



GIVE A CHILD A FAMILY AFRICA

NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2024

CHILDREN BELONG IN SECURE FAMILIES

APRIL HIGHLIGHTS: EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES

Monica Woodhouse Honoured for Human Rights Advocacy

Monica Woodhouse (Executive Director at GCF) recently received a Citation of Honour from the South African Human Rights Commission, recognising her steadfast commitment to human and children's rights. In her acceptance speech she expressed deep gratitude by giving credit to her family, colleagues at Give a Child a Family Africa, friends, and various supporters for their pivotal roles in her journey. She highlighted the significance of human rights as the foundation of our shared humanity and stressed the need to advocate for children's rights, especially in securing them loving and secure families.

Monica's current involvement as the Chairperson in the South African National Child Rights Coalition (SANCR) focuses on ensuring children's rights are upheld and advanced as a national priority. She urges for collective action in standing against injustice and oppression, emphasising that human rights demand active engagement and continuous efforts for a more equitable world.



Empowering Against Gender-Based Violence

Our recent collaboration with Citizen Justice Network has brought forth a crucial workshop in Phoenix, with the primary objective to empower senior citizens against the pervasive issues of Gender-Based Violence (GBV) and Femicide in our communities.

A diverse group of stakeholders, including Give a Child a Family Africa, SAPS, Lifeline, educators, social workers, and journalists from Wits, converged to share invaluable insights. Nozuko Mkhwalo from GCF emphasised responsible parenting and early boundary-setting, and discussions (steered by GCF's Thuli Shoji and Monica Woodhouse) delved deep into topics like Psychological First Aid, Support Groups, children's rights, and community initiatives aimed at tackling safety concerns head-on. The enthusiasm and support from the 68 attendees, despite the sensitivity of the topics, were truly inspiring.



GCF Launches Project for Child Safety

We are happy to announce that GCF has launched a new Protective Behaviours (PB) project. Led by our very own senior PB facilitator, Monica Nomlala, the project has kicked off with the training of the first group of Early Childhood Development (ECD) teachers. The initial training paves the way for sessions aimed at educating parents and children within the ECD centres they represent.

With many years of experience, GCF knows that it is a life-changing personal safety life skills programme, with a focus on preventing grooming and sexual abuse of children and youth. Over this year, this particular project will be implemented across eight ECD centres in our area.



Renewal and Connection: The First Social Work Forum of 2024

GCF has held its first Social Work Forum for the year, an event the local social workers always look forward to. These forums, held several times every year, serve as an invaluable platform to recharge and forge meaningful connections in a relaxed and welcoming environment.

The day took place at the beautiful River Valley Nature Reserve, just a stone's throw from GCF. It was filled with various activities to promote well-being and good health, including games, group exercise, an inspiring and very motivational talk, as well as tasty bites of food.



GCF goes to Sweden

Monica Woodhouse and Anna-Karin Öhrnstedt are gearing up for a trip to Sweden, where they will be engaging with both familiar faces and new connections on behalf of GCF. Their calendars are already filled with meetings, site visits and informative sessions scheduled from 15 May onwards, spanning several weeks.

If you would like to connect and are based in Sweden, please don't hesitate to reach out to Anna-Karin at anna-karin@gcf.org.za.



Join Us for a Walk That Makes a Difference!

Get ready to step up and support a cause that matters! Our upcoming walk isn't just about taking steps; it's about taking a stand for child protection. Whether you join us locally or virtually, your participation fuels our mission to create a safer world for children everywhere.

Let's Walk Together for Change!

Get your tickets here: <https://qkt.io/OUR6IH> or you can make a donation via our website and use your NAME and WALK as the reference.



If you want to know what we get up to on a more regular basis, make sure to follow us on Facebook or Instagram @givechildfamily



EVERYONE CAN DO SOMETHING! MAKE A DIFFERENCE TODAY AND BECOME A MONTHLY CONTRIBUTOR OF GCF'S WORK.

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