

Acknowledgements

The Association extends our sincere and grateful thanks to all those who assist us in our mission, be they volunteers, donors, staff, partner organisations, sponsors or friends. Your commitment, dedication and loyalty are an encouragement to us in our service to persons with disabilities and their families.

Partners

National Council for Persons with Physical Disabilities in South Africa
 Cerebral Palsy Association of the Western Cape
 Muscular Dystrophy Foundation - Cape Branch
 Western Cape Forum for Intellectual Disability
 QuadPara Association of the Western Cape
 Afrikaanse Christelike Vroue Vereniging
 Western Cape Network on Disability | Western Cape Rehabilitation Centre
 Inclusive Education Western Cape | National Institute for the Deaf
 Multiple Sclerosis Society | Institute for the Blind
 Cape Mental Health | RampUp | Funders Affiliates
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Disability is the inability to see ability

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WHERE WE ARE

Beaufort West APD | Bergvliet APD | Bethesda Hout Bay | Breede Valley APD | Cape Town APD
 Drakenstein APD | George APD | Goukarn Neuro. Life Assn | Heidelberg APD | Heidelberg APD
 Irs House Children's Hospice | Jo-Dolphin Swartland APD | Knysna APD | Moorreesburg APD
 Mossel Bay APD | Ocean View APD | Ollifantstriver APD | Oudtshoorn APD | Overstrand APD
 Paarl Stimulation Centre | Robertson House | Die Sterreweg | Tembalethu Day Centre | Tygerberg APD
 Wallace Anderson Home | West Coast APD | Witzenberg APD



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Annual Report '13/'14

design a print 021 975 9648



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SERVICES

Social work services
 Occupational therapy
 Skills development
 Vocational rehabilitation
 Day care & stimulation
 Motor vehicle rebates
 Beach access certificates
 Advice on legislation
 Sensitisation workshops
 Awareness campaigns
 Talks and exhibitions
 Access assessments





Highlights

Human Resources

Human Resource Development has evolved to become a valuable resource for Branches, providing recruitment & selection services, supporting Branches in labour actions and industrial relation disputes when necessary. Our orientation programme for new employees has been accredited with 16 CPD (Continuous Professional Development) points and Group Supervision for social workers also received 16 CPD points accreditation. We were privileged to receive 8 Health & Welfare SETA interns, of which one remained on as our Social Media Co-ordinator.

Marketing & Awareness

Possibly the largest barrier to the inclusion of persons with disabilities in society and the most difficult to overcome, is public attitude towards disability. These are years in the making and while we realise that this will not turn around quickly, much has been done to raise the profile of persons with disabilities in the public eye. We now have a staff member dedicated to creating and maintaining our presence in social media, which the public has begun using to contact us, commenting on relevant topics and voicing their opinion. Our boardroom has been equipped for the reception of the satellite broadcasts from Stellenbosch University, allowing us to distribute information on disability issues to interested people. Perhaps the most memorable highlight of the year was Will Scott, a quadriplegic, who chose to paraglide off Signal Hill to raise awareness under the banner of "Impossible is Nothing", his message being that persons with disabilities can do anything they set their minds to.

Fundraising

As with other non-profits, we face the challenge of securing sufficient funding with which to continue providing services. The participation of 17 new corporate funders to our Casual Day efforts and the appearance of the mascot Able on SABC3's EspressoShow resulted in project growth of 38%, while The Foschini Group nominated us their beneficiary for 2013 and made a substantial donation. Our day care centres required appropriate and accredited first aid training which was happily supplied by ER24, who have gone on to partner with us on other projects. The Lollipop Day Campaign is a fundraiser aimed at children, for children, teaching children social responsibility from a young age. The 33% growth in this project has convinced us that with the right care, this project could become a national campaign. Our newest project is an annual Christmas Market held for the first time during this year. The arts & crafts items made by persons with disabilities was of a very high quality and we experienced fantastic support from the community. The backbone of our fundraising is the 25 year old car competition utilising persons with disabilities selling tickets outside most Pick 'n Pay stores. This competition has evolved over the years, but it's still a winner!



Governance

Governance of the organisation was greatly impacted by the retirement of our Provincial Director. The most significant change was to split the Director's position into two; one Director being responsible for Professional Services and the other for Administrative Support Services. This has resulted in a more focussed approach to services and we trust we will reap the benefits. For the first time in our history, we formulated core values for the organisation, Respect, Inclusion, Empowerment, which we will carry forward into all aspects of our service delivery.

Services

Social services are focussed on the development needs of persons with disabilities, their families and communities, generally around empowering and assisting clients with the application for social grants, school and residential placements. Our footprint has grown over the past year as two branches joined the APD family. Helderberg APD went against the trend to focus only on awareness raising and this has given them a strong position in their area from which to establish social services. We are excited about the prospect of developing the currently limited services in the Hessequa municipal district, where services to persons with disabilities has developed slowly through a door-to door survey by the social worker, resulting in the start of a peer support programme and a few activity groups. It is our hope that the Department of Social Development will assist us in permanently establishing services in the area. Our challenge is to reach areas experiencing a need for services but where there are no APD branches. The high staff turnover amongst social workers, thereby creating instability in service rendering, is a concern and makes expansion difficult. Despite these challenges, our vision remains to provide effective social services to every person with a disability, their family and their community throughout the Western Cape. Our Peer Supporter programme is a support network of people with disabilities and parents of children with disabilities which strengthens the support available in communities for people and children with disabilities and their families and caregivers. The programme expanded to 10 areas during this year, where the impact of Peer Supporters their community has been a tremendous help to our social workers, being the eyes of the professionals on the ground. Identifying people with disabilities that have been hidden away, uncovering hidden abuse and providing protection for those involved, are some of the direct results of their work. Funding from the Independent Development Trust has allowed us to employ the Peer Supporters via the government's EPWP programme. We applaud the work done by our Peer Supporters who have shown, courage, determination, wisdom and creativity in their work in communities. Our occupational therapists presented a paper on the programme at the OTASA Congress early in 2014, and lectured UCT's 3rd year occupational therapy, physiotherapy, speech therapy and audiology students on community-based rehabilitation and the Peer Support strategy.

Branches

Beaufort West APD

Nog 'n jaar is verby, 'n jaar wat baie voorspoedig was vir Beaufort-Wes APD. Danksy die betrokkenheid van vele vrywilligers, staatsdepartemente en verskeie ander donateurs kon ons suksesvol daarin slaag om nuwe programme te implimenteer. Befondsing vanaf die Departement Maatskaplike Ontwikkeling het ons in staat gestel om 3 versorgers en 1 Program Implementeerder in diens te neem. Part of the services provided to the public by our workshop is the repair of shoes and leather items. Four persons with disabilities are permanently assigned to this section, which has allowed them to specialise in the making of sheepskin slippers.



Breede Valley APD

Since December 2013, Breede Valley APD has implemented two new youth training units with the support of the Kinderfonds Mamas, Netherlands. Twenty youth with intellectual disabilities receive daily arts and crafts skills training and skills training in the kitchen, on a rotational basis, providing youth with disabilities the opportunity of engaging in constructive activities and the opportunity to supplement their income with the sale of products.

Cape Town APD

Our highlights are associated with triumphs despite adversity. The decline in donor income resulted in some key staff leaving the Association. However, despite less staff, we were able to continue our services to people with disabilities and host various events for their empowerment and the sustainability of Cape Town APD. These events included the Masekhane Empowerment project for business skills, involvement in the City of Cape Town Entrepreneurs Programme, a Human Rights Awareness Day, participation in the George and Hermanus wheelchair events, a Thanksgiving Event and Market Day.

Drakenstein APD

Verna Kasper, a Sign Language instructor, supports and teaches persons with disabilities to cross the bridge into the world of the deaf. Verna has trained our Drakenstein Sign Choir who are slowly making a name for themselves. They first performed at Worcester's International Day for Persons with Disabilities in 2013 singing the popular song "WE ARE THE WORLD", followed by the Annual Year-end Appreciation Ceremony of Drakenstein APD.

Goukam Neurological Life Association

Goukam Health succeeded in maximizing the rehabilitation of several clients with acquired brain injuries, resulting in successful compensation claims from the Road Accident Fund so that brain injury survivors could return to their own homes within the community.

Ocean View APD

Entrepreneurial development is close to our hearts, so the Bric-a-Brac shop which opened this year and is managed by persons with disabilities, is a tremendous step forward in economic empowerment.

Helderberg APD

Helderberg APD has appointed their first staff member who is tasked with actively leading, facilitating and promoting disability awareness and integration in all its aspects through strategic partnerships, sharing information and sensitisation. We have now formed partnerships in Stellenbosch with the Sakekamer, Stellenbosch 360, University, Municipality and Moederkerk, and with Strand Municipality and Senecio in the Helderberg area.

Mossel Bay APD

This Branch became independent from George APD during the year under review, where they had originated as a project. The year was a time of growth with the establishment of a parent supporter group in Groot Brak rivier, the appointment of a person with a disability as manager for the day care centre, training opportunities in sewing and manufacturing of duvets and bread baskets by adults with severe disabilities. We look forward to all that the coming year has to offer!

Olifantsrivier APD

Karin Burger, 'n persoon met 'n gehoor gestremtheid, het haar plek aangebied vir perdryterapie vir ons kinders van die Reënboog Kindersorg sentrum. Ons het in Februarie 2014 met die terapie begin, met verstormende resultate: kinders se spiere en balans het merkbaar begin versterk, so dat 'n seun met serebrale gestremtheid sy eerste drie treetjies alleen begin gee het en 'n sesjarige met serebrale gestremtheid sy eerste twee woorde geuter na hul derde rit.

Oudtshoorn APD

Oudtshoorn APD is trots om 8 ondersteuners aan persone of families met 'n lid met gestremtheid te hê, wat op daaglikse basis diens lewer in Oudtshoorn en Dysselsdorp, asook gesprekke en opleiding rondom VIGS/MIV en voorkoming van gestremtheid aanbied.

Overstrand APD

Our intern attended Africa Unite Organisation's human rights training weekend, attended by students from the University of Connecticut, Zimbabwe, Tanzania and South Africa. The training exposed students to a more in-depth meaning of human rights and how these rights should be implemented into communities. This was excellent preparation for the expansion of services in our area. The revival of the Mothers of Hope Support group in Hawston which supports mothers with children with disabilities is a true highlight.

Tygerberg APD

We made tremendous inroads in securing employment for clients by linking them to learnerships and opportunities in the open labour market, thereby improving quality of life and independence. Peer Supporters reached out to 72 persons with disabilities in Mfuleni alone. Awareness raising & sensitisation programs in various communities reached a large number of people and went a long way towards dispelling the myths that society has regarding both disability and HIV/AIDS.

Witzenberg APD

Social services expanded during this year and now includes a community worker coordinating the needlework and vegetable garden groups in Nduli, Bella Vista and Wolseley, as well as 5 Peer Supporters. We continue to raise awareness amongst community role-players on disability issues in outlying areas, as well as advertise our services so as to reach the greater possible number of people requiring support. Our second-hand clothing store has proved extremely successful, opening in Ceres on the 1 October 2013, and managed by a committed team of volunteers with donations from the public.

