News, Events and Resources | December 2021

Secretariat Updates

Has the Alliance helped you in your efforts to strengthen the social service workforce?

Has use of an Alliance-developed resource or tool, participation in an Alliance-sponsored event or working group, or overall engagement with the Alliance positively impacted your efforts to strength the social service workforce? If so, we'd love to hear from you.

The Alliance is looking to obtain specific examples of how our work has positively contributed to strengthening the social social workforce at the regional, national and community levels. If you have a potential example to share, please email our Communications and Advocacy Manager, Alena Sherman, at **alena@socialserviceworkforce.org.** She will follow-up with you to arrange a time to chat.

Registration now open for the People's Summit

Registration is now open for People's Summit: '**Co-Building a New Eco-social World: Leaving No One Behind**´. The Alliance is proud to be a partner for the summit, scheduled to take place virtually from 29 June to 2 July 2022. The summit will bring together individuals and communities, people of lived experiences, along with global organizations to co-build globally shared values for a new eco-social world that leaves no one behind.

Register now to be part of this historic event.

2022 World Social Work Day poster launched

The theme of World Social Work Day 2022 coincides with the name of the People´s Summit (see above): ´Co-building a New Eco-Social World: Leaving No One Behind´. The poster for the day is now available in **English,** **French** **Spanish**. All social work partners are welcome to co-brand the #WSWD2022 poster by adding their logo alongside the IFSW logo as well as are invited you to their initiatives, events, and proposals to celebrate #WSWD2022. Stay tuned for more information on how the Alliance will be engaged in the day.

View more information.

Upcoming Events

Global Forum for Children and Youth | 7-9 December

The inaugural Global Forum for Children and Youth (#ChildYouthForum) will virtually convene children and young people together with leaders from the United Nations, government, business, philanthropy and civil society, as well as authors, artists and influencers on 7–9 December 2021. Over three days, they will together brainstorm and accelerate proven and new solutions, inspire commitments from participants to create change, and mobilize resources to advance child rights to meet the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030.

Register for the forum.

The Canadian Launch of the GlobalChild Platform | 13 December

Join GlobalChild on 13 December as they celebrate Canada's 30th anniversary of the ratification of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child and launch the GlobalChild Platform. The event will be held via webinar.

GlobalChild is a group of child development and child rights researchers, advocates and experts from Canada and across the globe working under the auspices of the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child. They have created a comprehensive, bilingual, electronic monitoring tool that can:

- Provide evidence and data to inform the decisions of politicians, policymakers and researchers on issues related to children

- Ensure government accountability to the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child

Register for the webinar.

Psychosocial Interventions for Displaced Populations Course | 10 January - 4 February

This online course reviews recent developments in the field of psychosocial programming in humanitarian contexts and examines the evidence-base for effective, quality programming. It is suitable for professional development, both for those wishing to explore this rapidly developing area of humanitarian response and for those with significant experience in the field who wish to consolidate their understanding of effective practice. Participants registered on the course will work through ten units of material – featuring readings, narrated PowerPoints, videos etc. – over a four-week period. A discussion board provides a context for interaction between participants as well as with course facilitators, as does an additional weekly online tutorial session. Course Fee: £720

Learn more and apply.

Resources

The resources below can be found in our **Resource Database.** For resources specific to COVID-19, be sure to view our **COVID-19 Resources** page. If you have a new resource to share, **please contact us**.

[Policy Brief] Professionalization of Social Work in Africa

The IFSW Africa Region Ubuntu social work Hybrid conference 2021 with the theme: 'Towards Ubuntu and Sustainable development: Social Work Position in Achieving SDGs' was held in Rwanda from 23rd to 26th November 2021. The discussions resulted in this advocacy policy brief on social work regulation/legislation. The brief focuses on the problem of lack of legislation and recognition of social work as a profession in Africa. The proposed policy options will be critical elements for any social work legislation as they will help promote professional development, the credibility and confidence of the profession, and its relationship with government and service users. The policy options considered have relevance to the growth and advancement of the social work profession in Africa as well as raise a community of practice for sharing best practices.

[Policy Recommendations] Put Children First: Recommendations to End Orphanage Volunteering and the Institutionalisation of Children

It is estimated that at least 5.4 million children live in institutions worldwide. Yet over 80 per cent of these have at least one living parent. Research has shown the harm of orphanage care on children's health, development and wellbeing and how orphanage volunteering is working to perpetuate these institutional systems which separate children from their families and communities. There is now a global movement to end both practices.

These key policy recommendations were published as part of the "Put Children First: End Orphanage Care" campaign.
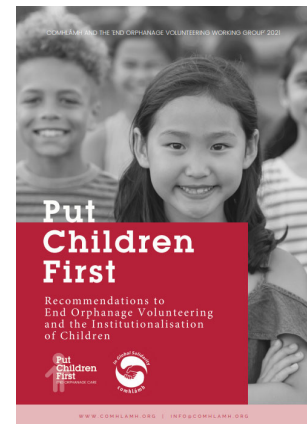
Access the recommendations.

[Report] Protection, Provision, Participation and Prevention: Upholding the 4P's of Children's Rights during COVID-19

The fifth in the series of COVID Learning Reports from The International COVID 4P Log Project, this report presents the key findings concerning best practices and innovations; challenges; and lessons learned and recommended actions for supporting children's wellbeing during and post-COVID-19 through the lens of the 4P framework for children's rights: *protection, provision, participation and prevention.* This report aims to generate new insights, and spark new questions and ideas to inform, equip and strengthen policy, service and practices for and with children and their families.

Access the report.

[Factsheet] Gatekeeping Factsheet

Gatekeeping is a term to describe a mechanism, process or specific steps involved in making care-related decisions for children at risk of, or already denied, adequate parental care. This Gatekeeping Factsheet, targeting those engaged in care decisions, including government actors/institutions, civil society organizations, practitioners and parents/caregivers explains the objectives of gatekeeping and essential components of a gatekeeping system, core principles of effective gatekeeping and signs that a gatekeeping system is operating well or needs to be strengthened.

Access the factsheet in English.

[Report] Voices of Children and Young People: Global Child Helpline Data for 2020

In order to understand the issues faced by the children and young people who get in touch with child helplines, Child Helpline International surveys their members around the world each and every year to gather information about the contacts they receive. This unique and vital data gives an insight into the ways in which children and young people experience the systems that are designed to protect them, the issues that matter to them, and the gaps in protective services.

This report presents the key takeaways from their analysis of the 2020 data, together with four key recommendations: that every child should have free and unrestricted access to child helpline services, that the quality and sustainability of child helplines is crucial to ensuring children's rights, that child helpline data and youth participation should inform the policy and decision-making that affects children's lives, and that structured partnerships are needed to eradicate violence against all children.
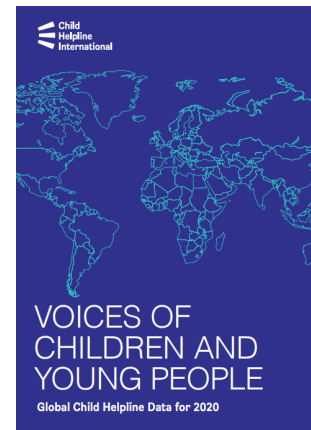
Access the report.

Join the Alliance

Not yet a member of the Alliance? We have over 3000 members across 145 countries who have joined us to support the work of strengthening the social service workforce. **Register to become a member.**

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