

PUBLIC WELFARE ASSISTANCE SCHEME (PWAS)

This is Government's social assistance programme, aimed at mitigating the adverse effects of socio-economic shocks on the extreme poor and vulnerable persons.

The scheme targets:-

- Aged persons
- Disabled or the chronically ill persons
- Single Headed households;
- Orphans and vulnerable children;
- Victims of minor disasters

And others who are genuinely unable to support themselves.

CARE FOR OLDER PERSONS

This is support provided to older persons through community or institutional care. The following are some of the old people's homes in the country:

- Maramba in Livingstone
- Chibolya in Mufulira
- Mitanda in Ndola
- Divine Providence Home in Lusaka
- Chibote in Luansya
- Mwandi in Sesheke
- St. Theresa in Ndola
- Likulwe in Senanga

The Department runs the first two with the help of the board, while the Salvation Army runs Mitanda. The Catholic Nuns runs Divine and Chibote while Mwandi is run by the United Church of Zambia.

The Department also mounts public awareness campaigns including observance of the International Day for Older Persons (1st October): as well as encouraging residential and non-residential care

PLACES OF SAFETY

These are institutions under which temporarily shelter, food and care is provided to the stranded, destitute and persons in various helpless situations. Such institutions are found in Kabwe, Lusaka and Mansa .

MARRIAGE COUNSELLING

This involves premarital and marital counseling and guidance services to couples.

MEDICAL SOCIAL WORK

This is provided in material and other forms of assistance, counseling and tracing of relatives for/to patients mainly in districts where there are no Medical Social Workers.

PRISON WELFARE

This is support to prisoners by way of linking them to their families and to prepare for their integration into the communities once discharged from prison.

The Department has offices in all districts and at Provincial headquarters. For more information contact any District or Provincial Social Welfare Officer.

Or

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REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA

MINISTRY OF COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT, MOTHER AND
CHILD HEALTH



Department of Social Welfare

SERVICES PROVIDED



STATUTORY SERVICES

These services involve the administration of the following pieces of legislation:

- Probation of Offenders Act, CAP 93.
- Juveniles Act, CAP 53
- Adoption Act, CAP 54
- Maintenance Orders Act, CAP 55 and the
- Day Nurseries Act, CAP 313

CORRECTIONAL SERVICES

These are services provided to juveniles in conflict with the law. They include:-

Investigations for courts

Social Welfare Officers, gazetted as Probation Officers carryout investigations on behalf of the courts to determine and advise the courts on the punishment which is in the best interests of juvenile offenders.

Probation of Offenders

This is either institutional or community based rehabilitation process in which a juvenile in conflict with the law is placed under the supervision of a Probation Officer in accordance with the Probation of Offenders Act Cap 93 of the laws of Zambia.

Correctional facilities and after care services

These are institutions meant to provide reception, care and rehabilitation of juvenile in conflict with the law as ordered by the court. These are Nakambala Approved School in Mazabuka, Katombora Reformatory in Kazungula and Insakw Probation Hostel in Ndola (female juveniles).

Social Welfare Officers provide counseling to parents/guardians of the juveniles on the need to maintain contact with children or dependants in institutions to help in preparation for their eventual reintegration into the community.

The Department runs Nakambala Approved School and Insakwe Probation Hostels for the reformation of children in conflict with the law or with disruptive behaviour. The Prisons Department under Ministry of Home Affairs run the Katombora reformatory School. The Department seconds staff to the Katombora institution.

After care services are offered to juveniles discharged from the two correctional institutions. It is meant to assist in preparing juveniles for eventual reintegration into the community and it involves the supervision of such juvenile by Probation Officers and juveniles inspectors.

CAPACITY BUILDING AND INSPECTION OF CHILD-CARE FACILITIES

The Department does not run child care institutions, but net-works with and provides guidelines to NGOs and individuals permitted to operate children's homes. The Department also provides small grants to some of the homes.

These homes provide care to children in need of care, (orphaned, abandoned or children whose parents or guardians are unfit to look after them). Government policy however, encourages community participation in the care of such children. Institutional care viewed as a measure of last resort.

The Department of Social Welfare addresses the proliferation of children's homes, regulates, service delivery and provide guidelines to all child-care service providers for better, effec-

tive and quality service provision in line with national obligations to Orphans and Vulnerable Children (OVC) as enshrined in international conventions, national policies and laws.

In addition the Department also provides guidance, capacity building of child care providers and sensitization of local communities in recognizing the needs of OVC and making the services meet acceptable standards.

ADOPTION

This service provides a permanent home, legal protection and security to children in need of care in accordance with the Adoption Act Cap 54 of the laws of Zambia.

FOSTERING

This is a service provided to children in need of care in accordance with the Juveniles Act Cap 53 of the laws of Zambia. This service provides a temporary home to the child.

NON-STATUTORY SERVICES

These services are administered without reference to an Act of Parliament. They include:

SOCIAL CASH TRANSFER SCHEME

The main objective is to reduce extreme poverty and intergenerational transfer of poverty among beneficiary households and the community. The beneficiaries receive transfers that are paid bimonthly. Beneficiary households with persons with disabilities receive double transfers also bi-monthly.