and providing comprehensive support. The study also recommends that a suitably administered system of communication between the university, student and placement agency be implemented as part of the comprehensive support to students.

Presenter: Dr Varoshini Nadesan

SESSION 5 (3):

VENUE: BREAKAWAY ROOM 2

Session Chair:	Ms. Sithuthukile Myeni
169. Topic:	Decoloniality as total disentanglement with modern capitalist and neo-liberal complex: A social work perspective. (Unique Number: 169)
Content:	Decolonial scholarship is gaining traction and currency in the Global South, particularly in the social and human sciences. A plethora of critical scholars has emerged and thoroughly engaged with the notion of decoloniality as a concept and process from a variety of dimensions that significantly enriched the discourse. The ground swelling of narratives proves ripe for consolidation and actioning. Many in the academy have been questioning the practicability of decoloniality as an epistemic and political movement. Thus it is critically important that the discourse progresses to practical application and actioning. However, there are critical transformative prerequisites at structural and systemic

levels for decoloniality to find practical application. Notwithstanding the consensus amongst scholars in the Global South that coloniality emanates from the Euro-North American-centric modernity, not much progress has been registered towards total de-linking with the modern capitalist and neo-liberal complex of global power relations. Meanwhile, the socio-economic, cultural, and political conditions of the present in the Global South not only highlight the endemic problems created by the Euro-North American-centric modernity, but also the extent of ineptitude of theories/knowledges generated from a Euro-North American-centric context to assist in addressing such problems.

Presenter: **Mbazima Mathebane**

170. Topic: **The influence of the African Worldview on the socialisation of urban African youth: Implications for social work practice.** (Unique Number: 170)

Content: The contentious and paradoxical relationship between the silenced African worldview and the dominant European worldview has become a major concern and a source of frustration for various sectors within the African social fabric. The visible effects of enculturation and the resultant sense of identity crisis continue to cause a sense of unease among African parents and various social structures and cultural systems. African parents are faced with various challenges including the valorisation of European/western ways of living at the expense of African ways. The study explored, described and interpreted the influence of the African worldview on the socialisation of black youth among African families in order to distil its implication on social work practice with African youth. The study followed a qualitative research approach. The findings reveal that discipline and respect are at the centre of cultural socialisation of children in urban African families.

Presenters: **Mbazima Mathebane, Mrs Z.G. Makhaba.**

171. Topic: **Coloniality: a major hindrance to effective integration of social work theory into practice.**

Content: The disintegration of social work theory and practice has been a topic of concern over recent years. This qualitative study aims to explore the perceptions of social workers on factors hindering their application of social work theory into practice in order to gain an in-depth understanding of this phenomenon. Non-probability, in particular purposive sampling, was applied to select participants for the proposed study. Data was collected through semi-structured face-to-face interviews, noting and recording the responses after obtaining permission from the participants. The findings of the study gave light on the perceptions of social workers on factors hindering their application of social work theory into practice. The findings demonstrated how the lack of fit between the social work curriculum and the demands of the practice environment makes it impossible for social workers to apply what they were taught during training. Recommendations included amongst others the need to decolonise the social work curriculum and practice.

Presenters: **Mbazima Mathebane, Mr D.M. Monyama**

SESSION 5 (3):

VENUE: BREAKAWAY ROOM 3- (Fully online presentations)

Session Chair	Leon Holtzhausen
172. Topic:	Boetto’s Transformative Eco-Social Model for Social Work as a way to address Ecological Social Work and Environmental Citizenship in South Africa (Unique number: 174)
Content:	The role and responsibilities of social workers over the years had to adjust according to the specific needs and challenges, which at the time presented themselves and required the social work profession to adjust. It is believed that the social work profession once again is at a crossroad where a possible paradigm shift is needed if it not only wants to match the rapid changes of the 21st century, but also wants to stay relevant in its service delivery to communities and vulnerable populations. Boetto’s “Transformative Eco-Social Model for Social Work” is proposed as the way forward as the characteristics of this model address aspects such as ecological literacy and justice, indigenous perspectives, eco-feminism and criticality, the incorporating of global perspectives, a focus on sustainability and de-growth, and rethinking the concept of wellbeing.
Presenter:	Dr. Issie Jacobs
173. Topic:	Big Five Personality Traits and Elective Co-Parenting among LGBTQ Populations. (Unique Number: 173)
Content:	This presentation discusses a study examining the mediating role of perceived social support and subjective well-being in the relationship between Big Five personality traits and actively seeking an elective co-parenting (ECP) partner. The study includes a vulnerable population facing challenges due to societal norms and a lack of professional knowledge in marital and family counseling. Data from 212 participants in Israel were collected using questionnaires to assess the ECP. The results indicated positive correlations between conscientiousness, agreeableness, and extraversion with perceived social support. Perceived social support, in turn, was positively related to seeking an ECP partner. Emotional stability and extraversion were also positively related to subjective well-being, which was also positively associated with seeking ECP partners. These findings suggest that specific personality traits may influence perceptions and potentially explain the decision to seek ECP.
Presenters:	Dr. Nir Wittenberg
174. Topic:	
Content:	
Presenter:	
175. Topic:	
Content:	

Presenter:	

SESSION 5:

VENUE: BREAKAWAY ROOM 4- Workshops 1 and 2

Session Chair	Tuelo Masilo
176. Topic:	Co-generating indigenous and decolonised curricula from the ground: An imbizo for the helping professions (Unique Number: 176)
Content:	<p>We are six social work academics from five different universities in South Africa researching in a project funded by the NRF that spans three years (2021-2023) entitled: Decolonising and indigenising the social work curriculum by co creating African knowledge production incubators at higher education institutions. The imbizo (workshop) aims to interact with academics, students, researchers and helping professionals so as to critique, reflect and share their experiences of decolonising and indigenising their teaching, learning and practice within the historically colonial work and study environments. The first segment of the workshop entails a brief presentation of the work done thusfar which is aligned to the following main project objective: To tell stories of our lived experiences of being an African. The next segment of the workshop will be based on prompts pertaining to colonialism and higher education to encourage critical self reflection culminating in robust conversations among participants linked to the following project objective: To share our experiences of the curricula we teach and our own contribution to decolonial/indigenous knowledge production. The final segment will draw the main thrusts of the workshop to a logical conclusion encouraging further personal reflections among the participants within their professional spaces.</p>
Presenters:	Dr. Nevashnee Perumal, Prof. Veonna Goliath, Dr Mbongeni Sithole
177. Topic:	African knowledge production incubators: Approaching indigenous and decolonised social work from the ground up through stories of our lived experiences (Unique Number: 177)
Content:	<p>In keeping with the social work principles of doing no harm, respect for diversity and upholding human rights and social justice, it is imperative to decolonize the social work curricula in universities with the goal of shifting Euro American centric knowledge systems to the fringes and centering African knowledge. Six social work academics from five universities in South Africa embarked on an African Knowledge Production Incubators project using PALAR methodology. This paper reports on our first incubation aligned to the project's first objective viz. telling stories of our lived experiences of being an African. Our stories</p>

reflected the richness in the traditions and rituals we inherited from our ancestral and local knowledge holders and wisdom bearers. The key learnings translated into guidelines for the extended incubation and the decolonisation of the social work curriculum.

Presenters: Dr. Nevashnee Perumal, Prof. Veonna Goliath, Dr Mbongeni Sithole

SESSION 5:

VENUE: BREAKAWAY ROOM 5- Workshops 3 and 4

Session Chair	
<p>178. Topic:</p> <p>Content:</p> <p>Presenter:</p>	<p>South African Social Workers Unemployment: Opportunities within Customary Initiation Act 2 of 2021. (Unique Number: 178) Workshop 3</p> <p>Male initiation ceremonies have historically played a significant role in South African society. Most people who follow these traditions are from the Xhosa, Zulu, Sotho, and Ndebele ethnic groupings. A rite of passage from adolescence to manhood, the initiation ceremony is seen as a significant cultural and social event. Older men with knowledge of the community's traditions and customs supervise the initiation procedure. These men oversee imparting knowledge about cultural values, obligations, and customs related to manhood. They are frequently seen as mentors or advisors for the initiates. Social workers must safeguard vulnerable populations in accordance with their legal, ethical, and professional obligations. Indigenous knowledge is a recognized foundation for professionalizing social work, therefore social workers are expected to be culturally competent and ethically engage with various clients. The Customary Initiation Act (Act No. 2 of 2021) gives social workers the chance to offer counselling to initiates and their parents, particularly in the event of a death. The Act also gives social workers who have undergone initiation the chance to employ their newly learned abilities as initiation school principals and caregivers. The unemployment of social workers may be addressed by such an opportunity.</p> <p>Mr. Andrew Spaumer</p>
<p>179. Topic:</p> <p>Content:</p> <p>Presenters:</p>	<p>Gender based violence of substance abusers during the Covid 19 pandemic. (Unique Number: 179). Workshop 4</p> <p>The presentation will address the manner in which Gender Based Violence manifested during the Covid 19 pandemic in relation to people with substance abuse disorder. The content is rather more experiential than research driven with the use of case studies to illustrate major content.</p> <p>Mr. Clifford Matthews.</p>

POSTER PRESENTATIONS

<p>180. Topic:</p> <p>Content:</p> <p>Presenter:</p>	<p>Multisector responses to young people and teenage pregnancy</p> <p>The poster presentation will focus on the Multi - Sector responses to young people and teenage pregnancy by looking at the different sectors such as the social work, education and health care sector on how they respond to teenage pregnancy and how they help young people through teenage pregnancy since it can be traumatic for young people and make them to be more vulnerable.</p> <p>Ms. Sinqobile Gumede</p>
<p>181. Topic:</p> <p>Content:</p> <p>Presenters:</p>	<p>Supportive social work supervision: A model for social work supervisors</p> <p>Social work practice is demanding on practitioners. Social workers handle high workloads and are often exasperated by the administrative demands associated with their duties. Dwindling resources further frustrate them and so do the ever-changing landscapes of social, political and health aspects brought forth by globalisation, technological ties, emigration and environmental challenges. Against this backdrop, there is a need for purposeful and constructive supportive social work supervision in practice. Consequently, this paper presents the supportive social work supervision model. The model was developed using the intervention design and development (D&D) methodology. The model is derived from findings of exploring the nature and the extent of supportive social work supervision amongst social workers employed in Mpumalanga Province of South Africa. During the exploration, the mixed method approach, i.e. the QUAN-qual sequential dominant status-design, was adopted and data was collected through a self-developed questionnaire from social workers and through semi-structured interviews from supervisors</p> <p>Dr. Gladys Bhuda</p>
<p>182. Topic:</p> <p>Content:</p>	<p>Coming together to overcome, educate, support each other and rebuild hope for rural community using Ubuntu: Narratives of academics, community leaders and the Shembe women of Umbumbulu Community, South of Durban, KwaZulu Natal.</p> <p>The community of uMbumbulu rural community located in the South of Durban, like many rural areas in South Africa lack resources including financial resources that affords them every day living. The uMbumbulu Community Empowerment Drive is a research projects that identified mental health education support as a major challenge as many had lost loved ones in 2020-2021, however, the deaths were never a result of the Covid-19 virus. Additionally, the province was hit by floods in April 2022 forcing the initial project deal with additional trauma and assist with basic necessity in order for families to bury loved ones with dignity. We identified Weyer’s community asset-based community-led development (ABCD)to engage with communities. The team also followed a systematic process</p>

that follows 4 steps; community organizing, visioning, planning and implementation and evaluation.

Presenter: **Ms. Nyameka Mbonambi.**

183. Topic: **Psychosocial Damage to children who experience sexual and physical abuse in Mafikeng, Ha Motoko, Lesotho**

Content: Child abuse, encompassing sexual and physical forms, is prevalent worldwide, often perpetrated by close relatives. This study explores the psychological and social repercussions of sexual and physical abuse on children, incorporating insights from victims, caregivers, and key informants. Results reveal a host of negative consequences, including symptoms of post-traumatic stress disorder, depression, impaired relationships, and social isolation. Promoting awareness campaigns and educating caregivers on handling cases of abuse is recommended. The study aligns with interpretivism as the research paradigm and employs a qualitative approach and study design. Data collection was premised on in-depth interviews, which was meticulously analyzed and organized with the utilization of narrative and conservation data analysis techniques. Ethical considerations, such as confidentiality, informed consent, and trustworthiness were integral to the study's implementation.

Presenter: **Ms. Mashoeshoe Kalaoane, Ms. Nkotseng Mokhele, Ms Thato Mphatle**

184. Topic: **Access to HIV-Testing Services Among Adolescents and Young People: Evidence to Strengthen multi-Sectoral Response**

Content: Despite notable progress in HIV prevention and treatment, adolescents and young people (AYP) encounter specific obstacles when accessing these vital services. This study aims to provide evidence-based insights to strengthen the multi-sectoral response to HIV testing services (HTS) among AYP in tertiary institutions in Nigeria. An exploratory qualitative study was conducted in four geopolitical zones in Nigeria, using in-depth interviews, comprising 10 participants (1-2 per campus) purposively selected from six campuses. Nigerian campuses offer inadequate HTS, and barriers such as limited awareness, insufficient access to HIV prevention commodities, and suboptimal services from campus clinics deter AYPs from accessing HTS. Furthermore, there is a lack of collaboration between tertiary institutions and other sectors in addressing this health challenge. Strengthening multi-sectoral collaboration between tertiary institutions and relevant sectors can enhance the impact of HTS among AYP. This requires a harmonized framework that prioritizes AYP on Nigerian campuses.

Presenter: **Mr. Charles Nwaigwe, Mr. Emmanuel Nwala, Prof. Mogomotsi Ntseane Dolly**

185. Topic: **Deconstructing Stereotypes: A Clinical Examination of Femmephobia in Gay, Bisexual, and Queer Men's Health Perspectives**

Content: This research investigates the psychological impact of femmephobia on gay, bisexual, and queer men, focusing on the neglected conceptual differences between self-actualized and assigned/essentialized femininity. Femmephobia, interlinked with homophobia, exerts social pressure on men to present more masculine, often leading to the suppression of femininity. This study utilizes the Femininities Scale, based on Femme Theory, to assess the varied ways respondents enact or construe femininity, contributing to a more nuanced understanding of gender dynamics in these populations.

The research aims to illuminate the gendered phenomenon brought forth by the Femininities scale, particularly relating to the mental and social well-being of gay and bisexual men. It seeks to fill the gap in research that potentially overlooks key conceptual differences between self-actualized versus assigned/essentialized femininity. By exploring the psychological impact of feminine multiplicities such as Patriarchal, Hegemonic, Essentialized, and Femme, the study will add to the limited literature that considers the multiple dimensions of femininity as a constructed unitary concept. This research seeks to promote positive role models in gender relational contexts, by challenging femmephobia and advocating for the acceptance and celebration of diverse gender expressions in gay, bisexual, and queer men's populations.

Presenter: Mr. Justin Brass, Ms. Victoria Mendonca, Ms. Amanda Godes

186. Topic: Exploring the Meaning and Life Satisfaction of 60 to 90 year-old Retired Individuals in Gamalakhe Township, Ray Nkonyeni Municipality: South Coast Of KwaZulu-Natal

Content: The research study was a qualitative study from empirical research evidence. The aim of the study was to explore the meaning and life satisfaction of 60 to 90 year-old retired individuals. To understand the lived experiences of participants as unique individuals. The retired individuals face a multitude of social, economic and psychological challenges. They fall victims of rejection, isolation and social scorn. These experiences often lead to anxiety, depression and suicidal ideations.

Data collection was conducted through in-depth qualitative research interviews. The study was conducted during Covid-19 pandemic; therefore interviews were telephonically. The participants were selected purposefully. Thematic analysis of the transcripts revealed seven themes. Evidence shows that meaning and life satisfaction can be maintained during retirement age. The recommendations include that (i)Government should strengthen Laws and Policies which protects the elderly from abuse and neglect. (ii)The society should unlearn harmful myths and dangerous stigma associated with old age.

Presenter: Ms. Pumeza Mpepho

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