

Monitoring and Evaluation of Peer Leader Training Programmes: A Strategy to Enhance Provision of Psychosocial Support to Vulnerable Learners in South African Schools

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ABSTRACT Monitoring and evaluation of peer led group training programmes is critical in ensuring that peer leaders are equipped with the necessary skills in the provision of psychosocial support to vulnerable learners. This study aimed to investigate the practice of monitoring and evaluation of peer led group training programmes. A qualitative approach and a case study research design were used. Semi-structured interviews were used to collect data. Four secondary schools and 38 participants were purposively selected. Data were analysed using a thematic approach. The major finding was that peer led group training programmes were not effectively being monitored and evaluated due to limited funding for the programme, lack of monitoring and evaluation technical skills, too much reliance on self-monitoring and evaluation which raises loyalty issues thereby compromising the effectiveness of peer led group training programmes. The study recommends that there must be regular monitoring and evaluation for these training programmes and the need for the provision of adequate financial resources.