



Childhood Cancer Foundation
South Africa

"Keeping more than hope alive"

WESTERN CAPE REGIONAL NEWSLETTER

40 YEARS OF HOPE



MESSAGE FROM THE REGIONAL MANAGER

CHOC WC Region had an extremely busy first three months of the year. The National and Regional 40th year birthday celebrations, as well as the continued rendering of our services and programmes, kept the team very busy during this period. CHOC employed a Social Auxiliary Worker, Dunyiswa Sokanyile who joined the Western Cape Region on Monday 07 January 2019. Dunyiswa is placed in the Red Cross War Memorial Children's Hospital's Paediatric Oncology Unit and works alongside the Department of Health Social Worker in providing professional emotional support to the families. We are very excited about this appointment and we would like to thank Red Cross War Memorial Children's Hospital for allowing us this opportunity to have a greater presence in the Paediatric Oncology Ward.



Lynette Muthuray - Regional Manager

CHEESE & WINE EVENT: 15 FEBRUARY 2019

On 15 February 2019, which is International Childhood Cancer Day, the Western Cape Region hosted a Cheese & Wine. The event formed part of our Regional 40th year birthday celebrations and it was planned with the aim of thanking those donors, funders, partners and volunteers who had made our 40 year journey successful. The day was truly a huge success. Dr. Marc Hendricks, who is a Paediatric Oncologist at Red Cross War Memorial Children's Hospital, served as the main guest speaker and childhood cancer survivor, Matthew Reid, touched the hearts of the guests by sharing his story. The CHOC Western Cape Regional Committee Chairperson, Ian Reid, shared the impact that CHOC's made in the last year and thanked all donors for their continued support. Guests enjoyed the sounds of a marimba band from Langa and each donor present at the event received a plaque from CHOC.



Gadija Israel (CHOC) & Lize Maartens (STA Travel) at the Cheese & Wine on 15 February 2019.

VODACOM SUPERSPORT RUGBY SUPPORTS CHOC CHILDHOOD CANCER FOUNDATION

That moment in any Vodacom Super Rugby match that makes a big impact. About 8Gs of impact according to some sports scientists. Not just once. Several times over in any given match and those same scientists will tell you that one of the most basic laws of physics is that if you put enough forces together, you are destined to make a very big impact.

The kind of impact that Vodacom and SuperSport are hoping to make in the 2019 Vodacom Super Rugby season. For every tackle made by a South African player this Vodacom Super Rugby season, Vodacom and SuperSport will together donate R100 to CHOC Childhood Cancer Foundation in support of those who are taking even bigger hits on a daily basis.

For 40 years, CHOC has been the only organisation in South Africa that provides nationwide comprehensive support to children and teenagers with cancer, life-threatening blood disorders and their families. "We are #TacklingCancer in a very real way this Vodacom Super Rugby season. It's a season dedicated to heroes through our ground-breaking collaboration with Marvel and the superhero-themed kits that the South African teams will wear for the local Derbies. With the CHOC tackling cancer initiative it's a season where we're showcasing the real superheroes of everyday life, through the players supporting our cause and the brave children and their families fighting cancer on a daily basis," said Michelle van Eyden, Executive Head of Sponsorship at Vodacom. The aim is to raise R1-million throughout the season.

"We are extremely grateful to be part of the Vodacom Super Rugby initiative, especially in this, our 40th anniversary year. The children and teenagers with whom we work are superheroes themselves, having to face many a daunting challenge on their cancer journey. CHOC is proud to walk this journey with them and their families and we know they will be very excited to have a few real-life superheroes to spend time with" said Carl Queiros, Chief Executive Officer, CHOC Childhood Cancer Foundation SA. This will be a Vodacom Super Rugby season when the real heroes stand tall.



Young hero Caleb Marinus and DHL Stormers player Damian Willemse at the match between DHL Stormers vs Jaguares on 15 March 2019 at Newlands Stadium.



Young heroes (from left) Georgie Bain, Matthew Mantsai, Zaydryn du Toit and Kaylib Johnson were mascots at the matches between Emirates Lions vs Cell C Sharks and Vodacom Bulls vs DHL Stormers that took place on 3 February 2019 at the Cape Town Stadium. The young heroes are pictured with SuperSport presenter Motshidisi Mohono. Read more about Kaylib's cancer journey on page 3.

SURVIVOR STORY OF KAYLIB JOHNSON

It was in 2010 when my son got extremely sick and he was diagnosed with cancer. The day we walked into Tygerberg Hospital in December 2010, I thought I was going to lose my only son. On 15 December 2010 he was diagnosed with Leukemia stage 4. Our lives changed completely and as a single parent, my duty was to sit with him day and night. Having my two other girls at home was quite challenging, but my family looked after them. They were very brave & strong.

Kaylib had chemo therapy for a six-month period. Over that time the doctors told me that there is no more cancer in Kaylib's body. He went into remission for five years and in the sixth year the cancer returned. We couldn't understand why this happened the second time. In July 2017 we rushed back to Tygerberg Hospital where he had gone for an immediate operation. During the operation the doctors discovered that the cancer is as big as a tennis ball in Kaylib's colon. He received chemo therapy once again. The cancer then spread to his organs such as his liver, colon, lungs and his spine. This time it was Lymphoma. We spent five months in hospital and in November 2017 he went for a PET scan to check how far the cancer is. The doctors and professors were shocked, because there was no sign of cancer in Kaylib's body but he still had to undergo a stem cell transplant. I thank God because Kaylib Johnson is a second time cancer survivor. He survived Leukemia stage 4 when he was just three years old and now he survived Lymphoma stage 4 when he was nine years old. This is now Kaylib's second time in remission but he is completely healed and has a healthy lifestyle. Kaylib joined CHOC as a mascot and a young hero at the Vodacom SuperSport Rugby matches on Sunday 03 February 2019 at the Cape Town Stadium. Kaylib got the opportunity to watch the Emirates Lions take on the Cell C Sharks and the Vodacom Bulls vs DHL Stormers match. Kaylib is now eleven years old and tackling life wholeheartedly. **Written by a thankful mother, Lillian Johnson.**

FAMILY FUN FESTIVAL OF HOPE

On 30 March 2019 the Region hosted a Family Fun Festival of Hope at the Turfhall Sports Complex in proud association with One Up Cash & Carry as the title sponsor. A talent search competition, live entertainment, food stalls, Kiddies Zone and a Miss CHOC Junior Pageant took place. Radio Voice of the Cape served as the media partner and also did a live broadcast from the location. Childhood Cancer network partners Kids Kicking Cancer, The Sunflower Fund, Cancervive and Pink Drive joined us. Pink Drive did free breast examinations and The Sunflower Fund also facilitated a Stem Cell Donor Drive. The day was a lot of fun and a huge success.



REGIONAL UPOMING EVENTS

A poster for the CHOC Benefit Concert. The title 'CHOC Benefit Concert' is in large blue letters. Below it, the text reads 'Starring Craig Lucas, Paxton Fiellies and Gary Naidoo' and 'Show Director: Rafiek Mammon and Backing Band: Pedestrians'. The central image shows a group of people, including a man in a suit, a woman, and several children. The date and time '3 September 2019 @ 8pm' are prominently displayed in white on a blue background. The venue 'Artscape Theatre' is also listed. At the bottom, the ticket price is 'R140.00' and logos for CHOC, Toyota, and Artscape are visible.