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EMBALINI

CHILDREN & YOUTH CENTER

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ATTENTION: Ms PHUMLA NYAMZA

Responding to the call of verbal and written submissions on the prevention of and treatment for substance abuse bill, the above mentioned institution would like to comment as we are dealing with these kind of problems.

The lack of proper parenting in our society has negatively impacted on our children and youth. The number of street children is very high, not only in our city centres but also in our townships. The number of children and youth that are not attending school is very high.

Here in the Buffalo City Municipality in East London our children and youth do not have access to the rehabilitation programmes as we have private halfway houses which do not admit people who do not have money. Our hospital doctors do not co-operate with parents in assisting their clients. (The unspeakable)

There is not a single centre for our youth who abuse substance. Our hospitals do not want to help or they do not have a clear direction, there is lack of information. The government officials also are not properly trained in dealing with parents of patients who need their assistance.

Proposed solutions:- Compulsory

1. Clinics and hospitals must offer the most medical treatment for complications and withdrawals. (Law enforcement)
2. The government must fund treatment and prevention programmes.
3. Proper trained community members should be roped in for the establishment of community-based services.
4. Community based organisations should be assisted in establishing programmes for after care and reintegration services.

Thanking you in advance

Yours in Child Care
Buyiswa Nodini (Ms) - Programme Director.

N.B. We would appreciate if we can be given a chance to make further verbal presentations.