



living & dying with  
**DIGNITYUSA**  
*Our lives, our choices*

# MID-YEAR REPORT

**MARCH - AUGUST 2025**



## OUR VISION

A South Africa where all of us are supported throughout life's journey with compassionate care, dignity, and the freedom to choose one's own path.

## OUR MISSION

We pursue advocacy and collaboration alongside legal and healthcare reform initiatives so that every person in South Africa can access the full range of end-of-life care options with our choices respected and legally protected.

# CONTENTS

<b>1</b>	<b>FOREWORD FROM THE CHAIR</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>PROGRESS TOWARDS OUR STRATEGIC GOALS</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>IMPACT ON OUR FOCUS AREAS</b>	<b>7</b>
	3.1. Palliative Care	7
	3.2. Withdrawal and Withholding of Life Sustaining Care	8
	3.3. Advance Directives	8
	3.4. Assisted Dying	10
<b>4</b>	<b>GROWING OUR SUPPORT BASE</b>	<b>12</b>
	4.1. Membership	12
	4.2. Media Coverage	12
	4.3. Events	13
	4.4. Communications	13
	4.5. Advocacy	15
<b>5</b>	<b>GROWING OUR ORGANISATION</b>	<b>17</b>
	5.1. Our Advisory Trustees	17
	5.2. Our Executive Members	19
	5.3. Our Staff	20
<b>6</b>	<b>FINANCIAL REPORT</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>CONCLUSION</b>	<b>22</b>

# 1 FOREWARD

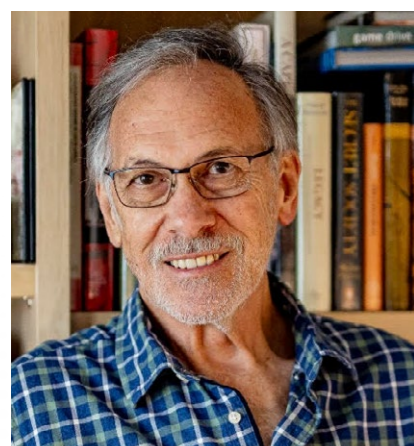
**During the first six months of our current financial year, we have been singularly privileged to receive a significant influx of funds. For that we are truly grateful.**

It enabled us to upscale significantly our social footprint, to cover our legal fees until the end of the financial year, and to employ staff for the first time in our 14-year history. We now find ourselves in a position to broaden our engagement to all four end-of-life focus areas. In particular, we are building meaningful partnerships with regard to access to palliative care and creating a better understanding of advance directives.

We are in a significantly better position to give more helpful information and guidance, including a regular newsletter and a new podcast. Our membership numbers are climbing increasingly.

After almost four years of groundwork with our pro bono legal team, we now find ourselves in a position to approach the High Court before the end of the year with our application for the recognition of a constitutional right to assisted dying. Selfless, quality support from 16 international experts from six countries where assisted dying is legal has been a revelation. Through our advocacy efforts, particularly within the medical community, we have now also received 3 South African medical expert reports which are also key to our case.

None of this would have been possible without funders believing in us and being willing to throw their weight in with us.



**Professor Willem Landman**  
Chairperson

# 2 PROGRESS TOWARDS OUR STRATEGIC GOALS

At our Annual General meeting, that was held on the 28th of February 2025, we outlined six key goals for the upcoming new financial year from March 2025 to February 2026. Here is an overview of how we are doing, six months in.

WHAT	HOW	PROGRESS TO DATE	NEXT STEPS
<b>Table our Advance Directives Bill in Parliament</b>	Build a coalition of organisations that will revive our previously gazetted amendment to the National Health Act would provide legal clarity and protection for patients' documented end-of-life wishes.	We created a website for the Advance Directives Campaign and convened the first planning workshop in August. Over 20 diverse organisations were involved and a Working Group is taking this forward.	Convene the Working Group and facilitate feedback to stakeholders. Obtain legal clarity as required. Create and share educational materials. (Please refer to section 3.3 Advance Directives for more about this)
<b>Submit our assisted dying court application</b>	Leverage the powerful evidence we've gathered from 15 South African case studies, 16 foreign experts and multiple South African medical professionals to challenge the constitutionality of criminalising assisted dying.	We have gathered 15 SA case studies and evidence from 16 foreign experts. Local medical professionals are currently providing us with their evidence and are on track to submit our application in 2025.	Submit our application to the North Gauteng High Court by the end of 2025. The Court will then approach the Ministers of Health and Justice, as well as the NPA and the HPCSA to provide responding affidavits. (Please refer to section 3.3 Assisted Dying for more about this)
<b>Build strategic partnerships with the palliative care sector</b>	Demonstrate our commitment to comprehensive end-of-life care and establish DignitySA as more than an assisted dying organisation	We hosted a well-attended seminar focused on palliative care in May and solicited a lot of media coverage around this. Two DignitySA representatives attended and presented posters at the National Palliative Care conference in June. A number of stakeholders in palliative care are part of the Advance Directives Campaign.	Support the advocacy work of palliative care organisations (APCC, Palprac and PATCHSA in particular). Continue adding value in the sector through the Advance Directives Campaign. (Please refer to section 3.1 Palliative Care for more about this)
<b>Grow our membership to 1,000</b>	Enhance our communications and community engagement efforts in order to create a broader base of support for legislative reform	We revived membership in April this year and have 266 people signed up, most of whom are willing for their names to be featured on our website. We add value to our members by sending them our new newsletter Dignity Matters and extended versions of our new podcast, A Way To Go.	Recruit 734 additional members by the end February and invite all members to our AGM in March. Produce merchandise for donors and brand ambassadors. (Please refer to section 4 Growing Our Support Base for more about this).

# IMPACT ON OUR FOCUS AREAS

WHAT	HOW	PROGRESS TO DATE	NEXT STEPS
<b>Strengthen organisational capacity</b>	Appoint an Operations Manager and a professional communications support to effectively manage our expanded activities.	Appointed Leigh Meinert as Operations Manager and Dawid van der Merwe as Digital Content Manager on contracts through to early 2026.	Finalise and implement a communications strategy and a 3 year vision and plan for DSA. (Please refer to section 5 Our Organisation for more about them).
<b>Raise R4,525,00 in funding for the current financial year</b>	See support from local individual philanthropists and those abroad with ties to SA.	Raised R2,464,667 in the first 6 months of the current financial year.	Raise an additional R2,060,033, as well as funding for the next financial year. (Please refer to sections 6 & 7 in this report)



## + 3.1 PALLIATIVE CARE

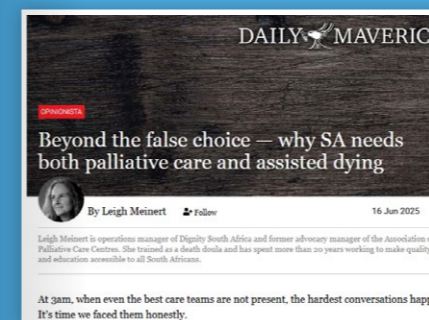
When we reviewed our focus areas at the beginning of 2025, advocating for improved access to high-quality palliative care was placed at the top of our list. At DignitySA we believe that if all South Africans with life-threatening diseases were able to access the sophisticated pain management and comprehensive support that palliative care avails there would be less of a demand for medically assisted dying. Regrettably though, estimates are that only 18% of our citizens are able to benefit from this kind of care due to chronic under-funding and a lack of prioritisation by government primarily.

Our ability to shine a light on the challenges in the palliative care sector has been considerably enhanced by the addition of Leigh Meinert, former Advocacy Manager for the Association of Palliative Care Centres (APCC), who joined DignitySA as our Operations Manager in April 2025. In May, Leigh helped us to convene the second seminar in our End-of-Life Care series that was entitled, *"Palliative Care and Assisted Dying: Friends or Foes?"*



The seminar was expertly moderated by the prominent social justice activist Mark Heywood, who recently joined DignitySA as an Advisory Trustee, and featured inputs from Leigh as well as Hanneke Lubbe (board member of the APCC) and Yvette Andrews, a palliative care nurse who concluded the evening with a powerful personal story. A video of these talks can be viewed at our You Tube channel.

The seminar was well-attended by more than 60 people in person at the Desmond and Leah Tutu Foundation and over 150 online and Leigh's account of the evening and her talk was featured as an opinion piece in the Daily Maverick in mid-June. The article generated a great deal of interest and commentary and two weeks later a response from some palliative care doctors appeared in the Daily Maverick. This in turn generated media coverage with both Leigh and Dr Michelle Meiring being interviewed on Cape Talk radio.



In June, Leigh and Joseph Raimondo, Executive Member of DignitySA, attended the national Palliative Care Conference in Durban. This was an excellent opportunity to deepen our understanding of the sector and build relationships. Although none of our abstracts were selected for presentations, we did give two poster

presentations and were encouraged by two prominent speakers who, in the closing plenary, urged the delegates to engage in conversations about assisted dying. Whilst there is still some reticence to doing so, we are confident that at the next conference in 2027 assisted dying will be firmly on the agenda.



Our efforts to support and collaborate with the palliative care sector have been further strengthened through the Advance Directives Campaign that DignitySA has initiated this year. The first planning meeting for the campaign that was held in August was well attended by healthcare workers who work in palliative care in both the private and public sectors. Advance Care Planning is an important aspect of palliative care and those in the sector appreciate the importance of ensuring that we have legal clarity, as well as education and awareness, regarding the use and enforcement of advance directives.

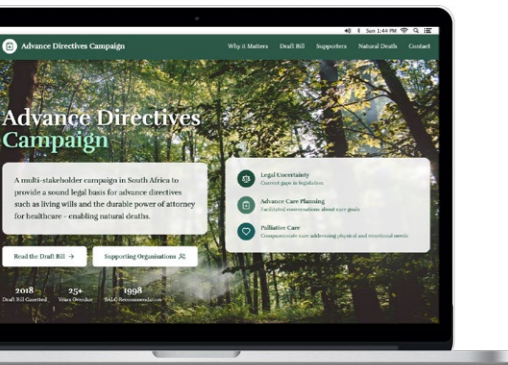
## 3.2 WITHDRAWAL AND WITHHOLDING OF LIFE-SUSTAINING CARE

DignitySA regularly receives queries from patients and their families with regard to their rights to refuse or discontinue life-sustaining medical treatments when they determine that the burdens outweigh the costs. To this end, we provide ongoing education and awareness that from a legal standpoint that no medical treatment can be given without informed consent.

Furthermore, the law allows for a person who has been mandated by the patient to refuse treatment or consent, when the patient cannot speak for themselves. Mandated persons can refuse water, food or any medical treatment on the patient's behalf. If a mandate has not been put in place, then Section 7 of the National Health Act outlines an order for decision making that begins with the spouse or partner.

## 3.3 ADVANCE DIRECTIVES

Since 2017 DignitySA has been championing for the legal recognition and enforcement of advance directives to ensure that healthcare professionals honour patient's documented wishes regarding their end-of-life care, including decisions about life-sustaining care. Together with a parliamentary legal team, Prof Willem Landman wrote an amendment to the



National Health Act (61 of 2003) to legalise advance directives (living will and durable power of attorney for healthcare). However a new election and new parliament in 2019, and then Covid-19, put an end to this initiative.

This year DignitySA undertook to revive the campaign and to do so in a collaborative spirit. To ensure maximum support, we created a website and identity for the Campaign that is separate from our organisation and convened the first planning meeting at the Desmond and Leah Tutu Foundation on the 21st of August 2025.

The planning meeting was well-attended by a diverse range of stakeholders from over 20 organisations and, contrary to what we anticipated, it was decided in the meeting that instead of seeking to have an National Health Amendment Bill passed in Parliament we would begin by creating a Working Group that will compile a comprehensive list of complex and contentious issues that healthcare professionals encounter with regard to advance directives and advance care planning in the private and public sectors. The Group will then review the Health Professionals Council of South Africa's (HPCSA) ethical guidelines and the National Health Act to identify areas where clarity is needed and engage with the HPCSA and the Department of Health in this regard. In conjunction with this process of obtaining legal clarity, it was agreed that the stakeholders can and should work together to avail educational resources and greater awareness for healthcare professionals and the general public alike.



DignitySA will convene and provide support to the Working Group that includes legal advisors and representatives from:

- The Critical Care Society of SA
- The Emergency Care Society of SA
- Love Legacy Dignity
- The Medical Protection Society
- The Motor Neurone Disease Association
- The Association of Palliative Care Practitioners of SSA (Palprac)
- The SA Association of Social Workers in Private Practice (SAASWIPP)
- The South African Geriatric Society
- The Western Cape Department of Health



## 3.4 MEDICALLY ASSISTED DYING

Since our inception in 2011, DignitySA has played a leading role in legal reform initiatives to establish and protect the rights of informed adults facing terminal or irremediable conditions that cause intolerable suffering to request medical assistance in dying when all other options have been exhausted. In 2015, we obtained pro-bono legal representation for Adv Robin Stransham-Ford in his landmark case that resulted in him being granted permission to lawfully medically assisted dying. Regrettably this was awarded posthumously as Adv Stransham-Ford died two hours before the court ruling and the case was subsequently overturned when the Ministers of Justice and Correctional Services subsequently appealed.



What was significant though was that the Supreme Court of Appeal's (SCA) ruling in 2016 left the door open for future cases on physician-assisted dying, suggesting that the issue could be reconsidered under more appropriate circumstances, with a proper factual record and a comprehensive legal analysis. Furthermore, a full bench of the SCA held that DignitySA was a legitimate entity to act in the public interest in a future case to "rectify" the "deficiency" in our law (common law versus constitutional rights).

It has taken us a few years to assemble a strong legal team and raise sufficient funds. Thankfully, with the appointment of Adams & Adams Attorneys in 2024, we have been able to make significant progress. We have also been grateful to receive sufficient funding to cover our legal fees through to the end of our current financial year. As at the end of August 2025, together with our legal team (which includes four advocates) we have gathered several case studies prepared by relatives of people who died in dire circumstances as well as submissions of the highest quality by 16 foreign experts from six countries on four continents where assisted dying is legal. It had previously proven challenging to gather supporting evidence from local medical professionals, however after hosting multiple events at the Tutu Foundation, supporting a Dean's Dialogue on Assisted Dying at UCT Medical School and engaging in numerous 1 on 1 engagements with doctors, we have now received commitments for 3 expert reports from prominent South African medical professionals, which are nearing finalisation. We therefore anticipate that we will be ready to file our court papers before the end of 2025.

We would never have embarked on this journey, all those years ago now, if we doubted that assisted dying could be responsibly institutionalised in the South African healthcare system. Providing ARVs for vast numbers of HIV-positive patients, country-wide and ongoing, was much more challenging. After the recognition of an array of rights supported by our Constitution we believe the time for "the last right" has come.

However, it will not be an easy or short route. Once DignitySA's court papers are filed, the court will give the respondents an opportunity to file responding affidavits – the ministers of justice and health, the NPA and the HPCSA. DignitySA will then have an opportunity to file an answering affidavit, a court date will be set, and arguments will be heard on the documentation alone.



The losing party is sure to appeal to the Supreme Court of Appeal (SCA) in Bloemfontein and, in turn, the losing party there is sure to appeal to the Constitutional Court in Braamfontein. Thus this process could take years even without deliberate delaying tactics by respondents.

Even with a pro-bono team charging a fraction of their normal fees, legal proceedings are a costly and lengthy exercise requiring ongoing funding. To this end, DignitySA needs all the assistance it can muster. We act in the public interest, a mission explicitly recognised in the Stransham-Ford appeal.



# GROWING OUR SUPPORT BASE

## 4.1 MEMBERSHIP

In April 2025 we launched membership again and have been developing our systems. We created a members portal on our website where extended versions of our new podcast series can be accessed and upcoming events can be promoted. Members can elect to have their names featured as Supporters on our website and to join our WhatsApp community, Friends of DignitySA. The latest edition of our new newsletter, Dignity Matters is also sent to them directly every two months.



Furthermore, we have partnered with Paysoft Impact to facilitate monthly debit orders or once-off donations via our website and will be launching branded merchandise for those who would like to help us promote the cause. As at the end of August we have 266 members and are confident that we will reach our goal of reaching 1,000 by the end of February 2026.

## 4.2 MEDIA COVERAGE

Assisted dying has always been a news-worthy topic and we receive regular invitations from the media. In the past six months, our cause has been profiled by Cape Talk, PowerFM and other prominent outlets. A highlight was our new Spokesperson, Vuya Ilengou's 'inaugural' appearance on the show "Still Uncaptured". We loved the wide-ranging and fascinating conversation between herself and the passionate hosts of the series, Kgomotso Matsunyane and Ndumiso Ngcobo. The episode was shared on the 10th of June 2025 and is called 'Advocating for Dignity and Choice: The Case for Assisted Dying' on Spotify. It is well worth a listen.



Going forward, we will begin approaching media outlets proactively in our efforts to generate more dialogue, engagement and public support around our upcoming court case.

## 4.3 EVENTS

Events are an excellent way to build relationships and further our advocacy efforts and we kicked the year off by continuing the 'Dignity in End-of-Life Care' Seminar Series that we initiated in 2024. These seminars are co-hosted with the Desmond and Leah Tutu Legacy Foundation and we are delighted that the Foundation's CEO, Janet Jobson, agreed to join our organisation as an Advisory Trustee this year.

Our first seminar focused on 'The South Africa Constitution and Assisted Dying' and the second gathering, held in May 2025, was called, 'Palliative Care and Assisted Dying: Friends of Foes?' It was enthusiastically attended by over 200 people (in-person and online) and generated a great deal of engagement and press coverage afterwards.



Conferences are another way to grow our networks and we were grateful for the opportunity to provide a workshop on 'Dying with Dignity: Ethical, Legal and Clinical Considerations' at the Board of Healthcare Funders Conference that was held in Cape Town in May 2025. Two of our

representatives also attended the national Palliative Care conference in Durban in June and provided poster presentations.

In August we hosted the first planning workshop for the Advance Directives Campaign, as well as interfaith dialogue on end-of-life choices at the Tutu Foundation once again. The dialogue was enthusiastically attended by more than 30 representatives from a diverse range of faiths. At the end of the gathering they used words like "connection", "surprise", "breakthrough", "possibility", "collaboration" and "collective responsibility" to describe their experience and expressed a sincere interest in engaging in more events like these.



## 4.4 COMMUNICATIONS

In an effort to engage hearts and minds and grow our support base ahead of our pending court case we engaged our new Advisory Trustee, Vuya Ilengou, to draft a strategic brand and communications strategy for DignitySA and we met with all of our Trustees in May to review this together.

Flowing from the expert inputs that we have received, we have updated our brand colours to include a dignified, Tutu-esque purple and changed our strapline from 'My Life. My Choice' to 'Our Lives, Our Choices'.



In Vuya's words,

*Ubuntu is often seen as prioritising the group over the individual. But at its heart, Ubuntu is about shared humanity, deep respect and compassion. It teaches us to care for one another, especially in moments of immense pain and vulnerability. From this perspective, helping someone who is terminally ill and suffering intractable pain to have a peaceful, dignified death is not a betrayal of Ubuntu, it is an expression of it.*

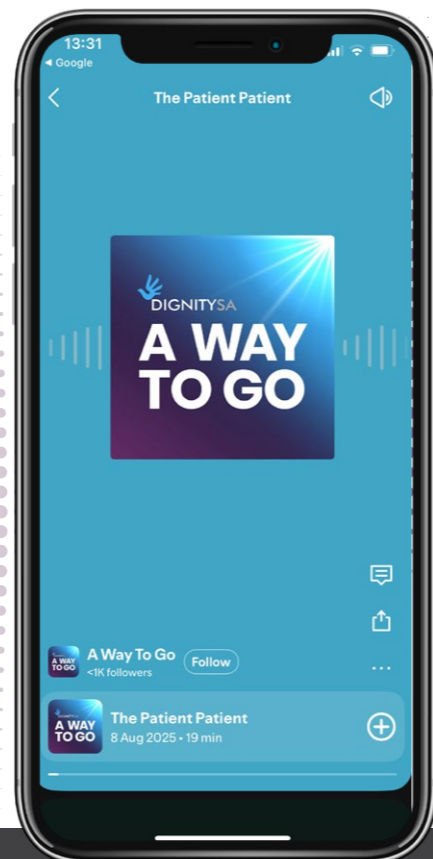


#### In the past six months, we have also launched:

- A WhatsApp community channel
- A new YouTube channel
- A newsletter called Dignity Matters that is sent to our members every second month, and - perhaps most excitingly -
- Our own podcast series, called A Way To Go, that is available on our website as well as on Spotify.

#### Looking ahead, we plan to:

- Revamp our website and continue adding new features and additional resources
- Grow our WhatsApp community
- Create more video content for our social media platforms
- Raise dedicated funding so that we can continue our podcast series beyond the pilot phase.



## 4.5 ADVOCACY

Our approach to strategy at DignitySA, is multi-pronged with a focus on the legal, public, and medical spheres. Our messaging frames the debate around constitutional rights and individual autonomy, while also addressing and alleviating public concerns. The legal path is our main avenue for change and hence this is our primary focus.

Whilst assisted dying is illegal in South Africa, the Constitutional Court has yet to make a definitive ruling and the manner in which a 2016 Supreme Court of Appeal judgment overturned a previous High Court order (see section 3.4) highlighted the need for a strong, constitutionally-grounded legal challenge. Our next step is therefore to initiate a robust court case that directly challenges the constitutionality of the current prohibition on assisted suicide and we will be doing so by the end of 2025.

Thereafter, we will most likely begin drafting a comprehensive, model Bill for Assisted Dying that outlines clear definitions, strict eligibility criteria (e.g. an adult with a terminal or intractable illness causing unbearable suffering that has decision making capacity to make a voluntary choice free of coercion, and has the option of alternatives such as palliative care) and robust safeguards (e.g. multiple independent practitioner assessment co-ordinated from a hospital complex with access to expertise and ethics boards). This will demonstrate our commitment to a responsible, regulated process and can be the basis for engaging with and educating Members of Parliament.

In addition to these legal and legislative measures, we will engage in public advocacy with a view to addressing the concerns of those whose opposition is often rooted in ethical, religious, and cultural beliefs. Our approach includes a focus on:

Humanising the issue by sharing the stories and personal testimonies of South Africans who are terminally ill and wish to have the option of assisted dying. We are currently also building a cadre of diverse people who are willing and trained to advocate and speak up on behalf of our cause ongoingly.

In addition we have made significant strides in terms of engaging key stakeholders and beginning to build a coalition of understanding and support, beyond patients and their families that includes medical professionals, palliative care professionals and religious and community leaders.

Addressing the “slippery slope argument” that is founded on the fear that legalising assisted dying the terminally ill will lead to it being offered to a broader range of people and could become a substitute for proper care. To this end, we emphasise our support for strict safeguards and eligibility criteria in the proposed legislation and reference countries like Australia, Colombia, the USA, Canada and Belgium, where strict regulations have prevented such a scenario.

In conclusion, by focusing on dignity and autonomy, we emphasise that assisted dying is not simply ending life but empowering individuals who are facing unbearable suffering and would like to have the option, to be able to make a choice together with their loved ones about their own death.



## 5

# GROWING OUR ORGANISATION

## 5.1 OUR ADVISORY TRUSTEES

One of the first things that we set out to do this year was engage credible experts who can guide our growth and provide us with strategic input. To this end we are extremely grateful that the following people all accepted our invitation to support DignitySA in a non-fiduciary role as Advisory Trustees.

### JANET JOBSON



Janet is the CEO of the Desmond and Leah Tutu Legacy Foundation, where she drives their work on societal healing for peace and transformation. She joined the Foundation from a career in activism and in the development sector, both locally and globally. Previously, Janet was the Deputy CEO at the DG Murray Trust (DGMT). Janet has held governance roles and worked in various capacities with a range of organizations such as Activate! Leadership, Amandla.mobi, Life Choices, Amnesty International South Africa, CIVICUS, and the South African Girl Child Alliance.

### MARK HEYWOOD



Mark Heywood has over three decades of experience in civil society in South Africa. He has founded or co-founded some of the country's most respected civil society organisations, including the Treatment Action Campaign, Corruption Watch, SECTION27, the AIDS and Rights Alliance of Southern Africa (ARASA) and in 2019 Maverick Citizen, a new section of the Daily Maverick that focuses on activism and social justice. He still sits on the Board of several of these organisations and currently works as an independent social justice organiser, writer, researcher and freelance journalist.

## SEAN DAVISON



Sean is the co-founder of DignitySA as well as the Innocence Project, an organisation that sought to exonerate wrongfully imprisoned people on the basis of DNA testing that was not done at the time of their trial. As a result of his arrest and High Court trial in South Africa, he became an international campaigner for changes to the law regarding assisted dying under legally defined criteria and served for five years as president of the World Federation of Right-to-Die Societies. Formerly a Professor of Biotechnology at the University of the Western Cape, Sean currently resides in the UK with his family. He is the author of three books - *'Before We Say Goodbye'*, *'The Last Waltz: Love, Death & Betrayal'* and *'The Price of Mercy: A Fight for the Right To Die With Dignity'*.

## VUYA KABANYANE ILENGOU



Vuya is a seasoned brand and marketing leader with over 20 years of experience working across South Africa, East Africa, West Africa, and Europe. She has held senior management roles at Liberty, Old Mutual, and Telkom, where she built expertise in brand management, communications, and stakeholder engagement. After qualifying as a death doula, Vuya shifted her focus towards human advocacy, with a special interest in opening conversations around end-of-life across cultures. Since joining DignitySA, Vuya has helped us to develop our Brand and Communications Strategy, quickly standing out as a passionate and excellent spokesperson for the organisation.

## 5.2 OUR EXECUTIVE MEMBERS

DignitySA is ably led by a core team of volunteers who lend their credibility, networks and diverse skills to the organisation with great generosity.

### JOSEPH RAIMONDO



Associate Professor Joseph Raimondo is a neuroscientist and Head of the Division of Cell Biology at the University of Cape Town. He completed his medical degree at UCT and earned his DPhil in Neuroscience from the University of Oxford as a Rhodes Scholar.

### LYNNE GRUBB



Lynne has been at the forefront of South Africa's right-to-die campaign for many years together with her life partner, Dieter Harck, who initiated a legal campaign in 2018 seeking permission to access assisted dying lawfully. Lynne has considerable experience with death and dying having lost both her parents and her first husband to gruelling deaths. She has trained as a death doula and practiced as a caregiver for hospice.

### WILLEM LANDMAN



Professor Willem Landman is a co-founder of DignitySA, and was also the founding CEO of the Ethics Institute of SA (TEI, formerly EthicsSA). He holds degrees from the Universities of Stellenbosch, Oxford (where he studied on a South-Africa-at-Large Rhodes Scholarship), and South Africa (Unisa) in philosophy, political philosophy, theology and law. Willem was Chair of the Departments of Philosophy at the Walter Sisulu University (formerly Unitra) (1977-1982) and University of the Western Cape (1983-1994), professor of Medical Humanities in the Brody School of Medicine, University of North Carolina (1994-2000), and professor extraordinaire in the Department of Philosophy at the University of Stellenbosch (2000-2024). He co-edited *The Bioethics Reader: Editors' Choice* (2007) and co-founded and co-edited the international journal *Developing World Bioethics*. He was Ethics Advisor to the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, based in Geneva, chair of the PwC Ethics Board for Africa and the Middle East, and board member of the Institute of Directors (IoD).

### 5.3 OUR STAFF

Since inception in 2011, when DignitySA was co-founded by Professors Willem Landman and Sean Davison, the organisation has been entirely run by passionate volunteers. Thanks to a recent influx of funding and support we have been able to appoint the first two staff members in our history to date and it is a pleasure to introduce them to you here.

#### DAWID VAN DER MERWE



Dawid van der Merwe was an industrial engineer with degrees from Stellenbosch University and UNISA Business School. After a decade in the corporate world, he became a serial entrepreneur, founding the GardenArt franchise and later developed Mondeor Garden & Life, a lifestyle nursery and restaurant. Diagnosed with Parkinson’s disease in 2012, Dawid reinvented himself as a web designer and photographer. It was through this work that he connected with DignitySA. Struck by the inhumanity of once-powerful individuals stripped of purpose and dignity at life’s end, he joined the movement with passion. Today, he brings both his business acumen and personal journey to the DignitySA team to campaign for South Africans’ right to choose a dignified death.

#### LEIGH MEINERT



Leigh Meinert is a well-known social entrepreneur in Cape Town. She co-founded and led TSIBA Business School and, after 20 years spent working to make access to high quality education accessible to all, set out to see if she could apply her skills set to ease the passage of people at the end of their lives. In 2019, Leigh trained as a death doula and joined the Association of Palliative Care Centres (APCC) as their Advocacy Manager. During her 4 years there, Leigh was one of the core organising team members of the first collaborative Palliative Care conference that APCC co-hosted in Cape Town in 2023.

## 6

# FINANCIAL REPORT

### INCOME STATEMENT: MARCH TO AUGUST 2025

#### OPERATING INCOME

Donations	R 2,464,667.34
Interest Income	R 47,726.51
<b>Total for Operating Income</b>	<b>R2 ,512,393.51</b>

#### OPERATING EXPENSES

Accounting & Bank Fees	R 50,154.00
Conferences & Events	R 60,408.00
Human Resources	R 418,536.83
Legal Fees	R 489,957.50
Marketing & Website	R 108,772.42
Office Expenses	R 6,222.31
<b>Total for Operating Expenses</b>	<b>R 1,134,051.06</b>

#### OPERATING PROFIT/ LOSS

**R 1,348,342.45**



# 7 CONCLUSION

We are greatly encouraged by the support that we are receiving and, as a result, the progress that we have been able to make towards our goals.



*Increasingly it feels like our vision of a South Africa where all of us are supported through life's final journey is possible.*



It takes a village to realise this though and, in time we trust, that we will be able to look back with satisfaction knowing that, together, we helped to make history and ease the final passage for those who need it most.

We need ongoing support to fund our legal reform efforts, as well as our advocacy and partnership building work. Please help us by donating to our worthy non-profit and also by sharing this report with others who, like you, care about dignity, autonomy and compassion.

*Thank you.*





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