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SA.MAST MISSION

Our mission is to assist informal and disadvantaged areas in their urban renewal and rehabilitation. We achieve our mandate by addressing the causes and consequences of the *over-population* of diseased, stray, neglected, abused or dangerous domestic animals in specific areas, via the implementation of a free, consistent, focused and *goal driven* mass animal sterilisation, treatment and education campaign. This, along with the provision of an animal ambulance and hospital where it is most needed, is our contribution to the development and well-being of our rainbow nation.

SA.MAST is audited, a registered Non-Profit Trust and a Public Benefit Organisation (PBO).

PBO registration allows us to issue Section 18A Tax Deductible Donation Certificates.

We are also a certified Level 4 B-BBEE Contributor. Donors and sponsors receive 100% recognition on their score card claim.



We are currently responsible for the largest, most focused area specific mass animal sterilisation campaign in Africa (over 13 000 procedures so far) while continuing to assist thousands of disadvantaged Khayelitsha guardians with their sick or injured cats and dogs.

We have sterilised, vaccinated (inclusive of rabies) and treated for internal and external parasites over 12 000 animals – mostly from Khayelitsha, the largest informal settlement in South Africa. Our campaign began in earnest in 2009 and at the end of 2016 we were in a position to report an estimated 70% - 80% mass sterilisation with primary treatment coverage rate for all of Khayelitsha. Our goal however is a 90% coverage rate for this massive and diverse 'township'. Thereafter, this area will revert to a maintenance and management programme while SA.MAST concurrently extends the sterilisation and primary treatment campaign to neighbouring informal settlement areas.

The Western Cape Government, on the 31 January 2012 issued this statement:

"The domestic animal over population epidemic continues to have a devastating effect on informal settlements. Sterilising 70% of free roaming animal populations in informal settlements will apply the brake on the breeding rate and minimise the adverse effects of the animal over population epidemic, including the impact it has on public health, the transference of zoonotic diseases and infections, [e.g. scabies, rabies and worms transferred from animal to human] small business development and investment, tourism, safety and security and environmental integrity."

SA.MAST's focused and goal driven sterilisation and treatment approach has translated into the *reduction* of hundreds of thousands of unwanted births that would have further disadvantaged an already overburdened community.

Measurable & Effective Mass Sterilisation & Primary Treatment Approach.

In 2009 we sterilised and treated just 25 patients every second week. Each subsequent year saw SA.MAST steadily increasing its reach into this community. Now, SA.MAST sterilises 45 to 90 patients per week.

We go where most won't. We are determined to get the job done.

Each sterilisation procedure with its attending treatments costs R550 - R650 per patient. This cost includes: health and welfare audit of animals in their home environment, sterilisation data collection, scheduling of sterilisation procedures, hospitalisation and the collection and returning of patients to and from their homes.

In comparison, a private individual will pay between R1800 and R3000 **just** for the sterilisation procedure at a private veterinary clinic.

Moving in a NW to SE direction in Khayelitsha, areas are identified, systematically gridded off and scheduled for campaign intervention.

A SA.MAST designed 'Health and Welfare Audit' is implemented for each area and every animal we are able to get access to, including already sterilized animals. When assistance or intervention is needed, such as education, sterilisation, treatment for infections, diseases or injuries, provision of shelter or documenting and reporting severe neglect or cruelty, we take the appropriate action to the best of our abilities with limited resources.

As a result of our focused campaigns, we are happy to report that finding a lactating or diseased animal in many areas of Khayelitsha is now a rarity as opposed to being previously common place.



Consultations, Animal Hospital & Ambulance

In 2012, we implemented our emergency medical assist programme resulting in thousands of lives being saved and the prevention of zoonotic conditions. Zoonosis is an infection or disease that can be transmitted from animals to humans. This programme continues to have a profound effect on disadvantaged pet guardians who do not have access to their own transport, are unable to afford even welfare veterinary rates, but who nonetheless have chosen the compassionate and responsible path in actively seeking medical attention for their cats or dogs by calling our emergency hot-line animal ambulance number.

Due to increased awareness of the animal ambulance service, our inability to attend to all cases because of transport or animal number restrictions to outlying hospitals and a need to have a greater sterilisation capacity, a decision was taken in early 2014 to expand our Khayelitsha Sterilisation & Primary Treatment Only Clinic, to include a full-time animal hospital *with* enlarged sterilisation wards.

Achievements

- ✓ **August 2015:** We completed the building of our animal hospital.
- ✓ **March 2016:** We had purchased over 90% of all the veterinary equipment needed.
- ✓ **May 2016:** Our new SA.MAST Animal Clinic is registered with the SAVC.
- ✓ **September 2016:** Six 'Previously Disadvantaged' staff all pass their Animal Welfare Assistants SAVC examinations.
- ✓ **November 2016:** Successful Completion of Phase 1, 'Operation Alpha Impact' – average of 70% to 80% sterilisation coverage rate.
- ✓ **Jan – Dec 2017:** Commencement of 'Clean Sweep' with objective to secure secure 90% coverage rate. Over 2000 patients sterilised.
- ✓ **Jan – Dec 2018:** Clean Sweep continues. Over 2600 patients sterilised.
- ✓ **2016 – 2018:** Clinic and hospital provides primary and emergency veterinary treatment to thousands of Khayelitsha residents.

Did you know? Most Khayelitsha residents primarily have dogs for security purposes – to guard their belongings or to sound the alarm. While security is a priority, thousands of guardians in the area also have nurturing and compassionate relationship with their animals.



Patient Care & Community Engagement

In 2014, we began an in-house kennel building programme. Donated wood, including second hand pallet wood, is predominantly used to build 20 to 30 brightly decorated kennels per week for patients returning to a home without adequate shelter.

These kennels serve a purpose which goes beyond the provision of shelter.

By providing these kennels to impoverished guardians, we are creating a climate of trust, greater cooperation and long term commitment from the guardians towards the daily care they give to their dogs – a long term win-win partnership between animal welfare and the Khayelitsha community. **To date we have built over 3000 kennels.**



Happily we have found that many guardians who had previously refused to allow us to sterilise their animals, give us permission to do so after witnessing the improved health and welfare of their neighbour's dogs.

PEOPLE

Everything we do has a tremendous and necessary POSITIVE IMPACT on the community of Khayelitsha.

Public Health & Safety

Zoonosis: Zoonosis is an infection or disease which can be transmitted from animals to humans.

Zoonotic diseases are more common and serious in third world countries and transmission occurs when animals infected with bacteria, viruses, parasites or fungi, comes into contact with humans.

City Health spends tens of millions of Rand's every year treating people infected with zoonotic conditions. Fewer infected animals = a healthier human population.

Bite Wounds & Mauling: Dogs in Khayelitsha are often targets of teasing, stone throwing and sometimes even more severe kinds of abuse - resulting in fearful and aggressive behaviour development. Attacks occur most often when their puppies or source of food is perceived to be threatened or when dogs are guarding their home turf.

Limiting adult dog and puppy population numbers through sterilisation whilst concurrently engaging in humane education translates into a much healthier and safer community.

Security: Most people reading this have an alarm system linked to an armed response service that compliments SAPS. Most people who live in Khayelitsha live in shacks. The people in shacks who have jobs are mostly employed in low income positions such as domestic workers, petrol pump attendants, street sweepers, security guards, office cleaners etc. Their dog is their alarm and helps to protect their shacks and family.

Crime

Violence: Cape Town is ranked as the 9th most violent city in the world. The top four most murderous areas in the City are on the Cape Flats, where Khayelitsha is located. This area has been described to be 'in the throes of violent crime and at war with itself'. It is largely domestic violence and gang-related violence that accounts for the abnormally high murder rates in this area.

A 2013 Institute for Security Studies Africa report strongly recommended that Khayelitsha and other surrounding areas 'clearly require in-depth, multi-disciplinary interventions.'

The connection between animal cruelty and human violence is well documented. Someone who is cruel and violent to animals will also be so to people. Conversely, someone who is kind and compassionate towards animals is far less likely to commit a violent crime.

At our hospital *and* as a result of our 'door to door' initiatives, we engage with hundreds of cat and dog guardians every week, including disadvantaged, vulnerable and impressionable youth at risk. At each encounter, emphasis is placed on education and the humane care and treatment of animals.

Tourism & Small Business Development

Township Tourism: Responsible tourism is tourism that creates better places for people to live in, and better places to visit. A responsible tourism approach aims to achieve the triple-bottom line outcomes of sustainable development, i.e. economic growth, environmental integrity and social justice.

A healthy and sustainable animal population promotes and is supportive of small business and tourism development, conversely, an overpopulation of starving and diseased domestic animals hinders this development.

"To see stray dogs and cats – hungry, sick and suffering – is something very common. And, according to statistics, people experiencing this are less likely to return to that destination and more likely to share the incident with friends, colleagues and on websites such as TripAdvisor.

Some tourists even refuse to travel to certain destinations because they don't want to see stray dogs and cats suffering." FAADA Foundation.

Leadership, partners and support.

Partnership: A partnership, dependent on a mutual respect and appreciation for the role we each play in the urban renewal of Khayelitsha exists between our supporters, donors and the SA.MAST Team.

We could not have achieved so much, nor can we reasonably expect to continue to successfully reach and exceed transformation goals, without the support of insightful and wise donors. Support for our Khayelitsha goals is profoundly appreciated by the SA.MAST Team and the people of Khayelitsha!

Compassion, a non-negotiable expectation of change, empowerment and accountability is what we have in common with our supporters and donors.



We thank you for your time and invite you to visit our hospital and Khayelitsha surrounds.

We look forward to welcoming you to the SA.MAST family!