

Jewish Community Services

23 June 2014

IASWG SPARC PROJECT FEEDBACK REPORT – JEWISH COMMUNITY SERVICES, JOHANNESBURG, SOUTH AFRICA

1. INTRODUCTION

This report is in accordance with the agreement entered into with the IASWG SPARC Project Committee in July 2013 at which time Chevrah Kadisha Social Services (aka Jewish Community Services) received funds from the Project Committee for the purchase of multi-media equipment to be used in the facilitation of our organisation's group work programme. We are pleased to report the following progress and achievements.

2. PROGRESS OF THE PROJECT

Since receipt of the funds from the SPARC committee Chevrah Kadisha Social Services has included the use of multi-media sessions in each of our group programmes as intended in our original proposal. The equipment has also been used for the facilitation of training of social services staff members in the facilitation of DBT Skills as well as workshops for the public in the Gottman Seven Principles Programme as part of our organisation's ongoing Marriage Enrichment Programme. Furthermore the equipment has been used during the facilitation of our monthly Enrich Your Life series of awareness and prevention information presentations to approximately 200 members of the community addressing a range of relevant psycho-social issues.

Since the time of receiving the funds and the purchasing of the equipment in August 2013 the following groups were facilitated and incorporated multi-media sessions:

- Basic parenting skills group
- DBT (Dialectical Behavioural Therapy) skills group
- Divorce support group
- Adolescent experiential group
- Domestic violence support group
- Support group for caregivers of the elderly
- Parenting skills group for parents of adolescents
- Parenting skills group for parents of children aged 2-10
- Support group for family members of people with addictions
- Ongoing monthly support group for single mothers

3. EVALUATION OF ACHIEVEMENT OF OBJECTIVES

The objectives to have been achieved at the time of the proposal requesting funding from the Project Committee were two-fold:



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- to enhance the quality of the groups being facilitated through the incorporation of multi-media material into the individual group programmes, and
- to formalize and expand the group work programme of our organisation.

Both of these objectives have been achieved.

As per the original proposal evaluation of each completed group was completed both verbally and on a formal group evaluation form completed by the group members. Each of the groups facilitated were positively evaluated by the participating group members of the groups indicating an achievement of the broad aims of the groups as well as individual group member's needs. Feedback from both group members and group facilitators has suggested that the inclusion of the multi-media material enhanced the quality of the groups allowing for the inclusion of previously unavailable material such as video clips, presentations/slides and diagrams.

The group work programme of our organization has been expanded to include the facilitation of several new groups in 2014 over and above the re-facilitation of the groups originally proposed at the time of requesting funds. These groups are:

- Support group for unemployed males
- Anger management group
- Support group for people who have experienced bereavement

It is anticipated that the group work programme of our organization will continue to expand in an attempt to meet the needs of the community we service in an effective manner. Proposals are currently being explored for a further two new groups that will be included in our programme for 2015.



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