



Printing of this report has been sponsored in part by:

Ms H Lavoie
Quebec, Canada
&
Cumberland Hotel
Worcester, South Africa

This is the 1st Annual Report of
DeafNET Centre of Knowledge since we
have become independent.
It includes an overview of all activities
of DeafNET and its associated projects,
as well as financial statements for the
2012/2013 financial year.

Read more on our Vision and Mission on Page 4 in this Report.

Content

- Foreword from Chairperson and Head of DeafNET
- Vision and Mission Board of Trustees
- DeafNET Personnel ACGMHD Advisory Committee
- ACGMHD Projects
- 7-8 DeafNET Projects
- 9. Finances

This Annual Report is dedicated to Rev. A.L Smit, founder of DeafNET Centre of Knowledge.



Foreword from Chairperson

Rev. Attie Smit



DeafNET Centre of Knowledge (DeafNET) was established as a division of the National Institute for the Deaf (NID) on the 1st of July 2006 by De Stichting Vrienden van Effatha (SVE), the Netherlands, and the National Institute for the Deaf.

The understanding between SVE and NID was to build DeafNET into an independent, international organisation serving the interests of Deaf persons and their families on the continent of Africa.

This was achieved on the 1st of April 2012 after DeafNET's registration as a charitable trust on the 1st of December 2011. Registration as public benefit organisation and non-profit organisation followed soon afterwards. Thanks to the combined support and guidance of NID and SVE the transition to autonomy was successful and positioned DeafNET well for its responsibility towards Deaf persons and their families in Africa.

With the benefit of hindsight, the early beginnings of DeafNET can be traced back to October 2000 at the 2nd Mental Health and Deafness Congress in Copenhagen, where information and ideas were exchanged with a delegate of SVE at the congress.

An invitation to participate at a conference in January 2001 in the Netherlands followed. A strong partnership was built in subsequent years, leading to various train-the-trainer projects at NID. In 2004, the Africa Workshop on Mental Health and Deafness at NID was sponsored by SVE, enabling Deaf leaders and service providers from across Africa to participate. When the 3rd Mental Health and Deafness World Congress was held at NID, SVE again sponsored the participation of African delegates.

These joint efforts had a huge impact on Deaf communities in the countries of the delegates. Deaf people started networking across national borders and cultural boundaries, exchanging ideas, knowledge and skills. The power of knowledge, capacity building and networking showed clearly in the positive changes that took place in the position of Deaf people in Africa.

The idea of a centre of knowledge was

born. In the meantime, the Workshop (2004) and the Congress (2005) had created the platform for the Africa Contact Group for Mental Health and Deafness (ACGMHD) network to come into existence.

The next step was DeafNET!

The report will show how DeafNET has touched, in various ways, the lives of Deaf persons and their families in more than 30 countries on the African continent.

DeafNET expresses the highest admiration, appreciation and gratitude towards the Deaf persons and hearing family and friends in our network who show courage and perseverance in advocating equal access, education and opportunities for Deaf persons to exercise their citizenship in full participation of the processes of society. A core task and responsibility of DeafNET is to support, extend and strengthen this network in order to reach out to communities and individuals in a way that will build self-esteem, personal autonomy, well being and quality of live.

DeafNET invites you, the reader, to join DeafNET's network in support of the Deaf people in Africa.

Foreword from Head of DeafNET

Mrs. Suzette Willemse

I take enormous pride in the achievements of DeafNET over the past year. It is all new beginnings for us as we also still celebrating our independence as an organisation.

I have started my work at this dynamic organization and realize the phenomenal group of people I am surrounded and connected with.

DeafNET proves to be a powerful tool for change in the lives of the Deaf and their families on the continent of Africa.

In particular, I want to acknowledge the leadership and commitment of our sponsor, Stichting Vrienden van Effatha (Netherlands) and the National Institute for the Deaf (NID) for their extensive inputs which lead to the development and establishment of DeafNET Centre of Knowledge.

This 1" annual report of DeafNET is dedicated to the founder of DeafNET, Rev AL Smit for his enormous contribution to the growth of this organisation and mostly for the value he added to the lives of the Deaf in Africa.

I am confident that we can create a society that values their Deaf citizens and encourages their full participation.

That we vision an African society based on human rights, empowerment and participation of all; a society that values and celebrates diversity; a society that recognizes and implement the principles of the UNCRPD (United Nations Convention on the Rights of People with Disability).

This report highlights that through the exchange and dissemination of

knowledge we can develop, empower and

give equal opportunities to the Deaf and their families as citizens of the world. Kofi Annan said: "Knowledge is power. Information is liberating. Education is the premise of progress in every society, in every family."

I acknowledge and applaud the hard work of the vibrant and dedicated team of DeafNET together with our volunteer network (ACGMHD) and partners on the continent. Let us continue in our strive to bring positive change in the lives of people in Africa who experiencing hearing loss and related communication barriers.



VISION AND MISSION

VISION

To be a world-class network of knowledge and expertise in the interest of people who experience deafness and related communication barriers.

MISSION

To particularize, exchange and disseminate knowledge and expertise on issues relating to persons who experience hearing loss and related communication barriers.

To empower them, their families and their communities through research and training.

To promote the improvement of health, well-being and quality in all domains of life of persons with hearing loss and their families through accessible, available, affordable and appropriate services, training and media.

DEAFNET BOARD OF TRUSTEES



A.L Smit



P. D Smith



F.K Krige



H. Defourny



G. Defourny



P. Akach



M. Geiger



E. Matabane (Deaf)



A. Arssi

DEAFNET PERSONNEL



ACGMHD ADVISORY COMMITTEE



Africa Contact Group for Mental Health and Deafness (ACGMHD)

The ACGMHD is the volunteer network of DeafNET and the vehicle in Africa in delivering services to the Deaf community. Services are rendered in the six regions of Africa (South, North, East, West, Central and the Indian Ocean Islands). They work closely and in cooperation with the National Associations for the Deaf in the regions and facilitate interaction between all sectors of society. The ACGMHD is playing a critical role in enabling service delivery and to promote human rights, education, health and mental health care as well as community life for Deaf people and their families in the African Countries.

Sign Language Interpreters of 5 regions in Ghana received training to empower them to assist the Deaf in their regions.

ACGMHD Governing Board member and representative in the Western Region of Africa, mr Jonathan Amuah together with other Sign Language facilitators presented the training.

Mr Amuah is also the Sign Language Instructor of the Ghana Association for the Deaf.

ACGMHD member, mr Jonathan Amuah meeting with the Minister of Sports of Ivory Coast Republic to discuss deaf sports development and support.









Joyce Nalugya, ACGMHD representative in the Eastern Region of Africa took a leading role during the workshop for 30 deaf youth which focussed on awareness on HIV/AIDS, alcohol and drug abuse, life skills as well as personal development and growth. Peer learning has been encouraged during this 4day workshop which has been attended by 30 deaf youth between the ages of 15 and 24 years from the Kampala and Masaka districts. This programme was implemented with the assistance of Sign Health Uganda (SU) in partnership with the National Association of Parents of Deaf Children (NAPADEC).

Deaf Leaders in Ghana trained in diversity and social competency in leadership and management.

Nelson Mandela:

"If you talk to a man in a language he understands, that goes to his head If you talk to him in his language. That goes to his heart."

DeafNET Projects

Headlines of March 2012 - February 2013



Registration as Charitable Trust, Public Benefit
Organization (PBO) and Non-Profit Organization (NPO)

DeafNET Centre of Knowledge was registered as a Charitable Trust (IT3728/2011 on 01 December 2011; as a PBO on 07 June 2012 (930 039 459) and officially registered as a Non Profit Organisation on 12 September 2012.

Red Star Training Method

The Red Star project is a joint venture between DeafNET and the De la Bat School for the Deaf. Seven (7) teachers from the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) were trained in this method. The Red Star method is a process which is used by teachers for an increased awareness and a better understanding of sentence construction of a reading and written language via Sign Language.



Implementation of Red Star Training Method Kinshasha, DRC

Nelson Mandela:

"Education is the most powerful weapon you can use to change the world"



Scholarship Project

DeafNET Centre of Knowledge seeks to empower young women with hearing loss by offering them the opportunity for further education and training. Participation in the personal and professional development of the winner of Miss Deaf Africa pageant gives us an opportunity to promote education and training, which is an important activity for.

A full scholarship was awarded to the winner of the competition to study at the NID College. The 1st scholarship has been awarded to Nelisiwe Dlamini the 2nd runner up of Miss Deaf Swaziland 2012. She started her studies at the NID College in 2013.

SoCoMo

The Social Competency Model (SoCoMo) has been introduced by "De Stichting Vrienden van Effatha". SoCoMo is based on the development of social skills. It helps to discover and develop the potential of individuals. DeafNET is responsible for SoCoMo training in Africa.

The Chairperson of DeafNET, Rev. AL Smit with Mrs Suzette Willemse, Head of DeafNET and Ms Marjon Dekker, from the Netherlands who is assisting with the implementation of the Social Compentency Model.



Projects - Continued

DeafNET's Multi-Media Services:

- Graphic Design and Printing
- · Production of Sign Language DVD's
- Video Productions (Broadcast quality Productions)
- Integrated Animation Techniques
- Design of Sign Language Posters, etc.
- SA Sign Language Training
- Multi-Media Training for the Deaf





DeafNET supported the activities at Quatre Bornes Deaf Association in Mauritius.

Mycrae Limited in Mauritius donated four (4) computers and free internet to the association. Dirkie Ebersohn (Deaf) from DeafNET has been elected as the Deputy Provincial Chairperson of DeafSA, Western Cape.



Multi-Media Training in Sign Language

Three (3) Deaf trainees from Mauritius and the Congo attended the multimedia training at DeafNET. Upon completion of the training, the participants were equipped in Media Production at a proficient level.



HIV/AIDS Toolkit Project

DeafNET created a Deaf friendly instructional DVD that uses a HIV/AIDS Cube to raise awareness of HIV/AIDS in Africa.

The HIV/AIDS Toolkit consists of 1 Big HIV cube, 1 small HIV cube, 1 DVD (International and French Sign Language, with subtitles in French and English) containing a guide for the use of the toolkit, a leaflet in French and English, and a HIV/AIDS poster.

The Cube has 7 panels with picture that allow everyone to share a message in a clear and simple way. It is an important tool that goes beyond language barriers.



The purpose of the toolkit is:

- To provide Deaf accessible HIV/AIDS information with supporting visual and informational material
 - To provide a toolkit for home-based-care workers to use during HIV Counselling and Testing, Advocacy and Prevention Education in settings like offices, factories, rural settings, schools, counselling rooms, prevention and care programmes, training and awareness programmes, clinics, churches and outreach teams.

Finances of DeafNET Centre of Knowledge 2012 - 2013

Charitable Trust

SOURCES OF INCOME			USE OF INCOME		
De Stichting Vrienden van Effatha	94,8	%			
Other	3	%	Operating Expenses	436 053	
Sales	1,8	%	Admin Expenses	243 991	
Interest	0,4	%	Salaries & Benefits	1 176 357	
TOTAL	2 889	655	NETTO INCOME FOR THE YEAR	1 033 254	





Appreciations

DeafNET would like to express our gratitude to:

Our main sponsor, De Stichting Vrienden van Effatha (SVE) from the Netherlands.

We appreciate your support and trust in our efforts to empower the Deaf

and their families in Africa.

The National Institute for the Deaf (NID), for their continuous support.

Our Partners and Friends.

PLANNED GIVING DONATION FORM

Yes, I want to help DeafNET Centre of Knowledge to empower and develop the Deaf and their families in Africa.

To make a fully tax-deductable contribution to DeafNET CALL+27(0)23 342 4092 or send this form to: finance@deafnet.org or +27(0) 23 347 1052 (fax)

My donation is:			
I am paying by:	Cheque	Cash	EFT
Name :			
Email:	-		
Cell/ Tel :			
Signature :			

Payment Details Cheques

Please make all cheques to: DeafNET Centre of Knowledge

EFT Payments

Please make all EFT payments to: DeafNET Centre of Knowledge

Bank: Nedbank Account Nr: 102 046 2655 Bank code: 101507

International Swift Code: NEDSZAJJ

Reference: Your name

Confirmation of payment should be send to: finance@deafnet.org or +27 (0)23 347 1052 (fax)

Visit our website: www.deafnet.org for more information.

WE VALUE YOUR SUPPORT

Mark Twain
"Kindhess is a language
that the deaf can hear
and the blind can see"

