

VERULAM HOSPICE FACES FINANCIAL CRISIS

Since the Covid-19 lockdown from 27 March 2020, the Verulam Hospice was forced to discontinue its home visits to provide free palliative care health services to the 88 terminally-ill patients in Verulam and Tongaat and its surroundings area. The Verulam Hospice, in its 23 years of existence provides home based care to our cancer patients, mainly unemployed women from poor homes. This humanitarian community health service was provided free to all our patients with life threatening illness through the generosity of the donors, sponsors and the general public.

With the closure of the Verulam Hospice due to the high risk, staff, especially the two professional nurses provide support and palliative care from their homes. Our originally ten staff operated with much love, care and efficiency during the past 23 years. The monthly cost of human resources, vehicles, fuel, utilities, telephone and rental is in region of R55 000. With the lockdown and restrictions, the public were not able to donate cash and essential food items to the Hospice. Two major fund raising events were cancelled placing the Hospice in difficulty in continuing its free services to our very sick patients. The Board of Management was forced take very stringent and prudent measures with staffing and hospice activities to the local community. Unfortunately our terminally ill patients will live their remaining last few days without the support and palliative care provided by the Verulam Hospice.

An urgent appeal is made to the generosity of the public, the business sector and organisations to contribute financially so that the Verulam Hospice will be in a position to continue to take care of the terminally ill patients and their families. The Hospice Administrative staff can be contacted at 032 5332764, email: vlmhospice@telkomsa.net. Banking Details : FNB .Verulam Branch Code : 220229 Account number :509 111 49596.



Prof Chandru Kistan

Chairperson : Board Of Management