



autism south africa
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY – AUTISM SOUTH AFRICA

VISION

MISSION AND OBJECTIVES

A;SA strives to:

- celebrate and champion the diversity and creativity of people with autism; partner with and be relevant to people with autism and their families and communities;
- identify and address the differing and changing needs of infants, children, adolescents and adults with autism;
- promote and protect the rights and advance the interests of all those within the autism community;
- lead autism awareness, inclusion, support and advocacy throughout South Africa; and draw on and contribute to national and international experience and expertise in the field of autism, while retaining a local and regional focus on its challenges and opportunities.

ORGANISATION DESCRIPTION

A;SA is the recognised and representative national body for people with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) in South Africa.

ORGANISATION BACKGROUND

Autism South Africa was founded in 1989 by concerned parents and professionals as a lobbying and networking organisation. It is now the recognised national body for people with Autism Spectrum Disorders in South Africa with full-time offices being established in 1997.

GOALS

- ✓ Promote the interests of individuals with an Autism Spectrum Disorder and protect their rights, irrespective of race, sex or creed.
- ✓ Promote the provision of facilities for the education, training and treatment of individuals with an Autism Spectrum Disorder.
- ✓ Negotiate and liaise with International/National/Provincial/Government and/or other institutions, affiliated bodies or similar organisations on matters concerning the needs of individuals with an Autism Spectrum Disorder and their families.
- ✓ Assist with and facilitate the establishment and maintenance of facilities for individuals with an Autism Spectrum Disorder and advocate for individuals with an Autism Spectrum Disorder and their families.
- ✓ Promote and assist with research into the causes, incidence, management and treatment of individuals with an Autism Spectrum Disorder.
- ✓ Promote the awareness, understanding and support of Autism Spectrum Disorders at all levels throughout South Africa.
- ✓ Organise conferences and symposia on Autism Spectrum Disorders.

- ✓ Facilitate training and education of people dealing with individuals with an Autism Spectrum Disorder.
- ✓ Act as a coordinating and mediating body for all members of Autism South Africa as and when required.

BENEFICIARIES - All people in South Africa with an Autism Spectrum Disorder.

African 82% Coloured 5% Indians and Asians 5% Whites 8%

- If one refer to the internationally accepted statistic that 1 child in every 68 children born will develop an Autism Spectrum Disorder, consider the following:-
- It is believed that every year in South Africa there are 19.48 births to every 1000 people
- Population of South Africa 54 980 000
- This means there are 1 071 010 births in SA each year
- Therefore in theory 15 750 of the children born per year will develop an Autism Spectrum Disorder if you work on the commonly accepted figure of 1 per 68.
- This equates to 1 313 children born each month will develop ASD
- 303 per week
- 43 per day
- And every 17 minutes a child will be born to add to the theoretical 1 000 000 people with an Autism Spectrum Disorder in South Africa.

LEGAL STATUS

Section 18A Tax Exemption No: 18/11/13/2213

NPO No: 000 – 454 NPO

PBO No: 2997/093/84/5

Level 4 B-BBEE contributor

BANKING DETAILS

Bank: Standard Bank	Branch: Sandton
Branch Code: 019205	Account Name: Autism South Africa
Account No: 2207 312 33	Acc Type: Cheque

AUDITORS

Octagon Chartered Accountants. Private Bag X02 Highlands North 2037. Tel: 011 531 7300
Practice number: 944 351

MANAGEMENT: NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

Robin Pearse (Chairman, Advocate & Parent)
Desirae Pillay (Deputy Chair, Assistive Tech Advisor & Parent)
Hector Kingwill (Treasurer)
Melt Olckers (Secretary, adult with autism)
Sandra Usswald (National Director)
Neliswa Khumalo (Educator & Member)
Dr Petrus de Vries (International authority on diagnosis & treatment of ASD. Established a center for research at UCT)
Dr David Griessel (Senior Lecturer/Principal Specialist Paediatrics and Child Health, University of the Free State)
Dr Tumelo Leeuw (Paediatrician and HD at Mafikeng Provincial Hospital)
Shani Lits (Program Director: Els for Autism Centre)
Dr Martha Mabeba (Child psychiatrist)

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Due to well-planned activities and strict corporate governance, over 28 years, Autism South Africa has developed into the largest autism advocacy organisation in Southern Africa. We are responsible for the development of sustainable services across the country, to meet the complex needs that arise from the far-

reaching and often devastating ramifications of autism. Even through the economic down-turn, our loyal benefactors have stayed by our side. This, we believe, is due to increased awareness of autism and Autism South Africa's well respected financial track record within the CSI fraternity.

STAFF COMPLEMENT

HEAD OFFICE

National Director	Sandra Usswald
Resource Developer	Claudia Ceresa
Administrator	Elizabeth Mosehla
Cleaner	Maggie Mosehla
National Educator	Vicky Lamb
Bookkeeper	Lerato Thlako
Counsellor	Gloria Gkicas

REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT OFFICERS

Eastern Cape	Antoinette Bruce-Alexander
Northern Cape	Ruth Blood
Free State	Selinah Jele
KwaZulu-Natal	Rosemary Shezi
Limpopo/Mpumalanga	Mary Moeketsi
North West/Gauteng	Vacant

References:

Multiprint Litho – Richard Stewart – 082 880 1442
Colour Corporate – Joe Smit – 011 011 803-5320
RAM Couriers – David Lazarus – 011 977-5000

Referees:

David O'Sullivan – Talk Show Host – 082 805 8702
MEC Panyasa Lesufi – Department of Education – 011 355-0551
Manthipi Molamu – Department of Social Development - 012 312 7053