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 [My LinkedIn Profile](#)

KUBESHNI GOUNDER

I am a qualified and passionate Social Worker with over 17 years' experience working with vulnerable children and their families. I have several years' experience working in a therapeutic environment and possess extensive knowledge of social work principles, techniques and practices. Throughout my career, I have lead several social work teams towards managing and promoting child protection services and programs.

WORK EXPERIENCE

JUNIOR LECTURER: UNIVERSITY OF THE FREE STATE
January 2019 – present
Department of Social work

TEAM LEADER LEARNING SUPPORT CENTRE
St. Gregory Primary School
January 2017- Present

<http://www.stgregory.co.za>

Overview of a Function as LSC Team Leader

- To provide social work services to learners, parents and the school who experience psychosocial barriers within the context of the learning site.
- Conduct individual assessments
- Respond to crises such as child abuse, gender based violence, parental substance misuse, domestic violence within the home etc.
- Referral to relevant agencies and child protection agencies
- Multiagency working with various service providers in the area
- Development of training manuals for academic staff regarding Child Protection
- Consultations for academic staff
- Parent consultations
- Overall management of the LSC, including supervision of the Occupational Therapist

January 2016-December 2017- returned to South Africa

AREA TEAM MANAGER
Highland Council / United Kingdom
September 2011 – December 2015

<http://www.highland.gov.uk/>

Overview of Function as Area Team Manager:

- Leading a Social Work Team with the objective to provide services to children, young people and families in collaboration with partner agencies and in line with policies, procedures and guidelines

EDUCATION

MASTER OF ARTS DEGREE:
Clinical Work
Rand Afrikaans University
South Africa
2003 – 2006

BACHELOR OF ARTS DEGREE:
Social Work & Psychology
University of Durban Westville
South Africa
1993 - 1996

**POST GRADUATE
CERTIFICATE:**
Child Protection
University of Dundee
South Africa
2007 - 2008

MEMBERSHIPS

MEMBER / South African Council
for Social Service Professions
(SACSSP) – 10-18-410

COMPETENCIES

- Good Communication Skills
- Moral and Intellectual Integrity
- Patience
- Humanity
- Empathy
- Compassion
- Self-Control and Tolerance
- Diplomacy
- Initiative
- Acceptance of Diversity
- Cultural Awareness
- Leadership and Mentoring

WORK EXPERIENCE / CONTINUED

Overview of Function as Clinical Head of Department:

- Responsible to lead a team of 9 social workers and their clinical work to provide emergency care services for children in need of immediate removal from an abusive environment, court preparation of child witnesses and forensic court reports.
- Working closely with other non-profit organizations such as *People Opposed to Women Abuse* (POWA), Child Welfare Societies, The Teddy Bear Clinic, Nkosi's Haven etc.
- Working with various local and international media outlets to provide media representation and exposure of Childline services.
- Mentoring of final year clinical psychology students as part of their curriculum; delivering training on child sexual abuse to final year medical students.

Achievements:

- Promoted from Senior Clinical Therapist to Clinical Head of Department.

SENIOR CLINICAL THERAPIST

Childline Gauteng / South Africa

January 2002 – March 2003

- Assessing vulnerable children and providing therapy for traumatized children and their families, through various therapeutic techniques.
- Counselling of children and family member for the following: grief counselling, survivors of abuse and neglect, HIV/Aids patients, sexual abuse and behavioral pattern therapy.
- Preparing witnesses for court; preparation of forensic court reports.
- Collaborating with service providers such as *South African Police Services* (SAPS), the Justice Department, Social Workers and School Teachers.

FOSTER CARE, SUPERVISION AND REUNIFICATION WORKER

Johannesburg Child and Welfare Family Society / South Africa

September 2001 – December 2001

- Oversee the foster care program:
 - Supervising foster placements
 - Completing court reports, court enquiries and investigations
 - Rendering reconstructive services to foster families
 - Statutory work.

SOCIAL WORKER

ESTCOURT AND DISTRICT CHILD AND FAMILY WELFARE SOCIETY

South Africa / September 2001 – December 2001

- Providing therapeutic, supportive and preventative counselling to families and individuals. This involved group therapy programs and individual counselling for victims of violence and abuse.
- I facilitated life skills development programs for substance abuse, crisis intervention and stress management when removing abused and neglected children from families.
- Attending to statutory requirements including court reports and enquiries.

AREAS OF EXPERTISE

- Clinical Practice
- Social Work Practice
- Child Welfare
- Cases of Child Abuse, Neglect and Sexual Abuse
- Group Therapy
- Counselling
- Behavioral Counselling
- Staff Mentoring and Development
- Case Management
- Witness Interviewing
- Court Preparations

LANGUAGES

English (Native Speaker)
Afrikaans
Zulu

TRAINING/WORKSHOPS

- Working with Mothers of Sexually Abused Children
- Counselling of Sexually Abused Children
- Working with Young Offenders
- Witness to Violence Interviews with Children
- Family Group Conferencing
- Family Therapy
- Indigenous Family Work
- Crisis Intervention Counselling
- Forensic Work
- Appearing as an Expert Witness in Sexual Abuse Cases
- Courageous Work with Adult Survivors
- Music Therapy Techniques with Abused Children
- Creative Group Work with Counselling and Skills
- Preparing Children for Court
- Child Prostitution and Trafficking
- Joint Investigative Interview Training / 2008
- Working with Vulnerable Families / 2009
- Natural Joint Investigative Interview Train-The-Trainer / 2010
- David Howe, Master Class – Attachment / 2011
- Clinical Supervision / 2012
- Adult Support & Protection / 2012
- Video Recorded Interviewing of Child Witnesses / 2012