



Western Cape Strategy that aims to reduce the scourge of child murders in the province



By Jacqueline Hoorn
NICRO WC Area Manager

30 July 2019

Cape Town - Nearly 500 fatal child abuse cases are reported yearly in South Africa with deaths most likely to occur in children under the age of five getting killed by someone close to them. **Cape Argus, 4 June 2019**



Saartjie Baartman Centre holding a silent protest against child abuse. Picture: Ayanda Ndamane/African News Agency (ANA)

Vision

To build and strengthen a democratic society, based on human rights principles, through crime prevention and people centred development.

Mission

NICRO, as a national non-profit organisation, regards crime as a threat to democracy and individual rights.

Through people centred development and services to victims, offenders and communities NICRO strengthens a human rights culture and a safer South Africa.

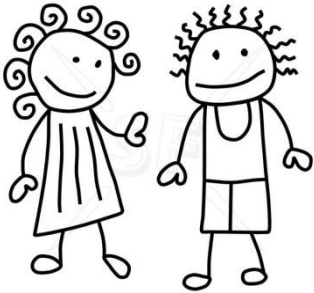
To this end NICRO engages in lobbying and advocacy, capacity building, direct service delivery and research. NICRO adheres to the principles of good governance and sound environmental practices.

History

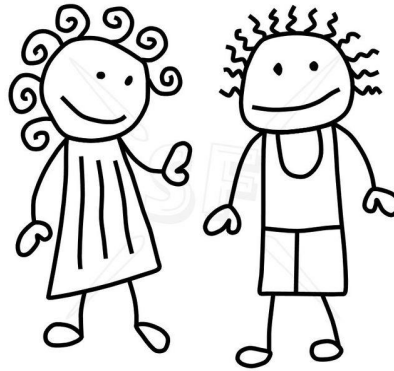


- Established in 1910, 109 years old.
- Prisoners Friend Service at magistrates' courts - 1935 and 1960, -more than 500,000 petty offenders, who could not afford to post bail/pay a fine, kept out of prison.
- Early probation service, pre- and post-trial community service and diversion.
 - Together with Lawyers for Human Rights and senior state prosecutors in Cape Town, NICRO pioneered the first formalised diversion programme.
- NICRO –advocated an alternative approach to sentencing, on basis of restorative justice principles.
- Community Victim Support & Holistic Programme for Intimate Partner Violence
- Crime prevention in schools
- Offender Reintegration

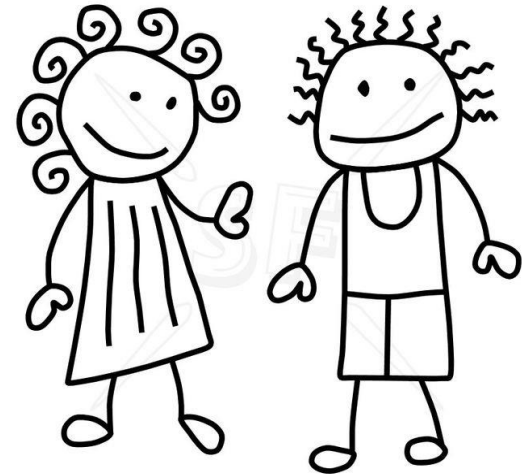
Beneficiaries' *Categories*



Children (>18)
16%



Youth (18-35)
58%



Women (>35)
64%

Men (>35)
16%

Content

- 1. Statistics of what are children dying from;
- 2. Root causes
- 3. Core Interventions
- 4. NICRO interventions
- 5. Other Interventions
- 6. Need for Coordinated response and other Gaps

Identifying some of the root causes

- Poverty & malnutrition
- Child abuse & neglect
- Children unsupervised- single parents, absent dads, overcrowded housing, parental addiction.
- Exposure to violence
 - Violence in home create violence outside – Why are Family homes no longer safe??? – **Absent Parents - Harsh, inconsistent parenting – no accountability (debateable)**
 - Violence in community (**gangs as role models, children caught in cross fire**)
- Unresolved pain of abuse and trauma, poor emotional regulation- Create aggression as child, as adolescent, as partner especially in intimate relationships and often the child becomes the victim
- Substance addiction- children, adolescents

Core Interventions

- Strengthening the Child Protection system
- Family strengthening and preservation (core social work service, includes parenting skills, reintegration post removal, family therapy etc)
- Comprehensive support services to victims of child abuse and trauma.
- Adolescent development and support
- Proper nutrition

Western Cape Strategy that aims to reduce the scourge of child murders in the province – by addressing the root causes

Family Interventions should include:

- Single Parent
- Extended families
- Foster families;
- Same gender;
- Care-giver families;
- Primary Carer

Focus on Positive Parenting

- Challenges faced by parenting and the impact on child development
- 75% of children born from unattached relationships –mostly unplanned
- 75% of children born are born in poverty
- Poverty constitutes a particular risk for parenting –including malnutrition
- 50% of children receive no maintenance from the other parent
- Parenting has a direct impact on a child's behaviour and affects their ability to reach their full potential
- Harsh, inconsistent parenting, exposure to violence at home and in community increase risk that a child will also use violence, or be the victim of violence themselves
- Corporal punishment has an adverse effect and support use of violence as a tool to settle disagreements or negative behaviour

Western Cape Strategy that aims to reduce the scourge of child murders in the province – by addressing the root causes continues

By implementing Positive Parenting means:

- Warmth, Consistency and non-violent forms of discipline
- Exercising supervision over children appropriate to their developmental stage
- Attachment most important aspect
- Collaborative intervention strategies should be implemented in the multi layered challenges the child and family face in Western Cape and greater South Africa.
- DSD, DOJ, NPA, DCS, DOE and NGOs to name a few – however all need to stand and work together
- e

Collective interventions-different agencies- promoting a collaborative approach

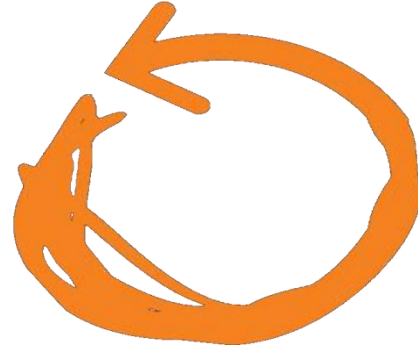
Therapeutic Interventions	School Based Intervention	Family Interventions	Community Intervention
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Breakthrough Camp• Group Therapy• Individual Therapy• Family Therapy• Referrals• After Care	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Life Skills• Educational support• Sport and recreation• Classroom interventions and school liaison• After Care	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Proactive Parenting• Father's Group• Fathers Camp• Home Visits• Concrete support• After Care• Graduation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Community awareness campaigns• School based campaigns

Current interventions from other Organizations

- **Children's Rights and Positive Parenting (CRPP):**
- -MenCare –Positive Parenting, equal parenting & GBV
- -Ending Corporal Punishment (in schools and at home e.g. Sp Case)
- -Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) – young people
- -Parental Leave

References

- Cape Argus
- Saartjie Baardman
- Child Welfare
- James House
- Sonke Gender Justice



*...turning lives around for a safe,
sure, secure South Africa!*

THANK YOU

Contact Details:

- Jacqueline Hoorn

NICRO Western Cape Area Manager

021-4221690; jacquelineh@nicro.co.za