

GREEN PASTURES REST HOME

Newsletter - August 2024

A warm and welcome "Hallo" to you all from Green Pastures Rest Home (GPRH). We hope and trust that you are still enjoying the rain and the chill in the air and that you are also looking forward for this winter season to pass.

The management of Green Pastures felt that it was necessary to have an informal session with you as the family, just to meet and greet, and allow you to raise questions about service delivery regarding your loved ones at GPRH.

We had a successful and fruitful session on Tuesday 16/7/'24. We met in the lounge area, the fireplace provided welcoming warmth on the cold and wet winters day. We had good attendance and 42 family members attended our session.

The Chairperson (Mrs. Hannl Cronje) welcomed all members present, our Vice-Chairman (Mr. Abrie Kotze) also attended the session, the management team was represented by the General Manager (Clive van Zyl); Sr. Melissa Dreyer (Nursing Services Manager) and Mrs. René Bosman (Social Worker).

The following discussion points were shared with the family members present:

- GPRH no longer follows the wellness-illness concept. All nursing sisters and staff nurses wear their epaulettes, and manage their wards as per the norms and standards of Dept. of Social Development and the Dept. of Health.
 - GPRH are currently still making use of carers from different nursing agencies, but we are busy with interviews, trying to recruit the most suitable carers for our elderly at GPRH. This situation will hopefully change to the benefit of GPRH when we appoint our own carers.
 - The nursing staff were very vulnerable and unsafe working night duty and not having a male security guard on site. We arranged with North Guarding Security to appoint a night security officer as from 1 June 2024 to protect our elderly residents, staff and our facility 24 hours a day. We also now have 24 hour armed response in case of an emergency.
 - The contract of our previous occupational therapist expired and we are busy recruiting a new OT who will keep our elderly residents busy with interesting activities and ensure that they are alert and stimulated.
 - A doctor's examination room is now ready for the district surgeon from the day hospital as well as other private GP's to do visits to attend to our frail and sick residents at our home.
 - We started equipping our nursing sister's offices in the Rose, Hibiscus and Jasmine wards. We bought computers for each office and our IT service provider set-up the sisters to communicate with Dr's, hospitals, clinics and with the families of the residents directly.
- You can communicate via email with:*
- **Mr. C. van Zyl:** manager@gprh.co.za
 - **Sr. M. Dreyer:** nursingmanager@gprh.co.za
 - **Mrs. R. Bosman:** socialworker@gprh.co.za
 - **Rose Ward:** rose@gprh.co.za
 - **Hibiscus Ward:** hibiscus@gprh.co.za
 - **Jasmine & Azalea Ward:** jasmineazalea@gprh.co.za
 - **Mr. Rupert van der Merwe (Bookkeeper):** accounts@gprh.co.za
- We are presently going through a difficult period, due to malpractices with the management of drugs identified by our Nursing Services Manager and disciplinary procedures followed. Within these disciplinary processes the professional staff resigned and hence the recruitment of new appointments. We are making use of nursing agency staff for the interim period, while we are busy with the recruitment of new professional staff. GPRH asks for patience in this regard while we are in process with the appointment of the most suitable staff to work with our elderly.
 - GPRH buys the following stock in bulk and directly from the medical suppliers:
Incontinent products: nappies, pads, etc.
Medical Stock: bandages, urine sticks, plasters, syringes, etc.
Medical services: urine tests, glucose tests, wound dressings, etc.
The rendering of these clinical services will be charged on your monthly statement for services rendered and it will reflect on your account.
 - Green Pastures also make use of medical emergency services provided by Secure Medical Access. They provide medical doctors and ambulances on a 24 hour basis to ensure that medical assistance is available in case of a medical emergency. They provide special rates for the elderly who do not belong to a medical aid, stabilises the patient in need and then transport the sick to the nearest medical facility.

NEWS AND EVENTS

INTRODUCTION TO OUR MANAGERS



Mr. C. van Zyl.

Clive van Zyl worked as the General Manager at another retirement village in Cape Town for 23 years, and has extensive experience in managing similar retirement – and medical facilities for more than 35 years. He is very focused on rendering good service delivery towards the elderly in his care.



Sr. Melissa Dreyer.

Sister Melissa Dreyer has 16 years of nursing experience in the retirement industry and hospital facilities. She also has a passion and focus to enhance quality nursing care to the elderly, that ensures good quality in the retirement phase of the elderly peoples lives.

SENIOR STAFF



The senior staff of Green Pastures are motivated and serve our elderly residents with a smile.

They ensure that the residents are treated with love, dignity and respect and to render an excellent service to them.

RESIDENCE COMMITTEE OF GPRH

The newly elected residence committee had their first meeting on Friday 16/8/'24.

The committee consists of 2 reps from the home, 2 reps from the flats and 2 reps from the cottages.



NURSES DAY

Green Pastures celebrated Nurses Day by handing out certificates and medals to all our Nurses.

This was truly a day to say **THANK YOU** to all our professional nursing sisters and to show our appreciation towards them for rendering such a great service to our elderly residents in our home. We celebrated the day with cappuccino's, popcorn and cake.



Mr. van Zyl with all the nursing sisters and staff nurses.



FIREPLACE IN THE LOUNGE

Our manager decided to open up the old enclosed fireplace in GPRH's lounge. Residents decided to have a "Birthday Bash" for all the residents who celebrated their birthday for the month of July.

They all gathered around the lovely and warm fireplace, they braai'd marshmallows and enjoyed cake and hot chocolate!

It was certainly a celebration for many to remember!

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY – FIRST BAKING GROUP ACTIVITY

The feedback that our OT (Eugenie Scott) gave us, was that the elderly really enjoyed the baking and that it was a big social success. They shared the lovely muffins with the other residents as well and enjoyed the muffins with a cup of tea. The muffins really tasted great with the cheese!



In the pictures above is Mrs. Eugenie Scott (OT) and two OT students from UWC.



KNITTING GROUP



Our knitting group normally gathers in the lounge on a weekly basis every Thursday morning.

They knit and share some knitting patterns with each other.

They look forward to each session, because they socialise and have tea and refreshments together.

They are proud of all their knitting and they donate it afterwards to the underprivileged in the community.

MEMORIAL

We had our first Memorial service here at Green Pastures. Late Mr Pieter Gaum spent his last phase of his life at Green Pastures and made some friends with whom he played bingo, card games and socialized with on a daily basis.

His family therefore requested if they could have his Memorial Service here in our lounge. After a blessed service, the elderly and late Pieter Gaum's family enjoyed tea and refreshments.

