



Youth Inclusion and Accountability Manifesto

This manifesto has been presented to:
Department of Social Development
One Child One Family Hope and Homes for Children on South Africa
University of Leeds
and
THRIVE

On 21st September 2022

The aim is for the young people's voices to be acknowledged and considered by those responsible for the care and safeguarding of the children in South Africa.

This is for those in authority to make care reform a priority, child participation a new norm and child inclusion a new culture in our country.

Care Reform (*Change*) Manifesto

The purpose of this manifesto is to advocate for children in South African communities. To voice out our wishes, requests, goals in matters concerning us as young people.

We say together in One Voice.

- I. We want to exercise our constitutional rights as young people without being discriminated against irrespective of age, background, race, disability, sexuality, and gender.
- II. We want to actively participate in processes concerning our lives.
- III. We want to be granted an effective platform to discover ourselves and be able to lead.
- IV. We want to be empowered to be able to lead with responsibility and accountability.
- V. We want equal access to opportunities which includes but not limited to social services, medical services, educational services, freedom of speech practises.
- VI. We want to be supported in everything we do by those in authority and by those responsible for the wellbeing and safety of children in South Africa.
- VII. We want to see accountability through discipline and courage by those responsible for us as young people.

We call-to-action all the people in South Africa to ignite care reform in South Africa!!!

Palesa Tshwane (*Desmond Tutu Child & Youth Care Centre*)

Nompumelelo Motaung (*Rearabilwe Community Care Centre*)

Joshua Domingos (*First Community Resource Centre CT*)

Betty Manoto (*MCK Special School for the Deaf*)

Lethokuhle Vilakati (*Rearabilwe Community Care Centre*)

Ntuthuko Sikhosana (*MCK Special School for the Deaf*)

Thimna Lee Somerset (*Walter Sisulu Child & Youth Care Centre*)

Mfanafuthi Munyai (*Mary Moodley Child & Youth Care Centre*)

Lorenzo Stevens (*First Community Resource Centre, CT*)

I pledge to support the young people in achieving the above:

Lourenza Foghill

HHC SA Director

Date:

Professor Paul Cooke

Centre for World Cinemas and Digital Cultures

School of Languages, Cultures and Societies

University of Leeds

Date:

Vivian Bojomo

DSD Provincial Director of Institutions

Date:

Debra Clelland

THIVE

Date:

“Our Voices Matter”

Quotes from the Young People

“In the near future, I hope that there can be equal education for Deaf people as is for hearing. I hope to see more doctors, lawyers, engineers, designers from the Deaf community.”

Ntuthuko Sikhosana

“Love is important ESPECIALLY to us as young people”

Nompumelelo Motaung

“EQUAL opportunity and access for all.”

Joshua Domingos

“Youth have outstanding intelligence...we strive for independence and not dependency”

Lethokuhle Vilakati

“Let’s prove we are the rainbow nation by showing inclusivity”

Lorenzo Stevens

“We see but our mouth is silent, our democracy doesn’t allow us to voice out”

Palesa Tshwane

“Integration is better than segregation in the empowerment of youth”

Palesa Tshwane

“As a young person, there are a lot of processes that I might not understand, but what I know is that I want to belong a community”

Mfanafuthi Munyai

“Families must know and understand who we are as deaf people”

Betty Manoto

“Involve me and I will learn – when children are involved in decision making processes, they become accountable and responsible for their actions”

Thimna Lee Somerset