



Namibian Children's  
Heart Foundation

DRAFT ONLY

## ANNUAL REPORT OF THE NAMIBIAN CHILDREN'S HEART FOUNDATION

10 November 2020

(Non-profit Association incorporated under Section 21)

(Reg No: 21/2012/0013)

### 1. Introduction

The Namibian Children's Heart Foundation was established in 2011 by the late Mr. Harold Pupkewitz. The objectives of the Foundation are;

- to support research into heart disease in children in Namibia
- to identify young medical scientists and build research capacity
- to create an enabling environment for scientific enquiry in paediatric cardiac medicine

This is the Annual Report of the Foundation for 2020.

### 2. The Board of Directors

The Hon. Minister of Mines and Energy, Mr. Thomas Alweendo (Chairman)

Mrs. Meryl Barry

Dr Salomo Amadhila

Dr Henning du Toit

Dr Fenny Shidhika

Dr Christopher Hugo-Hamman (Principal Officer)

### 3. Annual Financial Statements

The draft annual financial statement ending 29 February 2020 is presented for approval. Assets are N\$ 878 879.00. There was a net operating loss for the year of R 179 028.00.

*Founded by the late Mr. Harold Pupkewitz*



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Heart Foundation

#### 4. Research supported by and through the NCHF in 2020

##### 4.1. The Namibian Register for Rheumatic Heart Disease

The Namibian National Registry for RHD has been supported and funded by the Foundation since inception in 2010. The Register is run by Mrs Gonda Olivier (Administrator of the Foundation) and it is the surveillance tool used by the National Programme for prevention and control of RHD in the Ministry of Health and Social Services (MHSS).

#### 5. Research Activity and Grants

5.1. In 2017 the Foundation was a founding co-applicant in the research study known as “Afrostrep - mapping the Group A beta haemolytic streptococcus in Africa” and Namibia is now engaged as a study site. Over the financial year the Foundation was not engaged with this research nor is it anticipated its support will be required going forwards.

5.2. The Foundation had anticipated being further engaged in a study led from the Children’s Heart Disease Research Unit at the University of Cape Town known as PROTEA. This is “Partnerships for Congenital Heart Disease in Africa”. Although the Foundation had budgeted for this purpose in 2018 and 2019, these funds have not been required. All indications are that the study is funded elsewhere, and Foundation support is not required.

#### 6. Donations

6.1. There were no material donations to the Foundation.

6.2. The Medtronic Foundation sponsored 7 staff members at the Windhoek Central Hospital to attend the 2019 Congress of the South African Heart Association and the Foundation was a conduit for the transfer and distribution of these funds.



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Heart Foundation

## 7. Conclusion

Over 9 years the Foundation has made an invaluable contribution to heart disease research in children and to research capacity development in Namibia. The Namibian Children's Heart Foundation, previously the Harold and Ethel Pupkewitz Heart Foundation, fulfilled its mandate.

When it was actively engaged in research and in the promotion of research the Foundation managed to solicit fairly generous financial support. However, there have been no donations received for almost three years. The Namibian Children's Heart Foundation is no longer a going concern.

Furthermore, the new generation of clinicians engaged in paediatric cardiac care at the Ministry of Health and Social Services are of the opinion that there is no need for a children's heart disease research-based Foundation in Namibia.

It is proposed therefore that the "main business of the Company", as described in the "Memorandum of Association" is changed to allow the Foundation to distribute the remaining assets to support the care of Namibian Children with heart disease. After that the Foundation should be dissolved.