

SEXUAL & REPRODUCTIVE JUSTICE
COALITION

ANNUAL REPORT 2019



SEXUAL & REPRODUCTIVE
JUSTICE COALITION



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DIRECTORS STATEMENT

The world has changed enormously in a few months. I am writing this during the first week of lockdown in South Africa due to COVID-19. Reflecting on our year of work for 2019 seems surreal as we practice physical distancing and social solidarity and our future seems uncertain.

2019 was a year of consolidation and organisational strengthening as the three of us in the office have worked to put in place sustainable systems and ways of working. Our annual report presents reflections and highlights of our year as a voluntary association of over 200 members working towards sexual and reproductive justice in South Africa.

Thanks for sharing the journey, keep safe

MARION STEVENS

SRJC DIRECTOR



FROM THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

It is a great honour and privilege to be the chairperson of SRJC Management committee, a small organisation that represents a large association of activists who are fighting for sexual and reproductive justice. The SRJC continues to be a critical voice in a world that is ever changing, where across all quarters, the gains that many of our members' advocate for, are eroded by right wing and conservative governments. It is therefore important to keep the coalition going and make sure that it is a space where individuals, who often work alone in their organisations, government departments etc. can have a sense of solidarity with others.

Despite the challenges we face globally, SRJC is also a reminder of what brave and fierce advocates can achieve when they continue challenging the conservative rhetoric. We end 2019 with some victories such as the Reproductive Justice Election Campaign that held all political parties to account for how they are addressing reproductive justice in their election manifestos. The details of the campaign are in this report. We also end the year with the loss of two key members, Leigh Davids and Cheryl Fillis. We will continue to remember them and will continue to carry their spirits in our work.

2019 was also a year of renewal, where we asked our members to review our reason to exist by filling in our online survey. We wish to thank everyone who took the time to fill it in and give us their insights on how we can continue shaping a stronger voluntary association. As a Management committee we are committed to serving the SRJC and invite members to give us ideas of how we can improve what this organisation can do. We look forward to continuing to advocate for reproductive justice with you.

Lebo Ramafoko

INSTITUTIONAL GROWTH



Team building retreat at McGregor in January 2019
Marion Stevens, Imameleng Masitha and Fatima Fredericks

A restorative time was held debriefing and reflecting on the past year. Learning from challenges and planning for the New Year. At the board meeting in February, we adopted <http://srjc.org.za/vision-and-mission/srjc-ways-we-work/> as a code of working collectively and we would like to share it as a reference.

INSTITUTIONAL GROWTH

In 2019 the SRJC became fully independent from WISH Associates as their fiscal sponsor. In 2016 at our onset we developed a strategic plan and theory of change, now three years later it was time to update this. We engaged in an organisational process where members provided input via online survey. Through this process members were invited to nominate or self-nominate if they would like to be part of the management committee, noting particular skills needed. A management committee training was conducted by Shanaaz Majiet who addressed issues of governance, dealing with institutional biases as well as roles and responsibilities. This also resulted in new office bearers being appointed including Lebo Ramafoko as Chairperson and Dango Mwambene as Deputy Chairperson.

Leigh Davids (Passed away - 27 February 2019 at 04h00. Rest in Power)
In November 2019, on Transgender Day of Remembrance we launched a call on behalf of her family to raise funds for her tombstone. Thanks to all who contributed as we raised these funds comfortably.

Cheryl Fillis a SRJC member who worked in the National Population Unity at the Department of Social Development passed away after a long illness in Pretoria in September 2019. In paying tribute to her, the SRJC noted this for her memorial, "Cheryl was instrumental in supporting the formation of the SRJC in working towards getting civil society voices to be able to partner with government in implementing programmes and policies. She listened to all people and was humble and encouraging of those often not included and thought of".

INSTITUTIONAL GROWTH

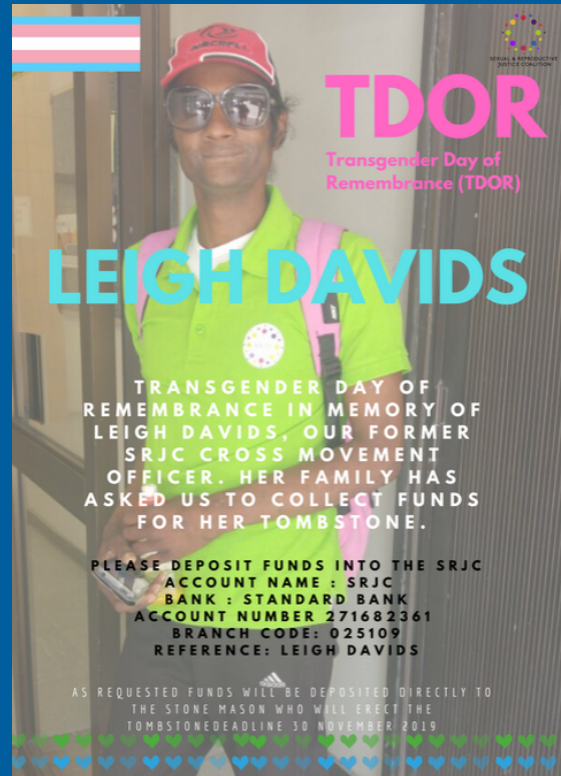
A Tribute to Leigh Davids by Eddie Mhlanga

*She has fought a good fight
We
remember her resilience and the light
She
brought to the struggle.*

*May
her soul rest in eternal peace
Where
there is neither male nor female
Where
there is no sorrow nor pain!*

*May
her family and friends
Comrades
and carers
Be comforted in this time of pain and loss.*

*Lala
ngokuthula*



Leigh Davids fundraiser 2019 TDOR

Qhawe!



Cheryl Fillis and Leigh Davids together at the first SRJC meeting with the National Population Unity (NPU)

LEGAL

Our SRJC legal team is made up of legal representatives from the Lawyers for Human Rights, Legal Resources Centre, Women's Legal Centre, academics and members of international NGOs. We have met regularly to respond to litigation needs. We have developed an online referral system for women who have had trouble in accessing abortion services. In January and February, a transgender teen group who had been meeting monthly at the SRJC hub held consultations to understand processes for name changes at the Home Affairs and also Access to Health services. In these meetings our SRJC legal group have attended to assist as well as SRJC members from Triangle and Gender DynamiX.

During October and December we monitored the Health Professions Council of South Africa disciplinary hearing regarding an anti-choice doctor.

<https://ewn.co.za/2019/08/27/doctor-barred-from-practising-over-abortion-view-to-face-hpcsa-panel>.

In November we were represented in the Pretoria High Court as an amicus curie by the Legal Resources Centre and the Women's Legal Centre in this Fetal Burial Case.

[http://www.safeabortionwomensright.org/south-africa-sexual-and-reproductive-justice-coalition-members-apply-to-join-as-a-friend-of-the-court-to-ensure-womens-rights-to-safe-legal-abortions-are-not-eroded/and Fetal burial trial](http://www.safeabortionwomensright.org/south-africa-sexual-and-reproductive-justice-coalition-members-apply-to-join-as-a-friend-of-the-court-to-ensure-womens-rights-to-safe-legal-abortions-are-not-eroded/and-Fetal-burial-trial)

MEDIA

Opinionista • Marion Stevens • 13 March 2019

Abortion providers — the custodians of reproductive justice in South Africa

Subscribe 119K

Sunday 10 March marked Abortion Provider Appreciation Day. These are men and women providing a service many health professionals shun. In South Africa, despite a progressive law, abortion providers continue to face stigma and difficult working conditions.

Marion Stevens

OP-ED

Reproductive Justice: The missing issue in party manifestos for 2019 Election

By Louise Carmody and Marion Stevens • 5 May 2019



BECOME A MAVERICK INSIDER

South African Government @GovernmentZA

Delegates attend the preparatory seminar for International Conference on Population and Development which is being held under the theme: "South-South Collaboration for Sustainable Development" #ICDP25ZA



10:21 AM · 04 Nov 19 · Twitter Web App

3 Retweets 5 Likes

THE DAILY VOX

WHERE TECHNOLOGY AND HUMANITY MEET

Reproductive Justice: Where Do The ANC, DA, EFF Stand?

By Fatima Moosa May 7, 2019



HEALTH & NEWS

Top three parties' position on sexual & reproductive justice

18th March 2019 | Proactive Planet



For full links visit our website :<https://srjc.org.za/>

WORKING WITH DECISION MAKERS

We continue to work closely with decision makers to support our constitutional provisions and implementation processes. This includes the Adolescent Sexual and Reproductive Health Framework Strategy with the interministerial task team including the Departments of Health, Social Development and Education. We have worked as technical advisers to support our contraception and fertility planning, comprehensive sexuality education and abortion guidelines with relevant departments.

Given that 2019 was the year for South African National elections, we launched our Reproductive Justice Election campaign where political parties were engaged regarding the positions, budget allocations and implementation progress against a range of areas related to reproductive justice. This is a global first in putting together these interrelated focal areas that limit the realisation of reproductive justice.


















































































































































This was a partnership with SRJC members. The campaign included an online petition and participation in and leading panel events in Cape Town and Johannesburg. The campaign was featured on a range of local and global media platforms.




<https://srjc.org.za/2019/05/09/reproductive-justice-where-do-the-anc-da-eff-stand/>



WORKING WITH DECISION MAKERS

Election table

REPRODUCTIVE JUSTICE ELECTION CAMPAIGN										
										
1. Comprehensive sex education	Support		Support		Support		Support		Support	
	Advocate for in Parliament		Advocate for in Parliament		Advocate for in Parliament		Advocate for in Parliament		Advocate for in Parliament	
	Implement		Implement		Implement		Implement		Implement	
	Budget		Budget		Budget		Budget		Budget	
2. Wide method mix of contraception options	Support		Support		Support		Support		Support	
	Advocate for in Parliament		Advocate for in Parliament		Advocate for in Parliament		Advocate for in Parliament		Advocate for in Parliament	
	Implement		Implement		Implement		Implement		Implement	
	Budget		Budget		Budget		Budget		Budget	
3. Abortion services	Support		Support		Support		Support		Support	
	Advocate for in Parliament		Advocate for in Parliament		Advocate for in Parliament		Advocate for in Parliament		Advocate for in Parliament	
	Implement		Implement		Implement		Implement		Implement	
	Budget		Budget		Budget		Budget		Budget	
4. Supports health workers obligated to provide clinical services, i. e. abortion in emergency settings at the least	Support		Support		Support		Support		Support	
	Advocate for in Parliament		Advocate for in Parliament		Advocate for in Parliament		Advocate for in Parliament		Advocate for in Parliament	
	Implement		Implement		Implement		Implement		Implement	
	Budget		Budget		Budget		Budget		Budget	
5. Supports civil servants obligated to perform civil unions for same sex couples	Support		Support		Support		Support		Support	
	Advocate for in Parliament		Advocate for in Parliament		Advocate for in Parliament		Advocate for in Parliament		Advocate for in Parliament	
	Implement		Implement		Implement		Implement		Implement	
	Budget		Budget		Budget		Budget		Budget	
6. Transgender and Intersex – changing of gender markers on ID (Home Affairs)	Support		Support		Support		Support		Support	
	Advocate for in Parliament		Advocate for in Parliament		Advocate for in Parliament		Advocate for in Parliament		Advocate for in Parliament	
	Implement		Implement		Implement		Implement		Implement	
	Budget		Budget		Budget		Budget		Budget	
7. Sex work decriminalisation	Support		Support		Support		Support		Support	
	Advocate for in Parliament		Advocate for in Parliament		Advocate for in Parliament		Advocate for in Parliament		Advocate for in Parliament	
	Implement		Implement		Implement		Implement		Implement	
	Budget		Budget		Budget		Budget		Budget	

Yes  No  Unclear 

WORKING WITH DECISION MAKERS

In preparation for the ICPD Nairobi summit we met with the Minister in the office of the President, Jackson Mtembu to advise and provide input for South Africa's statement and commitments.



RESEARCH

We completed our field work of qualitative body mapping sex workers' stories of accessing sexual and reproductive health services. Time was taken to analyse these narratives within a reproductive justice theoretical framework and to distill key learnings and themes. These have been written up and submitted to different conferences as abstracts. In September we participated and presented our findings at the Public Health Association of South Africa conference (PHASA). Ethical approval was granted by the University of Cape Town and this research was funded by Amplify Change.



ADVOCACY & CONFERENCES



ICPD25
International Conference on
Population and Development

We were represented at a range of conferences this year as participants or presenting our research. Highlights have included the CSO consultation for the African Union on the Commission on Population and Development ensuring that our focal areas are included in September in Namibia. This was followed up by the Nairobi summit on Population and Development, where South Africa made clear commitments to sexual and reproductive health.



Social Development @... · 14 Nov 19 ✓

Good Morning on this last day of the Summit on [#ICPD25](#) in Nairobi. Minister Jackson Mthembu who is leading the South African delegation will deliver the country statement this morning.

[@GovernmentZA](#) [#ICPD25ZA](#)



ADVOCACY & CONFERENCES

We launched our annual Research to Advocacy and Policy and Practice (RAPP) colloquium with the Centre for the Study of Reproduction and Sexualities with Prof Dennis Francis facilitating on what does the teaching and learning of sexuality education in South African schools reveal about counter normative sexualities.

A number of government officials from the Department of Social Development who are leading the Adolescent Sexual and Reproductive Health Framework attended, in particular, those working with the Department of Education developing the CSE programme.



ADVOCACY & CONFERENCES



YANAA (Young Activist Network for Abortion Advocacy) was formed in 2019 as a new international network and for young people that focuses on activism and advocacy in relation to safe abortion. Imameleng has been involved as one of the two African representatives.

My body my Choice Global Health Strategies (GHS) held a campaign on abortion for 2019 and asked the SRJC to partner in their campaign to address abortion stigma. A few of the GHS staff have joined the SRJC as members and a number of SRJC members have joined the GHS campaign. <https://www.mybodymychoicesouthafrica.org/>

NETWORKING

Abortion Provider Appreciation Day in March was a highlight in celebrating over 80 providers with a panel discussion and keynote address by MEC Nomofrench Mbombo. This was held at Lentegeur Hospital in partnership with the Provincial Government of the Western Cape. Events were also held around the country in Mbombela, Makhanda, Rustenberg and Johannesburg with SRJC members providing health workers with appreciation cards.



NETWORKING



In July following the results of the ECHO trial, we held discussions at the SRJC hub and at UCT Medical School in collaboration with Kate Law from the University of Nottingham to understand what these mean and how to interpret them in relation to our new Contraception and Fertility planning policy. Her interest is in women and the use of Depo Provera contraception in South Africa and family planning during apartheid. The discussion was open to civil society members to ask questions and engage as well on the ECHO trial results. During one of the discussions we were joined by Professor Janet Hapgood who heads the Department of Molecular and Cell Biology at UCT Medical school. Issues of ethics, research on black women's bodies, access to quality contraception options surfaced in these informative meetings.

NETWORKING

From the ECHO trial discussion, Law and Stevens co-authored the Unanswered conundrums: questions that remain after the ECHO trial – what should health providers know?

<https://srjc.org.za/2019/09/10/unanswered-conundrums-questions-that-remain-after-the-echo-trial-what-should-health-providers-know/>



NETWORKING



In October we held a packed out book launch with Makhosasana Xaba and most of the Cape Town-based authors for Our Words Our Worlds – writing by black women poets. Along with participating authors they noted the importance of documenting women's stories. SRJC management committee member and SWEAT Mothers4Future coordinator Duduzile Dlamini said sex workers have stories but there is no support for mothers to share their stories, often people come in and take stories and leave. Makhosazana shared insights about her work and how some of the work she has done in the past came about. The event was an intergenerational event with reflective and insightful discussion.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

DETAILED INCOME STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2019

	ZAR
REVENUE	
Grants Received	2,042,990
Amplify Change (AC)	513,414
Swedish Association for Sexuality Education (RFSU)	873,850
International Women's Health Coalition (IWHC)	655,725
OTHER INCOME	78,483
Interest Received	45,215
Sundry Income	33,268
TOTAL INCOME	2,121,473
OPERATING COSTS	
Audit fees	31,000
Bank charges	17,077
Branding & Marketing	47,044
Capital expenditure	98,772
Cleaning	1,075
Communications	16,036
Computer software	12,564
Insurance	4,810
IT Support	1,743
Office consumables	18,292
Organisational Development	55,336
Programme costs	163,875
Professional fees	627,000
Rent Paid	143,550
Staff Development	5,938
Staff Costs	693,622
Travel Local & International	174,980
TOTAL OPERATING COSTS	2,112,714
OPERATING SURPLUS	8,759
ACCUMULATED FUNDS AT THE BEGINNING OF THE YEAR	634,954
ACCUMULATED FUNDS AT THE END OF THE YEAR	643,713

THANK YOU!

Thanks to our donors
International Women's Health Coalition
Amplify Change
RFSU
Private donations.





SEXUAL & REPRODUCTIVE
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