



# QAWC HIGHLIGHTS

## JULY TO NOVEMBER 2020



### **Covid Relief Effort: Grocery Vouchers, Hand Sanitiser & Masks**



The economic impact of the lockdown affected many of our members in a big way and QAWC is grateful to have been able to offer assistance in a very real manner. We put out several calls for our members to apply for grocery vouchers and we are pleased to have been able to distribute 178 vouchers valued at R 500 each over the last few months. We were also able to distribute 300 material masks that were branded with the QAWC logo to keep our members and their caregivers safe. QAWC delivered 50 X 1 Litre bottles of hand sanitiser to members who responded to our correspondence inviting those who were in need of hand sanitiser to apply to us for assistance. With the economy opening up again this relief effort has now come to an end and we reflect on our relief effort with gratitude and pride at being

able to assist our members during this time of crisis in such a tangible way.



### **QAWC AGM**

Held in July every year, QAWC's Annual General Meeting has traditionally been well attended with members taking the opportunity to renew old friendships, meet new members, network and catch up. However, with the Covid-19 related lockdown placing a limit on the amount of people allowed to gather at any one time, QAWC was forced to embrace technology and host this year's AGM online making use of the Zoom platform. The AGM, which was attended by a total of 25 people, was held on the 25<sup>th</sup> July with members from outlying areas such as Montagu, Ceres and Yzerfontein able to join the meeting. With 2020 being an election year, QAWC said goodbye and thank you to the outgoing Chairperson, Glenn Millen, who led the organisation for 4 years. The Chairperson, Treasurer and General Manager tabled and shared their reports, which reflected on the previous 12 month period. With all the reports done, the election of the QAWC Board for 2020-2022 took place. In addition to the election of the Board, the QAWC representatives to serve on the QASA Board were elected, with this responsibility being entrusted to Richard Barron and Anthony Ghillino. At the 1st meeting of the new Board which took place immediately after the AGM, the election of office bearers took place and we can report that The QAWC Executive Committee will be made up as follows:

Chairperson: Casper Erasmus.  
Vice Chairperson: Whilma Liedeman  
Treasurer: Richard Barron  
Additional member: James Trichardt



## **The Appointment of a Communications Officer**

Thanks to QASA and the HWSETA, QAWC hosted Nazeem Khan on a year-long internship where he proved himself to be hard-working, reliable, determined and eager to learn. Nazeem's internship came to an end at the end of August and QAWC were pleased to offer him the position of QAWC Communications officer. Although the position of Communications Officer is a part-time one, Nazeem has wasted no time and given 100% to his role. Nazeem's responsibilities include managing the QAWC social media page and Facebook users will be aware of the daily themed posts which are made. In addition to Facebook, Nazeem has established a QAWC profile and presence on LinkedIn which is showing good growth with interactions growing steadily. In the new year Nazeem, who is in the process of completing an online social media course, will create a presence for QAWC on Twitter and other social media platforms as well. Please be sure to find us on the various social media sites and like and follow our pages. We look forward to Nazeem increasing QAWC's visibility on social media.



**Welcome Nazeem!**

## **QASA AGM**

On 17 October 2020, the QASA AGM took place virtually with members from all over the country joining to hear about the achievements and challenges of the past year. Changes to the QASA Constitution had been proposed which resulted in all eligible members voting either for or against the proposed changes. The majority of members voted in favour of the changes that were proposed and it was then left to the QASA COO to deliver his comprehensive report. With the AGM over, the new QASA Board met and elected the office bearers for the coming year.

The QASA Executive Committee is as follows:

Chairperson: Simon Manganye

Vice Chairperson: Anthony Ghillino

Treasurer: Richard Barron

Additional member: Jabu Shai



## **Disability Sensitisation Training at HG Travelling Services**

QAWC was contacted by HG Travelling Services, the service provider for the City of Cape Town's Dial-a-Ride service, who requested that we do Disability Sensitisation Training with all their staff members, including Dial-a-Ride drivers and call centre staff. The training, which took place over a four-day period at their depot in Bellville, aimed to build the confidence of the delegates who attended and teach them the correct way to

interact with persons with disabilities. The training was done while following strict Covid 19 protocols and was received very enthusiastically by the HG Travelling Services team. QAWC hopes that the staff members who attended the training will put what they learned into practice and treat persons with disabilities that they come into contact with appropriately.



## 100 Material Masks from Smile 90.4FM

QAWC was pleased and surprised to be the recipient of 100 material masks from popular radio station Smile 90.4FM. We were contacted by a representative of Smile90.4FM to inform us that we were nominated by a member of the public to receive masks for our members. QAWC was very excited to be one of the nominated organisations selected to receive masks. Our sincere thanks to Smile 90.4fm for assisting to protect our members. We are also very grateful to the member of the public who nominated QAWC to receive the masks. As we were never given your name we can't thank you personally, however we would like to express our gratitude to you for taking the time to nominate QAWC to be a recipient of this initiative.



## Advertising member's businesses

Do you own or run a business? If so, QAWC offers you the opportunity to promote your business on our social media platforms. On Tuesdays we take the time to advertise the businesses of our members on the QAWC



Facebook page. Using the handle #tradingtuesday we put the spotlight on a business of a member every week in the hope that the exposure will help to grow their company. If you would like your business to be promoted on our social media platforms, please send information about your

business, some photographs and a bit about yourself to our Communications Officer, Nazeem, using his e-mail address which is [admin@qawc.org](mailto:admin@qawc.org) We look forward to promoting your business on our social media pages.



## Old Mutual recognise Richard's volunteerism at QAWC

When not giving up his time to assist quadriplegics and paraplegics, Richard Barron, the QAWC Treasurer is an employee at insurance giant Old Mutual. A wheelchair user as a result of a diving accident a number of years ago, Richard who has served on the QAWC Board in various capacities over the years, has had his dedication and service to our organisation recognised by his employer. Richard was a finalist in the 2020 Old Mutual Staff Volunteerism Awards, eventually being declared the winner of the Gold Award. This recognition of the contribution made by Richard to our organisation is well deserved and we are proud to have a member and volunteer of our organisation receive such a prestigious award. **Well done and thank you Richard!**



## Medical Supplies

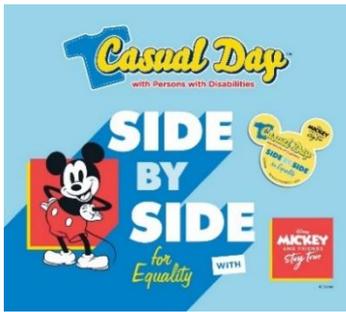
QAWC has heard from a number of members who have struggled to receive adequate supplies from their day hospital. During the lockdown the situation with the shortage of supplies worsened and QAWC was grateful to be able to secure funding to purchase much-needed medical supplies for our members. This funding which



came from the Australian High Commission was used to purchase items which were flagged as a problem by our members, including catheters, penel sheaths (condom catheters), urine drainage bags, KY jelly, linen savers and surgical gloves. In addition to these supplies, QAWC received a donation of incontinence products from Coloplast which were also made available to members. Members were given the opportunity to apply for these supplies by e-mailing the QAWC office. Deliveries were made to members at their homes and we were pleased to be able to assist 35 members with these much-needed medical supplies.

## CASUAL DAY

Casual Day, the annual fundraising campaign that raises funds for organisations that offer support and services to persons with disabilities was unfortunately also affected by the National lockdown. Originally scheduled to



take place on the 1st Friday of September, the difficult decision was made to postpone the initiative this year. With Casual Day now scheduled to take place on 3 December, the fundraising campaign will coincide with International Day for Persons with Disabilities and provide us with the opportunity to celebrate our disability and Casual Day at the same time. This year's stickers will sell for R20 each with members able to retain a portion of each sticker that they sell. For more information or to order your stickers please



contact our Administration manager, Esme at [info@qawc.org](mailto:info@qawc.org)

## QAWC office closure & Seasons Greetings

The QAWC office team will be enjoying a much needed break over the festive season with the QAWC office closing on 18 December 2020 and reopening on 11 January 2021. The staff and management of QAWC take this opportunity to wish our members, their families, our supporters, partners and friends all the very best over the December and January festive season. To those who are travelling, please be careful on the roads and we hope that everyone will continue to be mindful of the fact that we are in the middle of a pandemic. Please be sure to follow all protocols and avoid crowds, close contact with others and being with people in confined spaces. We wish you all the very best, may 2021 bring good health, happiness and success to you.

