

IMMEDIATE STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE NO 2	PROGRESS ON OUTCOMES
Enhancement of the social functioning of older persons and those with special needs by providing social work oriented therapeutic, preventative, recreational and supportive services	<p>The two social workers handled a caseload of 228 in addition to their management duties. ABCA is recognised as a specialist organisation and many NGO's refer older persons to us for intervention</p>
	<p>73% of social work clients were sub-economic while 57% were over 70 years of age</p>
	<p>A craft group was started for residents at Cuylerholme Rooms</p>
	<p>ABCA was actively involved in participating and marketing the Golden Games</p>
	<p>The auxiliary worker provided supportive services on a regular basis to 183 persons. Last year's figure was 134 so there has been a lot of growth in this service</p>
	<p>Networked with a social worker in private practice specializing in Alzheimer's. We provided services to clients referred by her and used the diagnostic clinic. Two residents were referred to the diagnostic clinic for assessment</p>
	<p>Networked and provided follow-up services to older persons who were discharged from private psychiatric hospitals</p>
	<p>Networked with frail care facilities that referred applicants who did not qualify for frail care but needed social work intervention</p>
	<p>Administered 12 pensions on our pay point, 4 residents at Buffelsfontein and 2 in the community</p>
	<p>Investigated, kept and freely distributed a database of private care facilities. Referred new facilities to Department of Social Development for investigation</p>
	<p>Training of the Older Persons Act with specific reference to elder abuse and rights of older persons, were undertaken with Busy Hands (22 members), Silver Stars & Sameach (32 members), 34 home carers working in Gqebera, residents and members</p>
	<p>About 500 elderly attended World Elder Abuse Awareness Day in Langa, Uitenhage through the efforts of the Honour the Aged Committee of which an ABCA social worker is the secretary</p>
	<p>Awareness of Elder Abuse pamphlets and posters were distributed to older persons, NPO's and other stakeholders. A display was held at the Fairview Race Course settlement</p>
	<p>50 members from ABCA took part in the ACVV Sports Day and Golden Games district events held at NMMU. ABCA social worker networked with Dept of Social Development, Dept Sports Arts and Culture, Health Dept, Age-in-Action, ACVV and other stakeholders</p>
	<p>An ABCA social worker and another staff member accompanied the Eastern Province Team to Cape Town</p>
	<p>ABCA clients and residents had access to a variety of mobility aids and devices from donated stock held by ABCA. This service is provided on a loan basis</p>
<p>ABCA social workers introduced 39 persons to the Home Care Service. 40 carers received employment via this project while 219 remain on the waiting list for employment</p>	
<p>An ABCA social worker screened and assessed 17 clients at St John's Care Centre in Walmer Township (Gqebera) for inclusion in their Home Care project. She also attended monthly meetings and provided social work and consultative services where necessary</p>	
<p>An ABCA social worker assisted Ikhaya McNamee Old Age Home with screening and assessments of applicants. Support and advice was provided and ABCA shared donations in kind with this home</p>	

Via the Honour the Aged Committee, an ABCA social worker served as secretary for the committee. Two joint programmes the Elder Abuse March and the Fun Day at the Beach were held for the year and about 500 elderly from all over the Metro attended each event.

CONSTRAINTS:

- The slow progress on finalizing the regulations has delayed the implementation of the Older Persons Act. This severely handicaps the social workers attempts to assist vulnerable older persons.
- There are limited therapeutic opportunities, such as occupational therapy, for older persons with psychiatric conditions
- SASSA officials seemed poorly trained and are not skilled in dealing with older persons and low functioning persons applying for disability grants. This creates additional stress and frustration on applicants and volunteers assisting at the pension office.
- The limited income of social work clients compounds their social problems
- The public health care system is limited and discriminates against older persons, refusing some of them treatment due to their age.
- ABCA had insufficient stock of assistive devices to keep up with the demand especially for wheelchairs

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

- Become a member of Algoa Bay Council for the Aged and make a rewarding contribution to your community
- If you have the time and resources available become a volunteer
- Include Algoa Bay Council for the Aged in your will. A Sample Bequest form on page 28
- Adopt a sub economic resident and donate food, clothing and toiletries
- Assist in our Charity Shop Bargains Unlimited which is situated in Havelock Street in Central by donating unwanted goods or offering your services by doing duty at the shop in your spare time. (Weekday mornings). For more information contact Mrs Percival on: 041 585 4489 or 041 373 8793. Or visit the shop during shopping hours. Tuesdays to Thursdays from 09h30 to 14h00 , Fridays from 09h00 to 18h00 or Saturdays from 10h00 to 12h00. The ladies there would love to chat to you.
- Sponsor Home Help or Home Based Care for a sub-economic older person
- Become a regular debit order donor. Application form on page 35
- Come and swing for service for the elderly at the annual Celebrity Golf Classic. Phone Alta or Maureen on 041 368 8434 for more information
- Donate R100 per month to provide 10 meal tickets at one of our three service centres for one needy older person. This is particularly beneficial to those residents who have little or no family support.
- Donate appliances or cleaning materials
- Hire the Eleanor Murray Hall at Buffelsfontein Village for your next function. The Hall is big enough to cater for 120 people cinema style or 90 people seated around tables. It has a fully equipped kitchen, ablutions and ample safe parking in the grounds. It is ideal for weddings, milestone birthdays and corporate functions. To find out more contact Jonathan on 041 367 3751
- Hire our boardroom for your next conference. Caters for up to 30 people. Overhead projection, whiteboard screens, data projector and air conditioning. Coffee, Tea and Lunches can be arranged and served.

Enquire about any one of the ways you can help at ABCA Head Office on Tel: 041 368 8434 or Fax 041 368 8438 or e-mail ceo@abca.co.za