



# Newsletter

August 2018

Our mission is to encourage excellence in the psychosocial care of people with cancer as well as their families and caregivers by promoting ongoing education, professional networking and resource development.

Visit us at [www.saoswf.org.za](http://www.saoswf.org.za)  
We will relaunch our website with updated information in the next few months.

## Why join SAOSWF?

- ◆ Access to a support network of experienced oncology social workers
- ◆ Oncology-specific CPD training opportunities
- ◆ Access to the latest oncology social work articles and the opportunity to become a member of regional journal clubs

Registered address:  
4<sup>th</sup> Floor Rondebosch Medical Centre, Klipfontein Road, Cape Town, 7700

## ABOUT US

The South African Oncology Social Workers' Forum was founded by Linda Greeff (currently Oncology Social Work Manager at CancerCare) and the late social worker, Hanneljie Opperman, in 2000 with branches in Johannesburg and Cape Town. A few years after its inception, SAOSWF approached the South African Society of Clinical and Radiation Oncology (SASCRO) – now known as the South African Congress of Oncology (SACO) – to become part of their annual meetings. Since then SAOSWF has been responsible for managing and organizing the social work programme at oncology conferences such as ICON (Independent Clinical Oncology Network) and SACO.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- ◆ Advanced narrative therapy workshop, Somerset West, 23-24 August 2018, [www.elizemorkel.co.za/advanced-narrative-therapy-workshop/](http://www.elizemorkel.co.za/advanced-narrative-therapy-workshop/)
- ◆ Workshop on grief assessment and intervention, Pretoria, 7 September 2018. Contact Dr Nelia Drenth on 082-821-1792.

## MEET THE NEW MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Earlier this year, Linda Greeff and Clare Manicom, who have been managing SAOSWF for the past few years, decided to hand over the reins to a new generation of oncology social workers.



**Chairperson: Memory Munodawafa** is an oncology social worker and a member of the multidisciplinary oncology team at CancerCare. She consults at the CancerCare units at Rondebosch Hospital, Life Vincent Pallotti Hospital and Netcare Christiaan Barnard Memorial Hospital. She recently submitted her PhD thesis to the University of Cape Town's psychiatry department. Outside of work, Memory enjoys taking part in various road running races. **E-mail:** [chairperson@saoswf.org.za](mailto:chairperson@saoswf.org.za)



**Vice-chairperson: Nadia Booysen** works as a social worker at Mary Potter Oncology Centre in Pretoria where she is primarily involved in counselling patients and their families from diagnosis to end of life. She has a keen interest in palliative care and the value it adds to the treatment of patients. Mental health is a field of interest that is often neglected for which Nadia advocates as much as possible. **E-mail:** [vicechairperson@saoswf.org.za](mailto:vicechairperson@saoswf.org.za)

# Promoting Oncology Social Workers as essential and valuable members of interdisciplinary oncology teams

## MEET THE NEW MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE (continued)

### How to join SAOSWF

1. Complete the attached membership form and email to **members@saoswf.org.za**
2. Complete the needs assessment form on this page so that we can learn more about your specific needs as an oncology social worker. **Please e-mail to members@saoswf.org.za to qualify for free membership for the remainder of 2018.**
3. A membership fee of R250 per oncology social worker will be charged in 2019. Invoices will be sent to all social workers who have completed and submitted the attached membership form.



**Treasurer: Lauren Smith** is a registered social worker in private practice. She consults at Life Vincent Pallotti Hospital and in the Winelands. She is part of Chariot Health's interdisciplinary palliative care team in the Western Cape, focusing on the West Coast. When she is not working, Lauren loves the outdoors, spontaneous weekend getaways and being close to the ocean.

**E-mail:** finance@saoswf.org.za



**Communications: Avril de Beer** is a social worker at Alberts Cellular Therapy (ACT), the largest private practice in Africa dedicated to the treatment of blood cancers and disorders of the blood. She is primarily involved in the preparation and counselling of stem cell transplant patients and their families. Before she joined ACT, she worked at Sungardens Hospice in Pretoria where she provided end-of-life counselling to hospice patients. **E-mail:** news@saoswf.org.za



**Secretary: Welly den Hollander** is an oncology social worker. She obtained her MMed and PhD degrees at UKZN and is currently completing the Postgraduate Diploma in Palliative Medicine at UCT. She works with private oncologists in the palliative field. Welly facilitates art therapy groups and retreats for patients and caregivers. She used to work at McCord Hospital and Siyahlanganisa where she provided community HIV/AIDS training.

**E-mail:** admin@saoswf.org.za



### Needs assessment form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Company: \_\_\_\_\_

Years of experience in oncology social work: \_\_\_\_\_

Specific areas of interest in the field of oncology social work: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Topics that you want to be covered in CPD courses arranged by SAOSWF:

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