



Association for People with Disabilities –APD

Helping the disabled to reach their full potential

The organisation was established in 1937 by a group of concerned citizens who wanted to ensure that people with disabilities received appropriate medical care. Through their interactions, they realised that there was a greater need and developed a holistic approach to addressing their beneficiary's social circumstances. Recognising the huge need in outlying areas, the WCAPD now includes 26 branches across the Western Cape, supporting disabled individuals from birth to 60 years of age. The organisation's programmes have a common purpose to assist individuals access resources and opportunities that will elevate and greatly improve their quality of life. They advocate for the rights of people with disabilities including in relation to access to beaches and obtaining rebates on the importation of adapted vehicles.

Their programmes cover the following –

- Developmental social services
- Child care and education
- Work and employment
- Parent supporters
- Hambisela, peer supporters, youth development programmes
- Awareness campaigns
- A roll-in shop

Through their intervention, many people have become employed and others now have access to home based care. The neediest, have received mobility devices which obviously impacts dramatically on their level of independence. Support groups have been established to assist parents of children with disabilities to cope and take proper care of their children. In some cases children are able to attend Early Childhood Development centres and the parents are equipped to ensure that they are well taken care of. The WCAPD has also entered into a partnership with the University of Stellenbosch to support families that are affected by disability in some way.

These services cater for the vastly different needs of the beneficiaries and go a long way to ensuring that the individuals they support are able to achieve their full potential, dreams and goals.



ASSOCIATION FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

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