

**Drikie Snyman**

**From:** Drikie Snyman [marketing.no@epilepsy.org.za]  
**Sent:** 05 October 2009 12:00  
**To:** 'Drikie Snyman'  
**Subject:** FW: National Electronic Newsletter August 2009  
**Attachments:** rocketseed\_insert1.gif; rocketseed\_insert2.gif; rocketseed\_insert3.gif; rocketseed\_insert4.gif; rocketseed\_insert5.jpg; rocketseed\_insert6.jpg; rocketseed\_insert7.jpg; rocketseed\_insert8.jpg; rocketseed\_insert9.jpg



August 2009

**Dear Subscriber**

After completion of National Epilepsy Week in June 2009 and all the National Epilepsy meetings in July 2009 we are now faced with a short 5 month period before we reach the end of this year.

**What has happened during July?**

I am happy to announce that the Epilepsy South Africa National Directors meeting that took place from 27 July – 31 July was a huge success. Once again the Directors of all the Epilepsy South Africa Branches and the National Office shared information on services rendered, feedback and needs of clients, future developments and success stories. This meeting was further utilized to deliberate on strategic matters, service expansion and planned developments, ensuring that our services stay relevant and consumer focused. It provides me with huge satisfaction to know that Epilepsy South Africa is reaching such a diverse consumer group, making a difference in the lives of people with epilepsy and / or other disabilities. We are also very proud to announce that Epilepsy South Africa is well on our way to establish our first official Branch in the Eastern Cape Province, which is critically needed by people with epilepsy within this province.

On 31 July 2009 the Epilepsy South Africa Educational Trust hosted their AGM, as well as their 10th year anniversary celebration and the Trustees of this Trust are very proud of the successes achieved by the students whom received bursaries from this trust.

On 1 August 2009 Epilepsy South Africa National Office successfully hosted their AGM and National Board meeting and we are proud to announce that the following people have been elected as the National Board of Epilepsy South Africa for the 2009/2010 financial year:  
 Steering Committee members:

- Mr. Tim de Villiers (Chairperson)
- Mr. Potso Mohajane (Vice-Chairperson)
- Mr. Joseph Stoltz (Treasurer)
- Mr Solly Mokgata
- Mr Christo Loots
- Mrs. Georgina Mbambo

Branch representatives to the National Board:

- South Cape/Karoo Branch: Mrs Sue Viljoen
- Free State & North West Branch: Mr Sello Mofokeng
- Mpumalanga & Limpopo Branch: Mrs Christene Muamba
- Gauteng Branch: Mrs Roweena Stewart
- Western Cape Branch: Prof Roland Eastman

Epilepsy South Africa would like to thank each of these individuals for giving their time free of charge to assist us in the governance of Epilepsy South Africa and reaching our goals and objectives.

I would also like to direct a special word of thanks to Mr. Bobby Digangoane who resigned from the Epilepsy South Africa Board due to ill health and Mrs. Roweena Stewart the outgoing National Chairperson of Epilepsy South Africa for their years of dedication towards our organisation.

**What lies ahead?**

During August – December 2009, the National Office of Epilepsy South Africa will focus on the remaining implementation targets of our business plan. One area that will receive a lot of attention is the implementation of our development project within the Eastern Cape and the formalization and establishment of our Eastern Cape Branch.

We will continue our economic development and social development services, as well as our networking, marketing, awareness, education and advocacy services.

We are also in dire needs to increase our funding income, especially during this trying economic climate, and as such we invite all our readers to join in our fundraising activities and projects, especially Casual Day which will take place on 4 September 2009.

I want to wish all our readers well for the last five months of the year and hope that you will keep in contact with Epilepsy South Africa. We always appreciate receiving your communication and we would definitely like to be of assistance if you are in need of any services.

Yours faithfully  
 Noëline de Goede

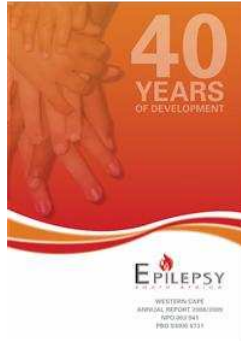
National Director Epilepsy South Africa

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### Celebrating Epilepsy and Human Rights



Epilepsy South Africa Western Cape invites you to our Annual General Meeting and to join us in the celebration of our 40 years of development

Date: 27 August 2009  
Time : 14h00- 16h00  
Venue: Epilepsy South Africa, Wetton Road Lansdowne

RSVP: Berenice Berry by Friday 21st  
Tel: 021 703 9420  
Email: [wcape@epilepsy.org.za](mailto:wcape@epilepsy.org.za)

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### Western Cape launches its Disability Sensitisation Programme!



As the Western Cape Branch, we pride ourselves in being one of the forerunners in creating awareness and educating the public about disability issues through our public education and advocacy programme. Our main aim is to promote inclusion of people with disabilities in the general community, in schools as well as in the workplace, all in an effort to provide meaningful ways to assist and support people with disabilities.

Our experience within the public education and advocacy domain is extensive and our areas of training include the education, health, corporate, public and welfare sectors. Our well structured training programmes are well received and are constantly in demand. Our knowledge and experience of people with disabilities generally and in the workplace is generated from our interaction with our clients as well as through our protective workshops and income generation projects. Through these protective workshops and projects, we are made acutely aware of the challenges and needs that people with disabilities have. Not only do we focus on people with epilepsy, but also on people with other disabilities. Further we promote the inclusion by accommodating people with disabilities within our staff compliment, and through internship programmes

It is through these positive experiences that we have designed a Disability Sensitisation workshop aimed at creating awareness about disability specifically in the workplace. The programme covers areas which focus on disability issues in the workplace, discrimination, barriers, setting up support programmes and inclusion. The programme was piloted with the Department of Social Development Head Office with 30 participants from various directorates within government. It was well received and much discussion was generated on the various aspects. We plan to roll out this programme within other districts in the near future. Should you be interested in having one of these workshops at your place of employment, please contact me 021 7039420.

Anthea Emmanuel  
ESA Western Cape Social Development Manager

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### The services of Epilepsy South Africa Free State and North West Branch

No organization can stand still. You either move forward or back. At our branch we make sure that we are constantly moving forward by starting new and exiting services. At the moment we are proudly rendering the following services.

### **1. Community Services**

#### **a. Community Development**

Our Community Development team goes out into the community and identifies clients and vulnerable groups that we render support to the people that are in need. Apart from the identification we work with the people so that they can become part of the social interaction of their communities

#### **b. Stimulation Services – Mokwallo**

Mokwallo is a small community in the Northern part of the Free State. At this center we provide stimulation and day care to 15 people with various disabilities so that their families can go to work and provide better care for them.

#### **c. Economic empowerment**

In these difficult times that we are living in we found so many talented people in our direct community that need our assistance so that they can make a living for themselves. In this program we teach people business skills and financial skills. Soon we will tell you more about the expansion of this project that we are currently busy with. In this program we render support to young and up coming welfare organization so that they will be able to render improved services to their clients.

#### **d. Food Security**

Thanks to the partnership with the National Development Agency we provide guidance and support to 15 groups of people so that they can become self-sustainable by means of their own community Vegetable gardens.

#### **e. Vryburg office**

The Vryburg office is the first satellite office that this branch started. At this office we provide services to people in this rural part of the North West Province. In this area there are not a lot of services so the light the Epilepsy South Africa is bringing is burning bright. The services are very intensive and differ from individual cases to group support and distribution of information.

### **2. Residential Care**

#### **a. Clinic**

At our residential care facility we are rendering medical services to our residents in the Centre. These services are rendered in a hygienic and safe environment. At the clinic we have a pharmacy, Doctors room (with a doctor visiting the centre every second week) and a six bed observation room.

#### **b. Day Care**

We provide day care services to 35 people from the community. Some of our day clients at the day care centre work within the economic empowerment program and others are being cared for at the stimulation centre

#### **c. Stimulation Centre**

So many people with disabilities are being neglected or can not have a productive employment. For this we are rendering the support and stimulation program so that the people in the centre can build their potential to their fullest.

#### **d. Accommodation**

At present we care for 79 people with epilepsy and or other disabilities within our care facility. Our clients receive 3 meals per day, support services like counseling and stimulation. Apart from these services we give assistance so that our residents can become socially integrated.

### **3. Education and advocacy**

With this program we make sure that the community knows about epilepsy. Apart from the awareness we provide support and counseling to people that experience problems that hampers them to live a full and productive live. Most of these problems occur because they do not understand epilepsy.

### **4. Outreach services**

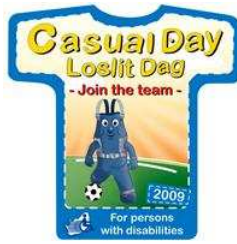
#### **a. Home Based Care**

We have 450 patients under home based care as well as DOT support. We are the only organization in our area that does VCT (Voluntary Counseling and Testing) – drug readiness

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**Casual Day 2009!**



Friday, 4 September is Casual Day, the biggest fundraising project for persons with disabilities. Dress differently that day, donate your R10 and wear your Casual Day sticker proudly.

A few things to remember:

- Get your official Casual Day sticker for a R10 donation at an Epilepsy South Africa Branch or National Office at 0860374537 or 021 447 3014
- Wear something different to what you normally would.
- Convince your boss and colleagues to participate. It is great fun!!

#### Not sure how the project works? Let us answer all your questions!!

What is Casual Day?

- Casual Day is the biggest fundraising & awareness creating project for persons with disabilities.
- Every year on the first Friday of September we ask you to dress different than usual and wear the official Casual Day sticker, benefiting persons with disabilities.

When is Casual Day 2009?

- Always on the first Friday of September . . . this year it's 4 September 2009.

Why you should participate?

- Help us to raise funds and create awareness for persons with disabilities.

Who are the beneficiaries?

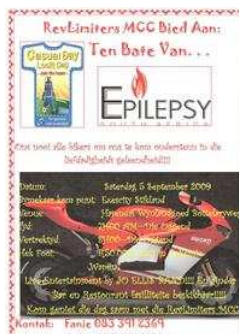
- The National Council for Persons with Physical Disabilities in SA
- SA National Council for the Blind
- Disabled People SA
- Epilepsy South Africa
- SA Federation for Mental Health
- Deaf Federation of SA

So come on! Be part of the team this year and wear your Casual Day sticker to show your support for persons with disabilities.

For more information: Call us on: (021) 4473014 Fax us on: (021) 4485053 E-mail us at: [marketing.no@epilepsy.org.za](mailto:marketing.no@epilepsy.org.za) Visit our website at: [www.epilepsy.org.za](http://www.epilepsy.org.za)

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#### Rev Limiters doing it for Epilepsy South Africa National Office!



A Casual Day Motorbike Rally will be held to benefit the Epilepsy South Africa National Office and their Casual Day project. You do not have to have a motorbike, there will be fun for everyone. The Jo Ellis Band will entertain the audience and good food will be available. The bikers will depart at 08h00 Exescity Stikland. The event will culminate from 10 onwards.

Venue: The Plaasteater, Bottelary Road, Brackenfel

Date: 5 September

For more information contact Drikie Snyman at 021 447 3014 or [marketing.no@epilepsy.org.za](mailto:marketing.no@epilepsy.org.za)

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