



# Annual Report

Apr 2023- Mar 2024

Muscular Dystrophy Foundation  
of South Africa – Gauteng  
Branch

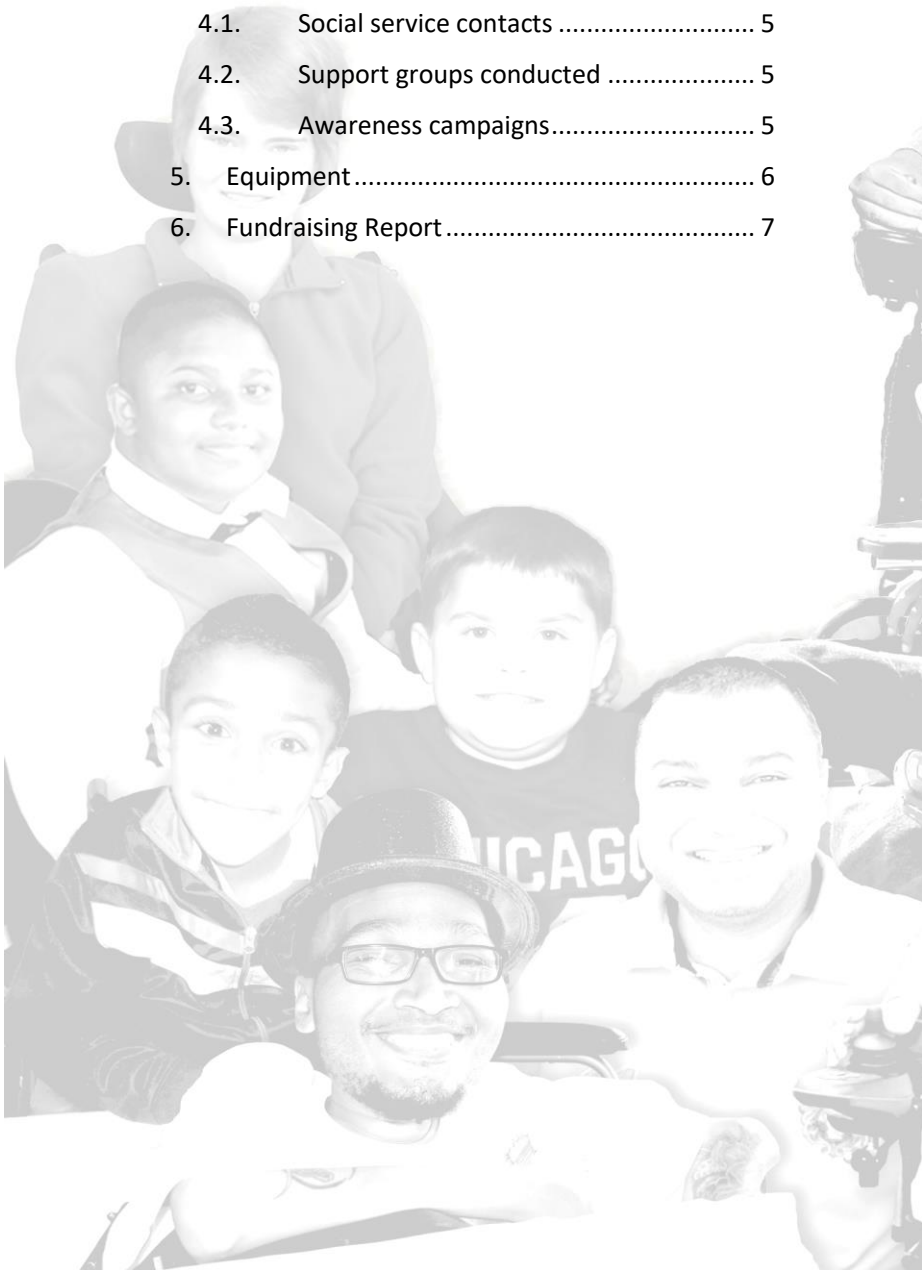
# Annual Report

## 2023/4

### Muscular Dystrophy Foundation of South Africa – Gauteng Branch

#### Contents

1. Mission Statement .....	2
2. Board Members.....	2
3. Message from Gauteng Chairperson .....	3
4. Social Service Report.....	5
4.1. Social service contacts .....	5
4.2. Support groups conducted .....	5
4.3. Awareness campaigns.....	5
5. Equipment.....	6
6. Fundraising Report.....	7



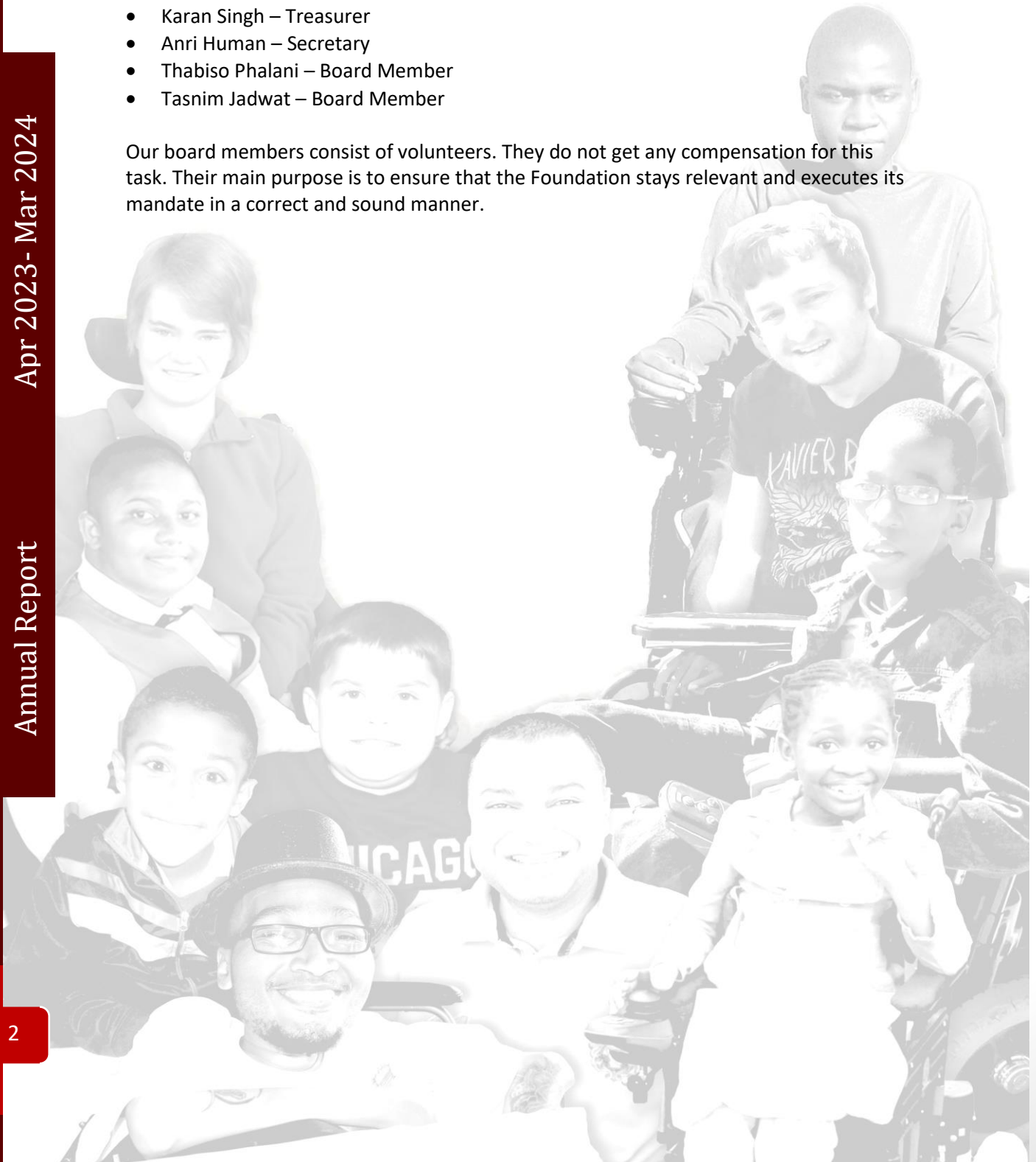
## 1. Mission Statement

The mission of the Foundation shall be to support people affected by Muscular Dystrophy and Neuromuscular disorders and endeavor to improve the quality of life of its members.

## 2. Board Members

- Andrew Miller – Chairperson
- Rudy Petersen – Vice Chairperson
- Karan Singh – Treasurer
- Anri Human – Secretary
- Thabiso Phalani – Board Member
- Tasnim Jadwat – Board Member

Our board members consist of volunteers. They do not get any compensation for this task. Their main purpose is to ensure that the Foundation stays relevant and executes its mandate in a correct and sound manner.



### 3. Message from Gauteng Chairperson

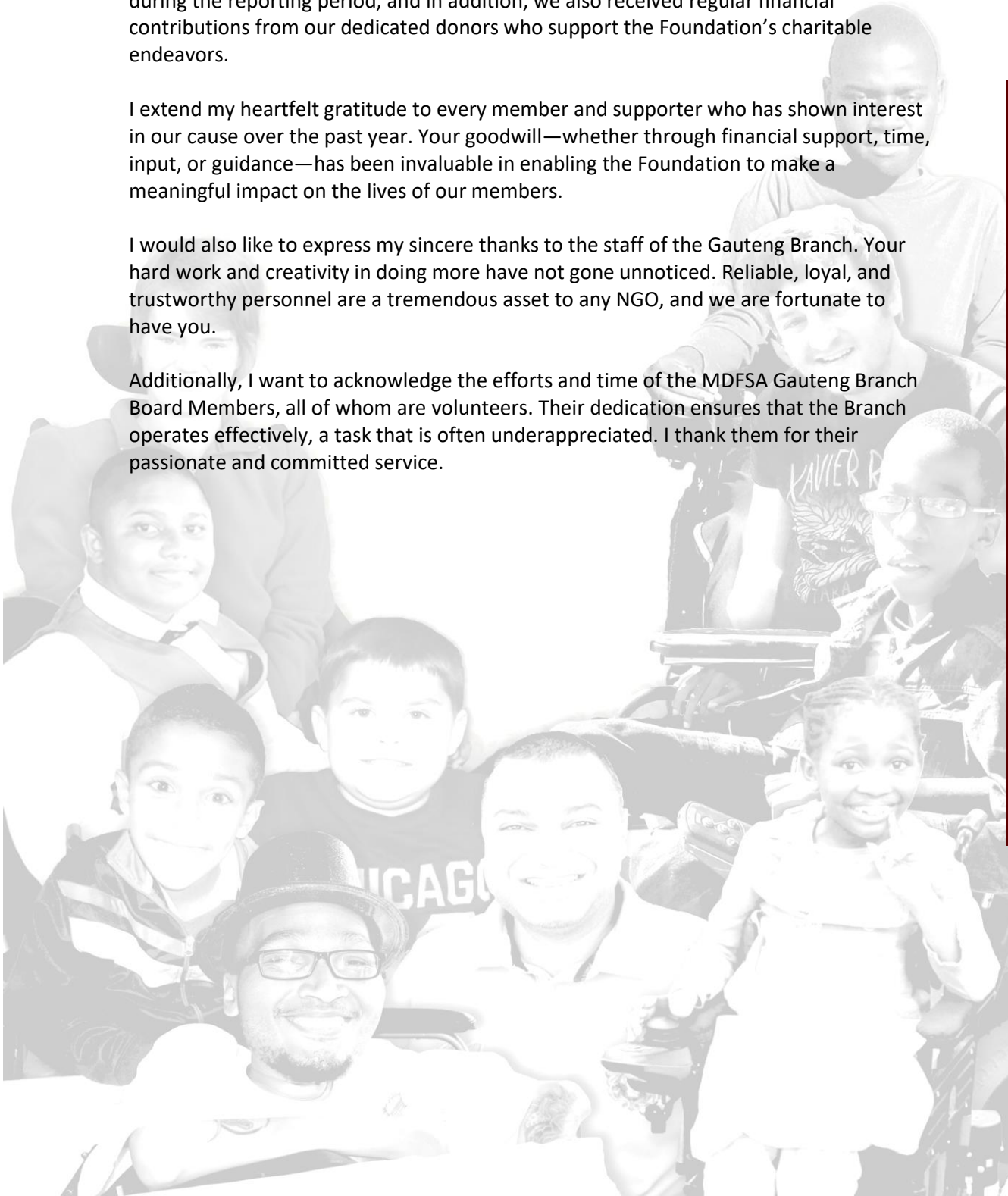
As the Chairperson of the Board of the Muscular Dystrophy Foundation of South Africa, Gauteng Branch, I am pleased to welcome you all to the 2024 Annual General Meeting of our branch.

Despite having our ups and downs, our branch had a successful year and served our members well. We received subsidies from the Department of Social Development during the reporting period, and in addition, we also received regular financial contributions from our dedicated donors who support the Foundation's charitable endeavors.

I extend my heartfelt gratitude to every member and supporter who has shown interest in our cause over the past year. Your goodwill—whether through financial support, time, input, or guidance—has been invaluable in enabling the Foundation to make a meaningful impact on the lives of our members.

I would also like to express my sincere thanks to the staff of the Gauteng Branch. Your hard work and creativity in doing more have not gone unnoticed. Reliable, loyal, and trustworthy personnel are a tremendous asset to any NGO, and we are fortunate to have you.

Additionally, I want to acknowledge the efforts and time of the MDFSA Gauteng Branch Board Members, all of whom are volunteers. Their dedication ensures that the Branch operates effectively, a task that is often underappreciated. I thank them for their passionate and committed service.



We received funding from the Department of Social Development for the 2023/2024 financial year (which we deeply appreciate), but unfortunately, this support ceased at the end of March 2024. Due to ongoing uncertainty around the 2024/2025 financial year grants with DSD, all social work staff were retrenched at the end of the 2024 financial year. This decision was made with a heavy heart, and we are committed to exploring all possible avenues to secure funding and support for our essential services.

**Andrew Miller, Chairperson**



## 4. Social Service Report

### 4.1. Social service contacts

Quarter 1 (April 2023 - June 2023)	870
Quarter 2 (July 2023 - Sept 2023)	612
Quarter 3 (Oct 2023 - Dec 2023)	808
Quarter 4 (Jan 2024 - Mar 2024)	840
Total Contacts made	3130

### 4.2. Support groups conducted

Quarter 1 (April 2023 - June 2023)	19
Quarter 2 (July 2023 - Sept 2023)	29
Quarter 3 (Oct 2023 - Dec 2023)	11
Quarter 4 (Jan 2024 - Mar 2024)	8
Total Support group sessions	67

Support groups were conducted at:

1. West Rand School
2. Hope School
3. Forest Town School
4. Ithembilihle School
5. Ezibeleni School
6. Pretoria School
7. Filadelfia School
8. Adelaide Tambo School
9. Phillip Kushlick School.

### 4.3. Awareness campaigns

Quarter 1 (April 2023 - June 2023)	17
Quarter 2 (July 2023 - Sept 2023)	21
Quarter 3 (Oct 2023 - Dec 2023)	9
Quarter 4 (Jan 2024 - Mar 2024)	2
Total Awareness Campaigns	49

The above awareness campaigns were held by social service professionals at the following destinations/locations:

1. Bara Duchenne Clinic
2. Chaiwelo Clinic
3. Dukathole Clinic
4. Elsburg Clinic
5. Germiston civic centre
6. Germiston clinic
7. Hercules Clinic

8. Katlehong North Clinic
9. Kibler Park Clinic
10. Laudium Clinic
11. Mofolo South Clinic
12. Protea South Clinic
13. Ramelos Independent Living
14. Steve Biko
15. Wannenburg Clinic
16. Zooming into disabilities. Sunnyside Park Hotel, Parktown

## 5. Equipment

For many individuals living with Muscular Dystrophy (MD) and their support networks, the need for specialized disability equipment is paramount. These essential devices are often prohibitively expensive, creating a significant barrier to improved quality of life and independence.

The Muscular Dystrophy Foundation of South Africa (MDFSA), Gauteng Branch, is committed to alleviating this burden by loaning necessary equipment to our members. This arrangement is a lifetime loan; the equipment remains the property of the Branch and is returned once it is no longer needed, ensuring it can assist other members in need.

Our Equipment Committee meticulously handles all applications, striving to prioritize the most urgent and critical needs within the constraints of our limited funds. We aim to support those members who need it the most, providing items such as motorized wheelchairs, bath lifts etc.

The needs of individuals with MD are specific and vary greatly depending on the type and progression of their condition. For many, maintaining independence is a crucial goal, and when mobility becomes challenging, devices like motorized wheelchairs and mobility scooters become indispensable.

### Application Process for Equipment Assistance

- Application Submission: Members in need must complete and submit an application form, accurately detailing their requirements. Supporting documents are as follows:
  - Identification document
  - Financial statements for 3 months
  - Assessment by a physiotherapist or medical professional to ensure the equipment meets the member's unique needs.

Should the application be approved, an agreement for the use of the equipment must be signed by the member and a Branch representative.

Additionally, MDFSA provides education on the proper use and maintenance of the equipment, offering regular servicing support.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to all our donors for their continuous support. Your contributions are vital in enabling us to meet the urgent needs of our members and enhance their quality of life.

Thanks to your unwavering support we were able to assist numerous members with motorized wheelchairs, batteries, hoists and a mobility scooter during the reporting period.



## 6. Fundraising Report

The Gauteng branch of MDFSA had a productive and successful year during the reporting period. Despite facing challenges, we were fortunate to continue receiving support from our donors, sponsors, volunteers, and supporters. We would like to extend our gratitude to some of our major sponsors and supporters, including:

- Glencore
- G-Force Cycling Club
- Muscle Riders (adults and children's teams)
- Wheelchairs on the Run
- Mitsubishi Electric
- Cool Tech
- Fuchs Foundation
- The Bradfield Foundation
- Anonymous Foundation (W-Foundation)
- Tiber Construction
- Setzkorn Family Trust
- Kirkness Family Trust
- The Carl & Emily Fuchs Foundation
- Fillrite Paints
- Sales Family
- Blue Bottle Group
- Jones & Wagener

A special thank you goes to the Gauteng Department of Social Development for the funding we received in the 2023/2024 financial year. Your significant support is greatly appreciated.

Casual Day 2023 was a tremendous success, and we are grateful to everyone who helped make it possible. Your amazing efforts were instrumental in our achievements. Our Muscle Riders cycling team (adults, kids, and G-Force Cycling) had an outstanding year in 2023, raising R320,900.00. This surpassed the previous year, making it the best campaign since the team's inception!



We extend our heartfelt thanks to every individual who has helped us over the past year. Your continued support means a great deal to us and our members. Your efforts and support are deeply appreciated. We look forward to continuing the fight against Muscular Dystrophy and are excited about what the future holds.



Apr 2023 - Mar 2024

Annual Report

