

# WCAPD NEWS

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Affiliated to



The National Council for Persons with Physical Disabilities in SA

## Disabled raise their concerns at open day

Education was the main concern for residents who have children with disabilities at the Brown's Farm Community Hall in Philippi when the Cape Town Association for the Physically Disabled (CTAPD) held an open day on Friday.

The NGO, whose mission is to promote and provide social development services to enhance the quality of life for persons with physical disabilities, promised residents they will come back to discuss ways for disabled people to access higher education as it is their constitutional right.

CTAPD, which works around the Western Cape, organised the open day when they noticed that people living with disabilities were still isolated in Philippi because they don't know where to go for help in terms of accessing basic services.

Director of CTAPD Bridget van der Merwe told the crowd their aim is to see disabled people getting out of their homes and taking part in the development of their communities.

"We target people with physical disability to promote their interests including their families so they are able to stand on their own and be involved in community development. Our clients have different needs so we encourage them to engage in discussions in our consumer forum whether they talk about their challenges, create participation and self-representation. We have noticed that in this area poverty, lack of facilities and accessible transport are the main problem. We will work with this community to deal with the challenges they face."

After taking questions from the crowd, Ms van der Merwe said there was an urgent need to access education and promised that they will be back with the relevant stakeholders to address the issue.

"Many people today wanted to know how their disabled children can access higher education and how those who already have matric can access bursaries to study further. We will look at ways to bring these services to the people by inviting education stakeholders" she concluded.

Area 9 social worker, Ntombi Siyema, covers Philippi, Lower Crossroads and Samora Machel. "We render therapeutic and support service, we go out for home visits twice a week. We do counseling and assess the needs of the client, draw a plan on how we are going to work and also do referrals where necessary to the South African Social Security Agency (SASSA), clinics, Social Development and rehabilitation centres. We are doing well in the area. We have over 300 members and have helped many get jobs through our skills development programs," she said.

"We have people who now have wheelchairs through our programmes and we distribute food parcels to those in need. There is still a lot to be done but at least disabled people have a platform where they can voice their concerns which include accessibility to resource centres and schools," she said.

Chairperson of the Consumer Forum, Walter Coba, said the organisation has really helped to uplift disabled people who are grabbing opportunities presented to them through this organisation's programmes. "I encourage disabled people to come out in their numbers and be part of the CTAPD so that they are represented on all levels and benefit from the funds the government has set aside for them," said Mr Coba.

Pheliswa Desemela from Philippi said she has been struggling to get her sister's disabled daughter to school but CTAPD has pointed her in the right direction.

"I'm taking care of my sister's disabled daughter. She passed matric last year but I didn't know what I needed to do to get her enrolled for higher education so today the CTAPD pointed me in the right direction. I will speak to one of their social workers who will assist in getting the child to school. I feel so relieved because I was worried about her future."

- Olwethu Mpeshe

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EDITED

### Editor's note

CTAPD works around the **Cape Metropole**.

## Nuwe Bestuur vir die Klein Karoo Sportklub vir Persone met Gestremdhede



**Die verkiesing van die nuwe Bestuur vir die Klein Karoo Sportklub vir Persone met Gestremdhede het op 28 Maart 2011 plaasgevind.**

**Voor links:** Charmaine Williams (Addisionele lid), Daniel Saaiman (Onder Voorsitter), Elna Madolo (Sekretaris), Susan Spires (Voorsitter). **Agter links:** Eshida May (Addisionel lid), Mariet Oostenhuizen (President SWD Sportklub vir Gestremdes), Kenridge Lukas (Addisionele Lid)



**Oudtshoorn** Groot dinge is aan die gebeur in Oudtshoorn tydens die ABSA KKNK. Ons Beskermende Werkswinkel het die fees besoek en het al die straat vertonings baie geniet. Wat 'n onvergeetlike dag in die lewe van elkeen teenwoordig.

## LAUNCH OF THE SA HEARING INSTITUTE



The South African Hearing Institute aim to **inform society** about the “impact of hearing loss” in people`s lives. Hearing loss is something that could happen to any person. Eventually it does happen to a certain extent in all of our lives sooner or later. They believe that each person who wishes to empower him/herself with the knowledge on the “impact of hearing loss” should have the opportunity to do so. Integration of this marginalized group of persons must be the common goal and role players/individuals in South Africa must take hands to achieve this.

### The focus areas of this initiative are as follows:

1. Sharing information on the “impact of hearing loss” in own life (Or life of a person close to me).
2. The South African Hearing Institute (SAHI) is based on the principles of the UN-Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, with special reference to Articles 1, 8, 9 & 21.
3. Providing information to society on the integration of persons with hearing loss in line with the principles of the South African Constitution, Employment Equity Act, Code of Good Practice and Technical Assistance Guidelines on the Employment of Persons with Disabilities (TAG)
4. Distribution of information on the accessibility of buildings, working environments, residential facilities, homes, etc to persons with hearing loss (In line with Universal Design Principles)
5. Distribution of information on the availability of assistive listening and living de-vices (for example: Fm-transmitters/receivers, Tele-coil & induction loop systems, accessible emergency alarm systems and accessible evacuation procedures for persons with hearing loss)
6. Promotion of support structures / specialized services that are available to the benefit of persons experiencing hearing loss, their families & friends, employers, professionals, etc.
7. Providing information on accredited training sessions on the content of hearing loss that are available in South Africa

For more information, visit our web-site at [www.sahi.org.za](http://www.sahi.org.za)

### Digital Communication Aid

The Bellman Audio Maxi is a revolutionary communication aid that uses digital state-of-the-art technology to bring out speech and music in difficult listening situations. Maxi is developed especially for people who prefer an easy-to-use device with large tactile controls and clear indications. Maxi is intuitively user-friendly and has superior sound quality.



*Hearing loss is something that could happen to any person.*



# Fundraising online 10-12 May 2011

The Association participated in the Fundraising Online conference for the first time this year, and it was well worth it!

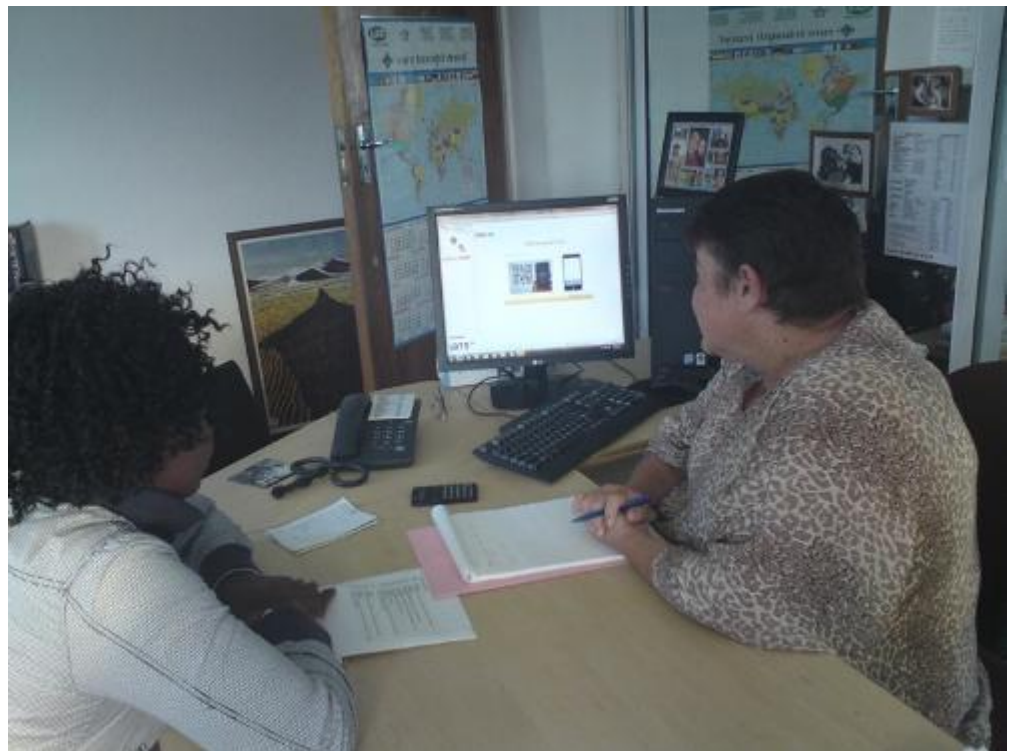
The conference is an online seminar (webinar) broadcast from the United States by the Resource Alliance and consisted of 3 days of live webinars and networking to help delegates master online fundraising. Delegates from a variety of non-profits from all parts of the world attended online from the comfort of their own home (or in our case, office).

It has all the benefits of a conventional conference, in that the presenters are top experts in their field, ade-

quate time is allowed for networking between sessions with other delegates, handouts and presentations are downloadable, and there is even an exhibition which can be visited at any time!

We soon became aware that there is a mountain of knowledge around the use of the web for fundraising and marketing non-profit organisations— something we at Western Cape APD have not yet tapped into. However, we are enthused and excited about the prospects this holds for us and cannot wait to begin putting our new-found knowledge into practice!

*Watch this space!*



**WELCOME**

A big welcome to  
**Goukam Neurological Life Association  
(Riversdale)**  
and  
**Camphill Farm Community (Hermanus)**  
who have joined the APD family!

## Staff News



**Roeline Phillips**, social worker at WCAPD, was married in April and is now Roeline Robyn.

**Eliza Hofmeyer** is the new social worker at West Coast APD.

It has just come to our attention that **Mr Bill Fairhead**, a Management Committee member for many years at Western Cape APD, and honorary life member, sadly passed away some time ago.

**West Coast APD** are moving offices. We will advise contact details as soon as available.

## DATES TO DIARISE

**23 June & 20 July 2011**  
Train-the-Trainer satellite broadcasts

**24 June 2011**  
Lollipop Day

**27 August 2011**  
WCAPD Race Day

**2 September 2011**  
Submission TPA quarterly report

**14 September 2011**  
AGM & car competition draw



## DIS DIE EEN

Leefwêreld van die Gestremde  
Sundays 14H15

Datum	Onderwerp	Gas
<b>12 Jun</b>	Selfone vir gehoorgestremd & ouerpersone	Andre Rademeyer
<b>19 Jun</b>	Funksionele spraak	Kerstin Tensing
<b>26 Jun</b>	National Council for Cerebral Palsy	Therina Wentzel NCPDOSA
<b>3 Jul</b>	Gebaretaal De La Bat Skool	Phillip Cook, Skoolhoof
<b>10 Jul</b>	Insluiting van persone met gehoorverlies in geloofsgemeenskappe	Erna Moller
<b>17 Jul</b>	Nasionale projek vir kinders met Gestremdhede	Danie Marais
<b>24 Jul</b>	UN Konvensie Artikel 1.2 & 8	Premier Helen Zille
<b>31 Jul</b>	Makulere degenerasie agv ouderdom -rol	Anton van Rooyen
<b>7 Aug</b>	Voordele van Perdry vir persone met gestremdhede	Dr Engela Young
<b>14 Aug</b>	Gee onderwys vir kinders met spesiale behoeftes	Dr Rose Botha

Sound clips of programmes from **TransWorld Radio** are available from this office. Please advise Asanda at [asanda@apd-wc.org.za](mailto:asanda@apd-wc.org.za) whether you would like a list of the topics for these clips as soon as they become available.

## Disability news

**Long-term parking has been secured in the Parkade at Cape Town International airport, at discounted rates**, in order to ensure that wheelchair users are not disadvantaged, by the awkwardness of having to use the long-term parking facility which is way out of reach.

The applicant must download or get a copy from Cape Town International Airport which should be completed by QASA / NCPPDSA. QASA / NCPPDSA branches and affiliates will then complete the form for the applicants to verify that the applicant is permanently and severely mobility impaired.

The applicant can email or fax the completed document to Katanga Parking Management to arrange for the access card.

Their details are : Email: sharon@katanga.co.za  
Fax2mail: +27 86-657-0279 Tel: +27 21 935 5700

Katanga will contact and inform the applicant once the card is ready for collection.

There is a designated area on the ground floor of Parade 1 at Lobby C. A list of parking rates is available from Asanda at (021) 555-2881.



⌘

**Kelly Disability Recruitment** has established an exclusive user-friendly website for Persons with Disabilities who are seeking employment to

register their CVs on. This is yet another welcome initiative which should be celebrated. The website address is:  
[www.disabilitytalent.co.za](http://www.disabilitytalent.co.za)

⌘

### Dept of Labour Employment Opportunities

Freda Camphor of the Dept of Labour, Public Employment Services, advises that organizations are welcome to contact her regarding jobs for persons with disabilities. Tel 021-941-7099 or cell 082-649- 8011. Website: [www.labour.gov.za](http://www.labour.gov.za)

⌘

### Disabled People's International 2011— 8th World Assembly

will take place in Durban International Convention Centre 10-13 October. Theme: DISABILITY MOVEMENT UNITED IN CREATING A SOCIETY FOR ALL THROUGH THE UN DISABILITY CONVENTION AND THE MILLENIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS. For more information visit [www.dpi2011.co.za](http://www.dpi2011.co.za).

⌘

### Status of the UN Convention (CRPD)

100 ratifications of the Convention  
148 signatories to the Convention

#### Optional Protocol to the Convention

61 ratifications

90 signatories

- Colombia ratified the Convention on 10 May 2011
- Belize signed the Convention on 9 May 2011

⌘

The **INWWD (International Women with Disabilities)** is currently investigating all research or reporting on the trafficking of girls with disabilities. Any input can be mailed to Dorothy-Anne Howitson, Vice-Chairperson of the Social Commission, Rehabilitation International at [elohim@mweb.co.za](mailto:elohim@mweb.co.za). All information treated confidentially.



# Buckle Up Campaign makes a difference!

Three Branches participated in this awareness-raising initiative over the Easter weekend and managed to obtain a total of 1 128 signatures from drivers in the Western Cape who have pledged to wear their seatbelts so as to prevent serious disability in the event of an accident!

The Road Traffic Management Corporation (RTMC) has also released the preliminary death toll figures for the Easter 2011 holiday break as obtained from the South African Police Services (SAPS), which stands at 203 fatal crashes whereby at least 203 people have died. The Western Cape ranked lowest of the Provinces at 7 deaths – a substantial decrease from last year's over 200 deaths!

What an immense success! Although these statistics include many other road safety campaigns, we are proud to have been instrumental in decreasing the number of deaths on South African roads!

Thank you to everyone who helped with this Campaign—the garages who welcomed us again, those wheelchair-users who sat for long hours at the garages collecting

pledges, the public who supported us.

Join us for the next Campaign on 25 June and 16 July, and lets keep South Africa's roads safe!



*A motorist in Klawer receives a license disc after making his pledge.*

## Goukam Health joins APD

Goukam Neurological Health Centre was began by Dr. Alison Madden 7 years ago. Dr. Madden, a Neurological Psychologist, was inspired by Mr. Johan De Lange, who had singlehandedly rehabilitated his son after an accident. With the help of volunteers from the community, Dr. Madden used her own funding to begin the Centre. Today Goukam Health is a testimony to what passion, vision, and teamwork can accomplish.

The facility offers accommodation to patients undergoing rehabilitation in a homely atmosphere. The main building consists of two/three bedrooms, a communal lounge area, dining area and kitchen and bathroom facilities. Sam Carter, a physiotherapist, has therapy rooms in the house. There is a fully equipped flat where caregivers can stay, whilst their family/patients are undergoing assessment. There are workshops on the premises where disabled people from the community under guidance of mentors, can learn a skill and earn an income and so be re-integrated into the community. There is also a shop where items made by the disabled are sold to the public. One of the prerequisites for caregivers, is that they also have a



skill such as sewing, gardening or any other skill that can be gainfully employed by the Centre.

Gardening forms an integral part of Centre life. We at Goukam Health believe in sustainable development and have recently installed a permaculture garden consisting of raised beds, that is wheelchair friendly. Produce from the garden is used for own consumption and surplus is sold to local restaurants for income to keep our gardens growing. We regularly have open days and special events to make the public aware of the services we have to offer the entire disabled community of Hessequa. Teri Smith from SARD, recently held a workshop at Goukam Health, in conjunction with Riversdale Riding school, for children with disabilities.



**WESTERN CAPE  
ASSOCIATION FOR  
PERSONS WITH  
DISABILITIES**  
THE WORLD

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0861 273 4636

## Sources & More information

Down Syndrome  
South Africa  
[www.downsyndrome.org.za](http://www.downsyndrome.org.za)

Down Syndrome  
Association of the  
Western Cape  
(021) 919-8533  
[www.downwc.co.za](http://www.downwc.co.za)

*With thanks to :  
Google Images*

**Views and opinions  
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reflect the  
views of the  
Association,  
it's staff,  
volunteers, donors  
or members.**

## Focus on...

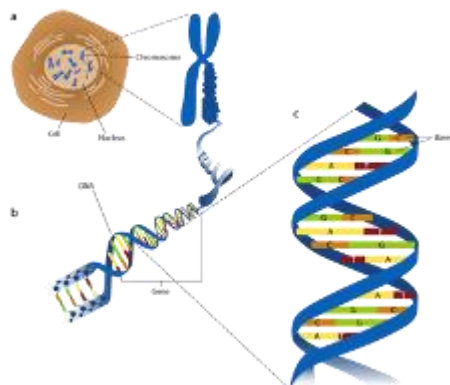
# Down Syndrome

### What is Down Syndrome?

Down syndrome is a chromosomal disorder arising at the time of conception. There is an extra number 21 chromosome (Trisomy 21) which causes delays in physical and intellectual development.

### What causes Down Syndrome?

The exact cause of Down syndrome is currently unknown. It is not related to race, age, religion and socio-economic status and is one of the most frequently occurring chromosomal disorders.



Down syndrome is caused by an excess of genetic material. The genetic material is present in every human body cell and is arranged in tiny structures called chromosomes. They are the building blocks which gives us our individual characteristics. They determine the colour of our hair, our eyes and many other characteristics. Screening for and diagnosis of Down syndrome is possible before birth.

### Characteristics of Down Syndrome

Down syndrome is characterized by a variety of unique features and a wide range of abilities in physical and cognitive areas of development. Intellectual ability cannot be assessed by the number of clinical signs and symptoms present. The majority of people with Down syndrome fall in the mild to moderate range of intellectual disability.

Babies with Down syndrome do look slightly different to other babies and can usually be identified by certain typical features. Not all of these traits mentioned below are found in every child with Down syndrome. Like all children, children with Down syndrome do resemble their parents.

- Muscle hypotonia - low muscle tone
- Hyper flexibility - an excessive ability to extend the joints ( double jointed)
- Epicanthal folds - small skin folds on the inner corner of the eyes.
- Flat facial profile - somewhat depressed nasal bridge and a small nose.
- The hands tend to be broad with short fingers.
- Simian line - a single crease on the palm of the

hand. The small finger may tend to curve inward.

- A wide space between the first and second toes (sandal gap)
- Short stature
- Congenital heart defects in 40 - 50% of people with Down syndrome.
- 8 - 12 % have gastrointestinal tract abnormalities present at birth. Most of these defects are now correctable by surgery.
- Hearing may be affected in up to 65% of people with Down syndrome. It is advisable to have children's ears tested at least every six months.
- Vision problems occur in 50 % of people with Down syndrome. It is advisable to take your child for an eye test every second year.

### How common is Down Syndrome?

The incidence of Down syndrome is estimated to be one in every 1000 live births in developed countries and one in every 650 live births in developing countries. Women over the age of 35 are at a higher risk of having a child with Down syndrome. Nevertheless more than 80% of children with Down Syndrome are currently being born to mothers under the age of 35.

### Can Down Syndrome be cured?

Although it cannot be cured, people with Down syndrome benefit from loving homes, appropriate medical care, early intervention, educational and vocational services. Due to advanced medical care, the majority of people born with Down syndrome today have a life expectancy of approximately fifty-five years, and lead healthy and productive lives.

### Interaction with a person with Down syndrome

The person with Down syndrome has the same emotions and needs as any other person and deserves the same opportunities and care. The proper and accepted terminology for this disability is DOWN SYNDROME.

