

REV. SANDILE NGOBENI

Advocacy Manager | Stakeholder Relations Manager | Research Manager

PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

A Multi-Lingual Human Rights Advocacy practitioner with extensive experience in working in both NGO and Chapter Nine Institutions executing community outreach programs and advocacy work country-wide. I am a self-starter who can work under pressure and still produce results either individually or in a team setting. In addition, to my planning and organizing skills, I have excellent communication and interpersonal skills.

Core Competencies and Skills

- Problem-Solving
- Research and M&E
- Negotiation
- Facilitation and Presentation
- Stakeholder Management
- Leadership
- Project Management
- Communication
- Financial Management

ACADEMIC EDUCATION

- PhD in Practical Theology, University of Pretoria, On-going.
- Post-graduate diploma in Labour Law, University of Johannesburg, 2023.
- Bachelor of Arts majoring in Psychology and Sociology, University of South Africa, 2021.
- Certificate in Good Governance in Africa, University of South Africa, 2020.
- Master of Practical Theology, Stellenbosch University, 2013.
- Post-graduate Diploma in Theology, Stellenbosch University, 2012.
- Bachelor of Theology, Stellenbosch University, 2011.

POST-GRADUATE LEVEL SHORT COURSES

- Advanced Human Rights Course on Data Protection in Africa, 2024.
- Advanced Human Rights Course on Right to Development in Africa, 2023.
- Advanced Human Rights Course in Accountability and Oversight of the Criminal Justice System, University of Pretoria, 2023.
- Advanced Human Rights Course in Judicial Enforcement of Socio-Economic rights in Africa, University of Pretoria, 2022.
- Advanced Human Rights Course on Disability Rights in an African Context, University of Pretoria, 2022.
- Advanced Human Rights Course on Children's Rights in Africa, University of Pretoria, 2022.
- Advanced Human Rights Course on the Protection of Forcibly Displaced Persons in Africa, University of Pretoria, 2021.
- Advanced Human Rights Course on Women's Rights in Africa, University of Pretoria, 2020.
- Advanced Human Rights Course on Sexual Minority Rights in Africa, University of Pretoria, 2020.
- Pre-Entry Certificate into Senior Management Services, National School of Government, 2020
- Corporate Social Responsibility, Citizenship, and Business Sustainability, University of Cape Town, 2020

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

University of Pretoria – Disability Unit

01/2024 – Present

Volunteer

- Anti- Stigma & Discrimination Campaigns, Community Dialogues, and Promotion of Legal Literacy and Addressing Structural Barriers towards accessibility to healthcare services.
- Strengthening Legal Support services, contribution towards improving Laws, Regulations and Policies regarding People living with disabilities.
- Support, Case finding, broaden referral networks and strengthen related support.
- Supervision, Capacity building / Training Interventions
- Effective, Accurate Information Documentation, Data capturing and Timeous Reporting.
- Advocating for Reasonable Accommodation for People Living Disabilities and provision of Assistive Technological Devices.
- Collaborates with the department of Higher Education and Training, Universities South Africa and South African College and Principals in Limpopo TVET Colleges on advocacy programme on Concession and Accommodation assessments.

**South African Human Rights Commission – Polokwane Provincial Office
(Contract)**

08/2022 – 04/2023

Human Rights Officer

- Collaborated and provided training to NGOs on the human rights issues in the province.
- Maintained all records, information of the interventions and administrative system of the programme using Veritas Fling System.
- Conducted training to over 300 and awareness raising interventions in respect of both POPIA and PAIA to various stakeholders within the province.
- Conducted and facilitated all research on human rights issues in the province and assisted the provincial office with advancing the constitutional obligation of Rights to Education.
- Conducted needs assessment and situational analysis on human rights issues within the province to determine the type and nature of the intervention.
- Advocated and ensured awareness all children have the right to education irrespective of whether they are documented or not through school advocacy awareness-raising interventions in the province.

**Kuhluka Movement NGO – Johannesburg Office
(Contract)**

08/2020 – 07/2022

Advocacy, Communication & Research Manager

- Changed attitudes towards GBV through the development and implementation of Programme strategy including lobbying, partnership and collaboration.
- Coordinated and managed projects in South Africa, Swaziland, and Mozambique such as Custodian of culture and Dignity packs.
- Ensured informed and accurate decision making through compiling project reports, proposals, and research papers.
- Created awareness on the impact of GBV in the community through workshops, conferences and debates.
- Ensured the program visibility through consistently using uniform messages from the communications and advocacy Plan to reach out to chiefs about projects.
- Provided support to women in the community by ensuring that are equipped with tools to prevent incidents of GBV and to provide safe spaces for sharing, counselling, and healing, supported survivors of violence on their way to recovery.
- Undertook mobilization activities to move the community to a caring society and offered support in the process of seeking resolution and justice for survivors.

**Commission for Gender Equality- Cape Town Office
– 07/2020**

02/2014

Parliamentary Liaison Officer

- Established a strong link between CGE and the Parliament of South Africa by engaging Members of Parliament (MPs).
- Led on CGE's efforts to influence law-making, oversight processes and contributed to the drafting of submissions to parliament.
- Attended, monitored and engaged with activities in the National Assembly and NCOP that pertain to the work of CGE, including but not limited to, basic education, education and recreation, appropriations, transport, and finance.
- Proactively shared CGE's research with MPs, coordinated learning opportunities for MPs, and identified opportunities for CGE's members to attend parliamentary meetings.

Commission on the Protection and Promotion of Cultural, Religious, and Linguistic Rights Commission

Research Intern

09/2012 – 01/2014

- Implemented and conducted research on identified research Projects in the CRL Rights Commission which made the communities aware of their rights.
- Reached more audience from implementation of train the trainer strategy to promote and protect cultural, religious and linguistic rights of communities whereby community members were trained to train others in the community at large.
- Provided support to the research and policy development unit and maintained an active directory of CRL stakeholders.

SUMMARY OF OTHER ROLES

- **Team Leader**, WHC construction company, 09/2003 – 12/2005.
- **Cleaner**, Shoprite, 01/2000 – 07/2002.
- **Cleaner**, PUTCO Bus Company, 03/1996 – 12/1999.

PROFESSIONAL TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT

- UN Women Courses, 2020
 - ✓ I Know Gender 1-2-3: Gender Concepts to get started; International Framework for Gender Equality & Promoting Gender Equality throughout the UN System.
 - ✓ I Know Gender 4: Women's Economic Empowerment.
 - ✓ I Know Gender 5: Women's Leadership & Decision-making.
 - ✓ I Know Gender 6: Violence against Women & Girls.
 - ✓ I Know Gender 7: Gender Equality & Education.
 - ✓ I Know Gender 8: Gender Equality in the World of Work.
 - ✓ I Know Gender 9: Sexual & Reproductive Health Right.
 - ✓ I Know Gender 10: Gender Equality in Emergencies.
 - ✓ I Know Gender 11: Women, Peace & Emergencies.
 - ✓ I Know Gender 12: Trade & Gender Equality.
 - ✓ I Know Gender 13; Sexual & Gender Diversity: A Matter of Human Rights.
 - ✓ I Know Gender 14: Gender Inclusive & Sustainable Industrial Development (ISID)
 - ✓ I Knew Gender 15: Gender Equality & Migration.
 - ✓ I Knew Gender 16: Gender Equality & Organised Crime.
 - ✓ Gender Equality in Transportation.
 - ✓ Essential Services Package for Women & Girls Subject to Violence.
 - ✓ An Introduction to CEDAW.
 - ✓ Understanding Masculinities & Violence against Women & Girls.
 - ✓ 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and Gender Equality.
 - ✓ Results-based Management.
 - ✓ Understanding Violence against Women & Girls.
 - ✓ Violence against Women Migrant Workers.
 - ✓ Learning Pathways on Transformation Leadership for Gender Equality.
- UN Peace Operations Training Institute Courses, 2022
 - ✓ UN Military Specialised Training Materials in Child Protection.
 - ✓ Human Rights & Peacekeeping.
 - ✓ Sexual & Gender-based Violence & International Peace & Security.
 - ✓ Preventing Violence against Women & Promoting Gender Equality in Peace Operations.
 - ✓ Implementation of the UN Security Council Resolution on the Women, Peace & Security Agenda n Africa.
 - ✓ International Humanitarian Law & the Law of Armed Conflict
 - Introduction to the Sustainable Development Goals, University of Johannesburg, 2023.

BOARD APPOINTMENT

- Board Appointment, Stellenbosch Hospice, 2011-2014.
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