



# AFM WELFARE

*Empowering Caring Communities*



# MESSAGE OF SUPPORT: PAST. M.G. MAHLOBO - PRESIDENT OF THE AFM OF SA

## OUR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY AND OUR STRATEGIC COMMITMENT



Some of the most significant socio-economic challenges in South Africa are poverty, high unemployment and low income, crime, family breakdown and poor standards of education. This is our missional context in which we must demonstrate our caring spirit and commit to actions that will make a difference in the lives of people.

AFM Assemblies and members are called upon to contribute to the transformation of our communities by becoming the agents of change. We are called to be salt and light (Matthew 5:13-16). First, identify the needs in your community (e.g. within your community ward, village, town and city). Secondly, identify and implement actions that will address these needs. Thirdly, find a way to measure the impact these actions are making on people's lives.

The AFM is a missional church with a heart for seeing our local communities change and transform to places where God reigns. Community Involvement is one of our drivers in the One AFM Game Plan. I encourage you to implement this driver on an ethical and professional standard. The AFM Welfare is here to support and empower you.

***“The AFM is a missional church with a heart for seeing our local communities change and transform to places where God reigns.”***



# CALL FOR ACTION: PAST. B. PETERSEN - CHAIRPERSON



My Call for Action is premised on the Words of Jesus Christ in Matthew 25:34-36:

*Then the King will say to those on his right, "Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the creation of the world. For I was hungry, and you fed me. I was thirsty, and you gave me a drink. I was a stranger, and you invited me into*

*your home. I was naked, and you gave me clothing. I was sick, and you cared for me. I was in prison, and you visited me."*

Loving and serving others is not just a calling, it is an instruction from God and it is meant for everyone. The AFM Welfare is the ministry through which the AFM has and will continue to make a difference in the lives of vulnerable people, especially children, women and older persons.

Community Involvement is one of the drivers of the One AFM Game Plan to fight poverty and other social ills which is of utmost importance. Every AFM Assembly can and must be involved with developmental actions that will bring change to the people; fulfilling the original missional calling of our church.



***"Loving and serving others is not just a calling, it is an instruction from God and it is meant for everyone."***

## ***New Projects***

The AFM Welfare has the tools and programmes to support your Assembly with the understanding, planning and implementation of social development actions and projects. We assist Pastors and Assemblies to identify the most important social problems in their communities and equip them to be part of the solution. Get in contact with our acting CEO, Ashley Theron for clear guidance.

## ***Existing Welfare Projects***

We invite our Pastors and Assemblies to serve on the governance structures of Welfare Institutions and to encourage your members to support and volunteer their skills and time to the AFM Child and Youth Care Centres, Foster Homes and Old Age Homes in your area. Volunteers may be electricians, accountants, tax preparation specialists, plumbers, carpenters, mechanics, doctors, personal trainers, dentists, coaches, babysitters amongst others. Further we encourage our Assemblies to affiliate their social development projects (such as Welfare, Health, Education etc.) with the AFM Welfare, unlocking collective resources to improve impact.

Whilst making this passionate call for action, it is appropriate to record my most sincere thanks and appreciation to our Pastors, Assemblies and members for many years of selfless, dedicated involvement in changing lives in the various institutions.

Blessings as we strive to do the will of God!

***“The AFM Welfare has the tools and programmes to support your Assembly with social development actions and projects.”***



## BACKGROUND : ASHLEY THERON – ACTING CEO

The Executive Welfare Council of the AFM of SA (EWC) is the Welfare Department of our church, The Apostolic Faith Mission of South Africa. It was established and registered as a National Welfare Council in 1938. As an organisation with its own legislative authority, it focuses on **social development (welfare) work in its broadest sense within South African communities**. It includes the establishment and management of institutions for children and older persons as well as community development projects with and through Assemblies, established in terms of its scope of practice.

In the beginning years, the church was more involved with the Welfare Department. The Welfare Department was initially positioned as an extension of the church's welfare ministry and enjoyed the support and involvement of assemblies. At some point in history the Welfare Department started to "drift" away from the support and involvement of the church - to such an extent that some AFM Assemblies today are not even aware of AFM Welfare projects in their geographic area.

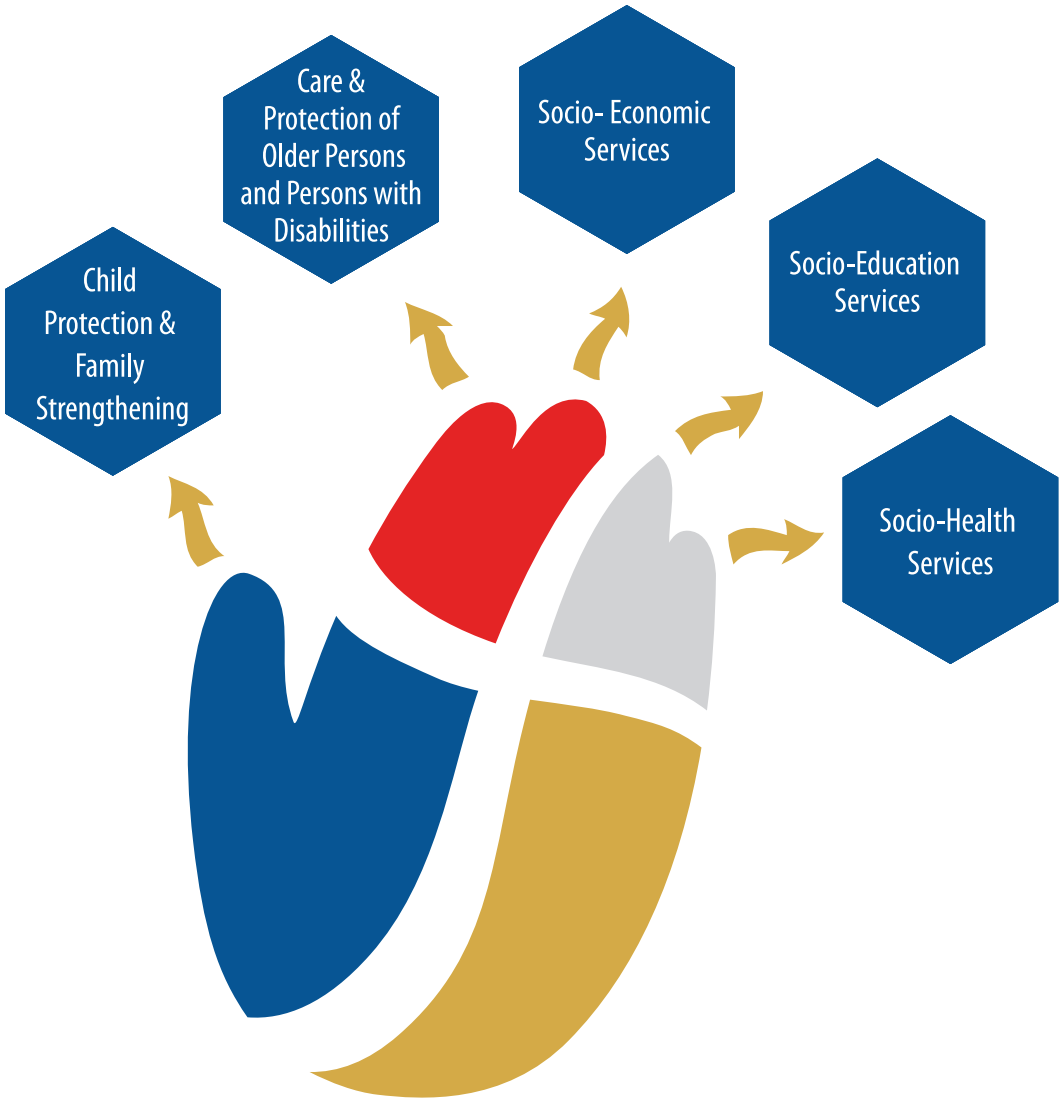
Currently AFM Assemblies are challenged with the practical implementation of the *One AFM Game Plan* of which *Community Involvement* is one of the drivers. There is a great synergy to be realised through closer cooperation between AFM Welfare and the church. While AFM Assemblies are focused on implementing *Community Involvement* - the AFM Welfare can through its Social Development Programme serve, enable and equip AFM Assemblies with the practical tools and programmes to implement social development actions in their local communities. AFM Welfare then works with and through AFM Assemblies to reach communities, assisting Assemblies to become service points and later service centres in the community.

*"The AFM Welfare is here to serve, enable and equip the church."*



# THE WORK OF THE AFM WELFARE

The AFM Welfare sees social development in its broadest sense and can serve, enable and equip AFM Assemblies to implement Community Involvement through the following strategies:





## Strategy 1: Child Protection & Family Strengthening

Child protection is defined as the protection of children from violence, exploitation, abuse and neglect. It is important that child protection be contextualised within their families, hence the importance to strengthen families so that they can support and provide a safe home for their children.

Examples of Services/Projects:

### Family Support

- Victim Empowerment Centres, Parenting Skills Training, Parents Support Groups or Marriage Enrichment Programmes.

### Services or Support to Vulnerable Children

- Children's Groups, Shelters, Child & Youth Care Centres, Foster Homes and Drop-in Centres.

### Existing AFM Welfare Projects



The uMephi programme includes 35 Child and Youth Care Centres and 13 Foster Homes - providing services to 450 children (from all races) in need of care and protection. Children are between the ages of 0-18 years and removed from their parents' care due to physical abuse, sexual abuse, neglect or abandonment. Our model makes use of House Parents (now referred to as Child and Youth Care Workers) who fulfil a substitute parenting role. uMephi cares for these children across 8 provinces of South Africa.





## **Strategy 2: Care & Protection of Older Persons and Persons with Disabilities**

The Older Persons Act, 2006 (Act 13 of 2006) is intended to protect, promote and maintain the status, rights, well-being and security of older persons. This Act also applies to the care and protection of persons with disabilities.

Examples of Services/Projects:

### **Care and Protection Services to Older Persons**

- Services to older persons in Service Centres which could be accommodated in churches or church halls, Home-based Care, Old Age Homes or Service Centres.

### **Care and Protection Services to Persons with Disabilities**

- Home-based Care, Residential Care Facilities or Day-care Centres.

## ***Existing AFM Welfare Projects***

### **Residential Frail Care Centres**

Provision is made for the care and protection of frail older persons in three of our Old Age Homes in Touwsrivier, Sarepta and Kuilsrivier. Committees and staff members are responsible for oversight, managing and running programmes for 260 individuals; some who come from challenging and disadvantaged circumstances.

### **Retirement Villages**

A Retirement Village as an option for retirement remains a popular choice for persons over the age of 50 years. For this reason, the units in the 5 Retirement Villages are always utilized to the maximum: Lofdal (Centurion), Kabega (Port Elizabeth), Rosestad (Bloemfontein), Vue Du Cap (Cape Town) and Villeria (Pretoria).

## **Strategy 3: Socio-Health Services**

Many of the social challenges that are faced in communities cannot be addressed by Social Welfare (Development) interventions alone and in the case of HIV and Substance Abuse the close cooperation with the Health Sector Services is crucial.



## Strategy 3: Socio-Health Services (cont.)

Examples of Services/Projects:

### **Services to Persons affected or infected with AIDS**

- Prevention & Raising Awareness, Supporting patients through long-term Care Programmes.

### **Services or any Projects related to Substance/Drug Abuse**

- Rehab or Day-treatment Centre, Support Groups, School Outreach Programmes.

## Strategy 4: Socio-Education Services

The term Socio-Education speaks to the need for a close partnership between the welfare and education sectors in the protection and development of especially vulnerable persons. It also has an important role to play in addressing Socio-Economic challenges like inequality, poverty and unemployment.

Examples of Services/Projects:

Schools, Early Childhood Development (ECD), Literacy Programmes, After-school Centres. Soup kitchens at schools.

## Strategy 5: Socio-Economic Services

Socio-economic development is the process of social and economic development in a society. Socio-economic development is measured with indicators, such as GDP, life expectancy, literacy and levels of employment.

Examples of Services/Projects:

### **Poverty Alleviation Services**

- Soup Kitchens, Social Relief, Food Parcels, Clothing Distribution, Small Scale Farming.

### **Services related to Job Creation or Employability Preparation:**

- Upskilling, assisting with CV's or preparing for Job Interviews, Empowerment Programmes to address Inequality, Women Empowerment, Youth Empowerment.

## GET STARTED TODAY!

The church is ideally positioned to bring change in the lives of people across South Africa. Every AFM Assembly in their communities can and must become involved. Get involved and get started with developmental actions that will bring change to the people in your community. Implement Community Involvement to fulfil the original missional calling of our church.

## MORE ABOUT OUR ACTING CEO ASHLEY THERON



Ashley Theron, a registered Social Worker with more than 40 years' experience, is one of the leaders in the welfare field in South Africa. He has post-graduate qualifications in Psychology, Social Work Supervision and Management. He held leadership positions at municipalities in East London and Pretoria. He was also the head of various structures including the North West Department of Social Development, Social Work Services at the National Department of Social Development, Head of Social Governance and Child Protection at UNICEF SA and the CEO of Child Welfare in South Africa. Through his own Training and Development Consultancy, he has trained around 4,000 Social Workers, NPO Board Members and community members.

Connect with Ashley Theron for direction and assistance related to the AFM's Game Plan driver Community Involvement.

Landline: Call Lizelle de Bruyn or Rebeca Kola on 012 753 7940/1

E-mail: [ashleyt@afmwelfare.org.za](mailto:ashleyt@afmwelfare.org.za)



# FINANCIAL SUPPORT

We accept financial support in the following ways:

**OPTION 1**

**Once-off  
Donations**

**OPTION 2**

**CSI  
Contributions**

**OPTION 3**

**Sponsorships**

**OPTION 4**

**Bequests**

## **DONATIONS:**

Bank: ABSA Centurion

Account Name: The Executive Welfare Council of the AFM of SA

Branch Code: 632005

Account #: 01 05529 076 4

Type: Cheque

For all OTHER types of financial support:

Contact Seneshri Williams at [seneshri@netdial.co.za](mailto:seneshri@netdial.co.za) – we will send the necessary debit order authorization form and other information.

You are also reminded to use uMephi as your charity of choice when applying for a **Woolworths card**.

Together, moving in unity to fulfil our God-given missional calling!  
Thank you for your involvement, support and prayers.



***“Thank you for your involvement,  
support and prayers!”***



## **The Executive Welfare Board**

**Chairperson** - Pastor Barend Petersen – General Treasurer

**Vice-Chairperson** - Pastor Jean Symons – National Leadership Forum Member (Doxa Deo Network)

**Secretary** - Pastor Trevor Herbert – National Leadership Member (Western Cape Region)

**Treasurer** - Pastor Rudi Coertzen – National Leadership Member (East Rand Region, Gauteng)

### **Additional Members:**

Advocate Molly Malete

Pastor Bongani Mashobane – National Leadership Forum Member (Eastern Free State Region)

Pastor Lazarus Chauke – National Leadership Forum Member (Limpopo)

Pastor Ezrom Mbonambi – National Leadership Forum Member (Zululand Region, KZN)



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