



Flying For Life



2019 Annual
Report



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A MESSAGE FROM

THE CHAIRMAN & CEO

Flying for Life experienced a high-impact year touching the lives of rural vulnerable communities. As part of the MAF strategy development process, FFL has been empowered to stand independently of MAF SA going forward with a clear focus on South African community development.

The year started well with a large funding donation from MAF Australia, different.org and later in the year funding from ISTAT Foundation, a USA aviation organisation. These generous gifts will enable FFL to build its capacity to grow independently of MAF SA and also expand essential work in emerging high-demand areas in rural South Africa beyond Limpopo Province into Northern KwaZulu-Natal.

FFL programmes depend on donor financial support and the availability of professionals and specialists. Our dental programme was expanded with new partnerships for volunteer dentists. The FFL Eye Care Clinics focusing on cataract surgeries have been well received with many life-changing testimonies. In the last year we were able to conduct 11 flights with the help of 27 volunteers, addressing basic medical needs – eye surgeries, dental

campaigns and cancer awareness. Strengthening partnerships at local community levels has been a key focus over the past year which has enabled us to be more strategic in our programme design. Over the next year we will focus on a more extensive needs assessment and impact evaluation that will direct better stewarding of our resources.

We have been blessed to have the excellent strategic and operational programme management with the able leadership of Samantha Somdle.



Stanley Arumugam
Chairman of the Board



Maxine Holman
CEO of MAF SA



Flying for Life Board Members (2019)

Stanley Arumugam (Chairman)

Maxine Holman (CEO)

Braam van den Berg

Paul Henning

Thembisa Bekwa

Emile Raubenheimer

WHY FLYING?



Today countless men, women and children in South Africa don't just live in poverty, but they are also cut off from the institutions that exist to address their needs by difficult or dangerous terrain. It's not the fact that they are born into less-fortunate circumstances, but their location deprives them of the opportunity to change that.

Quite simply, flying is faster, safer and more practical than travelling long distances by car.

In order to maximise our volunteer professionals' time on the ground, we enable them to get to their point of service provision as quickly as possible. This translates directly into helping more people per one-day visit than could be achieved if expertise were delivered by road.

We fly to these communities because nobody else does; we reach people that nobody else is reaching. We go where we go because there are no specialist doctors or dentists there - we bring what the community needs.

But we don't stop there.

Along the way, we train people in those communities, so that they no longer rely on us, but can be empowered in their own community.

We deeply care about our communities, enough to empower them to be self-sufficient as in many ways they already are.

WHERE DO WE FLY?

Flying for Life currently focuses on the communities living in the Vhembe District of Limpopo.

- Current focus areas
- Future focus areas





We multi-task by achieving multiple visits to different projects in one flight.

We work with experts on the ground to make the most of each day we fly. Each flight is filled with as many of our resources and people as possible - we don't like to waste space.

Above all, we believe in efficiency and making a plan with what we have.

A photograph of two healthcare workers in a clinical setting. The worker on the left is a woman with glasses and a leopard-print hairnet, wearing teal scrubs. The worker on the right is a Black woman wearing a blue hairnet and teal scrubs, pointing her finger towards the right. The background is a blurred hospital environment.

OUR PROJECTS

Throughout the year, we broke ground on some new and exciting projects, while still building upon our currently sustainable projects.

One of the key projects we embarked on was a cancer campaign to educate and test women within the local community.

HIGHLIGHT

of the year

Cathy Middleton - nurse and midwife who volunteers her skills for Flying for Life - shares her experience of a recent cancer campaign in Hamakuya:

“ When we arrived at the clinic there was already a long line of women waiting to be screened. They were excited and grateful that they could be tested. The local nurses were very appreciative of the initiative made by Flying for Life in assisting them in the huge task of screening the women in their region.

It's difficult to assess how aware the community is about cancer, but as resources are very limited, it is hard to promote PAP smears as they are not readily available.

Traditionally rural SA women are very private about their bodies, but with some education about the importance of screening, many came forward. So far, I have been on two outreaches to the clinic and screened 40 women.

The screening and PAP smears revealed many infections and looked for abnormal cancer cells that can be easily treated when detected early. If undetected, cervical cancer is a serious life-threatening disease and the incidence is much higher in those living with HIV. If detected early, much suffering can be avoided in the community. Government guidelines recommend yearly PAP smears for those living with HIV and AIDS, but with limited resources this is almost impossible for local clinics. The project assists the local clinic in meeting government guidelines and providing holistic care for women.

By supporting rural clinics, women feel valued and cared for and the nurses feel empowered to provide necessary screening that they were unable to fully provide due to lack of resources. This community receives very little outside support, so the work of Flying for Life is extremely important in promoting women's health and detecting cancer. ”



OUR IMPACT

“ We and Flying for Life, we are going far.

Flying for life here at Takuseni Simulation Center has helped us a lot with things such as blankets, mattresses, shoes, pads, clothes. It has helped us also by bringing dentists and eye doctors before the lockdown. It brought us someone to teach us how to sew bags and other things.

Thank you so much! ”

Vho Ravhuhali - Community Member

“ It is truly a life changing outreach...

As there are no formal training institutions for doctors in ophthalmology in Limpopo, Flying for Life has been a platform for skills training and academic discussion during my first year working in ophthalmology... I intend to return to the most beautiful Vhembe District, to continue the good work that Flying for Life has started and hopefully to be involved in the training and encouragement of more doctors in order to win the battle against preventable blindness. ”

Dr Hettie Kruger - Partner Eye Doctor

In 2019 we achieved...



119

Eye Surgeries



107

Patients Helped



52

Children Impacted



20

Pap Smears



11

Total Flights

PARTNERSHIPS

We partner with organisations that are aligned to our mission to reach communities that would otherwise not receive the specialist medical care and skills development that aircraft and volunteer eye doctors, dentists and skilled experts help to make possible.





Some of our partners:

MERCY  **AIR**

the **ISTAT** foundation

DIFFERENT
.ORG

Find them online:

www.mercyair.co.za

www.different.org

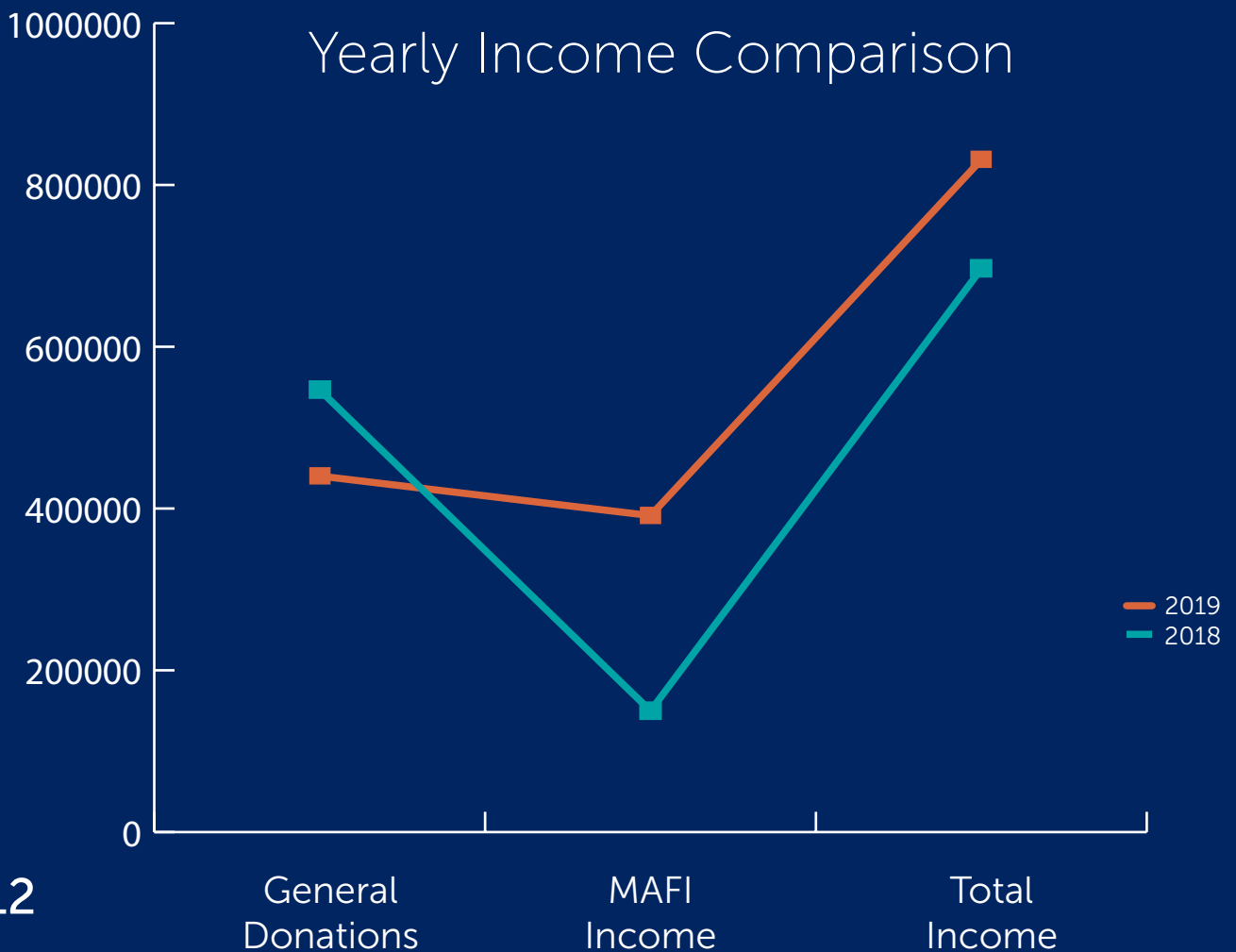
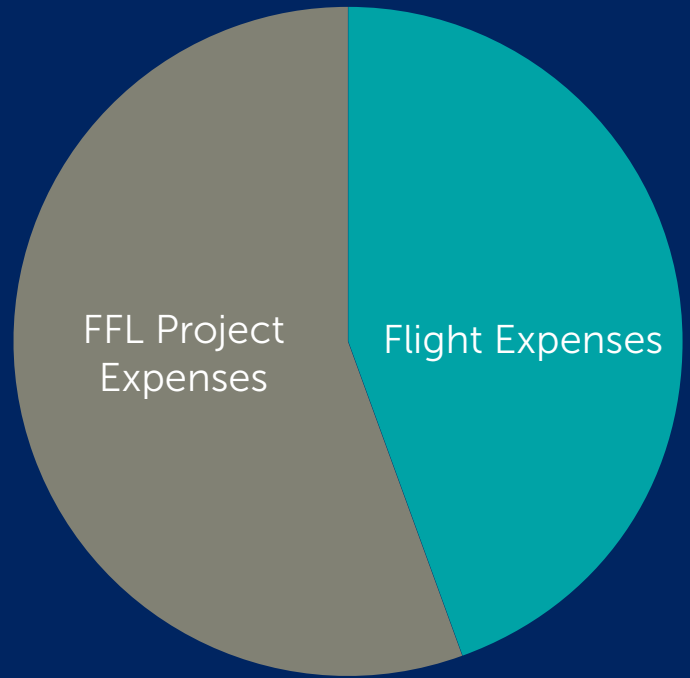
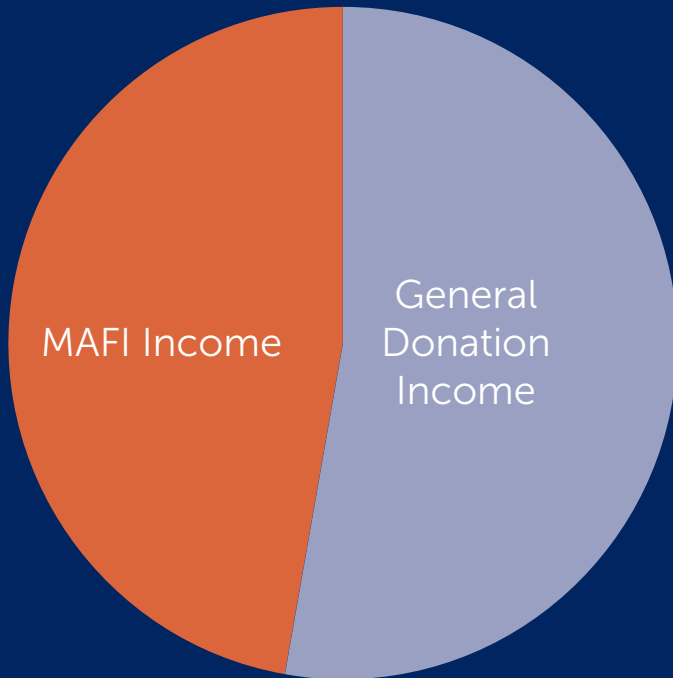
foundation.istat.org



FINANCIAL REPORT

Total income

Total expenses



R314 527
surplus 2019

Greatest Expense

FFL
Projects

R22 769
surplus 2018

Greatest Income Increase

MAFI
Income

FFL
Projects

Greatest Expense Decrease

		2018	2019
UNRESTRICTED INCOME			
General Donation Income	R	547 034	440 370
MAFI Income		150 000	391 420
Total income		697 034	831 790
EXPENDITURE			
Flight Expenses		(253 304)	(230 845)
FFL Project Expenses		(420 961)	(286 415)
Total Expenditure		(674 265)	(517 263)
Surplus (Deficit) for the Year	R	22 769	314 527

FFL is audited by PwC

Sustainability Assurance

We aim to keep our operational costs as low as possible by using partner organisations that discount their flights and volunteer their pilots to fly our volunteers to their destinations. While the passengers give their time and resources, the flights are paid for by Flying for Life's supporting donors.



FLYING FOR LIFE

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