



NOAH'S CORNER

“We rise by lifting others.”

Robert Ingersoll

It's hard to believe that the festive season is upon us as it feels as though we have lost a year! Our prayers are with all of those that have suffered heartache and loss and we thank you for your ongoing support during this very challenging time.

While Covid-19 has challenged all of us, it has also highlighted many aspects of our work, reinforcing what works and showing us opportunities for meaningful change.

One thing this year has taught us is the value of relationships and partnerships – without which we could not possibly have protected and supported our members and residents from this deadly disease.

Through these partnerships we have been able to provide protective gear and adequate food support to all of our members, intervene psycho-socially when required, provide activities to keep the blues away and even provide electricity and airtime to those in dire need.

We hope you enjoy reading this update as well as our enclosed Annual Report for 2019/2020. Thank you from the bottom of my heart for helping us to keep the ark afloat in 2020 and we look forward to a very interesting and jam packed 2021!

We wish you a very happy Christmas and a restful festive season.

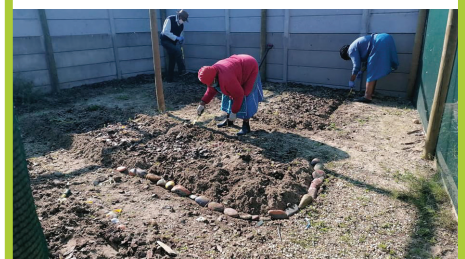
Anne

.food security



We are grateful that this pandemic has shone a spotlight on the need for a sustainable food security response from NOAH. Never has it been more clear the role of the elderly as custodians of food provision to their families and in ensuring that grants and food are shared with the entire family.

We have increased our efforts to establish food gardens in both Woodstock and Khayelitsha. In 2021, we will assist our members to establish food gardens in their homes.



.housing

The residents managed to cope with the lockdown regulations but have suffered the effects of not being free to move around as much, and not seeing family and friends. NOAH has provided as much support as possible to mitigate the impact of this.

We are extremely grateful that we have not had a COVID-19 case in any of our homes. We continue to keep residents informed, as well as protected through donations of protective supplies, such as masks, visors and hand sanitiser.

This Christmas, each resident will also receive a Christmas food parcel, thanks to the generosity of our individual NOAH supporters.



.changing how we work

Recognising the need for greater resilience and sustainability, a team of 5 staff members have completed their training in the Asset-based Community Development (ABCD) method.

ABCD is an approach that appreciates the strengths, potentials and capacities that communities inherently have to shape and drive their own development. It will be rolled out to all staff and members in 2021. This approach is set to transform how we work with individuals and communities.

.digital

Like the entire world, we have (sometimes fearfully) embraced all things digital. Our Zoom AGM was a new format for us but we were thrilled to have had a successful experience.

As staff, we have been blessed with opportunities to attend valuable online webinars, courses, and workshops which have helped us deepen our impact and embrace new ways of doing development.

We are proud to have successfully migrated to the cloud and will now be looking to introduce a new CRM system, to further increase efficiencies and improve our impact reporting.

.back to business

Like so many other businesses, our social enterprises took a knock under the lockdown.

We have been lucky to have slowly opened Jou Ma Se Kos (formerly The Takeaway) and the Trestle Table in Woodstock, as well as the Spaza and second-hand shop in Khayelitsha.

These businesses are critical to fund the work of NOAH and provide purpose and income for our participants.

100% of our members who have returned to work have reported their mood has improved significantly since returning and have again found their mojo!

Since the start of the lockdown, we have recruited five more members to join the Woodstock team and are most grateful for their contributions.

The Khayelitsha social enterprises will re-open in February 2021.

.NOAH angels

We have been lucky enough to have been blessed with angels in all shapes and forms over the last eight months. Through an order from an overseas funder, 2021 will see us work with a local business creating jobs for unemployed individuals and our own members in Khayelitsha and Woodstock in producing these beautiful key ring angels. Place your order with us if you are interested in purchasing these angels!



.dates

	close	open
NOAH	24 December	4 January
Clinics	11 December	mid-January
Trestle Table	23 December	4 January
Take-away	18 December	mid-January



.reflections on Covid-19

We thought we would share some quotes from our members in Khayelitsha regarding their experience of NOAH and the support they have received thanks to generous sponsorship, funding, and individual donations.

"It is difficult to express my gratitude to NOAH. I never thought what is happening would happen. If I had known, I would have been more involved at the centre. I have tried but I didn't think I could do much. The supplies we are getting from NOAH help me personally as I cannot go to the supermarket due to arthritis. Keep up with the good work NOAH."

Mrs Sikoti

"We thank NOAH at this time of Covid-19, you showed us wonders by taking care of us. We stay at home as we do not need to go out the shops to buy food, we had food all the time. NOAH delivered food parcels to us at our homes every month and because of that, none of the NOAH members passed on due to Covid – 19. We were protected, I say thank you to NOAH. My neighbours envy me. When the NOAH vehicle comes, they wish they were me."

Mr Sebezo

"The support my Grandmother is getting from NOAH is much appreciated. The entire family is benefiting from the support NOAH is giving my grandmother. Thank you NOAH and your sponsors."

Mrs Mthini's granddaughter

"When NOAH informed us in March about the coronavirus and said we couldn't go to the centre, I thought we were going to die at our homes. Lots of people died, churches and schools closed, and people lost their jobs. I would like to thank NOAH for taking care of us during this difficult moment. They didn't stop visiting us and they brought us food to eat with our families."

Mrs Xego



.health & wellness

Our clinics continued to offer phone consultations as well as medication deliveries throughout lockdown. We also set up a COVID-19 hotline and an isolation room in Woodstock.

They have now fully re-opened again and continue to offer world-class medical care to all members.

We have been lucky enough to have Board member, Prof David Coetzee, to guide us in all protocols and procedures

using his extensive knowledge and experience in infectious diseases, as well as his networks.



We recently bid farewell to Vivienne Prince, the NOAH administrator for over 15 years. We wish Vivienne a blissful retirement and thank her for her integrity and keen eye for detail. We have since welcomed Mellisa Petersen as our new administrator. Mellisa has years of experience in the development sector. We wish her luck and happiness in her new role.



On 1 October we celebrated the International Day of Older Persons and with generous sponsorship were able to provide delicious lasagnes, cupcakes and gift packs to all of Khayelitsha members and their families.

COVID-19 could not keep us down. We have become closer as a team and membership and shared many laughs over the last couple of months. We are grateful for our resilience and our collegial friendships!



"I am looking forward to my children's continued safety and to clearing our stock at the Trestle Table."

Maraldia, Trestle Table
Shopkeeper and centre member



"I am looking forward to a fun festive season with a few visitors if the numbers do not rise too much."

Boyce, McNulty resident



"I am looking forward to the back of 2020!"

Valda, McNulty resident and
assistant at Jou Ma Se Kos

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