

PHASA 2025

Partnerships for Public Health:
Sculpting a Healthier Future Together



PHASA
Public Health Association
of South Africa



CLINT GAVIN JACOBS

SOCIAL WORK LEADER & ADVOCATE FOR COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT

Clint Gavin Jacobs is a seasoned social work professional with over 13 years of dedicated service across South Africa's Western Cape. Renowned for his adaptability, strategic leadership, and passion for evidence-based social research, Clint excels in driving systemic change through policy development, community programs, and trauma-informed interventions. His career spans roles in child protection, substance abuse rehabilitation, victim empowerment, violence prevention, and education, underpinned by a commitment to empowering vulnerable populations.

Current Role: Deputy Director, Violence Prevention Unit

Western Cape Department of Health and Wellness (August 2023–Present)

Clint spearheads integrated violence prevention initiatives, collaborating with multi-sector teams to design localized strategies, operational plans, and capacity-building programs. Key responsibilities include coordinating stakeholder engagements (SAPS, municipalities, NGOs), monitoring intervention outcomes, and managing budgets. His work focuses on reducing community violence through data-driven solutions and fostering partnerships across government and civil society.

Leadership in Social Development

As Social Work Supervisor at the Western Cape Department of Social Development (2020–2023), Clint managed teams in child protection, gender-based violence (GBV), and substance abuse, ensuring compliance with national legislation and mentoring staff. He pioneered the establishment of Community Nutritional Development Centres and GBV therapeutic services, while streamlining office operations and transport systems.

Earlier roles include:

- Policy Developer for Victim Empowerment (2019–2020) Provincial Head Office Department of Social Development: Drafted provincial protocols for GBV shelters, advised on legislative amendments, and represented the department internationally, including engagements with the US Embassy. He also worked closely with the Hawks in the rescue of foreign and domestic victims of human trafficking
- School Social Worker (2017–2019) Department of Education: Addressed barriers to learning through trauma support, educator training, and anti-bullying programs, while strengthening partnerships with NGOs and corporate sponsors like Shoprite.
- Substance Abuse Coordinator (2013–2017) Department of Social Development: Founded Road to Recovery, a groundbreaking NPO providing aftercare to 200 recovering addicts, and established the first Local Drug Action Committee in Worcester.

Key Achievements

- Led disaster relief efforts for 500+ families affected by floods and fires (2012).
- Advised national ministerial committees on foster care reforms and gang intervention strategies.
- Establishment of Adult Education Training Centres in the Rural farm areas of the Langeberg

Education & Skills

Clint holds a Bachelor of Diaconology in Social Work from Huguenot College/UNISA (2010), with majors in Psychology, Sociology, and Community Development. His expertise includes conflict resolution, stakeholder liaison, and policy design.

Interests & Vision

Beyond his professional work, Clint enjoys target shooting, creative sports, and community research. He remains driven by a career objective: to transform social institutions into responsive, equitable systems that uplift marginalized communities.