

Differentiated Service Delivery for Key Populations

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Enabling Environments for Differentiated KP Services: Sex Work Advocacy

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HIV Learning Network The CQUIN Project for Differentiated Service Delivery



Enabling Environments for Differentiated KP Services:

DECRIMINALIS

SEX WORK NO

Sex Work Advocacy

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Sisonke Sex Workers Movement in South Africa, National coordinator Sisonke Best Practice to Achieve Aims are through the Implementation of the followings:

- 1. Leadership and capacity building
- 2. Human rights defense
- 3. Advocacy for decriminalization
- 4. Institution building through the development and strengthening of Provincial offices and National office



1. LEADERSHIP & CAPACITY BUILDING

- Hold Creative Space Workshops to develop Safe Spaces for Sex Workers to focus on issues that concern them.
- Conduct Regular Outreach to Recruit Membership, Reconnect with Existing Membership and Explore new ways of Organising.
- Undertake Condom, Lubricant and IEC material Distribution with aim to cascade Information Sharing through indoor & outdoor Outreach as well as to educate sex workers
- We train sex workers with Sisonke owned developed training Manual (Rights Based Self Development) Sex workers are trained on a variety issues pertaining to movement building.



2. HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENCE

- Mobilize Sex Workers to speak out about the Human Rights abuses they experience
- Offer Emotional Support and Express Solidarity with Sex Workers who speak out through a Court Support Program.
- Encourage the use of the National Helpline by Promoting the toll-free number.
- Conduct Human Rights Workshops amongst Sex Workers.
- Capacitate Sex Workers in Peer Education and Paralegal Support.

3. ADVOCACY FOR DECRIMINALISATION

- Support local efforts to meet with Provincial and Local Leaders, Speaking Confidently about DECRIMINALISATION
- Participate in Media Liaison, highlighting Local Sex Worker Concerns
- Participate in Local Organisations, Service Providers or Provincial Structures, representing Sex Workers and promoting the Health & Human Rights of Sex Workers (eg:) in Provincial Aids Council



4. INSTITUTION BUILDING THROUGH THE DEVELOPMENT AND STRENGTHENING OF PROVINCIAL AND NATIONAL OFFICE

- Capacitating Provincial Office Bearers to oversee the Smooth Running of the Organisation.
- Ensure Infrastructural Capacity of Sisonke in all Provinces
- Ensure capacity within Sisonke is built at all levels

Meaningful Participation: Creation the of meaningful participation of sex workers is essential to build trust and establish relationship, sex worker organizations become more empowered partners should provide technical assistance and support. Allies play an important role in facilitating the meaningful participation of sex workers, with community self-management the shared goal is best practice of greater results. Key Pops are intersectional in nature finding sex workers who are transwomen and are injection drug users is a common cross section - Therefore, having Sisonke partner and work with other stakeholders, government, NPO's and service providers is paramount to ensuring that collaborative best practice models are utilized to their full potential.

KEY POPULATIONS COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP (health)

- Aligning Sisonke Sex Workers Movement with organizations that offer stigma and judgement free services such as: HIV prevention, family planning, STI screening and treatment, PrEP, HTS
 - By ensuring the above services are being offered at either a fixed site or via a mobile vehicle organisations are better positioned to provide sex workers with services in the communities
 - Sisonke has a long history of working with Department of Health, Anova, Health 4 Men, Global Fund, and partners all over South Africa to ensure that sex workers are informed of their health care rights
 - Addressing the 95 95 95 targets within the Sex Work Key Pop would not be possible without buy in from Movements like Sisonke
 - 95% of SW who know they're status, who are on treatment and are virally suppressed are targets Sisonke is invested in

KEY POPULATIONS COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP (Social Services) 1

- The training of sex worker peer educators all over the country ensures that sex workers are able to receive counselling services from their own peers
- Having Counsellors, Social Workers and partnering up with institutions (e.g UCT, UWC, SACAP, UNISA) better
 positions Sisonke in spaces where psycho-social health services are paramount to addressing SW needs as a key
 pop
- Further to this our sensitization training of social workers nationwide assisted us in breaking down many of the social nuances and barriers that decrim causes when it comes to access to social services.
- Social Media outlets like Facebook, Instagram and Twitter enables Sisonke and other sex workers to voice their lived experience further giving those in the non key pop community insight into the lives of sex workers
- This view is often quite different from what the general population assumes sex workers to be (or how they should behave)

KEY POPULATIONS COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP (Social Foot Print) 2

- Other formats where Sisonke ensures its footprint and relevance is by taking part in research studies
- These are often funded by donor organisations who need to understand how sex workers lives are impacted by the laws, by stigma, by healthcare and by policies that often put women and the LGBTQAI Sex workers at risk
- Other endeavours undertaken by Sisonke includes Human Rights Defense Training, Sensitisation of the Police and empowering sex workers with movement building activities
- Lastly having marches and Community Advisory Meetings also enable the movement to get its message across to non key pop members of society

SISONKE ACHIEVEMENTS

- Participated in the implementation of National Strategic Plan (NSP) for HIV, TB and STI (2017-2022).
 - Mission is to "eliminate HIV, TB and STIs as public health threats by 2030".
 - Outlines goals and activities towards achieving those goals, in collaboration with government bodies.
- Sensitization Training led Sisonke to the Dignity Diversity Training (DDT) trained as champion of DDT at Provincial level



SISONKE NOW

- Sisonke is now registered as an NPO and has presence in 9 provinces;
- Sisonke is officially the seat of the National Sex Work Sector of South Africa;
- Sisonke has Human Right Defenders in 3 Provinces
- Sisonke DOES NOT work in isolation we develop partnerships across the country to support sex workers.

