



# The Relief Organisation of the Order of Malta in South Africa

## Activity Report 2020

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We render a **health care service** to poor and needy persons, including the care for people living with HIV/AIDS at the hotspot of the AIDS pandemic in the world, the North Coast of Zululand in South Africa.

Our **AIDS treatment (HAART) Programme** comprises

### Voluntary Counselling and HIV-Testing (VCT)

We offer free and confidential HIV Tests to the general public.

**13 patients tested**



### Antiretroviral Treatment



We provide free **Highly Active Anti-Retroviral Treatment (HAART)** as comprehensive medical care including regular medical examinations, blood monitoring, ongoing prevention or treatment of opportunistic infections, medical and psychosocial counselling and dispensing of the drugs.

**691 patients on ongoing life-long treatment**  
**19 new patients admitted**

### Adherence Monitoring

Our Therapeutic Counsellors make home visits to our patients on ARV-treatment to ensure that they adhere to the treatment and so to prevent treatment failure. This enables us to discover adverse drug reactions early and to prevent problems.

**174 home visits**



### Hospice & Palliative Care



We provide **residential Palliative Care** for terminally ill patients in our **Inpatient Unit**.

We can admit up to 40 patients, which makes us the largest inpatient hospice in South Africa.

**4461 social workers' consultations** (mostly for the Hospice, but also for the Children's Home, Bursary Fund and Relief Fund)  
**3191 outpatient consultations**  
**822 new outpatients enrolled**  
**16 new inpatients admitted** (re-admissions not counted)  
**13 inpatients accompanied when they died**

We send out mobile home-nursing teams, which supplement and support the family's home based care through hands-on-training and additional aids in the home situation of the respective patient. This includes the assessment of patients at home and proper medical **home care**.



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**448 home visits by our home care teams**  
**63 patients transported by ambulance**  
**996 patients looked after at their homes**  
**16 patient assessment visits done**  
**32 new home care patients enrolled**

### Relief & Social Care



#### Relief Fund

We provide poverty relief by helping people in genuine cases of immediate need.

**We provided relief in 16 social emergency cases.**



#### Poor Sick Fund

We provide poverty relief by helping sick people from our local community, if they cannot afford urgently needed medical treatment.

**Pre-Primary School & Crèche**

We provide "edu-care" and an early childhood development service for underprivileged pre-school children.

**80 children educated**



**Children's Home**

We look after, counsel and give a home to sick and healthy "Orphans and Vulnerable Children" (OVCs).

**9 children were admitted**  
**12 children were discharged**  
**53 children lived here**

on 31 December 2020



**Malnutrition Clinic**

We provide a health care service to poor and needy persons by running a clinic, where we examine, treat and feed malnourished infants and teach their parent/carer in proper baby care and

nutrition.

**50462 specialised food servings** provided to up to **40 children per consultation**, i.e. 1262 meals per child per year or 3 - 4 meals per child per day.

**Bursary Fund**

We provide poverty relief by giving bursaries to poor pupils and students of our local community.

**267 bursaries given**



**Special event in 2020**

The **Covid-19 Pandemic** hit us hard since March for the rest of the year. It confronted us with **extraordinary challenges** over and above our usual routine services:

We faithfully took care of the high-risk group of our **immune deficient and geriatric hospice patients** and the **children** of our children's home where some are **particularly at risk from previous illnesses**.

We continued to ensure that the 691 patients we treat for life in our **AIDS treatment** program, despite the restricted freedom of movement due to Covid-19, reliably received their life-sustaining, highly effective antiretroviral drugs and took them daily.

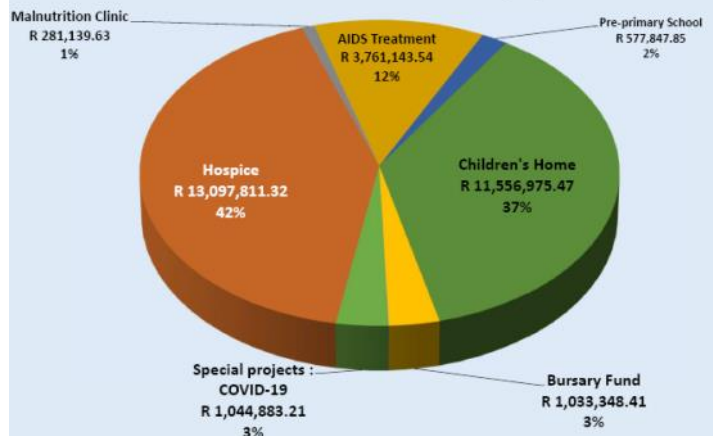
We also took care of our needy **home care and AIDS patients** at home. Many of these patients and their families had lost their sources of income and were starving.

We have distributed 757 food parcels (each feeding a family of four for a month) to 154 families in 2020



Our Clinic for **malnourished infants** continued to prevent starvation, **examined** the children, advised and **counselled** their caregivers, and provided an average of **6636 baby food meals** per four-weeks-cycle.

CASH EXPENDITURE 2020 FOR COST CENTRES : R 31,364,414.13



**Member statistics (31 December 2020)**

1594 active members  
+ 716 financial supporter members  
+ 355 spiritual supporter members  
= **2665 members.**

