



Advancing safety
in relationships, homes
and communities

SAFE Conference 2024

Tuesday, 05 March 2024 and Wednesday, 06 March 2024

ARRANGED BY

SAFE Coordination Platform

VENUE

Novalis Ubuntu Institute

SAFE Con2024

Executive Summary

We officially launches Strengthening Actors for Effective Preventive Response (SAFE-PR), at The Novalis Ubuntu Institute, Wynberg, Cape Town.

The SAFE Platform, or Strengthening Actors for Effective Preventive Response (SAFE-PR), is an initiative developed by MOSAIC Training Service & Healing Centre to coordinate local domestic violence (DV) prevention and response efforts in three South African communities.



Stakeholders and Duty-bearers across the 3 platforms in Paarl, Philippi and Mitchell's Plain; connecting on the strategic plans for 2024

Day 1

Registrations & Welcome

Welcome and getting to know each other exercise. Stakeholders were given name tags to find the person on the tag as an ice-breaker and getting to know each other activity.



SAFE Conference participants playing "Name Tag bingo" to get to know one another's names.

Co-creating successful SAFE Conference

- Building relationships/Networking
- Capacity building
- Collectively build a strategic plan.

Rules of Engagement :

What will make the SAFE conference safe?

- Respect.
- Team effort.
- Being comfortable with sharing.
- Communicating with each other.
- Listen before responding.
- Confidentiality.
- Time management.
- Be forthcoming about "Not knowing".
- Speak the truth with love.
- H – Humanity
U – Unconditional acceptance.
G – Genuine.
E – Empathy.



Framing of the SAFE Conference

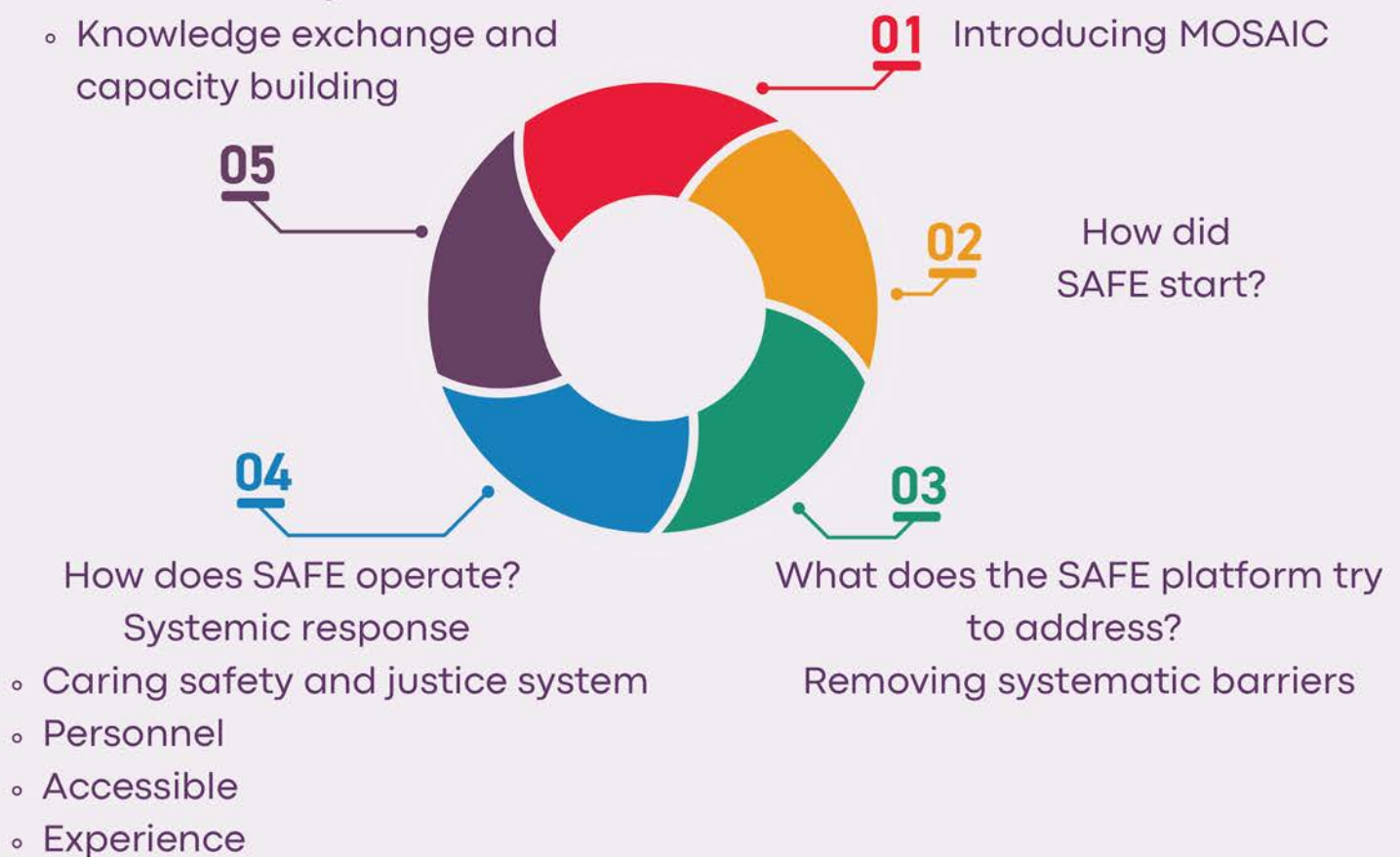
- Thembani Dyule, SAFE Platform Coordinator

SAFE Presentation

- Tarisai Mchuchu-MacMillan, Executive Director with MOSAIC

Four pillars that SAFE platform works on:

- Relationship building
- Victim-centered approach
- Accountability and reinforcement
- Knowledge exchange and capacity building



Questions & Discussion Time

What is GBV?

Responses from the SAFE Conference participants:

Facilitated by a Senior Social Worker & Co-Facilitator with MOSAIC

1. Household where either the husband or wife is being abused.
2. GBV is linked to power dynamics
3. Created by a hierarchy of men controlling women.
4. Violence that affects the persons
5. Includes sexual, physical, economical, psychological
6. Violence based on gender
7. Violence in the home/gender/race
8. All kinds of abuse
9. Done to individuals who are considered weaker than the perpetrator
10. Abuse involves manipulation
11. Perpetrators are women and men
12. Violence between the two genders
13. Violence against women, men and children

How do we respond to GBV (responses):

1. Listening
2. Making sure that you reach out to authorities.
3. Support, report, educate, empower and refer.

How to ask the right questions to do the best referral?

1. Be lead by the 5 Ws and H:
Why, What, Who, When, Where and How?

How do we help well in a way that prevents re-victimisation?

1. Monitoring of TCC by stakeholders.



How do we respond to GBV practitioners as Stakeholders and Duty-Bearers?

1. Work with psycho-social support.
2. Encourage the reporting of cases.
3. Support the reporting of cases.
4. Provide and hold the safe.
5. Compassion and empathy.
6. Refer
7. Let the issue be about the client and not about you.
8. Provide guidance
9. NEVER SAY, "I know what you're going through."

ACTION POINTS/POINT OF CONCERN:

1. Many police stations in Paarl lock their gates at a certain time and refuse entry after a certain hour.
2. The questions asked by the police are victimizing the individual who is trying to seek help and report a case.
3. Question: What are we doing to hold these police stations accountable? (OMBUDMAN was present and shared a presentation, see attached).



Mental Wellness – Lee-Ann Jones (Soft copies shared here)

- What does debriefing look like for SAFE practitioners?



Day 2

- Welcome and check-in
- Recap on rules of engagement.
- Session by Pauline Perez – Safety Coordinator.
 - Overview of safety priority in the Western Cape
- Take-away from day 1 and expectations – (feedback provided on flip chart paper)
- Session by Abigail Lewis – Police Ombudsman of Western Cape

ACTION POINT:

PowerPoint slides to be shared (SAFE WhatsApp Groups)

Questions and feedback based on the session:

- Is there intervention within schools and communities for the boy child as it related to child/teenage pregnancy?
- We need more engagement within our society regarding sexual and reproductive health with younger children (primary school going children).

- Parenting skill workshops need to be accessible within our communities.
- We need to interrogate problem statements, and evaluate our objectives and approaches. We need to evaluate our resources and capacity.
- Approaches, research and models need to be context specific.
- Is there a seat available for civil society to engage with department stakeholders regarding the stats and research that is being produced?
- Is the research and stats a true reflection of the reality?
- As we strategize, is our approach accessible to all of society, or just a certain percentage.

ACTION POINT:

Share Pauline's contact details in the SAFE WhatsApp group.



Share contact details of Ombudsman Office to the WhatsApp group

Email: Abigale.Lewis@wcpo.gov.za OR
ombudsman@wcpo.gov.za

Two Investigating Areas:

- Breakdown in policing.
- Poor/lack of service delivery.

Requirements to file a complaint:

- ID
- Copy of the complainant's ID (if you're reporting on behalf of someone else).
- A written note giving person to report on behalf of the complainant.
- Complaint form.
- Cannot deal with an anonymous complaint.
- Any complaint that is SAPS related can be reported.

Session Protection Orders

- Kerryh Rehse, Advocacy Specialist for MOSAIC

1. The protection order process
2. Safety monitoring notice
3. Where can you apply for a protection order:
 - Magistrates court
 - Online via email

ACTION POINT:

Share Kerryh's handout on the WhatsApp group.

REFLECTION QUESTIONS:

1. As SAFE members, how do we raise awareness on what's available, and how do we support our local police stations as it relates to the safety monitoring notice?
2. What are the areas of the law we need to be trained on?

Session on what does effective referral look like?

- Rene Daniels

1. There has to be a record of the referral (either copy or email). There needs to be evidence of referral.

2. The original has to be given to the client/patient.

3. Referral methods:

- WhatsApp
- Hardcopy letter
- Email
- Telephonic calls
- In-person

4. Referral pathway:

- The first step to building an effective referral pathway is to find out who is working in the community – **COMMUNITY MAPPING.**

5. How effective has the referral been on WhatsApp?

- There is a lack of communication.
- What we communicate may put the client at risk. Sharing too much detail.
- There is a lack of response.



- There is a lack of feedback.

6. How do we utilise the WhatsApp group in an effective way?

- Needs to be structured – a standardised SAFE referral form.
- Communication needs to be clear.
- Do not expose too much detail.

ACTION POINT:

Add DSD after hours contacts to WhatsApp group

Strategic planning breakout sessions.



Stakeholders and Duty-bearers signing a pledge to commit to the strategic planning co-created at the Conference.

● THE END



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