



Christian AIDS Bureau for Southern Africa at Huguenot College
Christen Vigsburo vir Suider-Afrika by die Hugenote Kollege



Dr Andrie Kilian (middel) is weer aangewys as voorsitter van die CABSA Raad, waardeur ons bedrywighede gerig word. Dr Kilian is 'n afgetrede predikant wat onder meer aan die NG Gemeente Parow-Panorama verbonde was. Hy sal deur ds Stephen Snyman (links) van die Calvinse Kerk, wat as ondervoorsitter verkies is, bygestaan word. Die onlangse raadsvergadering in November was die laaste vergadering wat deur Biskop Johannes Ulster van die Morawiese Kerk bygewoon is, aangesien hy op 85 jaar oud besluit het om finaal af te tree! Hier word hy deur ons raadsvoorsitter bedank vir al sy waardevolle ondersteuning en diens op die raad.

** Dr Andrie Kilian (middle) was again elected as chairperson of the CABSA Board. Ds Stephen Snyman (left) was elected as vice-chair. With them is Bishop Johannes Ulster, who stepped down as board member after valued service.*

Towards a caring community

During our CABSA staff planning workshop for 2008 which we held in October, we had the opportunity to revisit the CABSA vision.

We agreed that our vision of "a caring Christian community ministering reconciliation and hope" is indeed a wonderful articulation of what God's Kingdom means in the midst of the HIV and Aids pandemic.

All of our staff members, as well as a few of our board members who visited our workshop, recommitted themselves anew to this vision. This was endorsed at the Board Meeting in November when our aims and objectives for 2008 were approved.

Recently someone asked me about our vision: "Why do you have to describe a Christian community as caring? Is that not what a Christian community is supposed to be in any case?"

Unfortunately the sad truth is that the Aids pandemic tells stories of many people living with HIV who do not experience their own Christian communities as caring. This proves that there is still much to be done!

God providing, CABSA will continue in 2008 to sensitise and mobilise faith communities, empower leaders, provide information on a continuous basis, and collaborate and network with other role players.

Some of the highlights of our plans for 2008 include the following:

- Our Annual General Meeting will be in the form of a network event that will be hosted by the Fontainebleau Community Church in Johannesburg on 19 and 20 April. FBO's and congregations with HIV programmes are invited to exhibit at this event.

It will be a wonderful opportunity to expand the network of Christian organisations working in the HIV and Aids field.

- We are planning four Facilitator Training events for 2008. Please see the calendar on page 3 for more details.
- We are also committed to further improving our mentorship programme. A workshop for regional mentors will be conducted in February and two Refreshers will follow.

The CABSA staff members are enthusiastic to continue serving the Kingdom of God in 2008. We want to continue to assist faith communities to become caring Christian communities.

Please support us in your prayers. Pray specifically that we will find the necessary financial support as this is still one of our greatest challenges.

May 2008 be a year in which you experience God's blessings!

Notis des Juit

Refresher course inspires

The 31 participants in our recent Churches, Channel of Hope Refresher Course came from all over the northern parts of South Africa, as well as Zimbabwe.

It was the biggest group that has attended a CABSA refresher course thus far.

The three-day event took place in November at the Mazenod Retreat Centre near Benoni in Gauteng. It was presented by CABSA facilitators Nelis Du Toit and Aneleh Fourie-Le Roux.

The participants came from Johannesburg, Pretoria, Bloemfontein, the Limpopo Province and Mpumalanga, with the greater part of the group being from the Anglican Church. There were also five Zimbabweans in the group.

The participants were all previously trained as CABSA facilitators. The course gave them the chance to refresh the skills they learnt when they

first participated in the Churches,

Channels of Hope training course. According to Jessica McCarter, Deacon of the Anglican Church in Lynnwood, Pretoria, it was also a valuable opportunity to hear how the task of mobilizing our churches as "Aids-awareness" communities is being tackled by others.

"For two and a half days we talked, wrestled and prayed over the various components which make up the five-day Facilitators' Training Course," Jessica reflects.

The components included an updated and more gender friendly session on Christian guiding principles, a revisit of the basic information about HIV and Aids, living with HIV and Aids as well as the Christian response to HIV and Aids.

"Perhaps most importantly, the course focused on ways of mobilizing our church communities," Jessica says. "I know that we all came away excited and motivated if not only to run workshops but also to use every opportunity to

promote HIV and Aids awareness."



Facilitators Nelis du Toit (in front, left) and Aneleh Fourie-le Roux (right) with the group who attended the Gauteng refresher course - and Aneleh's new baby!

Vigstaakgroep maak goeie vordering

CABSA is deurlopend betrokke by die Vigstaakgroep van die Gekombineerde Kommissie vir Diakonaat van die NG Kerk (Wes- en Suid-Kaap) en die VG Kerk (Kaapland).

Hierdie taakgroep, wat binne die strukture van die sinodes opereer, het die afgelope jaar goeie vordering gemaak. Gereelde vergaderings is deur die Uitvoerende Komitee gehou.

'n Pamflet is onder meer ontwerp en riglyne is vir Vigsherdenkingsondag en Wêreldvigsdag opgestel en uitgestuur.

'n Vergadering van die Algemene Vigstaakgroep het op 8 November plaasgevind en is deur 23 NGK en VGK leiers bygewoon.

Die Uitvoerende Komitee vir 2008 is: dr Andrie Kilian en dr Quarta du Toit (NGK), ds William Ficks en me Beatrice Rickers (VGK), ds Nelis du Toit (CABSA), me Elmiën Grobbelaar (Sothemba), dr Sam Pick (CLF), me Madelein Gerber (Vrouebediening) en mnr Andre Smith (Jeug).



CABSA and CARIS were among the 86 exhibitors at the Christian Business Expo, which was held at the Mosaic Centre in Fairland, Johannesburg in October. This exhibition provided an opportunity for businesses owned and operated by Christians, ministries and non-profits to grow and prosper by promoting their products, services and programs to the public.

Webblad 'n waardevolle bron van inligting

Onthou om hierdie maand na ons webblad www.cabsa.co.za te gaan loer vir inspirerende idees en hope inligting.

Hier sal jy nie net idees vir preke kry nie, maar ook akkurate statistiek en inligting oor die verspreiding van MIV en vigs.

Daar is ook idees oor hoe kerke en omgeegroepes betrokke kan raak om vanuit 'n Christen perspektief iets te kan doen aan die pandemie.

Die webblad word gereeld opdateer danksy die knap inisiatief van Lyn van Rooyen van CARIS. Dit groei egter nie net inhoudelik nie, maar gaan waarlik ook van krag tot krag wat besoekers betref.

Volgens ons webstatistiek kan ons ook sien dat besoekers heelwat tyd op die webwerf spandeer, werklik die inligting wat hulle daar vind waardevol vind en heelwat dokumente aflaai vir latere gebruik.

Volgens ons webstatistiek het gebruikers ons webblad van Junie tot November 64 000 keer besoek en meer as 8 miljoen kilobytes se inligting van die webwerf afgetrek. Hierdie inligting is omtrent gelykstaande aan die stoorruimte wat op twaalf CD's beskikbaar is. Nie sleg nie!



CABSAs highlights for 2008

All the dates and venues have not yet been finalised, but will be as soon as possible. For more information on any of these events, please contact the CABSAs office at (021) 873 0028. Updates will also be provided in the 2008 editions of *CABSAs Network* and on our website.

Event	Date
* Workshop for Regional Mentors	8-10 February
* Churches, Channels of Hope Training of Facilitators Gauteng	9-15 March
* CABSAs Annual General Meeting, Gauteng	19-20 April
* Churches, Channels of Hope Refresher Meeting, KwaZulu Natal and Eastern Cape	May
* Churches, Channels of Hope Training of Facilitators, Malawi	May/June
* Churches, Channels of Hope Training of Facilitators, Western Cape	June/July
* Churches, Channels of Hope Training of Facilitators, Free State	August
* Churches, Channels of Hope Refresher Meeting, Free State	October

Application forms for the Training of Facilitators are now already available from admin@cabsa.co.za or training@cabsa.co.za. Please apply as soon as possible if you are interested.

Relationship with PRISMA continues

Lyn van Rooyen and Nelis du Toit were privileged to attend the PRISMA conference during the first week of October 2007.

The PRISMA network gives CABSAs the opportunity to build relationships with a number of faith based organisations in South Africa as well as Zimbabwe, Malawi and Zambia.

The PRISMA programme aims to build the capacity within these organizations.

CABSAs will be part of this programme as a service provider until its completion in 2009.

Please keep CABSAs in your prayers. Please pray for our staff, our plans for 2008, our staff and our finances.

ALICT supports community leaders

For three months per year, 26 young community entrepreneurs and leaders from all over Africa gather in Wellington to participate in a learning experience hosted by ALICT (African Leadership Institute for Community Transformation).

This year, 23 countries were represented.

As an elective course participants could choose to be trained as Churches, Channels of Hope facilitators. CABSA's Aneleh Fourie-le Roux trained six ALICT students in this highly esteemed course.

ALICT's mission is to empower emerging leaders to facilitate sustainable transformation towards healthy reconciled communities all based on Biblical principles.

It is an opportunity for new servant leaders working towards the transformation of their communities to meet and grow together.

Participants from all over Africa and beyond come together to share their cultural experiences and perspectives, to learn new skills, to gain new insights and to build new relationships.

CABSA also presented a HIV Awareness Day workshop to the whole



CABSA facilitator Aneleh Fourie-Le Roux (middle) with her ALICT students

group. Afterwards the participants were blessed by the kindness of a visitor to the group, Skip Krige. He donated a copy of "Positive Voices", which is part of the "Called to Care" series, as well

as a "What can I do?" DVD by Gideon Byamugisha to each participant.

"In this way, the material is now being spread to 23 countries," Aneleh reflects on the kind gesture.

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