

20 OCTOBER 2019 is  
**HEALTHCARE SUNDAY**



**Perfecting the art of Christ-like Care**  
*Strengthening collaboration between the Church and Healthcare.*

# Your response as a Church to addicts.

Dear friends,

With Health Care Sunday we have a special opportunity to look at the role of the church in health care. Most churches do have a number of health care workers as members and they often play a role in the promotion of health in the church or help to care for the sick.

This year I want to focus on addiction and how it affects the church. Different types of addiction are sometimes found in the church, for example smoking and alcohol abuse. But there are other addictions which can be a pitfall for the Christian community such as gambling, pornography, excessive eating and illegal drugs. The use of weed or marihuana has been legalised recently in South Africa. What is the response or the answer of your congregation to the substance use in your community or among the youth of the church? Is substance use of weed, nyaope, heroine, tic or other drugs a problem in your community? Does it affect your church or your community and how? Have you a plan to show that as a Christian community you care and show compassion and bring hope?

This week I met with a man in hospital who has been addicted to illegal drugs for years and was begging on the streets of Pretoria. When he finally collapsed on the street, people called an ambulance

## FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION AND PRAYERS

With drug-related crimes taking place on a daily basis, and gang wars in some areas we need the Holy Spirit to move in power, to bring healing and change to broken lives.

For this to happen we need to be willing vessels through which the Holy Spirit can work! If we are praying for healing and change, this means we need to offer our bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God, so that He can work through us. Praying is the easy part! Surrendering my time, resources and gifts is where the real difficulty comes in.

*Let us pray for ourselves, for the Church and for the Christians of our country: That like the young women in the article by Dr Bac - we would be willing to surrender, to cross the road, make a phone call, give of our precious time, just to be "Jesus' hands and feet" to someone during their darkest hour.*



interest, compassion and brought Hope. After receiving ministry from her, he showed interest in starting a new life with his sister in another city.

This incident underlines the importance of church members taking a spiritual interest in suffering humanity.

Rescue those who are being taken away to

and he was admitted to hospital. Up to that time he had refused any help from COSUP (a harm reduction programme in Tshwane) or any other source. Now he was without drugs for 10 days, examined by a doctor and a social worker had traced his sister who was sitting beside his bed. To my joy there was a young woman from the Living Word Church congregation in Pretoria who showed

death; hold back those who are stumbling to the slaughter (Proverbs 24:11).

Warm greetings in Christ  
Dr Martin Bac,  
Family Physician

*Department of  
Family Medicine,  
University of Pretoria*

## PRAY FOR...

- **The Church**, to be Christ-like; joining hands with Healthcare to provide Home based Care that combines Primary Healthcare with Spiritual care.
- **The authorities** who have to develop strategies to control the use of substances.
- **The new Minister of Health** and the restoration of Healthcare in the country.
- **The Schools** to educate learners of the risks associated with using drugs, alcohol, gambling, pornography and excessive eating.
- **All people** who are in one way or another addicted to alcohol, drugs, gambling, porno, tobacco, excessive eating.
- **The parents and families** of people who are affected by drugs, alcohol, gambling, pornography and excessive eating.
- **The deliverance** of our people from these evil incursions into our communities and society as a whole.

# This pamphlet was prepared by the “Christian Healthcare Alliance” which consists of the following organizations.

## Community Health Evangelism

360 Transformation  
Mr Kevin Pippert  
Telephone:  
+27 76 053 3174  
Email:  
kevin@360.org.za

## Healthcare Christian Fellowship

Chairperson:  
Thembi Mngomezulu  
Telephone:  
+27 11 969 6751  
+27 81 591 9670  
Email:  
hcf@lantic.net  
or thembi@hcfglobal.org

## Christian Medical Fellowship

Dr Mfanelo Sobekwa  
Telephone:  
+27 84 242 0263  
Email:  
office@cmf.org.za

## Private Hospitals

Dr Tommy Gray  
Telephone:  
+27 12 998 8964  
Email:  
graypractice@global.co.za



# Christian Healthcare Alliance

## Hospivision

Dr Andre de la Porte.  
Email:  
friend@hospivision.org.za

## Campaign T.E.N. (The Exceptional Nurse campaign)

Pastoral Assistant:  
Mrs Tere Basson  
Telephone:  
+27 21 712 1218 (W)  
+27 21 712 8002 (H)  
Email:  
tere@connectchurch.org.za

## Hospivision - Western Cape:

Wanda de Jager  
Email:  
wanda@hospivision.org.za

## Institute for Christian Practitioners

Prof N.L. Joubert  
Telephone:  
+27 71 493 4543  
+27 11 827 7611  
Email:  
antoinette@icp.org.za

## Hospivision - Gauteng:

June Kriel  
Telephone:  
+27 12 329 9492  
+27 12 329 4420

**If you need someone to share in your church on this day, or need more information about the Alliance, please contact us.**