



**prisoncare**  
and support network

# ANNUAL REPORT

2024/2025



"Caring, Supporting and  
Serving with Humility"

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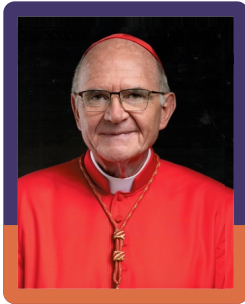
## VISION

The Vision of PCSN is to create hope in the individual and restore a sense of humanity in the community.

## MISSION

PCSN will realise its vision through providing ministry based upon the values and teachings of Jesus Christ.

# PCSN BOARD



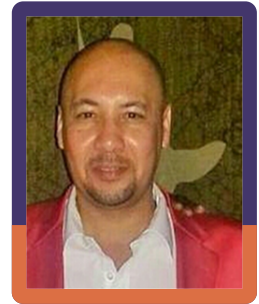
**APOSTOLIC ADMINISTRATOR**  
His Eminence,  
Cardinal Stephen Brislin



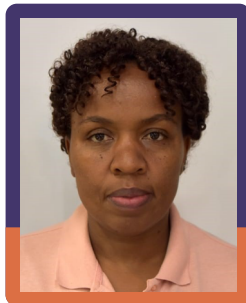
**CHAPLAIN**  
Fr Christian Frantz



**CHAIRPERSON**  
Dr. (Adv) Nathanael  
Siljeur



**FINANCIAL DIRECTOR**  
Randall Bredenkamp



**SECRETARY**  
Marie Josee Uwamwiza



**VICE-SECRETARY**  
Ricardo Valentine



**INFORMATION OFFICER**  
Antonio dos Santos

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## PRIESTS and DEACON

Fr Godfrey Solomon; and Deacon Allan Petersen

## VOLUNTEERS

Sophia Absolon; Mary-Anne Ferguson; Jennifer Fleischmann; Adele Fritz; Agnes Julie; Nonkosi Kaleni; Nthabiseng Lebitsa; Denise Losper; Gregory Mac Master; Sylvia Mack; Paul Neethling; Jason Poole; Nomathamsanqa Sekhobo; Florence van der Westhuizen; June Yon & Elizabeth Ziegler

## RESTORATIVE JUSTICE FACILITATORS

Maria Alves; Christine Copley; Nigel Copley; Catherine De Valence; Chris Sobolewski

## IT FACILITATORS

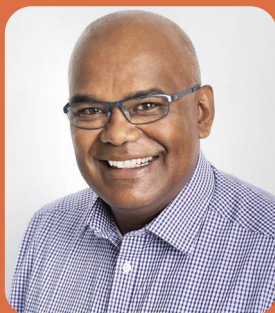
Keown Absolon; Godley Adams; Dominic Nkosie & Alex Sassman

## ADMINISTRATION STAFF

Programme Coordinator: Alledene Cupido; Administrator (Intern): Jarred-Lee Yon

# CHAIRPERSON'S MESSAGE

Dr. (Adv.) Nathanael Siljeur



This year has been marked by the persistence of pain in our society, but also by the quiet, determined work of restoration, mercy, and transformation. PCSN continues to stand as a witness that God is still active, present, and at work among us, especially in the places many consider forgotten.

## The South African Context: A Land in Need of Healing

We cannot begin our report without acknowledging the reality in which we minister. South Africa continues to be marred by structural inequality, cyclical poverty, and pervasive violence. In 2025, we have seen far too many headlines of mass murders, gang-related killings, and broken communities. Our criminal justice system is under immense strain. Many correctional centres remain overcrowded, under-resourced, and ill-equipped to offer genuine rehabilitation.

But amidst these painful realities, our faith reminds us:

**“Where sin increased, grace overflowed all the more.” (Romans 5:20)**

As Catholics and Christians, we are called not to retreat in fear, but to respond with bold compassion. We do not look away. Instead, we lean in with the unshakeable conviction that every person bears the image of God, and no life is beyond redemption.

## 1. The Upper Room IT Project: Equipping for Dignity and Hope

One of our most exciting initiatives this year has been the Upper Room IT Project. This ground-breaking programme provides accredited IT training to disadvantaged youth, many of whom have been directly or indirectly impacted by incarceration. It is more than just skills development; it is about restoring dignity, offering opportunity, and opening doors that were long shut by circumstance and stigma. Participants have not only learned valuable digital skills, but they have also encountered mentors,

rediscovered self-belief, and dared to dream of a life beyond survival. The Upper Room has become a sacred space for transformation, echoing the room in Scripture where the Holy Spirit descended with fire and courage.

## 2. Monthly Ex-Offender Gatherings: From Isolation to Community

Reintegration is not an event; it is a journey. One that is often lonely, misunderstood, and filled with temptation to return to the familiar patterns of crime and despair. That is why our monthly ex-offender gatherings are a vital lifeline for many.

Facilitated by trained volunteers, these gatherings offer a structured programme of reflection, encouragement, prayer, and community. They are safe spaces where participants can speak freely about their challenges, share victories, and build accountability with others who truly understand.

In a society that often brands people permanently by their worst mistake, these gatherings offer a different identity: Child of God. Redeemed. Called. Loved.

## 3. In-Prison Ministries: Presence Behind the Walls

Our team of spiritual workers and restorative justice practitioners continues to do the unseen, unglamorous, yet deeply sacred work inside prison walls. Week after week, they facilitate spiritual accompaniment, faith-sharing, trauma-informed group sessions, and restorative justice circles.

# CHAIRPERSON'S MESSAGE

Dr. (Adv.) Nathanael Siljeur

...continue

Many incarcerated men and women carry deep wounds, from childhood neglect, abuse, addiction, and systemic poverty. The prison cell often becomes a mirror where they are forced to face their pain for the first time. It is here that our spiritual workers step in, not with judgment, but with mercy. They proclaim a God who still whispers hope, who still calls us by name, and who still walks with the condemned. In spaces where violence often has the final word, they speak the Gospel of peace. Indeed, it's not just us. It is Christ working through us. Prison walls cannot block His grace.

## Rooted in Faith, Rising in Hope

This work is not easy. It requires sacrifice, long hours, and the painful accompaniment of people's deepest wounds. However, it is holy work.

We remember the words of Pope Francis: "A society can be judged by how it treats its prisoners." As Christians, our response to crime cannot simply be punishment. It must be restoration. We must hold people accountable, yes, but in ways that also offer hope, healing, and a path back into community.

## Looking Forward

In the year ahead, we are excited to deepen our impact in the following ways:

- Train more volunteers in restorative justice facilitation.
- Launch an advocacy desk to elevate the voices of prisoners and ex-offenders in national discussions on prison reform.
- Deepen parish partnerships, inviting faith communities to adopt ex-offender support as a core ministry of mercy.

This is a vision that requires all of us, volunteers, staff, donors and faithful believers who say, "Here I am, Lord. Send me."

## Gratitude

I want to express deep thanks to:

- Our dedicated board members who give wisdom, time, and strategic guidance.
- Our tireless staff and volunteers who show up week after week, often unseen but never unnoticed by God.
- Our donors and partners, without whom none of this would be possible.

And above all, to the men and women we serve, incarcerated, recently released, or still struggling. Your courage inspires us. Your lives matter deeply.

## Closing Reflection

In a country torn by pain, fear, and injustice, the Church is called not to echo the noise of condemnation, but to sing a new song, a song of mercy, of healing, and of truth.

The world says, "Once a criminal, always a criminal."

We say, "Once a child of God, always a child of God."

The world says, "Lock them up and throw away the key."

We say, "Open the door to grace, to truth, and to transformation."

**God is not finished with South Africa.**  
**God is not finished with the incarcerated.**  
**God is not finished with us.**

Let us rise, then, with faith like fire and hearts made strong by mercy.

Let us build, pray, and advocate with the fierce tenderness of Christ Himself.

And let us declare boldly: there is no place too dark for the light of God to shine.

Thank you. God bless you. And may our work always reflect the justice and mercy of the One who set us free.

Dr. Nathanael Siljeur,  
Chairperson.



# CHAPLAIN'S MESSAGE

Fr Christian Frantz



**T**his past year has been a year of change and reset. The very nature of Christian Jubilee is that it invites us to reset through charity, the restoration of human dignity and through a lively Christian witness, speaking hope into an often hopeless situation. St Paul's words in the Second Letter to the Corinthians are most encouraging:

*"We have this treasure in clay jars, so that it may be made clear that this extraordinary power belongs to God and does not come from us. 8 We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; 9 persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; 10 always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be made visible in our bodies."*

PCSN has been fortunate to enjoy the patronage of His Eminence Cardinal Stephen Brislin, the former Archbishop of Cape Town, who was transferred to the Archdiocese of Johannesburg and took up his appointment there at the beginning of 2025. We pray that God will continue to inspire His Eminence in his pastoral care of the Archdiocese of Johannesburg. We pray, too, that the Holy Spirit will guide the Church in the appointment of a new Archbishop for the Archdiocese of Cape Town. The passing of the Holy Father, Pope Francis 1, who gave good example of care, especially to the marginalised and those incarcerated, was a sad loss for all of us. We pray that PCSN will continue to draw inspiration from his heroic example. It is with joy that we celebrate the election of Pope Leo XIV, who already inspires us with HOPE through his pastoral approach so deeply rooted in Christ, giving new impetus to the Jubilee Year of Hope. We pray with joy for the Holy Father.

Sadly, Mary Bredenkamp, who served as the RJ Administrator among other things, retired due to ill health. We continue to pray for her and her family. We are grateful for her invaluable service to PCSN, which she executed with due diligence. We welcome Jarred Yon, an intern, who continues the great work Mary did. My gratitude to our staff at the office who always give their very best to ensure that all aspects of PCSN are executed efficiently and effectively.

The volunteers, without whom PCSN cannot deliver the services it does, are very dear to me. I am especially grateful to those who accompany me in the celebration of Holy Mass at the prison, as well as to those involved in the Ex-Offenders programme. Thank you, too, to Alledene, who facilitates the Basic Education Programme, ensuring that our beneficiaries are adequately equipped for school. To the RJ team and the many volunteers who accompany them at the Family days, a special word of thanks.

In our endeavour to expand the volunteer base of PCSN, we are engaging parishes within the Archdiocese of Cape Town to either become an Ex-Offenders access point or support those parishes who facilitate Ex-Offenders gatherings. We envisage providing training for Prison Ministry through the Pastoral Development Centre of the Archdiocese of Cape Town, so that Prison Ministry can be seen as an extension of Parish Ministry, being Parish Alive.

The guidance and support of the Board of PCSN also need a special word of thanks. Thank you for providing PCSN with clear direction and vital support. Your time and dedication to PCSN is much appreciated.

I pray most affectionately for everyone; friend, benefactor, volunteer and parish who so generously support the work of PCSN that God who sees all that is done will reward you.

**Chaplain**  
Fr Christian Frantz

# FINANCIAL REPORT

## Randall Bredenkamp



It has been a productive year since we continued with projects that ensured we maintained our focus on providing spiritual and emotional support, rehabilitation and reintegration of the inmates, the released and their families.

Based on our annual audit our External Auditors confirmed:

- No irregular audit findings
- Our sustainable going concern capability
- Our Audited Financial Statements fairly represent our operations in accordance with the financial reporting framework.

| INCOME                      | 2025       | 2024       | %   | Movement |
|-----------------------------|------------|------------|-----|----------|
| Internally generated Income | 602 897.00 | 356 699.00 | 69% | ▲        |
| Externally generated Income | 492 755.00 | 709 202.00 | 31% | ▼        |

Our internally generated Income grew by 69% due to our rental income and ServeSA income which is indicative of PCSN resourcefulness.

Externally generated income reduced because we didn't get any funding from:

- SACBC Lenten Appeal
- MacFarlane Family Foundation

A BIG thank you to our:

- Local individual funders that increased by 43% (2025: R123,021.00) and (2024: R85,771.00)
- Archdiocese of Cape Town – includes 2nd Collection for Prison Ministry Sunday (2025: R282,997.00) and (2024: R295,539.00)
  - Even thou we saw 69% increase, we as a Board agreed that we need to focus on sustainable fund-raising initiatives.
  - Our expenditure increased by 25%, which resulted in depending more on our own cash reserves, which resulted in the 18% banking reduction.

| EXPENSE           | 2025         | 2024       | %   | Movement |
|-------------------|--------------|------------|-----|----------|
| Total Expenditure | 1 241 666.00 | 993 744.00 | 25% | ▲        |

# FINANCIAL REPORT

## Randall Bredenkamp

Non-funded projects in 2025 were:

- Restorative Justice Program @ R175,000.00
- Training @ R23,192.00

| BANK                    | 2025       | 2024       | %   | Movement |
|-------------------------|------------|------------|-----|----------|
| Deposit/Bank/Petty Cash | 537 266.00 | 654 545.00 | 18% | ▼        |

Besides focusing on funding initiatives and projects for our prisoners, PCSN has also over for the last few years been able to consistently budget appropriately for the below support:

- Permanent employees - Office staff
- Fixed term employees - ServeSA Staff
- Stipend volunteers
- Sponsoring Scholars/Students
- Volunteering Executives

| Office Staff                                      | ServeSA Staff                               | Volunteers | Students/<br>Scholars             | Executives      |
|---------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------|
| 1 Program Manager<br>1 Administrator<br>1 Cleaner | 2 Facilitators<br>2 Interns<br>1 Supervisor | 19         | 40 IT Students<br>58 BEP Learners | 6 Board Members |

### Appreciation and Thanks

- To our Cardinal, the Archdiocese of Cape Town for his continuous trust and support in PCSN
- Our Volunteers: we thank you for your commitment and perseverance
- The administrative staff: we appreciate your continued services to the Board, Volunteers, Clients and Families
- To my Chair and fellow Board Members: it was a challenging year, but we survived as a collective team.
- Our Accountants and External Auditors: H. Daniels & Co. for the bespoke and affordable service.

I wish to thank PCSN for the past 20 years providing me substance, purpose and spiritual wisdom on this ministerial journey.

FINANCIAL DIRECTOR  
Randall Bredenkamp



# STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

(Registration Number: 012-905 NPO)

Annual Financial Statement for the year ended 31 March 2025

|                                 | Note(s) | 2025<br>R        | 2024<br>R        |
|---------------------------------|---------|------------------|------------------|
| <b>Assets</b>                   |         |                  |                  |
| <i>Non-current assets</i>       |         |                  |                  |
| Property, plant and equipment   | 2       | 1,473,896        | 1,473,896        |
| <i>Current assets</i>           |         |                  |                  |
| Cash and cash equivalents       | 3       | 537,266          | 654,545          |
| Total assets                    |         | <u>2,011,162</u> | <u>2,128,441</u> |
| <b>Reserves and liabilities</b> |         |                  |                  |
| <i>Reserves</i>                 |         |                  |                  |
| Accumulated funds               |         | 1,654,848        | 1,772,113        |
| <i>Liabilities</i>              |         |                  |                  |
| <i>Non-current liabilities</i>  |         |                  |                  |
| Long term loan - Archdiocese    | 4       | 356,314          | 356,314          |
| <i>Current liabilities</i>      |         |                  |                  |
| Trade and other payables        |         |                  | 14               |
| Total reserves and liabilities  |         | <u>2,011,162</u> | <u>2,128,441</u> |

# STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

(Registration Number: 012-905 NPO)

Annual Financial Statement for the year ended 31 March 2025

|                                                    | Note(s) | 2025<br>R        | 2024<br>R     |
|----------------------------------------------------|---------|------------------|---------------|
| Fundraising and donation income                    | 5       | 1,095,652        | 1,065,719     |
| Project related Expenditure                        |         | (502,080)        | (377,518)     |
| Operating expenses                                 |         | (739,586)        | (616,256)     |
| Operating (deficit) surplus before interest income |         | (146,014)        | (71,945)      |
| Interest received                                  |         | 28,748           | 24,790        |
| (Deficit) surplus for the year                     |         | <u>(117,265)</u> | <u>96,735</u> |

# PERFORMANCE INDICATORS:

## 2024 - 2025



| Performance Indicators: 2024-2025                                                                               |                                   |         |        |        |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------|--------|--------|
| PA-annually; B- Beneficiary                                                                                     |                                   |         |        |        |
| Strategic objective:                                                                                            | Measurable objective /Programmes: | Measure | Target | Actual |
| Responding to Spiritual and emotional needs of the incarcerated and their families.                             | Personal Development              | PA      | 100    | 148    |
|                                                                                                                 | Pre-release Programme             | PA      | 75     | 134    |
|                                                                                                                 | Restorative Justice               | PA      | 100    | 102    |
|                                                                                                                 | Family Members(RJ)                | PA      | 100    | 197    |
|                                                                                                                 | Holy Mass, Services & Word        | PA      | 100    | 74     |
|                                                                                                                 | Catechetical & Group Sessions     | PA      | 100    | 185    |
|                                                                                                                 | Church Services                   | PA      | 150    | 321    |
| Providing care and support during incarceration:                                                                | Other Programmes                  | PA      | 20     | 24     |
|                                                                                                                 | One-on-one Sessions               | PA      | 100    | 467    |
|                                                                                                                 | Visit to Foreign Inmates          | PA      | 5      | 4      |
| Projects                                                                                                        | Court Support                     | PA      | 5      | 6      |
|                                                                                                                 | Basic Education Project           | B       | 30     | 58     |
|                                                                                                                 | Caritas                           | PA      | 13     | 8      |
|                                                                                                                 | Mac Farlane Family Foundation     | PA      | 100    | 155    |
| Providing care and support after release: Social reintegration programme of offenders, including RJ phone calls | Clothing & Blankets               | PA      | 10     | 2      |
|                                                                                                                 | Stipend                           | B       | 5      | 4      |
|                                                                                                                 | Spiritual/Emotional Support       | PA      | 75     | 59     |
|                                                                                                                 | Telephone calls                   | PA      | 350    | 591    |
|                                                                                                                 | Transport Stipends                | B       | 100    | 150    |
|                                                                                                                 | Ex-offender Gathering             | PA      | 75     | 98     |
|                                                                                                                 | Home Visits                       | B       | 5      | 7      |
|                                                                                                                 | Number of Board Members           | PA      | 6      | 6      |
|                                                                                                                 | Number of Clergy                  | PA      | 3      | 3      |
|                                                                                                                 | Number of Active Volunteers       | PA      | 20     | 19     |
|                                                                                                                 | Recommitment Holy Mass            | PA      | 1      | 1      |
|                                                                                                                 | Information Technology            | PA      | 30     | 26     |
|                                                                                                                 | Annual Thanksgiving Mass          | PA      | 1      | 1      |
|                                                                                                                 | Outreach                          | PA      | 1      | 100    |

# UPPER ROOM PROJECT

Tony dos Santos | (Basic IT program – Report 2025)

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In the beginning of June 2023, Prison care and Support Network (PCSN) members Sophia Absalon and myself approached Dr. Charles Pritchard (Founder of Entelect, The Foundation, Alpha and Omega Mission and ServeSA) to assist PCSN in raising funds.

Mr Charles Pritchard then introduced us to an IT program that Entelect and ServeSA offer to people who are from a previously disadvantaged and from poor background. The course empowers the learners with basic IT skills. It offers eight modules (i.e. Using ICT in the Organization, Microsoft Word, Microsoft Excel, Communication Skills, Power Point, Mathematics Literacy, Web Browser and Outlook) for a period of ten months. The course is offered at no expense to PCSN nor to the learners. Entelect and ServeSA supplies PCSN with Laptops (estimated at R7800 per Laptop) and also pays for the licenses for the course (estimated at R6500 per learner). ServeSA also compensates PCSN for presenting the IT program.

Finding the right venue was very challenging in the beginning and we are very thankful to Fr Ashok and Fr Nilesh, parish priests of St Mary of the Angels in Athlone for accommodating the URP in their parish hall. In February 2024 a second center was opened in Scottsdene, Kraaifontein at St Owens parish. We are very thankful to Fr Francisco and Fr Anthony for making the second center possible.

Ms Sophia Absalon and Mr Dominic Nkosie were the first facilitators appointed for the first year. The first year URP project started with 16 learners and had 100% pass rate. In the second year (2024) after various interviews, Mr Keown Absolon (from class of 2023) was appointed as facilitator for Athlone center and Mr Dominic Nkosie became the facilitator for Kraaifontein center. Two interns were also appointed from the 2023 class to assist the facilitators. Ms Sophia Absalon manages both centers. In our second year (2024) we had a total of 26 learners and 100% pass rate. In this current year we have a total of 42 learners and to date we also have 100% pass rate. We also have identified learners that could become future facilitators.

Our biggest challenge was to feed the learners; Mr Craig Harker of Harker's Engineering was approached and has been assisting us to feed the learners every day. On the 26th of June 2025 both center learners attended a career expo at CTICC hosted by the City of Cape Town. It was a great experience for the learners. Various hosts were keen to come to our centers and talk to our learners. IEC has already addressed our learners.

A special thank you to the Following:

- Mr Charles Pritchard and his team at Entelect, for their great and generous hearts in serving the community and making this opportunity available to PCSN.
- Mrs Fatima Capelinha and her team at ServeSA, for guiding the Upper Room Project.
- Mr Craig Harker of Harker's Engineering for assisting in feeding our learners.
- Frs. Ashok and Nilesh for their support in making the venue available.
- Fr Christian, our Chaplain and Spiritual director for always guiding us.
- Ms Sophia Absalon in administrating the URP and Mr Dominic Nkosie and Mr Keown Absolon for facilitating the course.
- All the board members of PCSN in supporting the URP.
- The Staff at the PCSN office for all the hard work they have done for the URP

All Glory be to God Almighty for guiding us in UPR. Thank you, Lord, for showing us favor as your servants.

*Tony dos Santos*

# VOLUNTEER LEADERS' REPORT

Elizabeth Ziegler

On Sunday, 24 November 2024 two of our Clients, Charity Ndimande and Ndimphiwe Nyakathi, honoured an invitation to the AFM church in Elsies River to give their testimony. It was very well received by the congregation of the AFM church.

A highlight of the new year was having Fr Babychan visit us and concelebrating the Re-commitment Holy Mass with Fr Christian.

## 9 Ex-offender Gatherings

|                            |                          |                           |                           |                             |                            |                              |                               |                            |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------|
| <b>11</b><br>April<br>2024 | <b>16</b><br>May<br>2024 | <b>13</b><br>June<br>2024 | <b>25</b><br>July<br>2024 | <b>15</b><br>August<br>2024 | <b>05</b><br>Sept.<br>2024 | <b>10</b><br>October<br>2024 | <b>07</b><br>November<br>2024 | <b>27</b><br>March<br>2025 |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------|

Our clients show great appreciation for the sessions. We always start with Praise and Worship – which is a very lively session.

Often, I do not get through everything I have prepared to do because participants, clients and facilitators are so eager to join in the discussions.

It is a pity that most of our clients have difficulty in finding employment. Some of them are self-employed, making doughnuts, cakes, scones etc. Others sew from off-cuts of material that has been donated.

A friend of Maryanne has donated beads to us. We hope to be able to teach our clients how to make jewellery soon. We also intend to start making Birthday and Christmas cards soon which might be able to earn some much-needed cash.

Elizabeth Ziegler

# VOLUNTEER LEADERS' REPORT

Sophia Absolon

## Pollsmoor Correctional Centre, Tokai:

5 out of 6 sections at Pollsmoor are still being serviced, except Medium B.

### Female Section:

June Yon and Adele Fritz work at this section. They work with groups who are individuals held in detention before being convicted of a crime, also known as awaiting trial prisoners.

So many young girls are incarcerated and need the spiritual support. Many matured ladies are in and out of prison. The ladies do more group work than one on one. Weekly sessions are done with scripture readings, church services and group sessions. Father Christian commenced with monthly Holy Mass once his permit was sorted.

### Medium A Section

Sophia Absolon and Nomathamsanga Sekhobo are in this section. They work with unsentenced individuals from juvenile to adults in the section. Weekly sessions are done with scripture readings, church services and group sessions. The juveniles are increasing and are becoming younger by the day. The adults come in and out and is just laying there, not being rehabilitated at all. Father Christian celebrates Holy Mass once a month.

### Medium C: Males

Nonkosi Kaleni is in this section with sentenced offenders. Some of the inmates are being prepared to be released. Nonkosi conducts programs, including Restorative Justice and many other programs. Weekly sessions are done with scripture readings, church services and group sessions.

Many times, we would be at prison for a session and will be informed that sessions are cancelled. So many times, some of the volunteers are on their way in public transport and will get a message that the sessions are cancelled. We see different people every week and cannot do a program with them but do the Restorative Justice topics with them during the session.

Since Covid we only have group sessions, no one on ones. Challenges will be there all the time, however, hope for things to change going forward.

Hebrews 13:3 Remember those in prison

## Goodwood Correctional Centre:

Our volunteer, Nthabiseng Lebetsa has been working at Goodwood for many years. She conducts the program for pre-released offenders.

### Jeremiah 29 vs 11:

*I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord.  
Plans to Prosper you and not to Harm you...*

# RESTORATIVE JUSTICE PROGRAM

Sophia Absolon

## Matthew 25

*I was in prison and you came to visit me*



## How Restorative Justice Works

We create **HOPE** for the individual & restore a sense of humanity in the community. PCSN motivated by the values and teachings of Jesus Christ. We seek to respond to the emotional & spiritual needs of inmates.

We focus on the rehabilitation of offenders through reconciliation with family, victims and the community at large.

### Pollsmoor Correctional Centre, Tokai: Medium A

18 March – 22 April 2024:

We started at Pollsmoor with 13 inmates. It was a very matured group who was set in their ways. The program had a great impact on them as they had to do many reflections. The Family Day was a highlight. Many of the inmates did not see their families for years and they could ask their families forgiveness that day. It gave the families the opportunity to express their feelings too. The families were very happy to reconcile with their loved ones.



# RESTORATIVE JUSTICE PROGRAM

## Sophia Absolon

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### **Helderstroom Correctional Centre, Caledon**

02 May – 27 May 2024

We had 20 inmates on the program. This program was one of the best programs that I have ever experienced. It was just a great group of human beings who had bad experiences in life and committed horrendous crimes. They didn't know what to expect from the program. On the first day of the program, these guys were struggling to reflect on their past. The second day, many of the inmates decided to better their lives and to accept the tools that were provided to them. We had serious, emotional group discussions. A group of guys who went back after every session, do their homework and came back stronger the next day, hungry to learn more. Our Family Day was challenging as their families were all from different areas and very far apart. The Co Ordinator and her assistant made it possible that all the families attended that day. It was one of the most emotional Family Days that we had. Their families were very surprised to see how well they looked that day.

The program made a huge impact on the 20 offenders. The group decided that they were going to give their own Restorative Justice program to the other inmates who were not part of the group. They are a group of rugby players who are part of an outside Rugby league and they are just doing very well. We trust that God will keep steering them in the right direction when they live normal lives again.

### **Voorberg Medium Correctional Centre, Picketberg**

07 October – 28 October 2024

We had 22 offenders on the program. The majority in the group were matured. A 79 year old male attended the program. These guys were in prison for a very long time. They were incarcerated 17 years and more. One inmate could not remember his home address. DCS and us struggled to get his correct address to contact his family. Many of them are old and are set in their ways. They did not have the hope that their lives could become better should they make the right choice. Many of them decided to make the right choice. Family Day was beautiful and their families attended very well. The inmates and family were grateful to reconcile as they did not see each other for years. Some inmates took the program to heart while others not. We trust that the Holy Spirit will guide them.

### **Malmesbury Correctional Centre: Medium A**

04 November – 24 November 2024

It was our very first time after many years that we did a program at Malmesbury. We had 31 offenders on the program. It was a good program. The inmates had so many hurts, bitterness and anger to deal with. It was their first time that they attended a program of this nature. It took them very long to deal with their past and to take responsibility and accountability for their actions. Some of the inmates couldn't deal with all their past actions but need more time to get through the healing process. The Family Offender Mediation Day was good; inmates were grateful for the opportunity to ask forgiveness to their families. The inmates realized after Family Day how much hurt they have caused their families. They were sad when they saw how their families are suffering without them. Many of them decided to change and to be there for their families once they are released.

# RESTORATIVE JUSTICE PROGRAM

## Sophia Absolon

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### **Pollsmoor Correctional Centre, Tokai: Medium A**

20 January – 24 February 2025

We had 16 participants on our program. Some of these offenders were in their late 30's and some older. Halfway through the program we did not have much hope that most of them were going to change, but we trusted the Holy Spirit as we are only the messengers of God. Many of them were pretenders and acted as if they were changing but after the sessions, they went back to gangsterism and drugs in their cells. Quite a few of the older inmates started changing during the program. They showed remorse during our open discussions and realized the hurt that they have caused their families. Many of their families could not be reached at the addresses that the inmates gave because they did not live with their families for years. We located an offender's family a day prior to Family Day. The parents thought that the inmate was deceased because they searched everywhere for him. Family Day the parents could not stop crying when they saw their son. Each participant had a family member accept for those who could not attend, however, made sure that those had either a message or video recording.

On Family Day, we could see that the program made an impact on the offenders, they showed so much remorse when they asked their families forgiveness. Overall, it was a good program. The program was completed over 12 days instead of 10. A member was unable to attend on the initial date and therefore the postponement of Family Day. Homework was given to the participants to keep them focused and occupied as part of preparation. It was very good to have our Chaplain and Chairman with us. 2 New volunteers joined us on Family Day and have decided that they would like to be part of our organisation.

All praise to God for the successful event. Forgiveness is not easy. We all have different times for healing.

Encouraging scriptures to Prisoners:

### **Psalm 23**

*Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil,  
for you are with me, your rod and your staff, they comfort me.*

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### **Psalm 142:7**

*Set me free from my prison, so I may praise your name. Then the  
righteous will gather about me because of your goodness to me*

# PROGRAMME CO-ORDINATOR REPORT

## Alledene Cupido

This past reporting year marks exciting events that took place for Prison Care and Support Network. The most outstanding one which was also a historical event, was when the late Pope Francis celebrated the first-ever Holy Door opening and Jubilee Mass in a prison at Rome's Rebibbia New Complex Prison on December 26th, 2024, for the 2025 Jubilee of Hope. The Pope highlighted that his desire to open the Holy Door in prison was a sign of closeness and hope offered to incarcerated offenders worldwide. How profoundly affirming that Pope Francis shared the same vision we've been championing at PCSN!

| PROGRAMME                | OBJECTIVE                                                                                                                               | ACHIEVEMENT/IMPACT                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Holy Mass, and Services  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pollsmoor Female</li> <li>• Pollsmoor Medium A</li> <li>• Helderstroom Max, Caledon</li> </ul> | Offenders Catholic and non-Catholic attended Holy Mass regularly, reflected and found peace for themselves and among fellow cell mates. They've also experienced calmness which promoted positive behavior and personal transformation. Often the services took place in the Courtyard since there was not other space available, however offenders are always open to receive and participate in the Service.               |
| Recommitment Holy Mass   | PCSN Board, Volunteers and Staff                                                                                                        | <p>The Annual Recommitment Mass allowed all PCSN members to effectively review their commitment to the purpose of the Ministry and through offering themselves spiritually, dedicated their time and self to service for 2025.</p> <p>While on holiday, Father Babychan concelebrated Holy Mass with our Chaplain, Father Christian Frantz. This was indeed a blessing to everyone who worked with him.</p>                  |
| Annual Thanksgiving Mass | Pollsmoor Female Center, Tokai                                                                                                          | The Head of Center welcomed PCSN at the Female Center. Close to 100 offenders were gathered to celebrate the Thanksgiving Mass with the Chaplain, Father Christian, Chairperson, members of the Board as well as Volunteers and staff of PCSN. Offenders embraced the opportunity of worship music, the homily and prayers for themselves and families. Father offered a message of faith, resilience, forgiveness and hope. |

# PROGRAMME CO-ORDINATOR REPORT

Alledene Cupido

| PROGRAMME                                             | OBJECTIVE                                                                                                                                         | ACHIEVEMENT/IMPACT                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|-------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Prison Ministry Weekend<br>2nd & 3rd<br>November 2024 | Awareness of Prison Ministry in the parishes of the Archdiocese of Cape Town                                                                      | The Chaplain and PCSN Members reached out to various parishes to promote empathy and involvement in Prison Ministry. A second collection was taken up at most of the parishes in the Catholic Community. We are grateful for their prayers and financial support to sustain the programs and interventions of the organization.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Ex-offender Gatherings                                | The core objective is to support the reintegration of individuals who have been incarcerated, offering spiritual, emotional and material support. | These monthly gatherings offered a safe space for ex-offenders and parolees through shared experiences and other underlying issues that affected them negatively. Facilitators offered spiritual and emotional guidance which brought transformation to individuals and also to the communities they returned to. These gatherings also reduced recidivism as individuals experienced less isolation and stigma.                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Nutrition Food Parcels                                | Nutrients in non-perishable food parcels were distributed to our beneficiaries.                                                                   | With the primary breadwinner removed from the household, families with children experienced the harsh impact and lack of basic essentials. We were in the position to provide food parcels for the unemployed parolees and released offenders. This kind of support was not just about food—it's restored hope and dignity to families navigating a difficult chapter who had no other form of support. We express our deepest gratitude to MacFarlane Family Foundation who supported this initiative financially during this reporting period. Without you, it would not have been possible. |
| Annual General Meeting 2024                           | West Campus, Old Mutual Park, Pinelands                                                                                                           | Our AGM was a resounding success, featuring comprehensive reports from all portfolios for the past financial year and welcoming distinguished guests including His Eminence Cardinal Stephen Brislin, Department of Correctional Services, Clergy, an IT specialist, Volunteers, IT Facilitators, Clients, and Upper Room students. Our MC kept the audience engaged and entertained. Our Board extended deepest gratitude to the facility manager, Mr. Lawrence, provided an exceptional space and ensured a seamless setup which played a vital role in the success of our AGM.              |

# PROGRAMME CO-ORDINATOR REPORT

Alledene Cupido

| PROGRAMME     | OBJECTIVE                                                                                                                                                                         | ACHIEVEMENT/IMPACT                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|---------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Collaboration | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Caritas, Cape Town</li> <li>• Help the Rural Child</li> <li>• AFM Church, Matroosfontein</li> <li>• Poverty Alleviation Group</li> </ul> | <p>Invited and attended quarterly meetings with the group of Catholic organizations with the aim to share resources and reduce duplication efforts with clients. We appreciated the Bags of Love received for distribution and the Bags of rice, decanted into smaller quantities which were added to our food parcels for clients.</p> <p>We were able to share our spiritual and other literature with the Rural Bookstore who in turn distributed to rural areas.</p> <p>Volunteer Leader and a group of Volunteers supported our Ex-offenders who were invited to share their testimonies at the AFM Church at a Sunday Service in Matroosfontein.</p> <p>The Goodwood Poverty Alleviation Group and PCSN reached out to a primary school in De Noon, Cape Town with school shoes and socks.</p> |
|               | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ServeSA</li> </ul>                                                                                                                       | <p>A group of unemployed youth successfully graduated after completion of a 10-month Information Technology: End User Computing course. The course offered students 130 credits and is MICTSETA accredited. Read more in the report by Tony dos Santos.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |

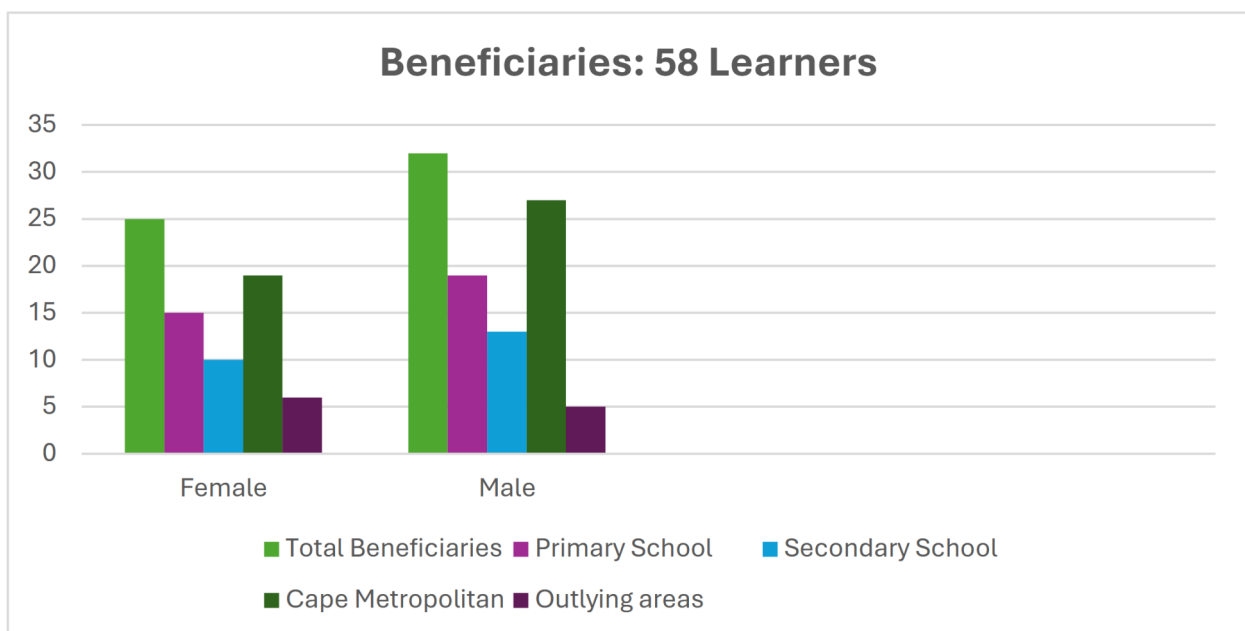
- **Aim of the Project:** Provide summer and winter school uniforms, book and stationery to children of incarcerated offenders, unemployed released offenders and parolees.
- **Target Beneficiaries:** Current program beneficiaries and child of the Restorative Justice program participants at various Correctional Centers

# BASIC EDUCATION PROJECT

## Overall Achievements:

1. Transformative act of compassion and empowerment
2. Improved school attendance: Children attended school consistently because they have the required uniforms and supplies.
3. Reduced dropout rates: Access to basic educational resources helped children stay engaged and motivated to continue their studies
4. Boosted self-esteem: Wearing proper uniforms and having the right tools allowed our beneficiaries to feel equal to their peers, reduced feelings of shame/exclusion.
5. Encouraged participation: Children were more likely to engage in class and extracurricular activities as they felt confident and prepared.
6. Eased financial burden: With a parent incarcerated, families faced economic hardship. Providing school essentials relieved some of that pressure for the carer and unemployed released offenders.
7. Strengthened family resilience: These acts of support helped families maintain stability and hope during the difficult times.

**Acknowledgment:** We extend our heartfelt gratitude to St Antonius for your generous support and unwavering commitment to uplifting the lives of children affected by parental incarceration. Thanks to your compassion and vision, these children are now better equipped to pursue their education with confidence and pride. Your support is more than a donation—it is a powerful statement that every child deserves a chance to thrive, regardless of their circumstances.





# LETTERS from Beneficiaries

25 MARCH 2025

To Whom it May Concern

I TINA STEVENS would like to take this opportunity to thank you for the food parcel and sponsor.

Myself and husband is unemployed. We have 6 children which I'm only getting a Sassa grant for.

I also has a foster kid in my custody which I'm responsible for. So this food parcel and donation is a lot and it's much of a Blessing.

Much Much Appreciated!!!

TINA Stevens

Dear DONOR

ANOTHER year has come and we are blessed to still receive all the gifts and food from beloved BRETHREN, we are truly grateful. The world and universe are at peace with all the kindness we are experiencing and God is extremely proud. Matthew is now at UWC studying to be a high school teacher. All the thank yous and gratefulness for the donors. Glory be to God.

Thanking you  
madge (May)

## PHOTO Gallery



Recommitment Holy Mass: 18 January 2025



Food Parcel Recipients



# PHOTO GALLERY



**IT 2024 Student Graduation**



**PCSN Clients: Testimonies @AFM Church**



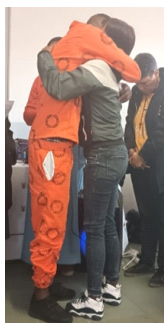
**Ex-offender Gathering**



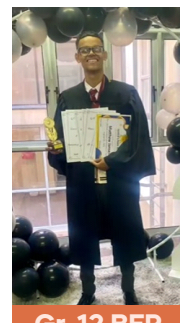
**Restorative Justice Facilitators**



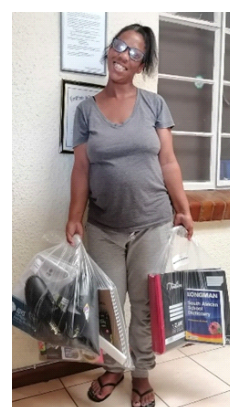
**Restorative Justice Family/Offender Mediation Day**



**UNISA Grad  
Bach. of Arts**



**Gr. 12 BEP  
Recipient  
(7 awards)**



**Basic Education Project Beneficiaries**



“What counts in life is not the mere fact that we have lived.  
It is what difference we have made to the lives of others that  
will determine the significance of the life we lead.”

- **NELSON MANDELA** -

# Contact Us

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Facebook: Prison Care & Support Network  
Web Address: [www.prisoncare.org.za](http://www.prisoncare.org.za)

## THANK YOU

**PCSN THANK OUR FUNDERS, PARTNERS, SPONSORS, GROUPS AND INDIVIDUALS FOR YOUR CONTINUED PRAYERS AND SUPPORT. YOUR GENEROSITY FUELS OUR MISSION AND TRANSFORMS LIVES - THANK YOU FOR BEING THE HEART OF OUR IMPACT.**



### FUNDERS & SPONSORS

- Archdiocese of Cape Town
- Fransaliam Outreach
- South African Catholic Bishops' Conference
- St Antonius, Switzerland
- The MacFarlane Family Foundation
- Harker's Automotive Engineering cc
- ServeSa
- Entelect



### PARTNERS

- Department of Correctional Services
- International Commission of Catholic Prison Pastoral Care (ICPPC)
- Caritas Cape Town
- Entelect
- St Mary of the Angels, Athlone
- St Owen, Scottsdene, Kraaifontein
- Christ the King, Pinelands



### GROUPS

- Killmore Diocesan Apostolic Society
- Parishes in the Archdiocese of Cape Town



### INDIVIDUALS

- Anonymous Donors
- Rev. Fr Babychan msfs
- Rev. Fr De Hahn
- Sr. M Brady
- J. Coetzee
- M. De Ponte
- M. Ferguson
- L. Greig
- C. James
- M & A Julie
- D. Losper
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- The Mattimoe's
- M. October
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- B. Von Falkenhausen