



## MESsage from the Branch Manager

Exodus 33: 21 – 22 reads: “I put you in a cleft of the Rock and cover you with My hand...”

We are witnessing how singer; Nightbirde is trending across the internet after she sang “It’s ok” at America’s Got Talent and shared her story of her battle with cancer. Listening to the song, I realised that the message of “everything is going to be ok” resonates with many and gives HOPE even if we feel a little lost or overwhelmed. Stories of Hope are powerful!



**Ilse Maartens-Greyling**  
Branch Manager

On the 1<sup>st</sup> of June this year, MES celebrated 35 years of changing lives in the city. Each Branch shared the Stories of Hope that God had written through the years. If you missed it, don’t worry, just follow the link, be inspired and listen to how great our God is!

**BESOEK MES KAAPSTAD SE WEBTUISTE BY**  
<https://mes.org.za/mes-cape-town>

### Upcoming events at MES Cape Town:

- 18 July: 35 Wishes on Mandela Day.
- 21 to 24 July: Kids fun week at Belhar and Scottsdene.

## Making a difference.

We are very excited to share some of the results we have achieved under operations so far. With your help, our amazing team at MES is doing their best, and we are proud to share what they have been up to in Parow, Bellville and Durbanville.

### IMPACT FACTS

from March 2021



Served 3631 meals



Social Work Services  
accessed 814 people



Provided safe sleeping space  
to 5518 homeless people



97 children attending the  
After School Programme



Provided food parcels  
to 361 families at risk



340 shelter clients  
benefiting from GROW



2036 GROW shifts offered  
shelter clients



## Blue Print

The solution does not lie in just one organisation alone, but how we work together. Our partnerships are extremely important to us because without them, we will not be able to do what we do.

One such partner is Golden Arrow. Last year with lockdown and the winter, we opened cold front sleeping sites in partnership with local churches in their church halls. Golden Arrow Bus services CEO, Francois Meyer, came to the rescue when we got stuck in moving 50 people every night for three nights to the next allocated church hall as we progressed through winter. His staff (area co-ordinators and bus drivers) later became part of the MES family as we did roll call and sanitised and sometimes had to turn people away because we reached capacity at each site. The familiar yellow arrow became a beacon of hope for a dry, warm place to sleep.

The Bible speaks of the cheerful giver in 2 Corinthians 9:6-8: “Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.”

Francois Meyer and his team our heroes.

Their acts of kindness and help change lives forever. Jean, who was one of those transported, gave his life to Christ, reconciled with his family, is still maintaining sobriety to this day and is now serving his community.

### Give Responsibly Campaign takes off!

Our Give Responsibly Campaign is a huge success. During the past two months our MES volunteers visited Durbanville Primary and Durbanville Preparatory School during their assembly periods. Our volunteers had great fun teaching our younger generation about responsible giving. Our Meal Vouchers are also for sale on the D6 School Communicator APP.

Up to date we have five SPAR's in the Durbanville area who became MES Meal Voucher resellers! We are grateful to our SPAR friends for making responsible giving easier by being able to purchase our Meal Vouchers while doing your normal shopping!

Furthermore, we were invited to speak at the Durbanville Business Chambers annual meeting. Here we could share the impact of what homelessness is costing our city and how to give responsibly.

Various churches are also supporting the Give Responsibly Campaign and we would love to visit more churches and spread the news.

*Give Responsibly* will be a continual campaign as we still have so many more souls to reach!

Lees meer oor MES Kaapstad by: <https://mes.org.za/mes-cape-town>