2nd Annual Report
2013/2014

DeafNET
Centre of Knowledge

There's Unity in diversity of gifts.
Registered Office

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www.deafnet.org

Status of DeafNET

Registered Trust IT3278/2011
PBO: 930 039 439
NPO: 104-814-NPO

Accountant & Auditor

We thank them for their professional services.

Printing of this 2nd Annual Report has been sponsored by:

Mrs Isobel Adams
(Education Specialist)
DeafNET’s Goodwill Ambassador
This is the 2nd Annual Report of DeafNET Centre of Knowledge. It includes an overview of all activities as well as financial statements for the 2013/2014 financial year.

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This Annual Report is dedicated to Stichting Vrienden van Effatha, our main sponsor.
To particularise, exchange and disseminate knowledge and expertise on issues relating to people 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 of life of people with hearing loss and their families through accessible, available, affordable and appropriate services, training and media.

VISION

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

MISSION
The DeafNET Centre of Knowledge’s Board of Trustees is proud of DeafNET and its achievements of the past year. DeafNET and its network, the Africa Contact Group for Mental Health and Deafness (ACGMHD), were active on the African continent and globally in order to extend networks and to engage in new partnerships in the interest of Deaf persons and their families on the African continent. DeafNET and the ACGMHD were represented on various forums, at international conferences, meetings with government officials, politicians and entrepreneurs to promote the human rights of Deaf persons and their families in accordance with the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD). National Associations of the Deaf (NAD) were consulted and became important stakeholders/role players in ensuring relevancy and appropriateness of activities or projects in their countries.

This report will also highlight the positive and supportive role of our goodwill ambassadors who honour us with their association to DeafNET. Their passion and involvement bring awareness and knowledge of deafness and Deaf rights to segments of society that can help to make society more accessible and caring.

A support programme for educators of Deaf learners to further develop their knowledge and skills was developed with a network of African Deaf and hearing experts. It already shows positive results – the level of literacy, numeracy and bilingual ability of Deaf learners improved significantly where the programme was applied. DeafNET is currently looking at partnering with universities to research the programme’s effectiveness.

DeafNET sees the legal recognition of Sign Languages in African countries as a key issue in ensuring equal access and opportunities for Deaf citizens and their children. DeafNET supports NAD’s with awareness raising in the society and the production of Sign Language DVD’s and manuals to promote Sign Language as equal to other languages.

Self representation and leadership skills in Deaf communities are essential in order for Deaf persons to take their rightful place in society and to improve their socio-economic situation. The leadership and management training workshops and continuous development programme of DeafNET will continue to equip and support Deaf community leaders in this respect. The forming of new partnerships is in process to expand and improve this programme.

Transfer of knowledge and skills in Deaf persons and their communities was a priority in all activities and projects. It included entrepreneurship skills and the initiating of beekeeping by Deaf entrepreneurs. Partnerships were established to ensure mentorship and sustainability.

The HIV/AIDS awareness and prevention training workshops continued during the report period. Deaf persons were trained and supplied with training toolkits to disseminate information and knowledge in their communities in an accessible and culturally sensitive manner.

Health and wellbeing of Deaf persons and their families is a major concern of DeafNET and the Africa Contact Group for Mental Health and Deafness. In 2015, delegates from African countries will come together for the 4th Africa Workshop on Mental Health and Deafness. This will be an opportunity to strengthen cooperation networks and to share knowledge and ideas for improving the quality of life of Deaf families in countries on the African continent.
Message from CEO

As we look back on our footprints of the past year, DeafNET is enormously appreciative towards the support and commitment of our main sponsor, SVE, our Board of Trustees and the DeafNET staff. Our year was filled with creative energy which brought together ideas that enriched the lives of the Deaf. DeafNET’s team proves that with dedication and the sharing of gifts, we can create an environment of growth and unlock the possibilities within the Deaf communities across this beautiful continent of Africa.

When I mirror our 2013/2014 financial year, I cannot but be proud of our achievements as a young dynamic organisation. The 2013/2014 footprints of DeafNET reflect in our leadership and management workshops; the training and evaluation of educators to develop the reading and writing skills of Deaf learners; the development of multi-media products for the Deaf; the dissemination of knowledge & skills through our Scholarship & Beekeeping projects; our HIV/AIDS Toolkit project that goes beyond language barriers; and our networking and partnership development.

This report highlights the positive contribution that our sponsors, network partners, goodwill ambassadors and friends made which resulted in the improvement of health and well-being of the Deaf. We admire the commitment of the Deaf and hearing persons in our network to bring change and better the lives of the Deaf and their families throughout Africa and the Indian Ocean Islands. Through the diversity of gifts we can jointly work towards a collective goal and enforce change that can benefit the Deaf as a vulnerable group.

As we unwrapped this powerful gift of knowledge, it gave us the opportunity to explore and discover the enormous potential within our Deaf communities in Africa. We celebrate this rich variety of human gifts and skills within the Deaf. As an organisation, we want to nurture our vision to become a world-class network of knowledge & expertise in the interests of people in Africa who experience hearing loss & related communication barriers.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

AL Smit
Founder & Chairperson

FK Krige

M Geiger

P Akach

H Defourny

G Defourny

PD Smith

A Arssi
DeafNET is proudly spreading the gift of knowledge in more than 40 countries across Africa & the Indian Ocean Islands.
Without the continuous support of our main sponsor SVE (Stichting Vrienden van Effatha) in the Netherlands and other donations, DeafNET would not have been able to implement our programmes to ensure that the Deaf in Africa are empowered with knowledge and skills. DeafNET expresses our deepest appreciation for their loyalty and ongoing financial support. Through your financial support DeafNET can reach out to the Deaf and their families in the rural and deserted parts of Africa.

The tables below indicate our Income and Expenditure for the financial year 1 March 2013 to 28 February 2014.

The signed audited financial statements are available at DeafNET’s offices.

### INCOME STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 28 FEBRUARY 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Income</th>
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<tr>
<td>Donations</td>
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<tr>
<td>De Stichting Vrienden van Effatha</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other income</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sales</td>
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<td>Fundraising</td>
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<td>Interest</td>
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<td><strong>Total Income</strong></td>
<td>2 922 660</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Less: Expenditure</th>
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<td>Operating expenses</td>
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<td>ACGMHD secretariat</td>
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<td>Fuel</td>
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<td>Interpreting, translating &amp; text editing</td>
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<td>Multimedia toolkits</td>
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<td>Special projects</td>
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<td>Travel &amp; accommodation</td>
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<td>Administration expenses</td>
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<td>Repairs and maintenance</td>
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<td>Subscriptions</td>
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<td>Office supplies</td>
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<tr>
<td>Telephone &amp; facsimile</td>
<td>23 337</td>
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<tr>
<td>Transport - maintenance</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Employee salaries &amp; benefits</strong></td>
<td>1 261 287</td>
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<tr>
<td>Salaries and benefits</td>
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<tr>
<td>Compensation commissioner</td>
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<tr>
<td>Unemployment insurance</td>
<td>11 122</td>
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<tr>
<td>Staff welfare, development and training</td>
<td>29 732</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Net Surplus</strong></td>
<td>464 139</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Mandela Day**

DeafNET joined hands with the Breedevalley Municipality on 18 July 2013 (Mandela Day) and had an exhibition on Church square, Worcester, to encourage the broader community to support the services of NGO’s. The community of Worcester acted in goodwill and supported DeafNET extremely well with our hamburger-sales.

**Night of Signs and Songs**

DeafNET had an amazing event with the classical Diva, Zanne Stapelberg on 13 November 2013 to raise funds in support of our Beekeeping project. The local group, Rejoice and the dancers of NID College complimented the performance of Zanne. DeafNET’s Goodwill Ambassadors, Amanda Quwe, Vicki Fourie, Rosebud Tsobane, Isak Andrews and the Boland Rugby Union supported this event.
1st Fundraising Cycle Tour

A group of 10 people left from DeafNET’s offices on Saturday, 31 August 2013 to Kimberley: 6 deaf students-cyclists from the NID College; 3 staff members from DeafNET: Mrs S Willemse, Magdel Burger and Solizma Benson (Deaf)

Mr Flip Piek from NID (organiser of the cyclists and driver). The De la Bat School for the Deaf provide us with transport. The DeafNET Team was well received by the people of the Northern Cape and had the opportunity to do awareness on mental health and deafness, market DeafNET as organisation and to raise funds for our scholarship programme. The event was covered by the printed and radio media in the Western and Northern Cape.

The team well supported by the South African Police Service, Northern Cape.

The tour was ended off in Springbok on Casual Day and the team shared in the celebrations.

Learners from Oranje-Suid Primary School in Kakamas handed over their funds raised to DeafNET.
Rev AL Smit the Chairperson of DeafNET’s Board of Trustees and Ms S Willemse the CEO of DeafNET, visited the Netherlands to meet with De Stichting Vrienden van Effatha (SVE), DeafNET’s main sponsor. Mr Alje Mulder welcomes the team from DeafNET during the meeting with SVE Board members.

DeafNET had the opportunity to share our strategic vision with the sponsor and to interact with other projects sponsored by SVE.

Strategic session with the SVE Management

Handwork by Multi-disabled at "De Boerderij" in Netherlands

Visit to School for the Deaf
PROJECTS

Leadership and Management Training: Madagascar
5-9 August 2013

DeafNET in collaboration with the Federasionan’ny Marenina eto Madagasikara (FMM) and CBM, hosted the first leadership workshop for 28 Deaf leaders coming from 16 Deaf Associations in Madagascar and Mauritius. It was held at AkaMa School for the Deaf in Antananarivo from 5-9 August 2013. The equip to serve and lead program was designed to develop potential Deaf leaders through guidance, training and inspiration. A number of interactive learning techniques such as brain storming, discussions, group work, role play and presentations were used to make the workshop more accessible for the Deaf participants. The outcome of the training was to uplift and empower the Deaf so that they can serve better the Deaf communities in their regions. In the closing ceremony an Africa Declaration was handed to all relevant role-players and stakeholders to inform them that the delegates vigorously participated in discussions and developed resolutions regarding working together for a better future for Deaf people and their families in Madagascar and Mauritius.

15-20 September 2013

From 15-20 September 2013 DeafNET facilitated a Leadership and Management Training at AKAMA School for the Deaf in Antananarivo, Madagascar. Seventeen (17) participants (directors, pastors, accountants, educators) from seven schools of the Lutheran Church of Madagascar attended the training. The aim of the training workshop was to equip the leaders with skills to enhance their abilities to communicate effectively with Deaf children and their parents in order to better the education of Deaf learners. CBM supported this training.
Nelisiwe Dlamini from Swaziland and Samantha Hector from Mauritius won DeafNET Scholarships to study at the NID College for the Deaf in Worcester. Nelisiwe is in her final year of study as an Assistant Chef and Samantha is in her first year doing the Skills for Life Programme. Through the Scholarship programme DeafNET wants to equip young Deaf girls from Africa with knowledge and skills en ensure a better future for them.

ZWAKALA AFRICA

Zwakala Africa is a performing arts project/competition of DeafTV (SABC 3) and the Dept of Sports Arts and Culture, SA. Zwakala Africa spread their wings into Africa and DeafNET partnered with DeafTV since October 2013. As DeafNET’s vision is to improve the quality of life of Deaf people and their families through education and training in Africa. Schoolbags, diaries and DeafNET t-shirts were given to all participants and three educators from the winning school in Mozambique were offered training by DeafNET in 2014 in the Red Star method (It is a method that is used by educators for an increased awareness and a better understanding of sentence construction of a reading and written language via Sign Language).
RED STAR TRAINING

DeafNET Centre of Knowledge organised a Red Star training workshop which was held from the 29 July till 22 August 2013, at the De La Bat School, Worcester. Three participants (1 Deaf and 2 hearing) from Benin attended the workshop. The teachers were empowered with the following:

- Skills and methodology to impart reading and writing skills for deaf learners
- Improving Sign Language skills in deaf learners
- Improving literacy and communication abilities
- Capacity building in Leadership and management
- Training how to use the 7 panel HIV Cube toolkit

The follow-up on the Red Star method will be conducted in October 2014 in Benin.

HIV/AIDS Toolkit Project

DeafNET’s HIV/AIDS Toolkit provide Deaf accessible HIV/AIDS information with supporting visual and informational material. The toolkit has been distributed to 18 countries in the six regions across Africa in the 2013/2014 financial year.

The HIV/AIDS toolkit is a simple and clear tool to use to raise awareness amongst the Deaf on the pandemic that decimated the human population, causing the Deaf to change behaviour in relation to HIV/AIDS in order to contribute to the reduction of its prevalence. Using the universal language of pictures and Sign Language, the 7 panel CUBE presents the facts about HIV/AIDS and how to prevent the contraction and spread of HIV/AIDS.
On 15 February 2013 the most amazing Deaf couples from Africa (Swaziland, Cameroon, Lesotho, Malawi and South Africa) attended the annual Ido Awards hosted by Ido Magazine in Johannesburg. These ten Deaf couples were officially invited and sponsored to the Ido Awards, by DeafNET’s Goodwill Ambassador and Editor/Owner of Ido Magazine, Felicia Buthelezi.

Pastor Anthony Langwenya and his wife, Nonhlanhla, both Deaf, from Swaziland received the Ido Awards (Against all odds) during this prestigious event. They were nominated by DeafNET. The beautiful Mountain Inn Holiday Resort in Mbabane, Swaziland also sponsored pastor Langwenya and his family a weekend (B&B).

The Langwenya family says thank you.

Group of Deaf couples from Africa, with the CEO of DeafNET and her husband who attended the Ido Awards.
SIGN LANGUAGE TRAINING

DeafNET Centre of Knowledge in partnership with the National Institute for the Deaf, gave Sign Language training to Breede Valley Municipality, Tourism in May 2013.

MULTI MEDIA PROJECTS

- **Exam papers for Deaf learners on DVD**

DeafNET assisted the Sign Language Project at De la Bat School for the Deaf with the compilation of the Examination paper on DVD. A unique project for Deaf education.

- **Sign Language DVD for Mauritania & Senegal**

DeafNET’s multi-media team assisted the organisation, Silent Work, to develop a Sign Language DVD for Mauritania and Senegal. 1000 words in Arabic SL and 1000 words in American SL. The DVD-project was completed in December 2013. This is the 2nd DVD-project done for Mauritania & Senegal.
Deaf Conference, Reunion Island

The Association of the Deaf in Reunion Island hosted their first Deaf conference from 8-12 May 2013. It took place at La Saline-les-Bains located on the West Coast of the Island. The idea to organize this conference was initiated by the aim to preserve the human and civil rights of deaf persons. The theme of the congress was, “Equality of Human and Civil Rights for the Deaf in the Indian Ocean”. This Congress was a strong tool of solidarity and mutual help in order to improve the destiny of Deaf persons. It also allowed enforcing the links between the existing Deaf Associations in the Indian Ocean. Members of DeafNET and ACGMHD attended the conference.

BEE-KEEPING Conference

DeafNET attended the Beekeeping Conference (BEECON 2013) in Swellendam on 09 and 10 August 2013. We are in the process to train the Deaf in Africa in beekeeping. The goal for this project is to encourage sustainable livelihoods by providing the Deaf community with beekeeping skills in the agricultural sector so that they can earn an income and become productive in society.

A pilot-beekeeping project has been started in Uganda.

Qatar Conference

Dr Philemon Akach (Trustee of DeafNET) and Mr Abdelaziz Arssi (Chairperson ACGMHD) attended the Qatar Conference from 11-13 November 2013 in Doha-Qatar. This was the first internal forum for Deaf Muslims.

Mr Arssi received an award from the organising committee as one of the leading activists for the deaf cause in the Arab world.
DeafNET GOODWILL AMBASSADORS

Tobie Botes
Tobie is a South African who played his rugby in Italy and was in the Italy National Rugby Team. Currently he is playing for the EC Kings in SA.

Isobel Adams
Isobel is an Education expert and Principal of a Private School in Johannesburg.

Amanda Quwe
Amanda is a Television actress, producer, singer and business woman.

Felicia Buthelezi
Felicia is the owner/editor of Fisokuhle Media that publishes the I do Magazine.

Boland Rugby Union
Boland Rugby Union.

Caroline Jacobs
SA Television personality. Caroline is an actress (Zinzi from 7de Laan) and singer.

Fikele Mekgoe
Mrs SA 2012 and business woman from Johannesburg.

Vicki Fourie (Deaf)
Former Miss Deaf SA. Vicki is also an author, motivational speaker and actress.

Zane Meas
SA Television personality. Zane is an actor (Neville Meintjies from 7de Laan), singer and the Director of the Fatherhood Foundation SA.
Michael Muller

Michael is a Gospel singer and songwriter from Kimberley in the Northern Cape.

Rosebud Tsobane

Rosebud is from Cape Town. She is a Radio and TV Presenter, Gospel singer and MC.

Isak Andrew

Isak is from the Northern Cape. He is an entrepreneur/business man and was Seda’s Entrepreneur of the year in 2012.

Rosie Wilson

Rosie is a gospel singer and songwriter from Bloemfontein.

Tina Jaxa

Tina is a SA Television actress and Radio Presenter. She is based in Cape Town.

Victor Sitali (Deaf)

Victor is a Deaf artist originally from Zambia who is now based in Dubai.

Leon Ernstzen

Leon is a worksite specialist at SANLAM SKY. He is from Cape Town.

Dr Ronel Benade

Ronel is a Mrs Commonwealth SA 2014 Finalist; Mrs Tshwane 2013 Top-5 Finalist and a Mrs SA Semi-Finalist 2013. She is also in Media Ministry and from Pretoria.

Rob van Vuuren

Rob is a South African stand up comedian / MC / actor / voice artist / writer & director.
THANKS TO OUR DONORS / SPONSORS

Stichting Vrienden van Effatha

APL Cartons  Fishgate Advertising  Jonkheer Wines
Cumberland Hotel  The Habit Guesthouse  Capital Security
The Golden Valley Casino  BGR Jacobs & Partners  Robertson Winery
Merrypak  Oranje Nissan Upington  Fresh Ideas Interiors
AC Security  Ashton Kelder  SF Refrigeration
Nedbank  Beauty @ Heart Events  Breede Valley Municipality

De Kelders Restaurant
Ms Helene Lavoie (Canada)
Ms Isobel Adams (Goodwill Ambassador)
Rev AL Smit
Isak Andrew (Goodwill Ambassador)
COMING SOON!!!
4th Africa Workshop on Mental Health and Deafness

Date: 21 - 24 September 2015
The host country to be announced soon
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/Tell: ________________________________________

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