



## **MEDIA ADVISORY**

**TO: ALL MEDIA**

**ATTENTION: NEWS EDITORS**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **MEC guards against illegally operating NPOs**

MEC for Social Development in Gauteng, Ms Thuliswa Nkabinde-Khawe has made a stern warning against unregistered Non-Profit Organisations (NPOs), particularly those who work with vulnerable groups.

This comes after Pretoria News reported that the department was embroiled in a legal battle with Kingdom Life Child and Youth Care Centre over legitimacy of this centre. Kingdom Life is an NPO that is meant to render services to children and operates as a Child Youth Care Centre (CYCC).

The Children's Act defines Child and Youth Care Centre (CYCC) as a facility that provides residential care to more than six children outside the child's family environment in accordance with the residential care programme suited for the children in the facility.

Any organisation that is providing service to children should be registered according to the Children's Act, guided by specific norms and standards. Kingdom Life was found to be non-compliant, as this NPO contravened the NPO Act and the Children's Act.

Kingdom Life has been found amongst others to;

- Be having an unconstitutional board
- Mismanaged of funds as the board fails to account for funds

- The facility does not meet registration requirements as prescribed by NPO Act and Children's Act
- Kingdom Life Social Worker Violation of the Children's Act 38 of 2005

“Gauteng Provincial Government has adopted a 365-child protection programme to ensure that are children are and feel safe. As Gauteng, Social Development, it is in the best interest of the children to be removed from this facility and the movement will be done through the court as these children were placed through court orders.

The department will continue to assist the organization to be registered for compliance, however we cannot keep children in the centre that is contravening the laws of the country and put children at risk,” says MEC Nkabinde-Khawe.

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**Issued by the Gauteng Department of Social Development**

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