



Annual Review 2020/2021



Cotlands



A Note from the Trustees – *Rainbows are born in cloudy skies*

2020...No introduction needed. What started out as a year full of hopes and dreams became a time of challenge, panic and mayhem. Life as we once knew it, would never be the same in many instances.

Masks, social distancing, curfews, sanitizers has become the order of the day, forcing everyone into a different mould called the “new normal”.

Lockdown level 5 in South Africa was one of the world’s strictest. We were not allowed to leave our residences except for essential purposes such as grocery shopping and medical care. Adding to this all non-essential businesses were shut down. Through it all, there was no lockdown for poverty, hunger, terminal illnesses, animal cruelty etc.

At a time of great despair, our faithful donors continued supporting worthy causes through kind donations. Our nation stood together in solidarity and rallied together through a very precarious time. We cannot say THANK YOU enough to all our faithful donors.

The difference you make is far reaching and unfathomable. “Rainbows are indeed born in cloudy skies”. Looking forward, we hold onto hope, and remain grateful for all that was accomplished in this very difficult year.

With much gratitude,

The Trustees of The Giving Organisation Trust



Cotlands



About The Giving Organisation Trust

The Giving Organisation Trust is an independent trust (IT 12425/06) and a registered Public Benefit Organisation (NPO number 930029614). Representing ten of South Africa's well known good cause organisations, the Trust is honoured to have Her Serene Highness, the Princess of Monaco as patron.

The charities are representative of areas of need in our society and each has a proven record of accountability that has earned public trust and respect.

Furthermore the trustees are represented by a senior executive from each of the benefitting charities. Each benefitting charity is respected as a brand in their own right making donors feel comfortable giving towards the causes which include areas addressing children, education, cancer, feeding schemes, HIV/AIDS, disability, animals and nature conservation.

Children	
Health, Education & Feeding Schemes	
Wildlife, Animals & Nature	



The Trustees

ORGANISATION	TRUSTEE	CAUSE CATEGORY
ACFS Community Education & Feeding Scheme	Ms Bertha Magoge (Vice Chair lady)	Children; Health; Education & Feeding Schemes
Africa Foundation	Ms Sheila Surgey	Health; Education & Feeding Schemes
Desmond Tutu HIV Foundation	Mr Riaan Beukes	Health; Education & Feeding Schemes
CANSA	Mr Rudolf van Jaarsveld	Health; Education & Feeding Schemes
Cotlands	Ms Monica Stach	Early Childhood Development; Health; Education
CHOC	Mr Carl Queiros	Children; Health
Ithemba Trust	Ms Leone Jooste	Children
SA Red Cross	Ms Mabel Koketso	Children; Education; Disaster relief management
WESSA	Ms Shanitha Govender	Wildlife; Animal & Nature
NSPCA	Ms Christine Kuch	Wildlife; Animal & Nature



Covid 19 Crisis Intervention Response

Our country is facing an unprecedented crisis and we thank all our donors for their continued commitment.

The Giving Organisation Trust and its charities are all doing their part in the fight against Covid-19 and the extended fallout as a result of the lockdown.

The pandemic has affected everyone globally. Lives and livelihoods are being lost and sadly there is no lockdown for disease or poverty.

In times like these we are even more thankful to our faithful donors who enable us to keep our 'engines running'.

Once again, THANK YOU....our charities can never do what they do without your help.

Our charities are firmly footed on the ground and continue to serve our communities making the best and doing the most during these very trying times. We salute our charities for great work being done as outlined in this report.





ACFS Community Education & Feeding Scheme	Ms Bertha Magoge (Vice Chair lady)	Children; Health; Education & Feeding Schemes
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ACFS has 13 community centres in Soweto, Alexandra, Kagiso, Thembisa and Tsakane, where food is prepared and served to pre-schoolers and school children who have been identified as being at risk.

Each centre has a well established communal food garden, where volunteers from the community grow vegetables for the feeding scheme, as well as for their own use.

The centres act as community hubs, providing early childhood development programmes and a range of support services for families – such as access to information and resources such as computers, skills training and personal development.

None of this would be possible without the support of thousands of caring South Africans – ordinary members of the public as well as influential businessmen and women – who provide the funds to sustain the organisation.

**10 000 Children fed daily ● 315 Food parcels distributed monthly ●
13 Community Centres ● 2 418 Trained in food gardening**





Covid-19 Crisis Intervention

As the turmoil and crisis of the COVID19 Virus erupts all around us, one thing is clear ... the poor are very heavily affected and in many cases have no options to respond to the virus as some of our privileged communities do. While they scramble for basics such as food, nutrition and health provisions, their counterparts in the more privileged communities have turned their living rooms into online classrooms.

With the onset of the COVID19 Shutdown, we have focused our intervention to weekly food distributions to ensure that at a minimum the children from our vulnerable families do not go hungry. We also work directly with over 5000 households who receive a monthly food hamper for a family of five. Since the onset of the lockdown, we also revised our support to delivering a bi-weekly food hamper.

It is imperative that we consider expanding our reach to reach those individuals who have been affected due to loss of income or an inability to continue trading in one way or another to make the income required to put food on the table.

As the turmoil and crisis of the COVID Virus erupts all around us, one thing is clear in our response. We have to stay the course and ensure that our vulnerable communities, who are food insecure on good days, are supported. For many of our families, their livelihoods have been wiped away with no notice. The requirement for food and nutrition has multiplied. Without support to access food, these vulnerable families have more to worry about than just the spread of the COVID virus – they will go hungry. Many children in the townships depend on the school nutrition programme as well as our nutrition centres for a full meal each day.



Covid-19 Crisis Intervention

Food distribution



Meadowlands Food Market



Water Harvesting Tank being built in Meadowlands



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AFRICA FOUNDATION

empowering communities • enabling conservation



Africa Foundation

Ms Sheila Surgey

Health; Education & Feeding Schemes

Africa Foundation was founded in 1992 to uplift, up-skill and empower people living in key rural communities close to conservation areas. We believe that for true development to take place, we need to nurture, protect and preserve not only our natural environment and wildlife, but our people, our cultures and our customs.

By partnering with communities, Governments and the private sector, Africa Foundation supports the development of sustainable projects that empower communities and contribute to conserving Africa’s land and wildlife.



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Active in 73 communities across South Africa



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Covid-19 Crisis Intervention

We are overwhelmed by the outpouring of support for the 73 communities in which we are active. Needs are continuously evolving. As we work in close collaboration with Governments and other key stakeholders, collaborative efforts are increasing the impact that we have, and affecting the disbursement of our funds.

Community need has also changed as the COVID-19 environment has changed. We are dedicating time to engaging with communities to reflect on lessons already learnt, even as the pandemic continues to unfold.

As an organisation our community development focus areas have always been healthcare, education, rural business development, and have continued to be so, while our ways of overcoming acute shocks have been tested, and our plans for building a resilience that lasts has been put under the spotlight. We are extremely proud of everything that has been achieved in a short time, thanks to your generosity and belief in our ability to support communities in the most impactful way, and we are proud to be well positioned to evaluate and evolve to improve our effectiveness as a sustainable development organization.



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empowering communities • enabling conservation



Covid-19 Crisis Intervention



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CHOC

Mr Carl Queiros

Children; Health

CHOC is a non-profit organisation made up of caring, committed and passionate people who stand up for and support the well-being of children and teenagers diagnosed with cancer or life threatening blood disorders and their families.

CHOC aims to save lives through early detection and making the journey of those who are affected by childhood cancer, less burdensome through the comprehensive support programmes we offer.

What We Offer:

- professional emotional support
- emotional support
- accommodation close to treatment centres
- transport to and from treatment centres
- support groups (including parent supporting parent groups)
- CHOC interactive learning programme and other activities run by volunteers
- transport assistance to ensure every child and caregiver can return for treatment
- nutritional support

CHOC has a national office in Johannesburg, and six regional offices offering services and support to the nine provinces of South Africa



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Covid-19 Crisis Intervention

Since lockdown earlier this year, CHOC has been extremely busy, continuing to provide services to children and teenagers living with cancer and their families. Children who are undergoing treatment for cancer are at higher risk of contracting the Coronavirus by virtue of the fact that they have compromised immune systems. Whilst the world is in lock down it is virtually impossible for children undergoing treatment to be safe indoors as they need to continue with their life saving treatment.

The economic situation in which we find ourselves means that there is a large percentage of individuals who are currently unemployed. It is this reality that many of our families are facing. Without any form of income they are unable to transport their children to and from the hospital, are unable to provide the necessary nutritional requirements the child needs to stay health and are not in a position to provide masks and hand sanitisers to protect themselves against COVID-19.

In the past four months, we have seen an increase in demand for CHOC services. Because of the support of our donors we have been able to continue to provide essential services, and in some cases upscale initiatives, to ensure that all children living with cancer are kept safe, are attending treatment and are fighting for their survival.

These essential services include:

1. Provision of Accommodation through 13 CHOC accommodation facilities throughout the country where children and their parent/caregiver have been able to access safe accommodation, attend treatment sessions and have access to nutritious meals.
2. Provision of nutritional support in the form food parcels for vulnerable families as identified by the CHOC social workers based at the paediatric oncology units.
3. Transport funds to ensure that children are able to attend treatment and follow-up visits at the paediatric oncology units.
4. Psychosocial Support in the paediatric oncology units to ensure that families are mentally able to cope with the challenges of a cancer diagnosis and the treatment journey, are assisted with placement at a CHOC house, are provided with sufficient food have access to protective resources such as masks and hand sanitisers.



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Covid-19 Crisis Intervention

We have worked extremely hard to put measures in place to ensure that all our essential services are implemented in line with safety recommendations made by the National Department of Health. Whilst we need to upscale services we need to at all time ensure that we are observing these recommendations. This has meant that we have had to equip all our CHOC houses and offices with sufficient hand sanitizer and on the occasion that we have had beneficiaries and staff test positive for Covid-19, we have had to sanitize and deep clean the relevant CHOC house and/or office. We have also been able to provide masks to all our staff and beneficiaries are provide front-line staff, like our CHOC social workers and house support staff with the necessary PPE to ensure that they, and our beneficiaries are protected.

The Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) is an infectious disease caused by a newly discovered coronavirus in 2019. The World Health Organization (WHO) has said that 'most people infected with COVID-19 will experience mild to moderate respiratory illness and recover without requiring special treatment.

Older people, and those with underlying medical problems such as cardiovascular disease, diabetes, chronic respiratory disease, and cancer are more likely to develop serious illness.

CHOC is a non-profit organisation made up of caring, committed and passionate people who stand up for and support the well-being of children and teenagers diagnosed with cancer or life threatening blood disorders and their families.

CHOC aims to save lives through early detection and making the journey of those who are affected by childhood cancer, less burdensome through the comprehensive support programmes we offer.

During these trying times, CHOC as a registered essential service is focused on ensuring children and teenagers with Cancer are not even more adversely affected in addition to their current health challenges.



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Covid-19 Crisis Intervention



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CANSA – Cancer Association of South Africa

Mr Rudolph van Jaarsveld

Health; Education & Feeding Schemes

CANSA is committed to connecting people facing cancer with information, day-to-day help as well as emotional support they need in the communities where they live. Our aim is to ensure that cancer Survivors and their loved ones don't have to face cancer alone; we're here to support them through every step of their cancer journey.*

Your support helps us to continue the fight against cancer in South Africa and brings us closer to the challenge of a cancer-free society within our generation. Let this become our legacy to our children and generations to come.



Cancer affects one in four South Africans, through diagnosis of family, friends, colleagues or self.
We want you to know that you are not alone and that we would like to support you and your loved ones, regardless of how cancer has touched your life.

The current COVID-19 is a crisis like nothing we have experienced before. Never before in recent history have we witnessed the world economy coming to a standstill – it is worse than the recent global financial crisis.

The Cancer Association of South Africa (CANSA), as a non-Governmental non-profit company is totally dependent on donations to maintain the essential services that it offers. One of the important essential services that CANSA offers is accommodation in the CANSA Care Homes.

Immediate Impact of COVID-19

Poor and destitute individuals cannot afford that CANSA Care Homes close their doors as this will interrupt their Chemotherapy and/or Radiation Therapy with dire consequences for their recovery.

CANSA has 12 Care Homes across South Africa which provide home-away-from-home accommodation for cancer patients while undergoing their cancer treatment. These are patients from outlying rural and far-rural areas who cannot afford another form of accommodation, e.g. hotels or B&B establishments.



Some Facts About the CANSA Care Homes

- Over 2 100 cancer patients stayed at the CANSA Care Homes during the 2019/20 financial year
- Patients stay at the CANSA Care Homes for 6 to 8 weeks (per cycle), depending on their treatment.
- Patients are provided with transport each morning to the various cancer treatment centres and transported back in the afternoon after their treatment sessions
- In the case of childhood patients, CANSA provides accommodation to a parent, legal guardian, or older sibling who accompanies the child so that they can have contact with someone they know and who can keep family members informed of the child's progress

The CANSA Care Home staff were requested to provide some urgent requirements during the COVID-19 pandemic. Given the already weak state of South Africa's economy, the possible aftermath of COVID-19 is something CANSA can ill-afford. It is to be expected that because of increased unemployment, scarcity of resources and a negative impact on the socioeconomic situation in South Africa, funding from members of the general public and other sources may be difficult to come by and this will have a direct impact on service delivery by CANSA.

Without obtaining urgent continuous funding, CANSA will not be able to provide those services it has stood for since its inception in 1932. CANSA needs continued financial assistance to assist it to help patients access their lifesaving cancer treatments during, and after, the very difficult financial times South Africa is facing as a result of the worldwide pandemic.



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Covid-19 Crisis Intervention

CANSA TLC lodges - TLC Kids doing floor art during lockdown



During March and April 2020, through our generous donors we were able to support 30 children with the ports / broviacs to the value of R150 000, that they so desperately needed. The ports / broviacs were handed over to Frere Hospital in East London; Port Elizabeth Provincial Hospital; Steve Biko Academic Hospital; Dr George Mukhari General hospital in Ga-Rankuwa and Charlotte Maxeke Johannesburg Academic Hospital.



Many people with cancer and chronic conditions need support as they're especially vulnerable to COVID-19.



During the Covid-19 Crisis, children from poorer communities did not have the opportunities for distance learning even though they needed to continue learning through play and discovering in order for them to get the education and early learning stimulation while they were at home.

Cotlands communicated with the parents of the children we serve on a weekly basis through a phone call to check in on the family and to determine what help they needed regarding early learning. Brief videos based on Cotlands early learning plan were produced and sent via sms or WhatsApp to parents.

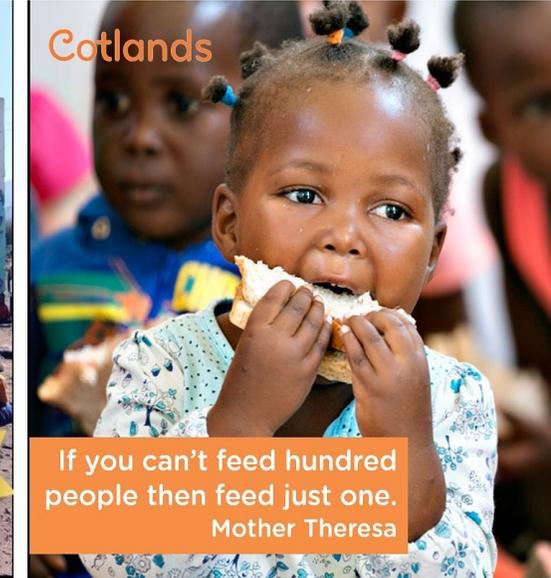
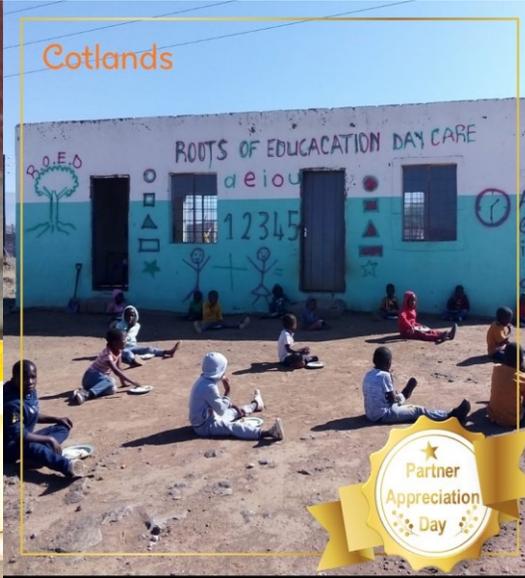
Data costs is a barrier for beneficiaries to access this information. To overcome Cotlands incurred the costs for the communities that we serve as far as possible.

Cotlands is excited at the prospects of launching our IGNITE online learning platform which we have invested in over the past 12 months. A large number of early childhood practitioners are not qualified because the training is not accessible or affordable. Cotlands has digitized two accredited training courses specific to the early childhood development sector: the Occupational Certificate: Early Childhood Development Practitioner (SAQA QUAL ID: 97542 – 131 credits), and New Venture Creation Toy Library Skills Course (Unit Standards: US114592, US115857, US263534, US114805, US263434 – 28 credits). Our aim is to enrol 2000 students onto these accredited courses.



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Covid-19 Crisis Intervention



Cotlands getting ready to re-open our early learning programmes across 47 sites around the country. In preparation for our re-opening an extensive list of supplies to keep our playgroups and toy library spaces hygienic and fully sanitised at all times is required. This means we need to have a large amount of safety items available to run our programmes such as masks, temperature guns, gloves, sanitisers, disinfectants, tippy taps, soap etc to keep our teachers and children safe.



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Covid-19 Crisis Intervention



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Covid-19 Crisis Intervention

Ithemba Trust	Ms Leone Jooste	Children
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The Itthemba Hope Trust was established to provide funds for educational and charitable institutions of a public character in the Republic of South Africa who are themselves PBO registered and is primarily focused on supporting organisations and schools who offer inclusive and equitable quality education for children with disabilities so that they will be afforded every opportunity to be able to reach their full potential. The Trust has been able to reach out and collaborate with community based programmes through partnerships with our beneficiary PBO's and financially assisted them with capacity building of staff and care workers; supply of therapeutic equipment; life-impacting camping and outreach experiences and mobility facilitators at 5 special needs centres in the Johannesburg region.

The 2020 year started well with exciting plans and the Itthemba Hope Trust in discussions with our disability beneficiary organisations to introduce various innovative initiatives on how to support their essential services that are always underfunded, under resourced and not well supported by the relevant government departments.



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Covid-19 Crisis Intervention

These were:

- To create employment opportunities for youth to work in the disability field
- To initiate job creation opportunities for young people with disabilities, as well as income generating opportunities for parents /primary caregivers of children with disabilities
- To offer families and caregivers a range of services that will support them in caring for children with disabilities in their own communities
- To increase the skills of families, care workers, home visitors, youth, older persons and Early Childhood Development (ECD) practitioners working with children with disabilities

But then Covid19 happened with lockdown and closure of schools which has totally disrupted not only all our Trust's intentions but those of many charitable institutions around South Africa. Even before Covid-19, approximately only 241 000 children with disabilities attend various facilities and schools but not all of these are equipped to adequately meet the needs of these children. A further 600 000 children with disabilities remain out of school with no access to any developmental programmes. As an organisation that has supported and funded many organisations and schools that serve children with disabilities in South Africa for 22 years, the Itthemba Hope Trust is very worried about how the impact of the Covid 19 Corona and the lockdown will further sideline these indispensable services.



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Covid-19 Crisis Intervention

The Ithemba Hope Trust collaborates with caring, committed and dedicated organisations who stand up for and champion the well-being of children with challenges. During this pandemic, the Trust has been supporting charities to sustain them through this unheralded COVID 19 time that with the lockdown and government health regulations have been unable to carry out the 'heart' of what they are all about: that of offering beneficial psychosocial interventions for children with disabilities and serious life challenges

One such an organisation is Just Footprints Foundation who offers children with disabilities and serious health and life challenges, unique life-changing experiences that help these children reclaim their childhood, restore hope for the future and renew their sense of possibility. Their camp programmes are more than just fun and are purposefully designed to foster independence, resilience and personal growth, helping children reach beyond the limits of their medical conditions and life challenges and experience all that life has to offer. Campers are encouraged to be fearless, to escape and fantasize, and to enjoy being just children once again. For these children, a childhood filled with fun and laughter, make-believe and fantasy seems like a distant dream but Just Footprints Foundation makes their dreams come true in safe secure environments with professional medical support and always free of charge.



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Covid-19 Crisis Intervention



The Ithemba Hope Trust has been able through the innovative efforts of the Just Footprints Team to continually connect and emotionally support severely stressed beneficiary organisations' staff by reaching out with encouraging calls and on-line 'Community Huddles' on Zoom and handing out 'carer goodie bags' during the Covid19 lockdown regulations and the confusion around whether and when the children will be allowed back 'in person'. Disabled children especially have been stuck at home without physical and intellectual stimulation or support with parents/carers who do not have the skills to assist their children. Our intentioned community upskilling initiatives earlier this year, would have been of great needed support at this time.

Our sincere gratitude and thanks once again for the donations and support during this unprecedented Covid19 pandemic. Stay safe, stay well and stay blessed.



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Covid-19 Crisis Intervention

WESSA (the Wildlife and Environment Society of South Africa) is a South African environmental organisation which aims to initiate and support high impact environmental and conservation projects to promote participation in caring for the Earth. For over 90 years we have proactively engaged with the challenges and opportunities presented by our country's unique natural heritage and the social and economic systems that depend on it.

We have become a leading implementer of environmental initiatives: We work with schools and teachers throughout South Africa on a range of local and international programmes to support and improve school curricula with regard to environmental learning, enabling learners to achieve their full potential towards a sustainable future by taking environmental action in their own areas. Blue Flag is the global symbol of quality for beaches, boats and marinas in the environmental management of our coastline and coastal waters to help tourism growth and development. The Green Key eco-label recognises tourism establishments demonstrating excellence in the field of environmental responsibility and sustainable operations. Our professional training programmes are addressing South Africa's skills shortage, and we are also implementing programmes to develop an empowered and enthused youth sector. We are supporting the conservation of life-supporting biodiversity and water resources through ecological infrastructure projects which involve the removal of invasive alien plants and the rehabilitation and restoration of ecosystems.



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Covid-19 Crisis Intervention

WESSA, as the oldest environmental organisation in South Africa also focuses on education programmes in rural areas.

WESSA has a national footprint and covers support education for thousands of learners and teachers annually. Our Schools programmes supports the curriculum in full and consist of Eco-Schools, Young Reporters for the Environment and Learning about Forests.

The Covid-19 Pandemic has focused us towards on-line training and education for teachers and learners through our International Schools Programmes and our 5 education centres located in KZN, Limpopo and Northern Cape.

Our Education Centres provide curriculum support in an outdoor practical classroom environment with a focus on Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics and Arts.

It is critical that these skills be delivered to the rural communities we serve since these communities do not have the luxury of unlimited data and home schooling.



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Covid-19 Crisis Intervention

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2021 ENVIRONMENTAL DAYS



January

Waste

- 26 World Environmental Education day **4**



February

Water

- 2 World Wetland day **15**
- 15 World Whale day **16**
- 27 Polar Bear day



March

Energy

- 3 World Wildlife day **15**
- 8 Int Women day **5**
- 15-22 National Water week **6**
- 18 World Recycling day
- 21 International day of Forests
- 21 Human Rights day
- 23 World Meteorological day **13**
- 27 Earth Hour **13**

April

Climate Change

- 7 World Health day **3**
- 13 Int Plant Appreciation day **15**
- 14 Dolphin day **14**
- 22 Earth day **15**



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



May

School Grounds

- 2-8 Int Compost week
- 8 National Bird day
- 8 World Migratory day
- 22 Int day for Biological Diversity **15**
- 23 World Turtle day
- 25 Africa day **11**



June

Biodiversity & Nature

- 5 World Environment day **15**
- 8 World Oceans day **14**
- 16 Youth day **16**
- 17 World day to Combat Desertification and Drought **13**
- 22 World Rainforest day

July

Plastic Free Month

- 11 World Population day **8**
- 14 Shark Awareness day
- 15 World Youth Skills day **4**
- 31 Int Ranger day



August

Eco-Tourism

- 9 Women's day **5**
- 10 World Lion day
- 12 Elephant day **15**
- 23-27 World Water week **6**
- 31 African Traditional Medicine day
- 30-5 Arbour week **15**

September

Arbour Month

- 30-5 Arbour week **15**
- 1 Spring day
- 2-6 National Parks week
- 16 World Ozone day **13**
- 18 International Coastal Clean-up day
- 18 World Water Monitoring day **14**
- 22 World Rhino day
- 26 World Rivers day **14**
- 27 World Tourism day **8**
- 28 Green Consumer day **12**

October

Marine Month

- 4 World Animal day
- 5 Worlds Teachers' day **4**
- 7-11 National Marine week **14**
- 9 African Penguin day
- 16 World Food day **2**
- 24 Int day of Climate Action **13**
- 21 Earth Worm day
- 16 World Hunger day **2**

November

Health & Wellbeing

- 19 World Toilet day **6**
- 20 Int Children's day
- 21 World Fisheries day **14**



December

Community & Heritage

- 4 Wildlife Conservation day **15**
- 5 World Soil day
- 11 Int Mountain day



2021 is the year to #buildbackbetter.

Please feel free to use and share the WESSA Environmental Days calendar to plan your environmental events and activities for next year.





Covid-19 Crisis Intervention



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The NSPCA works nationally.

Uplifting the welfare of animals is a significant form of community support. Priority is given to impoverished and especially rural areas where there are no veterinary services and where donkeys – for example – are used to transport water and food, to take children to and from schools and even as ambulances.

Funding is essential not only to enable this work to continue but also to enable expansion and to give assistance to many more needy communities who depend upon their animals.

The NSPCA has been recognised as an essential service. Our work has not stopped during the COVID-19 lockdown. Nothing has changed. On-site support is being given which means our staff travelling to areas where assistance is required. Improving the welfare standards of animals may include veterinary treatment and the replacement of equipment. It is essential to continue and expand the hands-on assistance and skills development for owners of donkeys.

Primary health care for animals impacts positively on the health of communities. Treating animals for fleas and lice (to mention but two) means they cannot be transferred to humans.

People and animals go together.



Covid-19 Crisis Intervention



For over 60 years, the NSPCA has been protecting our country’s animals. We prevent cruelty, promote kindness and alleviate the suffering of animals.

Our objective is to serve and protect ALL animals, to uplift their welfare and to ensure that the protection they have under South African law is upheld and respected.

“ Looking back over the years to our humble beginnings in 1955, we stand proud in the knowledge that our progress for animals over the years has been phenomenal. We have grown in numbers, advanced the education and training of Inspectors, honed skills, drawn from experience and become specialists in the welfare of all animals. We have entrenched ourselves as the most influential animal welfare organisation in Southern Africa.” – MARCELLE MEREDITH Executive Director





Covid-19 Crisis Intervention





Covid-19 Crisis Intervention

The South African Red Cross Society is part of the world's Largest Humanitarian Movement and supports people affected by natural disaster and conflict.

The first South African positive case of COVID-19 was reported on 5 March 2020. In South Africa, the global COVID 19 outbreak has affected all nine Provinces, with 517K people testing positive for the virus, as at 3 August 2020.

The members of the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement (IFRC) in Southern Africa were in a meeting when the news broke. Their meeting was immediately adjourned, and the SARCS team, together with the IFRC, started planning their Disaster Management response.

The SARCS activated response teams across all 9 provinces to support the Government in its efforts by mitigating the spread of the virus. Currently, the activities that are being carried out at provinces are public awareness, hygiene promotions, risk communication, media relations, contact tracing, distribution of hot meals to the vulnerable groups and distribution of information, education and communication materials at strategic areas.



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Covid-19 Crisis Intervention

SARCS has been working tirelessly to assist the South African Government with public awareness, hygiene promotions, risk communication, media relations, contact tracing and distribution of hot meals to vulnerable groups. All of this is made possible by our volunteers.

A Red Cross Red Crescent volunteer is a person who carries out volunteering activities for a National Society, occasionally or regularly. Red Cross Red Crescent volunteers work for a more humane and peaceful world. This is the official definition, but, on the ground, they are so much more.

“I’m passionate about people and also inspired by community development and making a difference, especially for the most vulnerable people of society. I have been volunteering for more than ten year’s and believe that I’ve made a difference in many people lives and the community”, says Mrs Gugulazo Mhlongo.

A SARCS volunteer remarked after distributing food parcels to orphans and child-headed homes in Mamelodi, Pretoria: “It has made a great impact and difference to our community and the children who benefited from food parcel. We know it is not easy running around to arrange that we reach vulnerable communities. We would also like to thank all the people that donated and helped in packing, making sure that they reach to people in a very dignified manner.”

The South African Red Cross Society, “Always Needed, Always There”



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SARCS has been working tirelessly to assist the South African Government with public awareness, hygiene promotions, risk communication, media relations, contact tracing and distribution of hot meals to vulnerable groups. All of this is made possible by our volunteers.

A Red Cross Red Crescent volunteer is a person who carries out volunteering activities for a National Society, occasionally or regularly. Red Cross Red Crescent volunteers work for a more humane and peaceful world. This is the official definition, but, on the ground, they are so much more.

“I’m passionate about people and also inspired by community development and making a difference, especially for the most vulnerable people of society. I have been volunteering for more than ten year’s and believe that I’ve made a difference in many people lives and the community”, says Mrs Gugulazo Mhlongo.

A SARCS volunteer remarked after distributing food parcels to orphans and child-headed homes in Mamelodi, Pretoria: “It has made a great impact and difference to our community and the children who benefited from food parcel. We know it is not easy running around to arrange that we reach vulnerable communities. We would also like to thank all the people that donated and helped in packing, making sure that they reach to people in a very dignified manner.”

The South African Red Cross Society, “Always Needed, Always There”



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Covid-19 Crisis Intervention

To date, the SARCS has trained 2 094 volunteers, conducted contact tracing involving 403 709 individuals and are assisting the Department of Health in their Contact Centres. In terms of relief provision, SARCS provided more than 240 000 hot meals and distributed nearly 15 500 food parcels and 1 900 hygiene packs (including buckets and soaps). The SARCS has distributed 3 700 blankets to vulnerable people in shelters. Volunteers also reached 500 000 people through public education awareness and risk communication.

“The SARCS depends on donations to carry out its statutory mandate of providing humanitarian services across the lengths and breadth of South Africa. Thanks to kind contributions and donations the SARCS can now reach more people and widen its geographical coverage in all branches. The Mpumalanga region has just been reopened, and a sponsored vehicle will be deployed there to ensure that more people can receive services”.



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Covid-19 Crisis Intervention

Funds received covers the following activities:

- Each Branch will reach at least 4 additional local areas with COVID-19 education, information, contact tracing and screening.
- Each Branch will support at least 3 municipal/government health centers with education and tracing of affected families.
- The National Office will be strengthened to provide Psycho-Social training and support for volunteers, as well as to equip more of them with the necessary skills to address such issues at community level.
- The South African Red Cross Society will continue to provide hot meals for the homeless, child-headed households, the elderly, orphaned and vulnerable children, and disabled persons. In addition, they will provide food parcels and vegetable seeds.



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Covid-19 Crisis Intervention

The SARCS is carrying out the following activities, inter alia ;

- Supply of PPE, including face masks, gloves, disposable overalls, hand sanitizers, for our volunteers and staff that assist with the above-mentioned activities;
- Provision of hot meals for the homeless and Places of Safety;
- Provision of food parcels for identified vulnerable community members
- Provision of blankets for identified vulnerable community members
- Provision of mattresses for identified vulnerable community members
- Providing support to department of health with screening and contact tracing;
- Supply of buckets and soap for hand washing demonstrations and household usage for identified vulnerable communities.





Covid-19 Crisis Intervention

Besides community based research, we support communities by providing tailored, differentiated sexual, reproductive, HIV and TB treatment and prevention health care services to some of the most disadvantaged communities.

The services provided from our youth clinics and our fleet of mobile clinics including the Tutu Teen Truck, Tutu Tester and Amajita Tutu Truck for men. Services offered to youth, young men and adolescents from, included HIV, TB, STI, mental health and pregnancy screening, contraceptives, PrE Exposure prophylaxis, treatments and health information and counseling.

Our Covid-19 campaign includes but is not limited to:

- Covid-19 screening and testing on our mobile clinics
- Contact tracing and screening for Covid-19 and TB
- HIV testing in all Covid-19 and TB cases and household contacts.



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Covid-19 Crisis Intervention

The DTHF is continuing to serve our communities during the #COVID19 pandemic, but we need your help!

We have launched an emergency appeal to adapt our services, support our communities and protect our frontline staff serving as essential workers. Our communities need us more than ever.

Funding received from TGO has been used to procure much needed PPE for community members visiting our clinics and mobile clinics, we have also been issuing our youth attending clinics with food vouchers, these vouchers have empowered young people to not only sustain their own needs but also the needs of their families, thereby providing food to at least 90 individuals.

Besides community based research, we support communities by providing tailored, differentiated sexual, reproductive, HIV and TB treatment and prevention health care services to some of the most disadvantaged communities.



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Covid-19 Crisis Intervention



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