





ROTARY CLUB OF KNYSNA District 9350

(PBO No. 130004135)

P O Box 354
Knysna, 6570.
Western Cape
South Africa

July 2017

https://knysnarotary.co.za/

MONTHLY REPORT FROM FIRE RELIEF COMMITTEE

The response to our appeal for funding has been very encouraging and the disbursement of the funds is being handled with the utmost confidentiality and discernment. The Rotary Club of Knysna has now registered for funding via Zapper and we await the response to this.

The first part of our report is related to funds and statistics up to and including 30 June 2017:

Actual funds received from donors	R 1,470,021.62
Funds committed to date	R 185,600.00
Funds distributed to recipients to date	R 185,600.00
No of individual applications received	10
No of business applications received	2
No of formal proposals received	2
No of applications for assistance assessed	9
No of applications approved in principal	7
No of applications sent back for rewording	2

The Fire Relief Committee have drafted an Implementation Policy which will be updated after comments have been received and will then be put forward to the Club Board members for final approval. The following are some of the key issues being addressed:

Introduction

The purpose of this document is to define the policy for disaster relief. Amongst other things, it stipulates policies to be adopted for identification of deserving victims, the relief award criteria, the extent of relief to be granted and the formalities to be adopted once relief is approved.

Compassion and empathy, combined with a business-like approach, will be the manner in which this policy is applied.

A significant challenge is that of possible exploitation by recipients, either through parallel relief, or through selling on of donated goods. Each case will be examined on merit in an attempt to circumvent this.

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Eligibility for Relief

The following persons or organisations, in the greater Knysna area, qualify for relief consideration;

- Bona fide disaster victims, in their individual capacity, regardless of race and nationality from any of the fire affected areas in the Southern Cape.
- Small businesses, provided their premises, stock, tools or equipment were destroyed or damaged by the fires.
- Those who have not suffered any physical or financial loss, but who have been rendered unemployed, as a direct result of the fires.
- Cohesive groups, such as school children who have lost school clothing or equipment in the fires

Relief Application Processes

In order to commence the process, applicants must complete and submit either the standard relief application document or submit a written proposal/motivation. The latter would be appropriate in the case of group or class applications.

All applications will be vetted and verified before relief applications are approved.

Once the application is approved in principle, the committee may call upon the selected victim to;

- Provide any further information, essential to application process.
- Provide a basic needs analysis which would exclude all luxury items.
- Provide a business plan, including a cash flow analysis, in the case of small business applications.

Relief Award Criteria

Relief will be granted at the discretion of the Relief committee but will be guided by the following;

- Information from the official Municipal Disaster relief co-ordinating committee, which may place emphasis on selected individuals, businesses or class groups.
- The merit of the appeal for assistance, based on an analysis of the victims circumstances, before and after fire damage.

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- The degree of loss of daily essentials such as shelter, food, warmth, clothing, toiletries and ablution facilities.
- Disabled and elderly victims will receive priority.
- Business relief which optimises re-employment of staff will enjoy priority

Form of Relief

International guidelines for disaster relief will be used.

An effort will be made to confirm the real need in each case, rather than making assumptions as to what victims need.

Relief could take any form, approved by both Rotary and the victim/s including, but not limited to:

- One or more vouchers from local shopping outlets, typically used to start re-equipping a new home.
- Pre-paid credit with a local store, typically to purchase building material or household/office goods.
- A semi-permanent or temporary shelter.
- School uniforms or workplace attire.
- Physical goods, purchased by Rotary and handed to the victim/s.
- School or University fees, for a limited period, if parents are fully or partially unemployed as a result of the fires. These fees could include extra mural fees.
- A cash payment, but this would seldom be the preferred route.
- Temporary rental of business premises.
- Short term business consulting and/or mentoring.
- Recovery costs associated with key personal documents such as ID documents, especially where they are needed for collection of social grants.
- Re-configuring of IT services.
- Transport costs, for a prescribed period.
- Trauma Counselling.
- Temporary employment
- A specific small or medium project, managed by Rotary

In closing, should you require any further information such as copies of blank application forms and the notes that go with them, the approved implementation policy document or latest appeal letter, please contact one of the following:

President Doug Emanuel
Chair Fire Relief Committee – PP Mick Furman
Admin Fire Relief Committee – PP Sharon Richards

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