



Chairperson's Report

2009/2010

It is with great pleasure that I report on the activities of the Trust for the financial year ended 31 May 2010. Our service in the communities of the Overstrand continues to grow as we build our reputation of providing good quality programs of care, awareness and commitment.

Our grateful thanks to our Administrator, Corrie, who has again done a wonderful job for the organisation. Her dedication has been unbelievable and truly much appreciated. The management and staff are to be congratulated on their performance both in the office and out in the field. Without their passion, patience, and dedication we would not have been able to offer the much needed support to all the Overstrand communities.

The job of fundraising is always a difficult task, and is a vital element of our work. Without adequate funding the Trust's work could not be done. This year, we made an important decision to employ a full time fund-raiser. I welcome, and at the same time, congratulate Brian who has achieved outstanding success in the short time that he has been with us. He works tirelessly to promote the Trust's work, through continuously updating our website, speaking regularly on the radio and sending out a monthly news letter. His input on other service issues of the organisation has also been of tremendous value.

To give you some insight into the workings of the Trust I have listed the following notable interactions and achievements this year:-

1. Our first star status accreditation by the Hospice Palliative Care Association for being an emerging NGO in palliative care services. We are about to embark on our second star status this coming year.
2. The enrolment and participation of our Health Home Based carers in the EPWP training program. After four years they can study further to become professional nurses. Presently we have four carers on Level 1, 7 Carers on Level 2 and 2 carers on Level 3 in this program.
3. With the assistance of the Hospice Palliative Care Association of the Western Cape, our Nursing Sister Martie Abrahams completed her specialised training in palliative care at St. Lukes hospital.
4. We have been well supported by other organisations with both funds and valuable training and information. Our gratitude and thanks to Maria Demjon of the Hospice Palliative Care Association and to Janet McKay of Starfish, for all their advice, guidance, training and support
5. Our Counsellor, Erica Kibido was given the opportunity of attending a workshop in Israel, on Violence and Abuse of Women— our grateful thanks and appreciation to Mrs. Ann Harris for giving us this wonderful opportunity.

6. Through our IMCI Program (Identification and Management of Childhood Illnesses) this year, 46 children were identified with tooth decay, skin infections, respiratory infections, diarrhoea and Downs Syndrome.
7. Our Social Services Manager, Mzameni Mshenixswa received his NPO Management Certificate from the University of Stellenbosch Business School
8. Our Health Manager, Jeremy Du Toit achieved his Management & Development Certificate from the Hospice Palliative Care Association after 2 years study. This has recently been accredited by the University of KZN.
9. We now have 500 patients and our Health Home Based Carers and Nursing Co-ordinators this year completed 68,412 visits to all our patients in the Overstrand
10. Over and above their commitment to patients care, the Rainbow Trust, in partnership with the Dept. of Health did the following campaigns during the year: Diarrhoea, TB Screening, Pap Smears, Woman's Health Awareness (Cancer, Diabetes, Diet & Nutrition, Foetal Alcohol Syndrome), HIV Testing with a new fast track system called ACTS (advice, consent, testing, support), and Immunization for children 0-5 years.
11. We have a total of 6 health support groups who have regular sessions for their medication, & at the same time are given Nutrition & Health Awareness advice on their various illnesses. There are a total of 238 women attending these sessions. They are also learning crafts.
12. Stirling Motors partnered with us and helped to install an eco-loo system in Gansbaai for our orphans & vulnerable children centre – our sincere thanks for their participation & support. The childrens' braai was a roaring success.
13. The Marine Hotel, their suppliers and staff raised funds towards our childrens' Christmas presents for the end of the year with an evening 'Christmas in July' dinner. Included in the evening was a fashion show modelled by volunteers with clothes from Matthews and Hubbards Cupboard and hair styling was done free of charge by Johan. Nick Altona De Klerk auctioned wine donated by Creation Wines and Newton Johnson Wines, and jewellery donated by Gita Finlayson. Our grateful thanks to all of you for making Christmas so special for the poor children. The expression on the childrens' faces was what made it all worthwhile.
14. Our Parenting Worx Home Based Carers have done 85 home visits to assist mothers with their babies. On a weekly basis we presently have 40 women with children 0 – 5 years attending parenting & awareness, 30 mothers attending a support group where they are learning crafts and 20 mothers attending the Woman's Self Awareness Program
15. In partnership with the Dept. of Social Development we have been giving our orphans and vulnerable children psycho-social support and regular counselling. We presently have a total of 350 children on this program. Our social Home based carers have done regular door to door visits and assisted people with ID's, Birth Certificates, and grants.
16. To celebrate the opening of the 2010 Soccer World Cup the Hermanus Rainbow Trust held an 'Awesome Rainbow Day' by painting flags on faces at businesses and for persons in the street and at the same time our vehicle and staff members drove through the towns of the Overstrand, blowing vuvuzelas, and dancing in the streets
17. During the World Cup two children were chosen from our Children's Circle of Support to see the game played in Cape Town. Starfish funders in Scotland provided this awesome opportunity.

OFFICE / ADMINISTRATION

Due to the tremendous growth in our organisation we require a large space for offices. It would make sense to operate some of our programs on the same premises. We always battle to find suitable venues to hold community meetings and provide some of the services which we offer, such as our 'Parenting Worx' program, which includes Pre-natal & Post natal care, Children 0-5 years Health, Social & Early childhood Development, Counselling, and Support Groups. The new building would be known as the 'Parenting Worx Centre'.

GRADE R PRE-PRIMARY SCHOOL

We have been battling to acquire a suitable building since 2006. The numbers have grown and we have had to split our classes into 2 buildings. This is very unsatisfactory and creates unnecessary pressure on the teachers and the children. We have been registered with the Department of Education since 2003.

Some of our teachers are studying with UNISA for their B.Ed Diploma Foundation Phase which takes 4 years to achieve. We believe that the foundation phase is the most important and recently have employed a Mentor and supervisor for the pre-school to assist the teachers with their studies, ensure that the curriculum is being correctly followed and that all the children who are struggling are given extra attention.

FINANCIAL RESULTS

Once again, there was tremendous growth in our various projects and this in turn greatly increased the pressure of work on our staff. Raising sufficient funds to cover all the running costs is still extremely difficult as people are only interested in funding actual projects and direct beneficiaries.

Once again, for those who are not aware of it, the Hermanus Rainbow Trust is approved by SARS as a Section 18A organisation. We are allowed to issue Section 18A Certificates to all businesses and persons who donate funding to us for the services we render, as we provide activities which the Government has prioritised. Donors who are South African taxpayers will, broadly speaking, be entitled to deduct the total value of their donations to Section 18A approved organisations in any tax year, up to a limit of 10% of their taxable income for that year.

FINANCIAL YEAR END

Our financial year end has always been May. From 2011 this is to be changed to the end of March to coincide with the majority of the Government service contracts we receive.

STRATEGIC PLAN 2010/2010

The Strategic Plan is still in draft form and will be finalised within the next 6 months in order to plan for the coming year 2010/2011.

TRUSTEES

At the Annual General Meeting held on 28 November 2009, the existing Board of 8 Trustees were re-elected.

It is important for any organisation to have new Board members with fresh ideas joining and this is certainly true for us. Unfortunately it also means that some of the stalwarts of the Board have done their job and have moved on. At the beginning of this year we said goodbye to three of our Trustees, Nellie Tebele, Elizabeth Klaas and Nobahle Nyembezi, who were responsible for playing a huge role in building the foundation of the Hermanus Rainbow Trust. I would sincerely like to thank all of them for their commitment, vision, and all the tremendous work they did during their years of service, and wish them all of the best for the future. One of our Trustees, Colin Anderson, has taken a year's sabbatical, we trust that he is having a very much needed rest!

In February, this year we also welcomed four new members on our Board who have brought with them a lot of enthusiasm and expertise. To our new committee I would like to express my thanks and gratitude for their commitment, time and expertise behind the scenes – it has truly been a great inspiration. It is so important that we remain professional, proficient and accountable which is so necessary with our exponential growth. My appreciation and particular thanks go to our Vice Chairperson, Mzameni Mshenxiswa, who has always been there when I needed him. Mzameni will be standing down as a Trustee as he will be devoting all his time to working for the our organisation.

PROJECTS & PROGRAMMES / FINANCIAL REPORT

An overview of the Projects & Programmes will be presented by Corrie-Ann Howard (our Administrator) while Sandra Nel (our Treasurer) will be presenting the Financial Report

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS AND THANKS

I would like to thank our many funding partners, donors, organisations and individuals, who have all contributed to improving the Trust's ability to meet the many challenges faced. To all the volunteers who have come to our aid I salute you with gratitude and admiration!

My grateful thanks to the Trustees for their support. All involved should feel justly proud of what we have achieved.

In conclusion I wish once again, to thank all our staff for the great job they are doing - we could not and would not exist without all of you.

'There is no more noble occupation in the world than to assist another human being - to help someone to succeed' - Alan Loy McGinnus



Vivienne Owen (Chairperson)

Website: www.rainbowtrust.org.za