

MEDIA RELEASE

ISSUED ON 19 OCTOBER 2020 WITHOUT EMBARGO

TEE-OFF WITH MES KEMPTON PARK ON 27 NOVEMBER AND HELP RAISE FUNDS FOR AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMME

MES KEMPTON PARK, 19 OCTOBER 2020

Mould Empower Serve (MES) Kempton Park will be hosting its annual Charity Golf Day at the ERPM Golf Club in Boksburg on 27 November 2020. Patrons and donors are invited to be a part of the day to help raise funds for the Kempton Park branch after school programme. The cost per four ball is R1600, or sponsor a hole from R800 to R1600.

"It is a privilege to be able to finally host this event, as it had been postponed due to Covid-19 regulations. What is even more exciting is that this year our Kempton Park branch celebrates its 10th anniversary, so to be able to connect with our donors and supporters in this way is very special," says MES Kempton Park branch manager, Helena van Blerk.

The MES Kempton Park branch was opened on 1 August 2010, after a group of concerned members of the community came together to address the increasing problem of homelessness and poverty in the inner city. "The impact that the branch has made so far is evident in the number of lives changed and the real stories that continue to be told by the people who have found help and a home at MES Kempton Park," adds Leona Pienaar, CEO of MES.

The range of programmes offered by the branch has grown from the initial overnight shelter and food relief programme to include an after school programme (ASP) for the inner-city learners, a job and life rehabilitation programme for adults, and a variety of spiritual enrichment initiatives.

"I would like to encourage everyone in Kempton Park to get involved; whether it is playing or sponsoring a hole or sponsoring a prize or sharing this invite far and wide! Your contribution will make a definite impact as proceeds will go towards the development of our new ASP facility," adds van Blerk.

MES has recently acquired these premises, and have set plans to expand their after school programme as an urgent priority. This expansion will mean the children will have a bigger space for their playground, their own ablution facilities and a place they can call their own. Events such as the annual Charity Golf Day play an integral role in providing financial support for the various outreach programmes and social relief services that MES offers to Kempton Park's homeless and unemployed community.

The cost per fourball is R1 600, which includes halfway house and dinner. It costs between R800 and R1 600 to sponsor a hole. Tee-off will be from noon. To book, call Aloma Swanepoel, Helena Van Blerk or Luwanda Conco on 011 024 4580 or email kempton@mes.org.za.

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6 Kempton Road
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kempton@mes.org.za

HEAD OFFICE

16 Kapteijn Street
Hillbrow
Johannesburg
South Africa

Private Bag X33
Hillbrow 2038
Johannesburg
South Africa

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Fax: +27 11 725 6572

info@mes.org.za

www.mes.org.za 

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Registered Non Profit Company (NPC)

Reg. No 1989/004921/008/NPO No. 023-603-NPO/PBO No. 930003011/Section 18A No. RG/0012/09/04

Directors: Rev JH Windell (Chairman), Mr SE Botha (Vice Chairman), Mrs L Pienaar (CEO), Mrs T De Frey, Ms YF Ndungane, Mr TG Ramasike, Dr TM Kedijang, Mr WS Eksteen, Mr AY Auld, Mrs A Visser

EDITORS NOTES

Media statement issued by Willem Eksteen (MES Board member and CEO of Stone) on behalf of MES.

Please direct all media enquiries and/or media interview requests to:

- Willem S Eksteen, MES Board Director – 0114470168 / willem@mes.org.za
- Karlien Kuun, Stone Consultant – 0114470168 / karlien@stone.consulting
- Taonga Silungwe, Stone Consultant – 0114470168 / taonga@stone.consulting

MORE ABOUT MES

Since 1986, MES has been developing a unique strategy that addresses the development of the communities it serves. MES follow a holistic approach towards the development of people, while applying resources that ensure the successful and sustainable exit from the different programmes.

- Mould
 - Support and reach out with compassion, love and care
 - Encourage and motivate through positive communication
 - Treat others with respect and fairness irrespective of their religion, race, gender, age, cultural background or sexual orientation
- Empower
 - Accountable and responsible with clear strategy, roles and structure
 - Apply sound corporate governance and financial procedures, as well as effective monitoring and evaluation processes
 - Reflect and enhance integrity, transparency and effective leadership
- Serve
 - Practice Christian disciplines and create a servant and service culture
 - Be a voice of righteousness for the disempowered
 - Serve as integrated team with a common vision and goal

MORE ABOUT MES KEMPTON PARK

1. MES KEMPTON PARK SERVICES

The services rendered to our client groups include a holistic approach of prevention, intake and intervention leading to a sustainable exit for each individual. At present MES Kempton Park focusses on learners, adults, social support services and enterprise projects.

MES Kempton Park believes in the importance to break a culture of “hand-outs” and we work closely with our clients to help them to pay for the needs they have. This restores dignity and self-worth. In 2020 we will continue to be actively focusing on income-generating programmes to strengthen the financial sustainability of the branch.

LEARNERS

- After-school Centre
- Homework and exam assistance is provided to poor and vulnerable children through the After School Programme. There are many children that roam the streets in the



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afternoons as their parent's work or cannot afford the after-school facilities at the schools. Drugs and crime are pitfalls these young people often fall into because of unstable home environments. Currently there are not many opportunities for after-school care in the inner city and this poses a real threat to the safety and development of the children/youth growing up in the inner city environment. Our facility can accommodate up to 18 children per day. A healthy body houses a healthy mind. Nutrition is a key activity of utmost importance in our after school programmes and a meal is also served to each child that attends.



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ADULTS

- **GROW Job Rehabilitation Programme**
This project provides access to job and life rehabilitation programmes. The target audience is the homeless and vulnerable community of Kempton Park, primarily staying in our shelter. Daily workshops and enrichment programmes are hosted, together with the provision of cash in hand job opportunities. In the end the programme changes unemployable and desperate individuals into employable individuals that can be placed into suitable jobs, so that they can reintegrate back into society.
- **Overnight Shelter:**
Providing overnight shelter to homeless men
MES Kempton Park is currently a stay-inn shelter, catering for 40 males
- **Food Parcel Project (Nutrition):**
Providing monthly food parcels to 10 elderly individuals (singles/couples) that live in the city (if budget allows) as well as 50 poor and needy families with children – sponsored by KFC Add Hope.
- **Outreaches and Enrichment programme:**
Regular outreaches and enrichment programmes take place with the clients that attend our different projects. Weekly shelter outreaches take place as well as annual Winter HOPE and Christmas outreaches.
- **Clothing Bank (Social Work)**
Providing clothes to the poor and needy that are identified through our various projects. Clothes are also provided if an urgent need is identified in other organisations and churches. Assistance is given in disaster cases e.g. floods, etc.

ENTERPRISES

- Clothing Bank – Monthly Jumble Sale: Selling of second hand clothing
- Recycling Project - Selling of sorted recyclable waste material (Refer to GROW Programme)

2. HISTORICAL FACTS

Fact 1: MES Kempton Park opened its doors on 1 August 2010. Where did it all started?

In 2009 a group of concerned members of the Kempton Park community came together to form a forum to address the increasing problem of homelessness and poverty in the inner city of Kempton Park. This forum consisted of representatives from local NGO's, businesses, churches and the SAPD. The forum identified an urgent need for an overnight shelter and the continuation of social relief as a means to address the pressing needs of the homeless community. The forum approached MES Johannesburg for assistance with their intervention plans due to the experience MES has in working with the homeless community

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of the inner city of Johannesburg. A written request to become a programme of MES followed and was approved in June 2009 by the MES Board of Directors.

On 1 August 2010 MES Kempton opened their office in Kempton Street next to the Dutch Reformed Church at 6 Kempton Road and also opened an overnight shelter for the homeless community of Kempton Park. The feeding scheme (originally in Maxwell Street) also moved over to the new premises and a clothing bank was then opened to provide clothing to those in need.

Fact 2: Branch Managers

Gert Lotz was the first branch manager. He was followed by Lilly Franks (now Rossouw) in 2014. In September 2016 Duane Edwards was appointed, followed by Helena van Blerk in August 2019

Fact 3: Food Parcels

In 2011 the branch started to give out food parcels to poor and needy families that live in the inner city of Kempton Park. This project has now grown and there are 50 families with children and 10 families without children that receive food parcels monthly at MES.

Fact 4: After-school Programme

In 2013 the after school programme was opened. It currently provides homework and exam assistance to 18 primary school kids, Monday to Thursday's and a daily lunch is served.

Fact 5: Shelter

In 2016 the shelter programme increased to 49 clients (10 females and 39 males). With the opening of the branch in 2010, there was a space for 29 clients. MES Kempton Park is currently a stay-inn shelter, catering for 30 people (25 males and 5 females) Weekly shelter outreaches and Bible studies, form part of this programme.

Fact 6: Feeding Scheme

MES Kempton Park's started informally with is services in 2009, by organising a feeding scheme for about 30 people at a time. It operated from the premises of the Full Gospel Church in Maxwell Street. Currently the soup kitchen can cater for an average of 60 clients per day

Fact 7: GROW Job and Life Rehabilitation Programme

In 2015 the GROW job and life skills rehabilitation programme was launched and consist of a well-established Recycling initiative, started in 2016.

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