

# Cape Town Quaker Peace Centre Committee

A fundraising committee of Central England Quakers



**MAY 2015**

**Newsletter No. 52**

## Non-violent schools programme fully under way

QPC's programme (with the Metro South Education Department of the Western Cape government, MSED) to establish and support Pupils' Advisory Forums on Violence (PAFOVs) is making more rapid progress this year, thanks to its success in obtaining a second grant from ifa (Institut für Auslandsbeziehungen e.V.) (roughly equivalent to the British Council). The ifa grant is for 2015, but hopefully will be extended to 2016 and 2017.

The six schools in which QPC is working are in areas where gangs are active, unemployment high and drug use and trading widespread.



*Maitland High School training for facilitators: showing the inter-connectedness of our actions*

### Peer mediation training March 2015

It is intended to establish peer mediation schemes in the schools with PAFOVs, to increase the agency of young people to manage violence in their schools.

The ifa grant made it possible to train QPC staff, two high school teachers and four facilitators associated with the Alternatives to Violence Project (AVP) in peer mediation. The training was conducted by Caroline McInnes from Maidstone Mediation Services, who trained peer mediators in two Cape Town primary schools on a voluntary basis in 2013, when her visit was facilitated by the CTQPCC. While in Cape Town she revisited Lantana Primary School, where she trained a further twelve 11-year old pupils as peer mediators.



*Role playing conflict during peer mediation training of trainers*

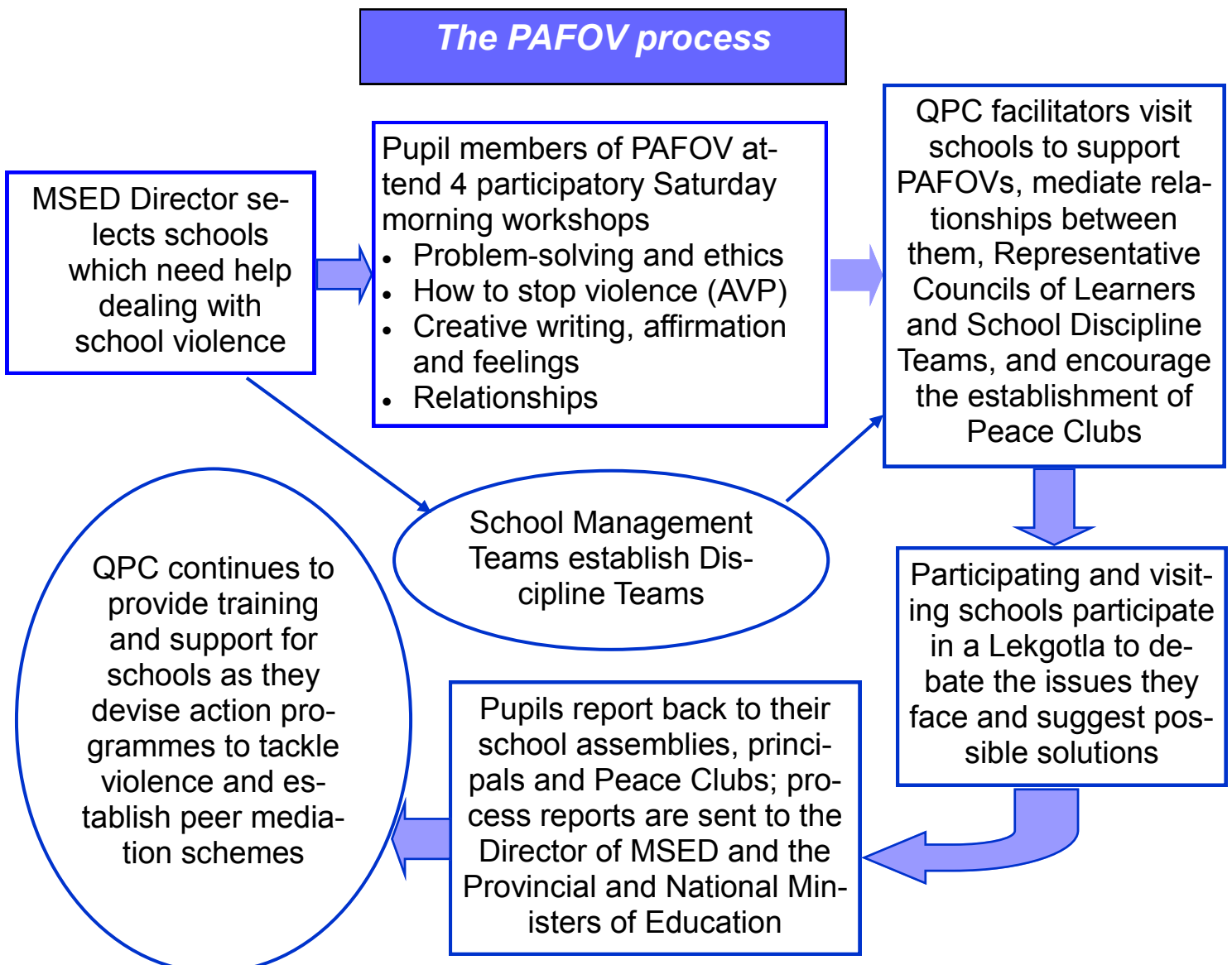
# Pupils engaged in building non-violent schools: the 2014 Lekgotla

In 2014, initial activities in four schools culminated in a gathering during which members of the PAFOVs presented their diagnosis of the main problems of poor relationships, bullying and violence in their schools and identified some possible solutions. The gathering was addressed by external speakers and attended by staff of the MSED, principals and teachers. Participants were encouraged to share experience and agree on a set of recommendations for action at MSED and school levels. QPC facilitated the event and has been commissioned to prepare a report which will be circulated to other schools and education districts.



*Pupils from Crestway High presenting at the Lekgotla*

## The PAFOV process



## QPC supporting an Anti-Bullying Week in May

At QPC's suggestion, the MSED is, for the first time, organizing an Anti-Bullying Week in all 200 secondary schools in the district. At MSED's request, QPC prepared a leaf-

let and an anti-bullying toolkit based on its guide for tackling bullying in schools, "My bully, my bra". These have been circulated to all the schools.

## Work with young women and parents

QPC is continuing its series of workshops designed to empower young women, as well as forums to provide education and support to their parents and caregivers and young fathers.

In March, the Western Cape Provincial Department of Social Development confirmed its contribution to the cost for the 2015/16 financial year.



*Nokuzola Lumatha, a parenting skills facilitator, gave the opening address at the Indaba and mediated a panel discussion*

*Young men who are already parents participating in the indaba*



In February and March, weekend Young Women and Parenting Support Forums were held in all six areas in which the programme is currently working and many of the parents have formed their own mutual support groups (including a WhatsApp group).

Finally, on 28th March, 77 young women, 76 caregivers and 10 young men from all six areas came together to share their experiences of participating in the programme. They described how it has enhanced their self-esteem and helped them to improve family relationships.

## Other projects

**Gender work with young men:** The text of the comic book for gender work with young men is nearly complete. A grant from Misereor will cover the cost of graphics and printing during 2015 and a donation from a British trust will contribute to the cost of producing and piloting a facilitators' guide.

**AVP Project:** Quäker-Hilfe e.V. is funding some of QPC's AVP (Alternatives to Violence Project) training and support activities for schools and the Tenterden Place of Safety for Young People.

QPC staff spend much time preparing further applications for funding.

# Supporting the Quaker Peace Centre: the QPC Committee's activities

## **Our support in 2014:**

In 2014, £43,500 was sent to QPC by the Committee (compared to £40,000 in 2013), made up of contributions from individuals and meetings, as well as grants from trusts with Quaker connections. In 2014, the Centre continued to receive some funds from the Western Cape government (and small sums from other sources), but its other large grant (from ifa) ended in December 2013.

The funds from Friends in Britain and Ireland, which are mostly not earmarked, are vital to enable the Centre to continue operating. Each year, the funds we send cover the administrative costs that project funders are so reluctant to fund and some salary costs. In 2014, they enabled QPC to

- keep on all its staff
- undertake some of the activities planned for the first year of its new PAFOV programme in schools, and
- continue preparing resources for gender work with young men.



*Selly Oak Local Meeting's curry evening to raise funds for QPC*

Contact the convenor, Carole Rakodi, at [rakodiqpc@talktalk.net](mailto:rakodiqpc@talktalk.net) or 02920 514701

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**New ifa funding 2015:** the Centre was not allowed to submit a new request to ifa until the end of 2014. It has now agreed to fund the PAFOV programme in 2015 (£34,580 - 75% of the budget) - see p. 1.

**QPSW relief grant:** concern about the lack of a large grant in 2014 and uncertainty about the future led the QPCC to apply on QPC's behalf for a QPSW Relief Grant for 2015 to cover the non-salary costs of peer mediation training for QPC staff and PAFOV members, and AVP training for the latter. A grant of £5,250 has been awarded.

## **Funds for core costs and other activities are still needed! How to give:**

- set up a standing order from your CAF or bank account. We can reclaim tax if you are eligible for Gift Aid.
- for one-off donations, please use the enclosed form and sign the Gift Aid declaration if you are eligible.
- see our website for details of how to give <http://qpccommittee.wordpress.com> or find the Cape Town QPC committee at CAF online
- tell us if you know of a trust or other body that might be interested in funding the work of the Centre.

**Finding out more:** our 6-monthly newsletter is sent to all Quaker meetings and individual supporters:

- ask to be added to the mailing list to receive newsletters by mail or e-mail
- use them to support an appeal or a fundraising event
- contact us or see QPC's own website <http://www.qpc.org.za>