

# COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT SOCIAAL PEDAGOGISCHE HULPVERLENING

INFORMATION	
Campus Site	Stenden South Africa
Department	Internship Community Office
Target Groups	Students of 'Sociaal Pedagogische Hulpverlening' (SPH)
Minor coordinator South Africa	Mzamel Dikeni: Mzamel.Dikeni@stenden.com
Entry level and Conditions	(Conditional) Positive Study Advice
Availability	Module 1,2,3 and 4 / Unlimited applicants

## BATHURST COMMUNITY CENTRE

The community centre functions as the major NGO in the area. It is home to a crèche, after school care for children from the primary school, computer laboratory, old age day care, home based care, HIV/AIDS support group, single parent support group, large play ground, and a vegetable garden. As an intern you will be involved in the daily activities of the after school care, in addition you will be involved in the home based care service. During your work for the home based care service you provide home visits and assist people where needed. They provide counselling, assist people to the clinic, crisis intervention, educational support, assisting people in dealing with governmental institutions regarding applications for grants, birth certificates, ID's etc. For the afternoons you will develop and implement an activity program for the local scholars who go to the after school care. You will execute a play/sport program, an English class, and teaching life skills developed by the current interns. Every week you will have meetings to discuss the plan of action with the coordinator and the volunteers. In addition, you will assist in computer classes, home work and providing food for the children.

Challenges for Bathurst Community Centre:

- Getting students involved in all the facilities of the organisation
- Expanding the organisation itself, it can become a multifunctional centre offering services to all aspects of the community
- Students getting more involved in the managerial aspects of the organisation
- Create more stability in the group of volunteers, currently the group is changing too often; people are not fully committed and come and leave as they please, not motivated. Set up a manual for volunteers; employ volunteers, what is expected, rules, etc.
- Assist Boniwe with applications for governmental funding as well as fundraising activities
- Maintain and develop the HIV/AIDS support group and Single parent support group
- Provide counselling to the HIV/AIDS support group and Single parent support group
- Get involved in fundraising events

## PHUMELELA

Phumelela Youth Development is a new organization in Port Alfred that is helping orphans and vulnerable youth with homework, school projects, school uniforms, counselling, career planning, life skills, meals, outings and extra mural activities. The organization wants to keep disadvantaged high school learners in a safe environment while providing them with information, skills, recreation and meeting their basic needs. The intern will be assisting Noluthando Mabaso, the coordinator, by providing home work counselling for the youth and teaching them life skills

Challenges for Phumelela:

- Establish the organisation (funding) in order to create sustainability
- Establish a group of volunteers who can help the youth with their home work



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## ENKUTHAZWENI

Enkuthazweni means 'empowerment', it is a school for mentally handicapped children and children with special needs. The school is divided into three groups with each about ten pupils each. There is a 'skills group' for the ones who are mentally too slow to follow class. They create things or do drawings. The 'primary groups' consists of about ten young children who learn the ABC's etc. The 'classroom group' is a more advanced group and learns English and Xhosa reading and numeracy. Once a week the 'classroom group' goes to Pick 'n Pay supermarket to work and gain practical skills in different fields.

Because of their lack of concentration they work for 1,5 hours and have half an hour breaks in between. They receive a lunch at the premises, which is partly financed by school fees and the Harris Soup Kitchen. In addition, they have a very big and well maintained vegetable garden which provides a small income for Enkuthazweni.

As an intern you will be involved in teaching numeracy, English, art, and life skills, organizing games, creative activities, and music. You will also provide assistance to those who need individual attention and assist the teachers in developing the contents of the teaching program. You will get involved in doing home visits in order to assess the home situation of the children. Besides you will focus on counselling individuals as well as teaching life skills.

Challenges for Enkuthazweni:

- Documentation on individual learners including plan of action, background of child, and family context
- Integrate advanced learners in mainstream schools and establish proper guidance for those learners
- Integrate learners in society
- Develop a plan of action for the older learners who actually have to move on from Enkuthazweni to another place because they are
  - getting too old; day care for disabled people, integration in businesses, work 1 or 2 days a week
  - Apply for disability grants for learners of 18 years and older
  - Application for NPO status as well as funding from the Social Development Department

## HOUSE OF HAPPINESS

The house of happiness is an old age service centre that offers a day care/activity facility for the elderly people in Nemato. The coordinator of the centre is Boniuee Qoloma and she receives assistance from a constantly-changing group of volunteers. The centre offers lunch and snacks provided by the Harris Soup Kitchen.

The current interns have developed an activity program for the elderly, expanded the vegetable garden, provided board games and other creative materials. It is hard for the volunteers at the House of Happiness to execute the activity program and therefore need assistance from the social work intern. It will be very challenging for the intern to motivate the coordinator and volunteers in showing more interest and taking initiative. Currently some ladies are knitting and making necklaces or bracelets out of beads and selling them, the intern can assist them in this activity. As an intern you will assist Boniuee with e.g. writing letters, invitations, business plan for funding applications, and requests to the municipality.

Challenges for House of Happiness

- Improve the centre (activities, funding) in order to guarantee its sustainability
- Implement the activity schedule
- Motivate volunteers
- Establish cooperation between the centre and crèche
- Improving facilities



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## CHILD WELFARE PORT ALFRED

Enkuthazweni means 'empowerment', it is a school for mentally handicapped children and children with special needs. Child Welfare South Africa is a national organization that offers her services in un-serviced and under-serviced communities. Child Welfare is driven by volunteers and is the largest non-profit and non-governmental organization in the country in the fields of child protection, childcare, and family development. For example, Child Welfare distributes clothes and food and creates awareness programs, e.g. drug and alcohol abuse and teenage pregnancy and various other activities for children in communities. They support people with applications for birth certificates, ID documents, grants, etc., assisting children in the ongoing adoption process by a foster family when these children have lost one or both of their parents.

As a social work intern you will do home visits to gain insight in the foster child's home situation and evaluate how the child is doing and if there are any problems. The interns will be involved in writing extension reports if the child will be able to stay in the foster family or discharge reports when the child can't stay in the foster family. You will write these reports for the Court in order to get a court order whether the child can or cannot remain in his foster family. In addition you will provide one on one counseling for the children at the local primary school, 'Ikamva Lesizwe Combined School'. The current interns have developed a manual for foster parent training including, five workshops about general stages of child development, communicating with a child, money management, how to help a child coping with loss, and how to integrate the foster child into the family. The workshop is to prepare the prospective foster parent on their new role. It contains role games, educational activities and (self) reflection.

Challenges for Child Welfare:

- Child Welfare is a well established organisation but in terms of challenges for the students; they must be actively involved in all aspects of the organisation at all times.

## INGUBO

INGUBO is a day care centre for the street children from the township. The main reasons why these children are on the streets are the circumstances at home. In many cases there is not enough food at home and the children go to the dump to search for something to eat or empty bottles they can sell to earn some money to buy some food. Another reason why the children are on the streets is that most of them do not have a school uniform or shoes for school. As a result they drop out of school. However, alcohol abuse by the caretakers is a reason and in the worst cases it is domestic violence that drives the children to the streets. Most of the time, it is a combination of all factors. The children often have a low self-esteem and have lost all hope for a better future. Therefore Ingubo aims to provide the children with their basic needs, counselling, and a support network to help them rebuild their lives and self-esteem, and give them back hope for a better future. Ingubo provides a safe and encouraging environment where the children are offered meals provided by the soup kitchen, daily activities, counselling, skills training, sports, homework supervision, assistance in going back to school, assistance in applying for their birth certificates and ID books, team building/survival weekends, and creating a social support network.

The current interns have, with Ingubo's mission and goals in mind, developed Ingubo extensively. They have booked a lot of successes. They were able to build a relationship based on trust with the clients. They organized outings with the clients including camping weekends based on survival skills and group dynamics for those children who attend school every day. They offer individual counselling for the clients and try to encourage them to go back to school. They managed to assist 17 children to enrol in school again since January 2011. They established a good relationship with ABET (adult education) to provide education for those clients who are too old for regular education. They developed a contextual structure for every child which means that they don't only offer their services at the Ingubo premises but also established a relationship with the schools and the home situation regarding the child.

As an intern you are expected to modify the existing project plan as well as documenting the clients' files. At Ingubo you are faced with the challenges of motivating and supervising the volunteers. You might have to create a clear and structured manual of what is expected of the volunteers, their daily tasks, and how they are expected to approach the clients.

Challenges for Ingubo:

- Develop a strategic plan of action
- Documenting the clients' information
- Motivating volunteers and employ suitable volunteers
- Renovating the new Ingubo building
- Establish new management for Ingubo
- Develop a weekly activity program
- Establish a good security system for the new Ingubo building
- Extend the counselling for the child to its immediate surroundings. We have to look at the whole family structure and provide help and support where needed to improve the child's situation.
- Register Ingubo as a NPO and apply for subsidies from the department of social development.