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activists networking against the exploitation of children

Anex Masenzeni Utshintsho Annual Youth Conference: Call for proposals

Background: Anex is a Cape Town based Children's Rights organisation that has Child Labour as its focus. Organisational programmes include Child Labour, Human Trafficking and Youth Development.

The Youth Development Programme, Masenzeni Utshintsho, has been active in the Central Karoo since 2007. The programme has graduated from initially offering craft skills workshops to life skills camps in Cape Town and currently to opening Youth Outreach Centres in the District.

The first Youth Conference was held in Beaufort West in 2007 focusing on Rights, Realities and Responsibilities. There were 57 youth in attendance from various places in the Western Cape, namely Hanover Park, Stellenbosch, Worcester, Laingsburg, Leeu Gamka, Beaufort West and Murraysburg. The product of this conference was a pledge signed by all conference attendees that guide programme design and direction.

Focus: The Youth Conference 2009 will be taking place at the Anex Youth Centre in Beaufort West on the 2nd and 3rd of December. The conference will be working towards a strategy that sees stakeholders and community partners working together and sharing resources to increase their rural outreach in terms of youth. Therefore it will be looking at the effectiveness of services provided to youth currently; the gaps created by stake holders provided as a result of duplication of services; and finally the role of youth participation.

Requirements: The conference would like to have youth representatives in attendance from all nine towns in the Central

Karoo District. However, due to limited space, only two delegates from each town can be accommodated.

In order to be considered, the youth representative must be aged between 15 and 19; write a letter of motivation as to why they should be selected to attend the youth conference; as well as write a short biography of themselves. Applicants must ensure that are available from the 2nd to the 5th of December.

All transport and accommodation costs of successful applicants will be covered by Anex.

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