



ANASA NATIONAL CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

AUGUST 2011

ANASA has had a very busy five months and I thank the members of the Exco who have willingly given of their time and energy to the benefit of all ANASA members. Attending meetings on behalf of our organization is often taken for granted but acknowledgment of the investment by individuals is necessary – those who have truly given take a bow!

Implementing the Strategic Plan is a slow process. Laurel Pretorius was appointed to the ANASA Administration and Communications Manager's Post in April 2011. Although the challenges are many, we wish her the best in her endeavours with her journey on taking ANASA to new heights. The branding has been signed off by the task team and the new ANASA logo should be featuring on all correspondence that you receive. Your comments on the logo would be appreciated please send Laurel an e-mail at the ANASA office.

The active participation at Services SETA and CAPES is ongoing and reports on the outcomes can be sourced through the ANASA office. The CAPES breakfast has received a very positive response and ANASA's Management Team had the privilege of entertaining the senior nursing persons from three large hospital groups. Many of our members took the opportunity of entertaining their clients and Johnny Goldberg was most captivating in delivering the status of the NEDLAC negotiations on the TES industry and it looks as though we are here to stay.

The long awaited policy document on the NHI has been published for public comment on Friday 12 August 2011 in Government Gazette No 34523. This is an important opportunity for the nursing profession and its leaders to study the document and to submit input. Input must be submitted within 2 months after publication of the document, therefore by **12 October 2011**.

The intention of the NHI is to reform the health services and service provision to ensure that all South Africans, irrespective of their socio-economic status, have access to affordable, quality healthcare services that are delivered with equity and efficiency. The current two tiered system of healthcare does not embrace the principles of equity and access. Through CAPES, Kevin Cowley, Peter and I have become participants of the task team on the NHI at BUSA. It is all very exciting but extremely time consuming sometimes at the detriment of our own businesses.

Peter van der Heijden and Lulu Dayaram met with the Registrar of the SANC, Mr. Tendani Mabunda on the 16th August 2011 and the outcome was interesting. ANASA has been included in the CPD committee and we have given our assurance that we would like to strengthen the relationship between the two organizations. Nursing agencies no longer fall under the jurisdiction of the SANC and although Chapter 6 of the National Health Act, 2003 has not yet been promulgated ANASA is making every effort to meet with the Department of Health to obtain clarity on the situation.

I would like to extend ANASA's sincere thanks to Ernest Cilliers and Peter van der Heijden of Legend Medical for their donation of the Pastel Express Accounting package that they donated. Our sincere thanks are also extended to Snoekie Mabena-Saleh of SMAB for her donation of IT expertise and software to upgrade the ANASA laptop.

The Older Person's Act that has also been promulgated and this has generated new challenges in our industry. The specification of accredited care worker schools renders many care workers with obsolete credentials. The agencies utilizing care workers are advised to contact the ANASA office to update themselves with a list of accredited schools and SAQA accredited training programmes. This list is continuously evolving and is updated regularly. It is interesting that it has also been made known that care workers are subject to the minimum wage of R2500 (Two thousand Five Hundred Rand) per month. ANASA will keep you updated of any other pertinent developments.

ANASA has applied to SAQA to participate in a pilot project to reach professional body status. The likelihood of acceptance is remote however the ANASA brand is being made known. The official report can be sourced from the ANASA office.

At our last General Meeting, the overwhelming generosity of our membership in subscribing to a Code of Ethics was evident in the donation of funds to acquire the expertise of Ethics SA to derive a sustainable working Code of Ethics. Acknowledgement of donation and sincere thanks from the membership goes to: Legend Medical, Nursing Emergencies, V and A, Klerksdorp Verpleegdienste, SMAB Nursing Agency and Tshwane Nursing Agency. It is this type of contribution that cements the reason for our united existence.

The Gauteng and Western Cape branches of ANASA hosted Riaan Ferreira of the Workforce Group in an Information Briefing on Decent Work. This is a very topical issue that is being discussed on international platforms (CIETT), national forums (NEDLAC) and I was most disappointed at the turnout of our membership. ANASA would like to see greater participation from our membership as deriving any benefit from value added incentives can only be attained through participation.

CIETT (International Confederation of Private Employment Agencies) is holding their Tripartite Global Dialogue on the role of Private Employment Agencies in promoting

Decent Work and Improving the Functioning of Labour Markets in Private Services Sectors on the 18th and 19th October 2011 in Geneva. I am disappointed that ANASA has not yet grown in stature to participate at this level of dialogue but I am ever hopeful that the organization sets its sights on attaining the goal of recognition and participation for the healthcare sector on this platform in the near future.

An interesting issue was raised in terms of the Compensation for Occupational Injuries and Diseases Act enquiring whether it was a requirement that the agency to compensate a nurse for disablement or death while on duty for the agency. The COID Act Section 22(2) stipulates that: no “periodical payments” shall be made in respect of temporary disablement or temporary partial disablement which lasts 3 days or less. *This means that when an employee is booked off due to an injury on duty for 3 days or less, the Compensation Fund does not pay compensation.* Section 47(1) stipulates that: compensation for temporary total disablement must be calculated on the basis of Item 1 of Schedule 4. *This means that if an employee is booked off due to an IOD for 4 days or longer, but less than three (3) months, the employer must pay the injured employee at a rate of at least 75% of his earnings, from the first day, until the employee returns to work. Earnings are not only the basic salary of the worker but must be the remuneration that he or she receives from the employer.*

Members have been allocated mentors and hopefully this programme will keep members abreast with the current issues under review from the Exco. Should any member like to participate or contribute to ANASA please forward your valuable input to the ANASA office.

In conclusion, on a joyous note, congratulations to Snoekie Mabena on her marriage to Dr Amoury Saleh on the 23rd July 2011, celebrated with a wonderful honeymoon in the Seychelles. I trust everyone is wearing their Springbok jerseys on Fridays and we wish our Bokke success in their quest to retain the IRB Rugby World Cup.

Best wishes

Leslie Magee

ANASA Chairperson