

30 May 2024

## URGENT

## **<u>RE: Checkpoint\_eNCA / BUTTERFLY HAVEN</u>**

- 1. To all the parents who have children admitted to Butterfly Haven, alternatively attending the centre on a day-by-day basis for rehabilitative treatment, we would like to inform you of the following:
  - 1.1 We are aware of the program which aired on Checkpoint\_eNCA on the 26<sup>th</sup> of May 2024.
  - 1.2 Prior to the programme being aired, the executive producer was in contact with attorneys Edeling van Niekerk Inc. who in turn had supplied the executive producer with a full medical history of the events surrounding the medical condition and subsequent treatment of the minor child prior to his passing on 23 March 2024.
  - 1.3 The executive producer was also in contact with senior sister, Erica. Certain questions were put to her which she replied to as best she could.
  - 1.4 Notwithstanding the information supplied by our attorneys as well as Sister Erica, very distorted versions of events were portrayed during the screening of the programme.
  - 1.5 Nurses and care givers at Butterfly Haven were filmed without their consent. Selective/incorrect reporting on facts supplied by attorneys Edeling van Niekerk occurred. No medical facts were shared with the viewers. Untruthful and unverified answers were solicited from the mother of the minor child.

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- 2. We believe that the executive producer did not comply with the obligations set out by the Broadcasting Complaints Commission of South Africa (BCCSA), and if so, we intend laying a complaint against the executive producer.
- 3. It is our intention to respond in detail once the programme has run its course (we have been informed that a follow up episode is to be aired on Sunday evening, 2 June 2024). Should the name/rights of Butterfly Haven be tainted/infringed, we will take the appropriate action in the appropriate forum.
- 4. In due course, we will be communicating with each and all of you regarding all operations undertaken at the centre, so as to provide peace of mind that your children are properly cared for and being treated with the utmost respect, love and care.
- 5. Please bear with us as we work through this episode where a beautiful story had been depicted in the vilest manner through opportunism, self-interest and with a view of creating sensation.
- 6. Please feel free to contact the management at the centre or to make an appointment to visit and to discuss any aspect which you may have at heart.
- 7. Thanking you in anticipation.

Yours faithfully,

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Dirk du Plessis Director

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