



DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

CHILD PROTECTION SERVICE PACKAGE

1. INTRODUCTION

The service package includes services to children admitted in Child and Youth Care Centres and services to abused and neglected children.

2. STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

Provide integrated services to children in need of care and protection.

3. PRINCIPLES

- Respect, protect, promote and fulfil the child's rights set out in the Bill of Rights, the best interests of the child standard set out in section 7 and the rights and principles set out in this Act, subject to any lawful limitation;
- Respect the child's inherent dignity;
- Treat the child fairly and equitably;
- Protect the child from unfair discrimination on any ground, including on the grounds of the health status or disability of the child or a family member of the child;
- Recognise a child's need for development and to engage in play and other recreational activities appropriate to the child's age; and
- Recognise a child's disability and create an enabling environment to respond to the special needs that the child has.
- If it is in the best interests of the child, the child's family must be given the opportunity to express their views in any matter concerning the child.
- The right of the child to express his or her own views freely
- Child participation
- Confidentiality
- The right to life, survival and development.
- The right to a name and nationality

4. VALUES

- Responsiveness
- Accountability
- Professionalism
- Honesty and Integrity
- Fairness and Equity
- Respect and Dignity

- Teamwork and Partnership
- Openness and Transparency
- Innovation
- Quality

5. DEFINITIONS

'abuse', in relation to a child, means any form of harm or ill-treatment deliberately inflicted on a child, and includes-

- assaulting a child or inflicting any other form of deliberate injury to a child;
- sexually abusing a child or allowing a child to be sexually abused;
- bullying by another child;
- a labour practice that exploits a child; or
- exposing or subjecting a child to behaviour that may harm the child psychologically or emotionally;

'child' means a person under the age of 18 years;

A child and youth care centre is a facility for the provision of residential care to more than six children outside the child's family environment in accordance with a residential care programme suited for the children in the facility, but excludes-

- a partial care facility;
- a drop-in centre;
- a boarding school;
- a school hostel or other residential facility attached to a school;
- a prison; or
- any other establishment which is maintained mainly for the tuition or training of children other than an establishment which is maintained for children ordered by a court to receive tuition or training.

6. LEGISLATIVE FRAMEWORK

- ❖ The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (1979) (UNCRC)
- ❖ African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (1990)
- ❖ The Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, 1996
- ❖ The Children's Act No. 38 of 2005
- ❖ The Films and Publications Act, 65 of 1996 as Amended 2004
- ❖ Probation Services Amendment Act, (Act No 35 of 2002)
- ❖ South African Schools Act, Act No. 84 of 1996
- ❖ Social Assistance Act (Act no13 of 2004)
- ❖ Probation Services Act, 1991 (Act no.116 of 1991)
- ❖ Domestic Violence Act (Act no. 61 of 2003)
- ❖ The Child Justice Act (Act no. 75 of 2008)
- ❖ Sexual Offences Related Matters Amendment Act no 32 of 2007

7. TYPES OF SERVICES/PROGRAMMES

Programmes implemented in Child and Youth Care Centres:

- **Therapeutic programmes**
 - Developmental assessment
 - Individual counselling

- Debriefing and trauma counselling
- Grief counselling
- Group counselling
- Psychosocial care and support
- Referral to other professionals
- Play therapy
- Family therapy
- Counselling to children in child labour, commercial sexual exploitation and trafficking
- Family group conferences
- **Developmental programmes**
 - Life skills
 - Victim empowerment
 - Family preservation
 - After care
 - Income generating activities
 - Independent living for children disengaging from the residential care programme
 - Attendance of formal schools
- **Recreational programmes**
 - Sport
 - Art
 - Drama
 - Dancing
 - Singing
 - Board games
- **After care services**
 - Support services to families
 - Reconstruction
 - Supervision
 - Family reunification

8. REGISTRATION MATTERS

Child and Youth Care Centres are registered in terms of section 191 of the Children's Act, Act 38 of 2005. Documents needed for registration:

- ❖ a certified copy of the constitution or founding document of the child and youth care centre;
- ❖ a certificate issued by the municipality in which the child and youth care centre is or is to be situated certifying that the premises in which the centre is or is to be accommodated complies with all structural, safety, health and other requirements of the municipality and any applicable legislation; and
- ❖ Constitution

- ❖ Daily programme
- ❖ Menu
- ❖ Names and qualification of all staff members
- ❖ Job descriptions of staff
- ❖ Organogram
- ❖ Clearance certificates issued by the Director-General and the Director-General of Justice and Constitutional Development, respectively to the effect that the names of any member of the management board and staff members appointed in terms of regulation 84 and that of any employee do not appear in Part B of the National Child Protection Register or the National Register for Sex Offenders, respectively.
- ❖ Financial statements of the child and youth care centre including an exposition of the funds available to operate the child and youth care centre;
- ❖ Programmes offered
- ❖ NPO registration certificate
- ❖ Lease agreement, proof of ownership or permission to occupy land
- ❖ Emergency plan;
- ❖ Structure of facility

9. PREVENTION AND PROMOTION

- Prevention and early intervention programmes
 - Outreach services
 - Education, information and promotion
 - Therapeutic programmes
 - Family preservation
 - Life skills programmes
 - Parenting skills programmes
 - Diversion programmes
 - Early Childhood Development

INDICATORS

INDICATOR	TARGET
Number of children in need of care and protection placed in Child and Youth Care Centres	Children and families