



UNIVERSITY
OF
JOHANNESBURG

CENTRE FOR
SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT
IN AFRICA

Our Future
Reimagined

Symposium to Advance Social Justice and Human Rights of Older Persons in Contemporary Africa

4 – 5 JUNE 2024 | 08:00 – 16:00

Dear Colleagues and Partners

The DSI/NRF South African Research Chair: Welfare and Social Development, Centre for Social Development in Africa, University of Johannesburg together with partners, the Department of Social Work and Community Development, University of Johannesburg, the University of Pretoria, Nelson Mandela University, University of Cape Town, The Association for The Aged and Ikamva Labantu are thrilled to invite you to a **Symposium on Social Justice and Human Rights of Older Persons in Africa** which will be held at the University of Johannesburg's Business School (69 Kingsway Avenue, Auckland Park) in the Ground Floor Auditorium on the 4th and 5th of June 2024 from 08:00 to 16:00.

Older persons are at a high risk of neglect, financial, physical and emotional abuse, poverty, and violent crimes. A shift of consciousness is urgently needed to challenge negative stereotypes of older persons and ageing and to acknowledge their valuable contribution in contemporary times.

The main theme of this symposium: Social Justice and Human Rights of Older Persons in Africa, and the critical sub-themes will provide an opportunity to engage in rich dialogue and debate around a range of issues, pertinent to the social work profession and other key partners in this field of service delivery.



Faculty of Humanities
Fakulteit Geesteswetenskappe
Lêkollege in Humaniteite



NELSON MANDELA
UNIVERSITY



The conference programme will include the following topics:

The Care Economy/Aging in Place

- Care challenges faced by older persons and their families.
- Caregivers as stakeholders in the older persons care team.

Community-based services

Education and Professional Development

- Education and curricula for students in social service professions to deliver appropriate gerontological services.
- Continuing Professional Development for social service professionals.

Promoting human rights and social justice

- Ageism.
- Community and caregivers' understanding and support of older persons living with dementia.
- Disasters/pandemics/ conflicts and war / environmental risk factors.
- Economic challenges experienced by older persons.
- Elder abuse.

Resilience and agency of older persons

- Entrepreneurial initiatives undertaken by older persons.
- Digitisation and Artificial Intelligence: Possibilities in enhancing older persons' resilience.
- Psycho-social challenges experienced by older persons (loneliness, anxiety, grief, loss of autonomy).

This two-day symposium will give researchers, students, social work practitioners and policymakers the opportunity to share empirical evidence, experiences and insights regarding older persons and their contributions to enhancing a developmental social welfare agenda in South Africa and the continent.

REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN! Registration closes on 31 May 2024.

To participate in this symposium, please register [HERE](#). ATTENDANCE IS FREE!

For registration enquiries, please contact the symposium secretariat Ms Thembeke Somtseu at somtseu@uj.ac.za.

We look forward to welcoming you at the symposium. This promises to be an experience of loads of stimulating debates, a chance to build relationships, and broaden your networks with South African hospitality not to be missed!

Kind regards,



Prof Tanusha Raniga, DSI/NRF Interim South African Research Chair: Welfare and Social Development, Centre for Social Development in Africa, University of Johannesburg.

DISCLAIMER: The event may be photographed and video recorded for media and marketing purposes. By participating you grant the University of Johannesburg permission to use and publish any recorded material.

The University of Johannesburg encourages academic debate and discussion that are conducted in a manner that upholds respectful interaction, safety of all involved, and freedom of association as enshrined in the law, the Constitution, and within the boundaries of the University policies. The views expressed during events are expressed in a personal capacity and do not necessarily reflect the views of the University of Johannesburg.