



04 MAY 2010

## CHILD PROTECTION MONTH

**Meyerton, Gauteng –04 MAY 2010 = CHILD PROTECTION MONTH**

Issued to: All Local Media

**SAFETY** in the home and on the roads, dealing with strangers and safe surfing on the internet are some of the areas that must be addressed particularly in the month of June. Many parents are not even aware of the information that their children are exposed to on the internet which threatens their emotional development as well as their lives.

2010 Soccer World Cup is a buzz word to many – positive and negative. This month the school holidays are scheduled for much longer and children will be vulnerable to child trafficking, hi-jacking and child prostitution.

Protection and safety of our children and youth is of great concern to us at Midvaal and this month we aim to circulate positive messages, information and to give guidance to parents on child safety and protection. Parents need to be informed on how to safeguard their children and children also need to be taught how to safeguard themselves.

This campaign will be implemented in partnership with different role players, NGO's and volunteers from our community.

Volunteers, general public support and participation throughout this campaign is crucial in order for us to safeguard our children from harm in Midvaal. Issues such as child molestation, child abuse and serious neglect are dealt with by the social workers from Midvaal in a professional and confidential manner.

In support of child protection month further out reach programmes will take place in most of our rural areas. This will be an ongoing process even after the 2010 Soccer World Cup Spectacular.

This project will include a 24-hour one stop service for all victims of incidents with a specific focus on after-hours and weekend intervention services for children and families at risk.

Child trafficking and prostitution are also unknown sections of child abuse and people within our communities do not realise that it is currently affecting residents of Midvaal and the Vaal Triangle as a whole.

A workshop will take place on 12 May 2010 at the Meyerton Town Hall to train people on how to identify and act when confronted with child abuse. People who are interested in attending the workshop can register at the Midvaal Social Services Offices in De Deur or contact the following persons listed below:

Fazela Saley (016) 360 5850  
Dalene Venter (082) 335 8111

For Media Enquiries Please contact Mary Sanderson on (016) 360 7627

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