ANNUAL REPORT 2025/26

MUSCULAR DYSTROPHY FOUNDATION OF SOUTH AFRICA

KZN BRANCH

KZN CHAIRMAN REPORT 2025-2026

Good Morning All

It is with honour and a privilege to welcome you all to our Annual General Meeting for the KZN MUSCULAR DYSTROPHY FOUNDATION.

On behalf of the executive committee, I would like to thank each one of you for logging in, taking off from your busy schedule this morning and showing your continued commitment
This past year has been a challenging with a few achievements.

We also would like to thank the following donors that supported us monthly and yearly,
The late Mrs Bamgie that donated a fixed amount monthly from her state pension.
Open Air School yearly raising funds through a casual day, Coo-ee and Beacon Sweets for their continued support whenever we needed assistance. Also our exco members and office staff that donated from their own pockets in running of our office essentials.

I am proud of the dedication shown by our exco, staff and volunteers including partners and members and their families, is the reason, we do what we do, with your strength, that inspires us every day.

Our EXCO pledged to serve with compassion, integrity and purpose as we move into the future on a voluntary basis.

Thanks to Prylash our treasureR who has steadied our ship with his sure advice and support managed to complete our 2025/2026 income and expenditure and investments for our branch.

Not forgetting Dr Pam that has taken multiple tasks within the foundation to support all, from staff, members and parents.

We are deeply grateful to Debbie our office administrator for her tireless dedication with the assistance from our national office.

GERDA , SARIE AND ERIK thank you, for support of genetic testing, and partnering with international organisations to bring valuable knowledge and contacts back home , to inform members about the latest development in treatment by research.

As we look into the future, MDFSA is undergoing a process of restructuring as we adapt to service delivery by strengthening our fundraising.

Together we can work, continue to advocate, support, towards a future where members with muscular dystrophy are treated with dignity respect and compassion.

KZN MDF is excited about what the future holds,

NOEL PILLAY
CHAIRPERSON: KZN BRANCH

TREASURER'S REPORT

MUSCULAR DYSTROPHY FOUNDATION – KWAZULU-NATAL BRANCH

Financial Year: 1 April 2025 – 31 March 2026

Presented at the Annual General Meeting – 26 September 2026**

1. INTRODUCTION
It is my honour and privilege to present the Treasurer's Report for the Muscular Dystrophy Foundation – KwaZulu-Natal Branch for the financial year ended 31 March 2026.

The year under review presented significant financial and operational challenges, but also provided an opportunity to strengthen our financial controls and take important steps towards the long-term sustainability of the Foundation.

We extend our sincere condolences to the families and loved ones of members who sadly passed away during the year. Their courage, strength and resilience will remain part of our Foundation's legacy. To members currently facing ill health, we extend our heartfelt wishes for strength, healing and recovery.

2. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS
I wish to place on record my sincere appreciation to Mr Noel Pillay, Chairman, for his leadership and continued commitment to the Foundation, and to Dr Pamela Rapiti for her valued support and contribution to our members.

My sincere thanks also go to Gerda Brown, Erik Andersen and Ezette Homan for their invaluable support, guidance and contribution to the Foundation.

I also acknowledge Ms Debra Goldstone for ensuring that the Foundation's office and daily operations continued effectively throughout the year.

We remember with gratitude the late Mrs Banerjee, a long-standing supporter whose generous and consistent donations, despite being a pensioner, made a meaningful contribution to the Foundation. Her generosity will always be remembered.

3. FINANCIAL OVERVIEW
At the commencement of my tenure as Treasurer, the Branch was experiencing a shortage of operational funds, placing pressure on our ability to meet administrative requirements while continuing to assist members.

This financial position required EXCO to carefully reassess our financial strategy and take responsible steps to strengthen the Foundation's financial position and future sustainability.

4. FEDGROUP INVESTMENT AND COST CONTROL
As part of our financial restructuring, the Foundation transferred available investment funds to Fedgroup with the objective of creating a more sustainable balance between capital preservation, growth and liquidity.

The Fedgroup investment consists of two components:

- Guaranteed Portfolio – providing capital protection together with structured growth over the investment period; and
- Liquidity Portfolio – providing access to funds when required while continuing to target growth on available capital.

This structure is intended to protect the Foundation's resources while ensuring that funds remain accessible when required for operational needs and assistance to members.

Strict cost-control measures were also implemented, with non-essential expenditure reduced wherever possible. Available resources were prioritised towards essential operations and direct member support.

5. FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION AND GOVERNANCE
Financial accountability remains a key priority.

We acknowledge Lemique Consulting for managing the Branch's monthly accounting functions with professionalism and diligence. The annual financial statements were compiled by Mr Jan Cronje of Crona Chartered Accountants, supporting our financial reporting and regulatory obligations.

EXCO continued to oversee expenditure and financial decisions, with emphasis on transparency, accountability, prudent spending and responsible management of the Foundation's resources.

6. DONORS, SPONSORS AND MEMBER SUPPORT
The Foundation remains deeply grateful to all individuals, organisations and businesses that supported our work during this challenging period.

We particularly acknowledge:

* **Flex-O-Thene Plastics**
* **Open Air School**
* **Palm Footwear**
* **Tiger Brands**
* **COEEE**

Their financial and in-kind contributions assisted us in maintaining operations and supporting our members.

Despite financial constraints, the Foundation remained focused on its core purpose. Where resources permitted, assistance was provided with mobility aids, assistive equipment and other identified member needs.

7. PRIORITIES FOR 2026/2027
Our priority for the coming year is to strengthen financial sustainability and ensure that the Foundation has the resources necessary to continue supporting its members.

Key priorities include:

* Re-engaging with the **National Lotteries Commission and other grant-making bodies**;
* Strengthening corporate sponsorships and partnerships;
* Developing community and online fundraising initiatives;
* Expanding our donor base;
* Maintaining strict expenditure controls; and
* Continuing to monitor investment performance, liquidity and available resources.

Our goal is to build a financially resilient Foundation capable of supporting its members now and into the future.

8. CONCLUSION

The year under review tested the resilience of the KZN Branch. We faced financial pressure and difficult decisions, but we also demonstrated our ability to adapt, strengthen our financial controls and plan for a more sustainable future.

The Fedgroup investment structure, together with careful expenditure management and a renewed focus on fundraising and external funding, provides an important foundation for improved financial stability.

Our responsibility is to manage every resource entrusted to us with integrity, accountability and purpose. Most importantly, we must never lose sight of why this Foundation exists: to support individuals and families affected by muscular dystrophy.

I extend my sincere appreciation to the Chairman, EXCO, staff, volunteers, professional service providers, donors, sponsors, members and their families** for their continued commitment and support.

Together, our responsibility is not merely to preserve the Foundation, but to build a financially stronger and sustainable organisation that can continue making a meaningful difference in the lives of our members for generations to come.

Thank you for the privilege of serving as Treasurer.

Yours sincerely,

Prylash Singh
Treasurer
Muscular Dystrophy Foundation – KwaZulu-Natal Branch

26 September 2026

MUSCULAR DYSTROPHY FOUNDATION (KZN BRANCH)

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM) SEPTEMBER 26, 2026
SECRETARY'S REPORT: MEDICAL SUPPORT and COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Welcome to all and thank you for joining us for the KZN MDF AGM 2026.
This report outlines the key milestones and medical support services delivered by the Muscular Dystrophy Foundation (MDF) during the preceding operational period. Our core focus has still been on improving the quality of life, independence, and healthcare access for our members. Through targeted clinical advocacy, structural medical management support, financial backing, and impactful community outreach, the Foundation has successfully expanded its reach and solidified its healthcare delivery infrastructure.

1. Memoriam
Before reviewing our annual operations, the Foundation extends its deepest condolences to the families of our 5 members who have sadly passed away over the last year. Their memory is a guiding light for our community, and our thoughts are with their loved ones during this time.

2. Comprehensive Medical Support Services
The Foundation offered extensive, hands-on medical support to members with respect to direct clinical care across four primary pillars:

- **Insurance Advocacy and Prior Authorizations:** Provided direct assistance navigating insurance coverage complexities. This included drafting detailed medical reports and clinical motivations to secure prior approvals for critical, high-cost medications.
- **Medical Management Advisory:** Delivered dedicated clinical advice and ongoing guidance to families regarding the complex daily management of underlying medical symptoms and progression associated with neuromuscular conditions.
- **Resources and Rehabilitation Therapy Referrals:** Facilitated direct referrals to specialized rehabilitation networks, ensuring members received timely access to physical, occupational, and speech therapies. We provided resources and literature to better understand the condition and available care centers.
- **Medical Equipment Motivation & Financial Assistance:** Provided written clinical motivations and essential financial resource backing to assist members in acquiring requested medical equipment (such as mobility aids and specialized devices) not fully covered by medical aids.

3. Strategic Challenges and Future Planning
A major limitation to our services during this past operational period has been the lack of a dedicated social worker on our team to address the profound psychosocial and emotional needs of our affected members and families. Looking ahead, we actively hope to add a professional social worker to the team for 2027, resource permitting, to offer a more holistic support structure. Additionally, we in would like to assist with earlier diagnosis and follow-up intervention.

4. Community Outreach: MDF Awareness Day
A major operational highlight of the year was our targeted advocacy campaign at Inkosi Albert Luthuli Central Hospital (IALCH):

- August 13, 2026, at Inkosi Albert Luthuli Central Hospital.

- The campaign drove extensive engagement, successfully raising vital awareness directly among hospital staff, clinicians, and patients regarding neuromuscular disorders and the support ecosystems available. Pamphlets and foundation information were provided.
- **Membership Growth:** As a direct result of this campaign, the foundation officially enrolled 9 new affected members into our care and support registry.
- **Volunteer Mobilization:** Welcomed 10 new volunteers who signed up to assist with future foundation operations, local advocacy, and member care initiatives.

5. Acknowledgments

The Foundation's work is made possible by the dedication of our leadership team, administrative staff, volunteers, sponsors, and the resilience of our community:

- **KZN Branch Administration:** Heartfelt thanks to Debbie Goldstone, our KZN Senior Admin Officer. As the face of the branch, Debbie has shown exceptional diligence, compassion, and commitment in supporting our members every day.
- **Branch Leadership:** I would like to acknowledge Chairman Noel Pillay and Treasurer Prylash Singh for their continued service, strategic leadership, and tireless efforts on behalf of affected members. Thank you to Erik Andersen and Ezette Homan for their dedication , oversight, and support on the KZN branch Executive Committee. Gerda Brown and the National Office have provided valuable guidance to the branch.
- **Volunteers:** We are grateful to our volunteers for their time and ongoing support with member care and awareness campaigns.
- **Sponsors:** We are indebted to our sponsors for their equipment and financial support. In the current economic climate, every rand makes a meaningful difference.
- **Our Members:** A special thank you to our affected members and their families for trusting us and allowing us to be part of your journey as we work together toward a better future.

Summary

The initiatives executed over the past year underscore the Foundation's unwavering commitment to its mission. By bridging gaps in financial, clinical, and community support, we continue to empower our members to live more independent lives. Times are challenging but we are committed to aiding and changing lives. We hope to grow stronger and better serve people living with neuromuscular disorders in South Africa. I wish you all the very best for the future.

P.Rapiti
Secretary
MDF KZN Branch
September 26, 2026