



Flying
For Life



Annual Report



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**Flying
For Life**

OUR WHY

Flying for Life strives to bridge the gap between rural communities and essential services, particularly healthcare. In many remote areas, the lack of infrastructure, resources, and transportation options severely hampers the delivery of crucial medical aid and support.

We believe that everyone deserves access to basic necessities and opportunities to live a healthy and fulfilling life, regardless of their geographical location.

Committed to addressing these challenges, Flying for Life uses aircraft and skilled volunteers to provide access to medical care, educational opportunities, and humanitarian assistance. We fly to areas that are difficult to reach, improve the quality of life, and promote sustainable development in these forgotten communities.

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRPERSON

Dear Board Members, Staff, and Donors,

Change is one of the few constants in our ever-evolving world. The world is constantly changing around us and, as an organisation, it is our responsibility to do the same in response, but without compromising our core focus, values and reason for being.

One of the most prevalent challenges we face is the changing climate of our donor base and strategy, which has encouraged us to reconsider our traditional appeals for donations and adapt to the world and country within which we serve.

As we embrace change, we consider the exciting potential of the philanthropic space in which we exist. Organisations are increasingly recognising the importance of engaging and empowering the younger generation known as Generation Z (Gen Z). Born between the mid-1990s and early 2010s, Gen Z brings unique perspectives, values, and expectations to the workplace. One area where Gen Z employees demonstrate potential is in their willingness to contribute to charitable causes through financial donations. This is more often than not generated by a deep desire to find meaning and purpose in life, and so this is not just about taking handouts based on a generation's culture of generosity but, we would hope, a reciprocal relationship where they get to see the difference that they're making in their sphere of influence.

Through partnerships, fund-raising events and face-to-face engagements, we would like to provide the opportunity for not only this socially conscious generation but for all South Africans across socio-economic, generational and cultural boundaries to align themselves, engage and contribute to positive growth and purpose driven work within their own country.

Despite the challenges, as we embrace change, it is exciting to see Flying For Life expanding its own boundaries, as we have explored new territories in the Northern Cape serving isolated communities in this region in partnership with Mercy Air South Africa, Medical Mission Eswatini, and Caring for Sight.

We are actively seeking partnerships with like-minded organisations, government agencies, healthcare providers, and community leaders. By working together, we have expanded our reach, shared resources and expertise, and are maximising our impact.

These partnerships have allowed us to navigate the complexities of change more effectively and create a sustainable, positive change for the communities we serve.

I would like to thank our dedicated staff and volunteers who are the backbone of Flying For Life. We recognise the importance of human capital and acknowledge their unwavering commitment and dedication in fulfilling a common purpose and vision.

"What counts in life is not the mere fact that we have lived. It is what difference we have made to the lives of others that will determine the significance of the life we lead."

- Nelson Mandela

On behalf of the Flying for Life Board,
Blessings to all,



Paul Henning
Chairman of the Board



Board Members 2022

Paul Henning (Chairman)

Maxine Holman (CEO)

Clara Kwizera

Patrick Black

Thembisa Bekwa

MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

As we reflect on the past year, we have embarked on a journey of rebranding, redefining our purpose, and asking ourselves some hard questions. Who are we? What are our dreams? What do we want to achieve? What do we want to be known for? Today, I am proud to share with you the answers that have shaped our renewed mission and vision. Flying for Life is not just an organisation; it is a movement fuelled by a passion for empowering rural communities in need. We recognise that many of these communities are overlooked, lacking access to essential care and opportunities for upliftment. That is where we step in. We collaborate with individuals, NGOs, skilled medical professionals, and others, both within and outside of the community, to create lasting solutions and bring about positive change.

Our name, Flying for Life, reflects our unwavering commitment to reaching these isolated communities by any means necessary. Sometimes, flying is the fastest and only way to access these remote areas. But it goes beyond transportation. We believe that the strength of our rural communities is the strength of South Africa as a whole. By empowering these communities, we contribute to a stronger and more prosperous nation.

What sets us apart is our collaborative approach. We are one of the few NGOs in South Africa that actively partners with like-minded organisations and individuals who share our vision. We believe that by working together, we can maximise our impact and create sustainable change. Our mission is not driven by self-interest; it is driven by a deep commitment to those who often feel forgotten.

In the past year, we have witnessed the transformative power of our work through two exciting ventures. The first, Vhembe Wings, was a four-day outreach that showcased the significant impact of utilising a helicopter in our projects. What used to be a time-consuming journey from one clinic to another was reduced to a mere 15 minutes. This efficiency allowed us to reach more communities and provide crucial support where it was most needed.

Additionally, we have launched Kalahari Wings, a weeklong outreach programme in partnership with Mercy Air, Medical Mission Eswatini, and Caring for Sight. This initiative aims to address the vast need for eye surgeries at Harry Surtie Hospital in Upington. By joining forces, we can alleviate the strain on the hospital and provide much-needed surgeries to those awaiting treatment.

While we have achieved great strides, challenges persist. Issues with the local Department of Health have temporarily halted our projects in the Vhembe area. However, we remain determined and resilient, seeking alternative solutions to overcome these obstacles and continue our mission of serving those in need.

As we look to the future, Flying for Life stands ready to embrace new opportunities and partnerships. We are committed to expanding our reach, increasing our impact, and transforming more lives. Together, with your support and the dedication of our incredible volunteers and partners, we can create a brighter and more inclusive South Africa.

Thank you for being a part of this journey. Together, we will soar to new heights and make a lasting difference.



Maxine Holman
CEO of Flying for Life



WHAT WE DO

Many rural communities don't receive the proper care and upliftment that they need. We collaborate with people outside of, and within the community to empower them with lasting solutions.

We strive to reach, teach and uplift rural communities in a sustainable way. We believe that we can make a lasting impact and be part of a movement for sustainability.

SUSTAINABLE ALIGNMENT

In 2022, Flying for Life made tangible strides in aligning with the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of Reduced Inequalities, Good Health and Wellbeing, and Decent Work and Economic Growth.

Flying for Life holds a strong set of values that underpin our mission and activities.

Dedicated to promoting social equity and inclusivity, we address inequalities and ensure access to essential services for marginalised communities. Our commitment to providing healthcare and improving overall wellbeing is realised in our efforts to reach remote areas with limited medical facilities. By using aviation resources, we overcome geographical barriers to deliver critical healthcare services, including medical consultations, screenings, and surgeries, thereby contributing to the SDG of Good Health and Wellbeing.

Moreover, Flying for Life contributes to Decent Work and Economic Growth by facilitating skills development within the communities we serve. By partnering with local stakeholders, we provide training for medical personnel, thereby empowering individuals and fostering economic growth. By providing medical treatment, we enable individuals to regain their independence. Patients' caretakers are often their children or grandchildren, further crippling family and individuals' time for work and education. By facilitating breakthroughs for the patients, Flying for Life brings breakthroughs for the caretakers. This approach helps reduce unemployment rates and promotes sustainable livelihoods in marginalised regions, aligning with the SDG of Decent Work and Economic Growth.

Flying for Life's values of equity, health, and empowerment, coupled with our outputs of delivering healthcare services and promoting economic growth, demonstrate our commitment to the UN's SDGs for a sustainable South Africa.



Our flights are efficiently filled with resources and specialist volunteers who enable us to be effective and impactful on the ground.

Each flight brings help, hope & healing!

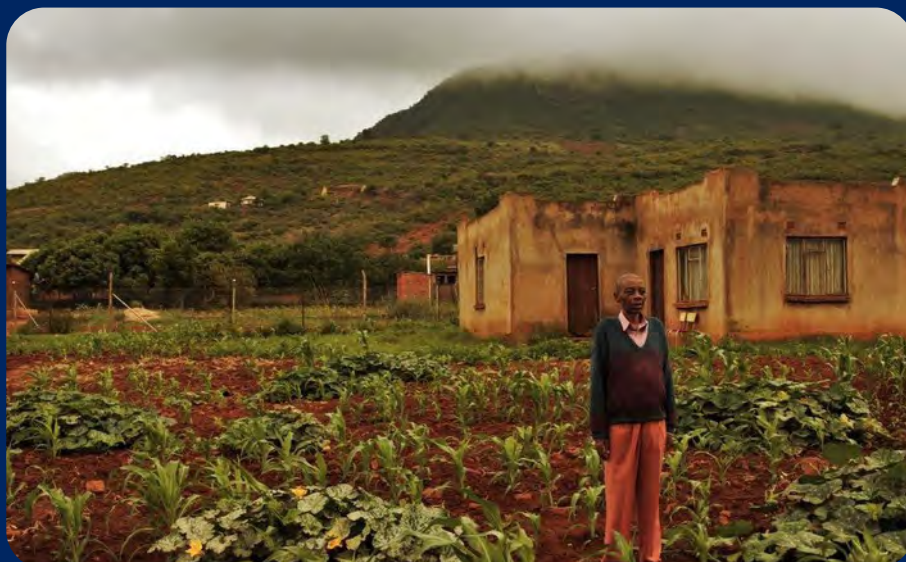


HIGHLIGHT

OF THE YEAR

Since its inception in 2011, Flying for Life has encountered numerous challenges, but none as daunting as those presented by the COVID-19 pandemic between 2020 and 2021. The year 2021 saw the cancellation of most of our outreaches and the suspension of several rural community projects. In response, we had to adapt and implement initiatives closer to our base of operations while awaiting the ease of lockdown restrictions. Amidst the difficulties, the pandemic provided us with an opportunity to re-examine our core purpose. We reaffirmed that even in times of crisis, our organisation's focus remains on uplifting rural areas. Working in these remote regions presents unique challenges, including limited communication, infrastructure, and inadequate access to basic facilities. Nevertheless, our commitment to serving rural communities lies at the heart of Flying for Life.

A significant highlight for our team in 2022 was witnessing the return of our partners and collaborators, brimming with enthusiasm to resume their work. These individuals form the pillars of Flying for Life, and their unwavering support has been instrumental in our expansion milestones across multiple clinics in Limpopo and the introduction of new programmes in the Northern Cape. None of these achievements would have been possible without the dedication of our volunteer medical and educational specialists who generously contribute their time and expertise to each outreach effort. The impact created by a single volunteer's involvement is immediately evident with each project, as it sets off a ripple effect of positive change.





In one of the hospitals where we specialise in cataract surgeries, we encountered a significant challenge during the COVID-19 lockdown. As our work came to a halt, we discovered that our waiting list for surgeries continued to expand rapidly, leaving us with an overwhelming number of 950 patients eagerly waiting for their turn. However, despite the circumstances, our dedicated team of volunteer ophthalmologists has displayed unwavering commitment and worked tirelessly to address this pressing issue.

We have explored innovative approaches to increase our surgical capacity without compromising on the quality of care. By actively collaborating with other NGOs we have been able to accommodate a greater number of procedures each day. This strategic utilisation of human capital has played a vital role in shortening the waiting list and providing relief to our patients who have been patiently waiting for their surgeries. Leveraging these partnerships, we have shared resources, exchanged best practices, and even established training initiatives to provide additional support and accommodate a larger volume of patients in the future. This collaborative approach has not only expedited the surgical process but also fostered a sense of community within the team and third-party stakeholders, enabling us to collectively work towards reducing the burden on patients.

In conclusion, while the lockdown presented us with unprecedented challenges and an ever-growing waiting list of 950 patients, our team of dedicated volunteer ophthalmologists has exhibited exceptional resilience and commitment. Through efficient coordination, collaborative efforts, and patient-focused initiatives, we have been able to address the backlog and steadily reduce the waiting time for cataract surgeries. Our unwavering dedication to providing high-quality care remains our top priority as we strive to restore vision and improve the quality of life for all our patients in need.

OUR IMPACT

2022 STATISTICS

“

I am grateful..

Muntshinye, has been blind in both of her eyes for five years. She was thrilled to finally receive the long-awaited surgery. When speaking with her prior to surgery FFL asked what she thinks of the initiative, she responded, ***“A lot of people in my area testified that they have been helped by Flying for life, that is how I got to know about it. It would be great to have the organisation visit more often as it brings hope into our lives again.”***

Mutshinye stated that she has been on a waiting list for surgery at a local hospital for three years. We are humbled and giddy as our partner doctors made her dream of being able to see again come true.

- Muntshinye, a community member and cataract patient from Limpopo.

”



89

Cancer screenings



410

Children impacted through educational outreaches



165

Eye surgeries
120 optometry patients



117

Dental patients



3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING



81

General practitioner Services



8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH



44

Clinic staff trained
8 clinics impacted



10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES



9

Total flights



PARTNERSHIPS

Flying for Life places great emphasis on partnerships and collaboration. We work closely with local communities, healthcare providers, educational specialists, and other non-profit organisations, with special thanks to Mercy Air's charter support, to ensure that our efforts align with the specific needs of each community.

By building strong relationships and engaging local stakeholders, Flying for Life will create lasting and meaningful impact in the communities we serve.

Flying for Life is an incredible initiative.

"This was an incredible experience, and it always warms my heart knowing that I have helped add [hope] in someone else's life... and I am honoured to been given the opportunity to volunteer my time and expertise to those who need it most."

- Prof. Polla Roux, volunteer ophthalmologist

THANK YOU

We would like to send a massive thank you to each and every one of our partners who stepped up and made 2022 a success. We always appreciate your enthusiasm and eagerness to join us in uplifting rural communities. We look forward to more of this in the years to come!



FINANCIAL PARTNERS

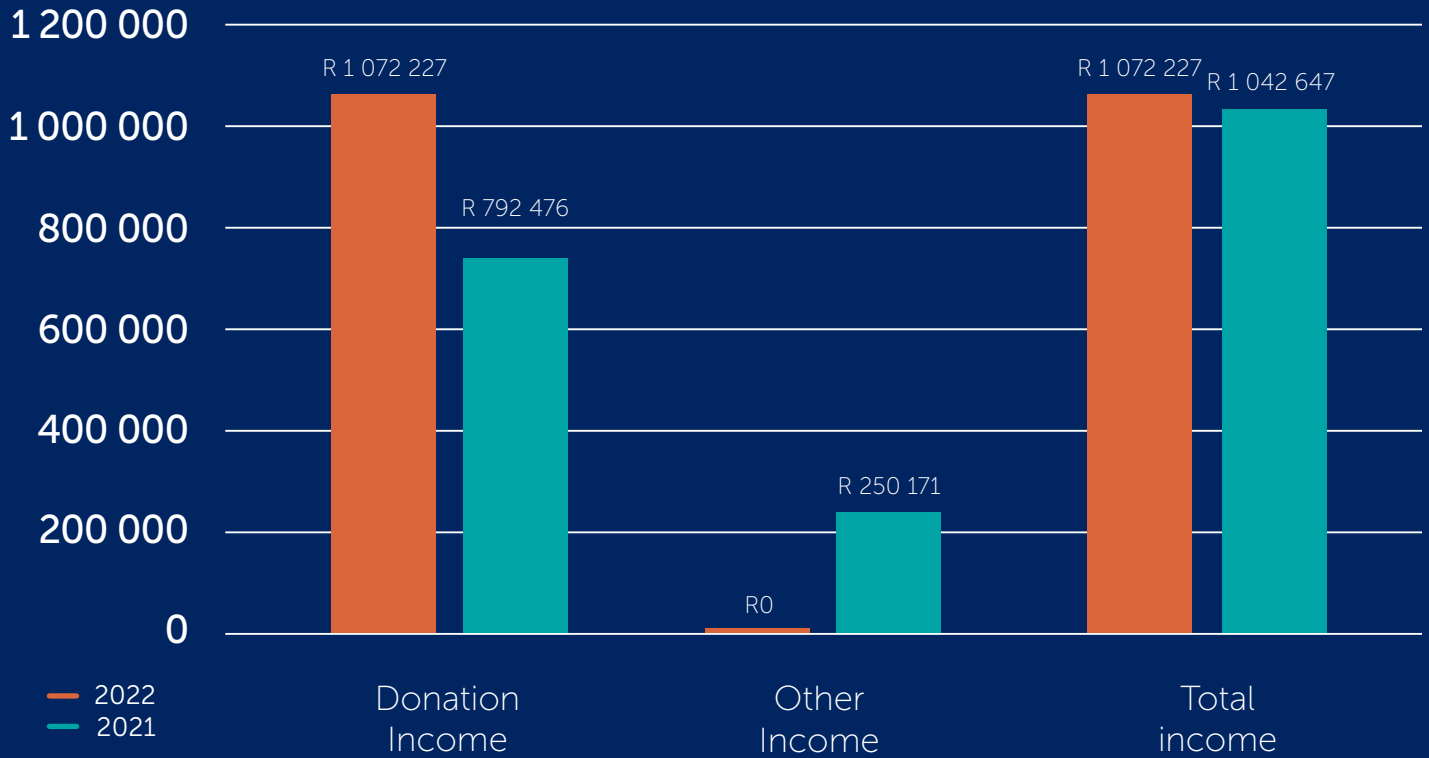


Flying for Life relies on the generosity of individual donors who support our flights to bring help, hope and healing to the rural communities of South Africa.

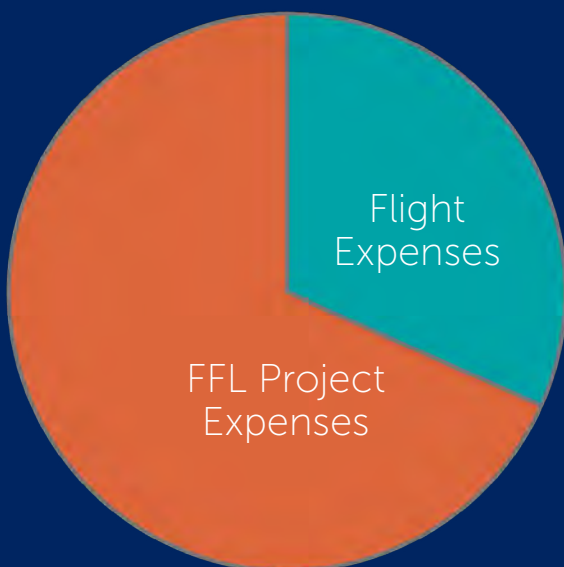


FFL FINANCIAL REPORT

Yearly Income Comparison



Total expenses



Total income



R307 326
surplus 2022

Greatest Expense

Project
Expenses

R176 227
deficit 2021

Greatest Income Increase

Donation
Income

INCOME STATEMENT

	2022	2021
INCOME		
Donation Income	R 1 072 227	792 476
Gain on disposal of Asset	0	209 999
Other Income	0	40 172
Total income	1 072 227	1 042 647
EXPENDITURE		
Flight Expenses	(436 734)	(502 844)
FFL Project Expenses	(942 819)	(363 576)
Total Expenditure	(1 379 553)	(866 420)
Surplus (Deficit) for the Year	R (307 326)	176 227

FFL is audited by MVB Audit and Advisory.

Stewarding Sustainability

We aim to keep our operational costs as low as possible by using partner organisation Mercy Air, who discount their flights and volunteer their pilots to fly our volunteers to their destinations. While the passengers give their time and resources, the flights are paid for by Flying for Life's supporting donors.



FLYING FOR LIFE

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