



## **HERMANUS RED CROSS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**16 SEPTEMBER 2019**

### **CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT.**

Each Red Cross Branch or Station applies the International and National Organisation's Mission in a way that best suits its own situation on the ground, and in Hermanus/Overstrand, our focus is upon:

- Disaster Management allied to Overstrand Municipality
- Medical Loans Depot
- First Aid Stations & Training
- Home-base Care Training
- Welfare & Feeding Schemes Network
- Funding of Projects

Hermanus Red Cross has been in existence since 1957 within the aegis on Western Cape regional headquarters of the Provincial Red Cross headquarters in Wynberg, Cape Town.

This report reflect the past year although we did not have an AGM in 2018.

We do not actively seek additional volunteers. We do not fundraise as we have had generous benefactors.

First of all I should like to say that we have enjoyed our new premises shared with SANTA since July 2016 and we work well together.

#### **Disaster Management,**

Whilst we are allied to Overstrand Municipality, there is an increasing need to be part of a continuous and integrated multi-sectoral, multi-disciplinary process of planning and implementation of measures aimed at emergency preparedness; a rapid and effective response to disasters; a post-disaster recovery and rehabilitation.

To this end we have written a document to illustrate what resources we can offer this community in the event of a disaster. However last year in terms of post disaster we worked with Rotary Hermanus to assist with people who lost homes and possessions during the political unrest in 2018

### **Medical Loans Depot**

This offers a 2 hour shop from Monday to Friday and has a variety of equipment to loan. On average 40 items are loaned per month. There are approximately 60-80 drop-ins monthly which include enquiries /advice and soup kitchen collections. There are a number of telephonic and e-m enquiries usually related to training.

### **Training**

**Home Based Care (Level 1, 2 and 4) and First Aid training (Level 1) on hold.**

Both courses are currently awaiting completion of Accreditation for HWSETA qualifications. This process has no time line at present and we refer requests to a First Aid facility in Sandbaai.

HBC training is provided for a private organisation employing our teacher and using this facility

### **Welfare:Funding of Projects**

**Soup Kitchens:** 8-14 organisations receive dry ingredients to make soup

Lucky Point Crèche is situated in Botrivier, a crèche accommodating up to 40 children between ages 1 and 6 years of age is a recent example.



**An entrepreneur who had created an Internet Café** opposite the Zwelihle Clinic in Swartdam road, which was destroyed during the political unrest in Hermanus last year. He was assisted by Hermanus Red Cross with a new Printer, four plastic chairs and a work counter and has set up a facility within his home.



### **Gift of the Givers**

This organisation responded to Hermanus during the political crisis and we have made a contribution to their work.

### **Six Shortened First Aid courses and kits given to Crèches and After School Care facilities in Mount Pleasant and Zwelihle, Early 2018**

These facilities were given a short course to assist in basic first aid principles and later received follow up evaluations.

**Zimbabwe:** Flood victims.

### **Stitching communities together- Zwelihle**

20 young people learnt how to embroider a tapestry illustrating their local history and taught by teachers from the Keiskamma project who had been inspired by the Bayeux tapestry. This has created skills and led to other products.



### **Learners kitted out from head to toe**

When 13 houses burnt down in Zwelihle, 16 children were left without school uniforms. The Rotary Club of Hermanus and The Red Cross Society worked with Child Welfare to make sure the children from three different schools were kitted out from top to toe with new clothes. Food supplies were given to the primary school too.



### **Medical equipment donated to 4 organisations in August 2018**

The depot medical loans rooms were filled to capacity and has been difficult to show people equipment, store and or keep clean. We decided to rationalise contents and dispose of all extra items, believing this could prove helpful to us all.

Donated to:

Huis Lettie Theron, Lombardi, Home Based Care coordinated by Women's Action Group.

We **worked** with **Women's Action Group (WAG)** to provide a bed for a home carer affected by the same fire.

### **Website report:**

Our Website has been operational since late 2016, visited almost equally by male and female. In less than 3 years Users amount to: 6771 and 45.05 % of page views reflect interest in training. [www.hermanusredcross.co.za](http://www.hermanusredcross.co.za)

### **The Future**

This is a little uncertain as SARCS has been confronting considerable organisational challenges, seemingly working hard to resolve these problems. We hope to be able to offer training within 6 months and in the meantime we will do our best.

**Committee Members 2019:** Chairperson: A. Heslop, Christine Paine, Denver Scheepers, Estelle Koen, Kitta Nieuwland. Theo de Meyer