

ANNOUNCING A PILOT COMMUNITY BASED OUTPATIENT TREATMENT PROGRAMME FOR THE LANGEBERG REGION

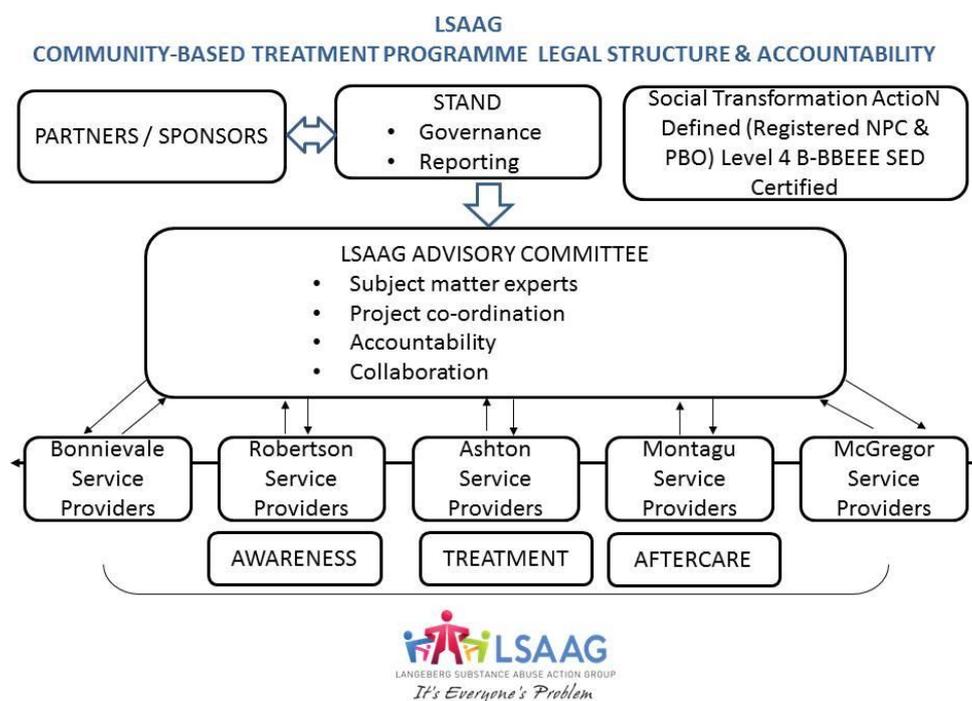
Substance abuse is crippling our communities and is a primary health issue, a crime issue, a social development issue and a criminal justice issue. Over the past year, the Langeberg Region has seen a sharp average increase of 31.86%, in drug-related crimes (Crimestatssa) with Tik and alcohol abuse being an unrelenting affliction.

In response, the Langeberg Substance Abuse Action Group (LSAAG) established in May 2012 is launching the first registered Community Based Outpatient Treatment Programme (CBT) in the Langeberg Region in February 2019, with the Town of McGregor selected as the first Pilot Town.

“Community Based Treatment is a specific integrated model of treatment for people affected by drug use and dependence within the community which provides a continuum of care from outreach and low threshold services, through detoxification and stabilisation to aftercare and integration. It involves the coordination of a number of health, social and other non-specialist services needed to meet the patient's needs. Strong support is also given to the patient's family and the community to address the drug and alcohol problems in their complexity and to ensure efficient and long-term results.

The LSAAG Community Based Treatment Programme and other associated projects are developed, managed and administered from a registered Non Profit Company - Social Transformation Action Defined (STAND). The LSAAG project does not align itself with any one particular organisation or individual but rather encourages the involvement and input of all relevant role-players within each Town.

This initiative has been endorsed by Executive Mayor Dr.Helena von Schlicht of the Cape Winelands District Municipality, the Executive Mayor Henry Jansen of Langeberg Municipality and the Ministry of Social Development MEC Albert Fritz. “If ever there was a time for service providers to work together to demonstrate and prove the value that collaboration provides, now is that time. This approach to substance abuse treatment is pioneering and provides a powerful opportunity to engage communities, service providers, farm owners, business owners, Government and the general public in collectively dealing with this challenge,” says Executive Mayor Dr.Helena von Schlicht Cape Winelands District Municipality.



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Front row from left: Claude Schroeder (Executive Director Rural and Social Development Cape Winelands District Municipality), Cllr Wilma Strauss (Member of Mayco), MEC Albert Fritz (Department of Social Development), Stacey Doorly – Jones (STAND), Executive Mayor Helena von Schlicht (Cape Winelands District Municipality), GB Joubert (Dep Exe Mayor Langeberg Municipality) Chantal Pepper (Department of Social Development), Devon de Koker (STAND)