



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

## Activity Report 2024

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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

### Antiretroviral Treatment



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

of the drugs.

**3905 outpatient consultations for**  
**584 patients on ongoing life-long treatment.**  
**3 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. This enables us to discover adverse drug reactions early and to prevent treatment failure.



**2213 home visits made.**

### Palliative Care Centre



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.

**2657 social workers' consultations** (mostly for the Hospice, but also for the Bursary Fund and Relief Fund)

**1421 outpatient consultations**

**81 inpatients admitted**

**37 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**.



**81 patients enrolled.**

**1917 sick visits made.**

**269 patients transported by ambulance.**

**204 patient assessment visits done.**

### Relief & Social Care

#### Relief Fund



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

**We provided relief in 118 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.

## Child Care

### Early Childhood Development Centre

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

**69 children educated**



### Child and Youth Care Centre



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

**85 children looked after.**  
**24 of these were admitted in 2024.**  
**10 of these were discharged in 2024.**



### 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.

We provided

**21610** specialised food servings by  
**1214** 400g packs of milk powder and  
**576** 1 kg packs of protein & vitamin enriched porridge  
in **302** consultations to  
**149** malnourished children with an average of  
**25** children per month.

### Bursary Fund

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

**33 school bursaries**  
**5 tertiary bursaries**  
granted.



### Special events in 2024

Blessed Gérard's **Children's Home** had entirely restructured into four independent "family group units" and refurbished.



Blessed Gérard's **Early Childhood Development Centre** had been renovated with upgraded classrooms and kitchen, and new outdoor facilities were established.



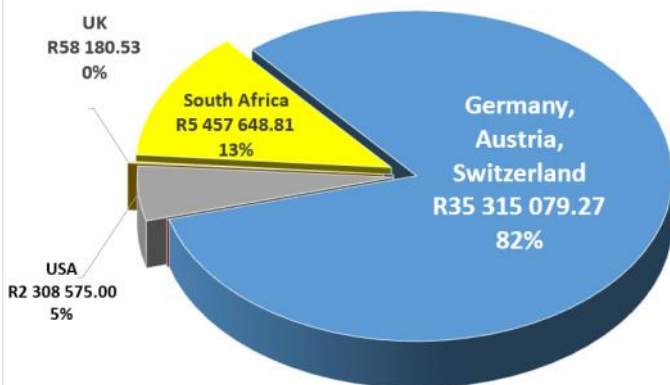
The Apostolic Administrator of the Diocese of Eshowe, Wilfrid Fox Cardinal Napier OFM, blessed and opened them on 12 July 2024.

Our **mission** is to further the glory of God and strive with a common effort to foster a more perfect life of our members by devoting ourselves to the apostolate of the Church in works of charity to serve "the poor of our Lord Jesus Christ" extending God's loving care to them under the motto "tuitio fidei et obsequium pauperum" (Protection of faith and service to the needy).

### Member statistics (31 December 2024)

**1600** active members (114 of these are employees)  
+ **750** financial supporter members  
+ **532** spiritual supporter members  
= **2702** members.

### SOURCES OF INCOME 2024 : R43 139 483.61



### EXPENDITURE 2024 : R 44 916 498.60

