



# MINISTRY OF GENDER EQUALITY, CHILD DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY WELFARE

## Child Development Unit Training Programme for newly recruited Child Mentors

Child Mentoring Section-CDU



Monday 02-10 October 2017  
10 hrs – 15 30 hrs

Sir Harilall Vaghjee Hall  
New Government Centre/  
Training Unit MSS,  
NPF/R.Seeneevasen Building

Port Louis

# Child Mentoring Programme

- ▶ The Child Protection Act (CPA) was amended in 2008 to make provision for a Child Mentoring Scheme.
- ▶ In 2009, a Child Mentoring Programme was initiated to address the growing social phenomenon children in distress, mainly related to mild behavioral problems.
- ▶ But it really kick-started in 2012 after introducing a Child Protection (Mentoring Order) Regulation in 2011.
- ▶ That provision allows the Ministry to make application for a mentoring order at the level of District Court so that Child Mentors are able to conduct their session in the place of residence or another conducive environment (either a Community Centre or Social Welfare Centre) for the minor.

## Objective of the Programme

- To assist children between the age of 10-16 years who are displaying **mild behavioural problems**
- To give children with difficulties the opportunity to have the care and guidance from a role model.
- To improve the situation of the children living in their social environment.

The CPA also makes provision for a Child Mentoring Committee

### Aims of the Child Mentoring Committee-

- To assist in administering and implementing the Child Mentoring Programme; and
- To oversee the whole process of the Programme to ensure children with mild behavioural problems (10-16 years) are appropriately assisted by adult mentors for their emotional and social reconstruction.

## Composition

**Chairperson**-Mrs. S. Bahadoor, Deputy Permanent Secretary, MGECDWF

### **Members:-**

- Mrs. K. Chooramun, Head of Child Development Unit, MGECDWF
- Ms. S. Gareeboo, Acting Assistant Parliamentary Counsel
- Mrs. M.V.S Rajiah, Police Woman Chief Inspector
- Mr. A. Thacoor, Head National Education Counselling Service, Ministry of Education and Human Resources
- Mrs. S. Bundhoo, Senior /Psychologist, MGECDWF
- Mr. A. Muneean, Director of Terre de Paix
- Mrs. V. Jodhoa, CDU Coordinator, MGECDWF(Secretary)

**Frequency of meeting**-As per the Act, the Committee meets at such times and place as decided by the Chairperson. Yet presently, it is held every two month.

# Status on the Child Mentoring Programme

-As at July 2017, 10 trained Child Mentors are assisting the Ministry (CDU) to implement the programme

-Children assisted under the Prog

2012-2015	March 2016	August 2017
25 children assisted	28 children roped in – almost all completed	17 additional children

Training of Child Mentors is an ongoing feature of the Programme

Debriefing sessions are carried out every two month with Child Mentors and Focal Points of CDU outstations.

-In the Process of scaling up the Programme

- new recruitment of Child Mentors is envisaged-August 2017
- Capacity Building/Training Programme for Child Mentors will be conducted-October and Dec 2017
- Assistance provided to more minors with mild behavioural problems
- IEC Campaign will be intensified through Pamphlets/TV &radio Programmes- ongoing

## About Child Mentors

Key player in the process under the supervision of the Coordinator/ Focal Officers-FWPOs

7

### Process for matching exercise of a minor with a child mentor

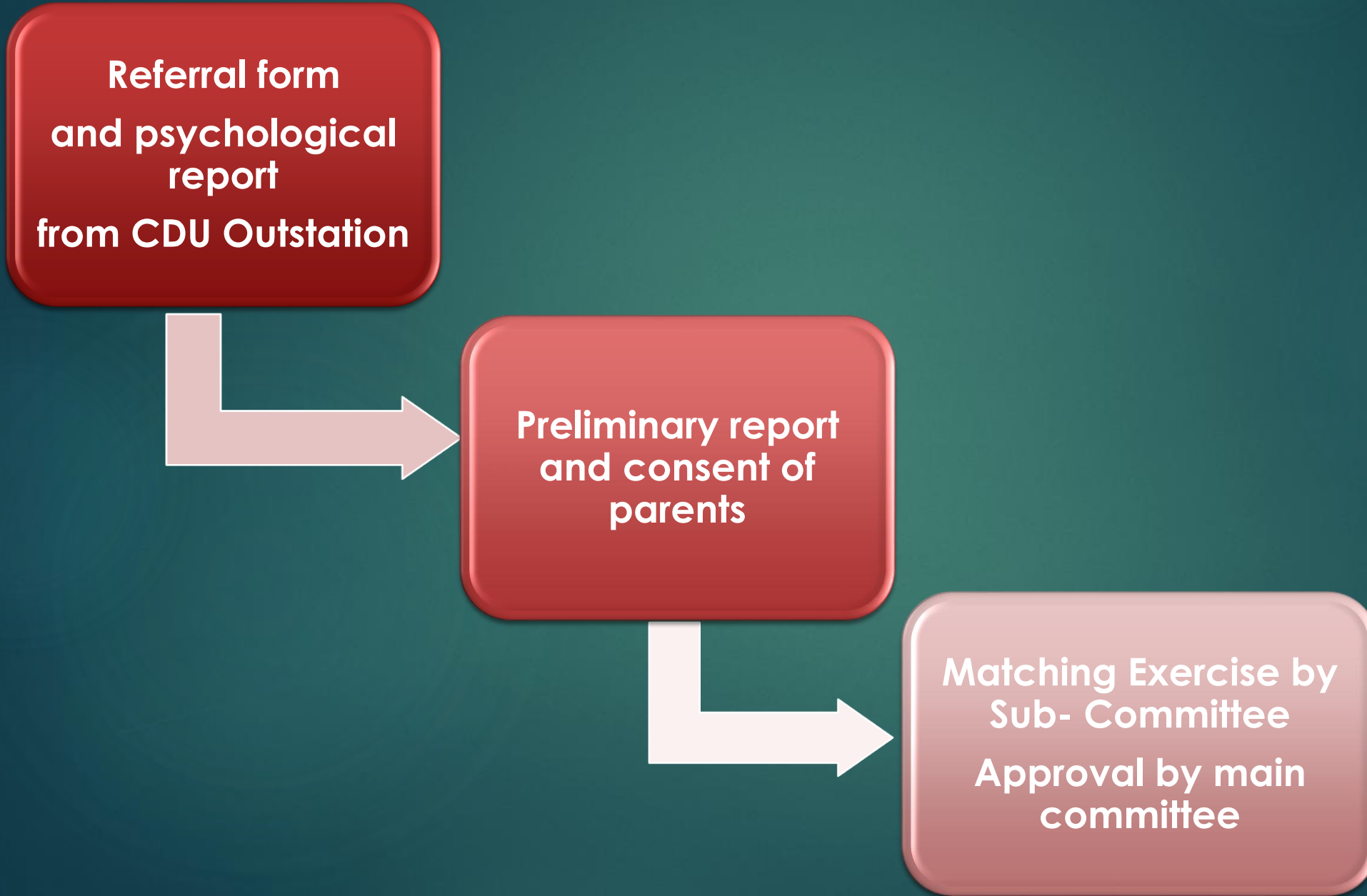
- A case is reported through a referral form and a Psychological report of the minor from CDU outstation to the C.M section

- Officers of the section are required to prepare a preliminary report and get all required information on the minor from Outstation and through visits( get consent of Parent to enroll minor under the programme)

- A sub-cttee is convened to assess the matching exercise of the mentor with the mentee under 3Criteria (Geographical Location, Gender and Best interest of the child) .

- A Main- Committee approves the matching exercise carried out by the Sub Cttee whereby Mentors are informed of their prospective mentees.

- A visit with the parent, minor, Mentor is arranged by the Officer at the place of residence of the minor





- once the mentor is aware of the whole scenario/case, the officer arranges for an appointment with the District Court for a mentoring Order
- the hearing is held at the District Court in presence of the Officer, Mentor, Psychologist, Parent and the minor
- once the mentoring order is issued (normally for a period not more than 24 months), the mentor is required to prepare his Programme of activities for the conduct of the mentoring sessions as per the set template and submit to the section by the end of each month and stick to the time and day specified by the Magistrate in the Order.(once a week,i.e 4 times a months)
- In parallel, the Officers elaborate their calendar of monitoring visit to ensure surprise checks, as to whether the mentor are respecting their plan of work, time and day specified in the plan.
- Regular reporting are done by Officers through minute in their respective case files to the Mgt
- Payment of stipend is also effected by the Focal Officer on a monthly basis following submission of claim by the mentor in the required form

# Tasks assigned to Child Mentors

Attend District Court

- CDU Officer/ Child Mentor/ Parent/minor/ Psychologist in attendance at Court for application of mentoring order
- Submit progress report (quarterly) and psychological as requested by the District Magistrate



Child Mentor

- Prepare Programme of activities
- submit by end of each month
- strictly abide by mentoring order (respect time & place)/ adhere by code of ethic
- attend debriefing session every 2 months receive a stipend of Rs. 2000
- required to follow on the job training



Regular supervision, monitoring & reporting by Officers

Effect Monitoring visits to supervise plan of work and process minutes to inform Perm Sec about psycho-social development of the Child Mentee

Mentors will be required to adhere to the Code of Ethic as provided to them with their letter of offer-(CPA)

Child Mentors are required to attend debriefing session/mtg every two month at the seat of the Ministry

Being given that the offer as child mentor is purely on a temporary basis, only stipend of Rs2,000 will be paid per month( for the 2hrs of work thro'4 mtgs per mth with the minor) to cover the travelling expenses

As per the Act , Child Mentor will be requested to assist up to a max of 3 children per year

Programme of work of mentor and other details will be elaborated lengthily during the training

An on-the-job training(Placement) at the seat of NGOs is also planned for all Child Mentors –for a period of 1 to 2 mths

The Ministry is not liable to write to your Organization ,especially those already employed, for any release what so ever. Mentors have to make their own arrangements regarding same(i.e for training/placement/attend Courts/attend debriefing sessions/mtgs amongst others).

# Contact Details of Officers working in the Child Mentoring Section of the CDU

12

## Coordinator

Mrs. V. Jodhoa-Tel No: 2063 737

## Family Welfare & Protection Officers(FWPOs)

Mrs. A. Bunsy-Gobin -Tel:206 3739

Mrs. S. Ragnuth -Tel:206 3561

Ms. G. Ramdhonee -Tel:206 3739

Mrs.S.Mahabeer -Tel:206 3861

## Management Support Officer

Mr. S. Gopal-Tel: 206 3560

*“Every child deserves a champion, an adult who will never give up on them, who understands the power of connection and insists they become the best they can possibly be...”*  
Rita .F. Pierson



THANK YOU ALL FOR YOUR ATTENTION



*"A Mentor is someone who sees more talent and ability within you, than you see within yourself, and helps bring it out of you."*  
**BOB PROTOR**