

NGO launches online counselling for youth

'HELPLINE MAURITIUS' WEBSITE WILL PROVIDE CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE WITH PLATFORM TO DISCUSS PROBLEMS WITH EXPERIENCED PROFESSIONALS

Independent News Service

Port Louis, July 12

An online counselling service called 'Helpline Mauritius' was launched on Thursday at the Labourdonnais Hotel in Port Louis by members of the non-governmental organisation (NGO), the Halley Movement.

This site will be especially dedicated to children and young people.

The new online counselling service offers a green line, 134, which will be available to the people in Mauritius and Rodrigues. It will also provide ad-

A green line, 134, will be open to people in Mauritius and Rodrigues. The service will also provide advice through e-mail and instant chat at www.helplinemauritius.org.

vice through e-mail and instant chat via its website.

In this way, youngsters will be able to discuss their problems with advisers who have professional experience in the counselling field.

The service aims to help young people who are facing problems such as violence, prostitution, suicidal thoughts

among others.

Despite national laws and international conventions, children are still subjected to violence. Thus, Halley Movement took the initiative to create this project.

The general secretary of the movement, Mahendranath Busgopaul explained that this service is confidential and

anonymous.

"This means that there would be no face-to-face conversations and meetings between the counsellors and the youths," he said.

This innovative aid is far from traditional methods used and is easily accessible to children.

Nirmal Busgopaul, member of Halley Movement announced that they would hold monthly workshops to create awareness about these services.

More information about it is available at www.helplinemauritius.org. feedback@theindependent.mu