



Western Cape Association for Infant Mental Health



Dear all

We are more than half way through 2018 already, and enjoying another year full of interesting and thought-provoking meetings and discussions. Thanks to all our speakers, members and guests for their valuable contributions.

Our July meeting, which is set to take place on Thursday 19th, will be a talk by Ruth Lundie titled “The Role of Faith-Based Organisation in Supporting the First 1000 Days”. This will be a presentation on recent research undertaken by Common Good (a Cape Town-based Christian NGO) into the church’s understanding and support of the critical period in a person’s life between conception and 2 years. Ruth serves on the leadership of Wynberg Common Ground Church, has pioneered Common Good’s Early Life initiative and led the research team. She has a background in psychology and theology and has spent most of her career in the community development space. We look forward to an interesting discussion, and hope to hear from our members on the roles of other faith-based organisations during this important time in a child’s life. We hope this will be only one of many opportunities to hear how community based organisations have taken an initiative to involve themselves in infant mental health. All are welcome to attend, and we invite you to forward this information on to any friends and colleagues who may be interested.

Our group enjoyed a fascinating presentation by Jean Luyt last month, understanding adoption and the particular difficulties associated with transcultural adoption. There are still so many children who need adoption although the system is challenging. All children and especially those who are vulnerable, such as adopted children need to be affirmed by society that they are ‘good enough’. We really appreciate the time and expertise Jean shared with us looking at this important topic.

Caroline (chairperson) and Jacqui (secretary) will be stepping down from the committee at the end of 2018 after 2 years. We invite nominations for new committee members to fill these positions, as well as two new positions to take responsibility for fund raising and social media, so please give this some thought and email us with names and suggestions over the next few months.

In light of the increased security measures now in place at our meeting venue, DCAP, and if you have not already done so, please send your names and licence plate numbers to Caroline or Jacqui before our next meeting to enable you to park inside the gate when you attend.

We look forward to seeing you all again at 7:30pm on Thursday 19th July at the Out-Patient Unit of the Division of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry (46 Sawkins Rd, Rondebosch, entrance in Liesbeek Rd). Visitors are very welcome to attend and are asked to bring R60 (in an envelope marked with your name please).

Warm wishes,
Caroline, Barbara and Jacqui