



CHURCH ALLIANCE FOR SOCIAL TRANSFORMATION (CAST) NPO



ANNUAL REPORT

2022



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	: CAST Voices Devotions	https://castvoices.wordpress.com/

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The Church Alliance for Social Transformation (CAST) is a registered **NPO (085-077 NPO)** operating in 10 communities in KZN with the mission to mobilize and align local churches to reach out with practical compassion to empower, transform and redeem communities.

Board of Trustees: John Benn, Peter Clark, Patricia Sibanyon

Board of Directors: Debbie Austwick, Marietjie Schulz (Chairperson), Neville Dunn (Treasurer), Terri Clapperton
Chris Lee, Andre Ludik, Sibusiso Mkhwanazi, Kercy Pillay, Emmanuel Zondi

CAST CHAIRPERSONS ADDRESS 2022-2023

Marietjie Shulz (Board Chairperson 2020 - 2022)



Change, like taxes, are unavoidable. The year leading up to 2022 was full of surprises and challenges. The CAST team, with the support of the Trustees and Home Ground Church, navigated the challenges very well. We, as a unit came out stronger together in our faith and believe that the Lord has laid a task on us to serve and deliver. The Lord will provide and not challenge us beyond what we can deliver. We may have been stretched, pulled, and shoved a little but the Lord is always with us, and saw us through.

I stepped down as chairperson and board member during the year after a period of deliberation and praying for guidance. By then, Debbie Austwick was a confirmed member of the Board and ready to take on the task of building up relationships with our partner churches and transforming communities through the CAST partner churches.

The year of 2022 came with major challenges to our local communities referred to as the floods in April. and the riots in June. The need for food, clothing, and shelter rocketed and CAST's reach went further than our partner churches.

We also provided services close to home. The international donor community heard our call for help, and the people of South Africa reached far and deep into their hearts and pockets to provide the necessary assistance financially, goods, services and emotional support.

With that said, CAST ended the year in a stronger financial position which in translated into a less stressful situation for the CAST team.

We want to thank our Trustees, Home Ground Church, volunteers and donors for making it possible for CAST to serve the communities and churches as tasked by our Lord our God.

My prayer for CAST is that we will continue serving the people of God's Kingdom as tasked by God.

- Marietjie Shulz



CAST CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORT

Debbie Austwick (Acting CEO)



As I look back at 2022, I do so with enormous gratitude and deep joy. On the departure of our Interim CEO, Nathan Wit, I found myself at the helm of a very large ship that we needed to turn, armed with a compass, a great crew and many questions.

When asking myself the question at the top of the list, 'How do you truly transform a community?', I found the answer resolutely within my spirit: 'Through the local church.' I believe whole-heartedly in the call of the local church to make an impact in the world. And there is a local church in EVERY community: the perfect vehicle to bring about the justice and peace of God into that part of the world.

Although this has always been the heart of CAST, we came to realise that over the years, unintentionally and regretfully, we had in many cases bypassed the local church and begun to run very effective programmes 'on their behalf' in the communities. When Covid hit, many of the programmes came to a screeching halt because of the lack of local church involvement.

In 2022, we set out to correct this: to restore and strengthen the relationships with our partner churches; and for us as CAST to not DO the work in the communities, but to empower and build capacity within the local church to be the doers. Thus began the process of turning around a moving ship.

Turning a ship is quite a process. It needs to happen slowly in fact the speed of a ship can reduce by 30-50% in its turning. It also needs to be well planned, carefully calibrated, and clearly communicated.

We started this turn with a focus on restoring, renewing and refreshing our relationships with our 10 partner churches. We spent a beautiful weekend away with leadership teams from our partner churches as we connected with one another and listened to God, asking for His direction for each of our churches and communities.

We have also placed an emphasis on our CAST Imbizos, where the churches in the CAST alliance come together for fellowship, learning, sharing and growth. These have most definitely been a highlight for me this year.

2022 also saw us revisiting our vision, mission, strategy and values; and starting the process of communicating that with our partner churches. Along this journey, God brought a beautiful partnership along our path in the form of The Warehouse, based in Cape Town. They have been a gift to us in many ways.

In light of the expected 'speed reduction' when turning a ship, it is still remarkable to think back over ALL that has happened in 2022: new partnerships and networks; new programmes; and many, many lives that have been impacted and changed.

To the CAST board and Trustees who have helped steer this ship; to the incredible CAST staff who have bravely and resiliently persevered through rough seas; to our donors who have faithfully supported us and kept us afloat; and to our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ, who is our ultimate Captain THANK YOU!

I am so grateful for (and extremely overwhelmed by) all God has done in 2022. And the great news is that ships do turn. They are designed to turn. We are excited to see our CAST ship fully turned and moving full steam ahead in the years to come.

- Debbie Austwick



SPECIAL EVENTS REPORT

George Mwaura (PR & Fundraising)

2022 was sadly quite another hard year for us at CAST. We could not have imagined that coming out of Covid-19 there was another disaster looming. The April floods had a significant impact on our planned events for the year. There was an urgent need to immediately respond to so many affected families. We were truly overwhelmed by the support we received from not only KZN but as far as Johannesburg in our efforts to serve those affected. Below are our fundraising events we were able to organize to rally and unite our community for a common cause.

Highway Mail Car-boot Sale Market - (May)

CAST and Highway Mail teamed up to host a Car Boot Sale Market at the Home Ground Church parking. The aim of the event was to bring the community together to heal after the impact of the floods. We received incredible support from local newspaper publishers, the Caxton Highway Mail, in publicizing the event and allowing us to share impact stories from our recipients. We had a tremendous group of vendors sign up with all the allocated trading spots sold out. The community came in great numbers to support the vendors and the event allowed us to raise much-needed funds to reach more people.



Mandela Day (July)

CAST was able to run a campaign in July for Mandela Day in aid of the Imananjalo Creche. The creche is run by Chibini Baptist Church, a partner of CAST in one of our rural sites. A group of four women support the creche through volunteering their time and don't receive any payment apart from the food parcel assigned to them by the church.

Following the pandemic, the number of children has increased as they have registered 35 children. The creche is not yet funded by the government. They expressed the need for children's mattresses, blankets and food. We really appreciate all those who gave generously that enabled us to not only buy enough mattresses and blankets but also provide the needed food supplies.

Hidden Treasure Charity Shop Expansion (August)

The Hidden Treasure Charity shop was setup in 2019 to help raise additional funds for CAST outreach programs and to support the missionaries of Home Ground Church. Since its inception, the shop has done very well in providing needed funds to sustain the organization, especially during the pandemic. We owe it to the amazing volunteers who give their time generously to run the shop and have forged a great relationship with the customers and the community. As a result of so much donations coming through, the shop had to move next door to a much bigger space in August and are fortunately able to operate at the same location at Salamanca Centre on Maryvale Road in Westville.



Mariannridge Primary School Mosaic - 'together we are stronger' (August)

The community of Mariannridge was one of the most affected by the floods earlier in the year with many families left homeless. CAST works in partnership with Kingdom Connect Ministries led by Pastor Wayne Thring to support the community, including the local school. Our friends from 'Piece Project Mosaics' wanted to do something with the local school to uplift learners as schools resumed. CAST facilitated the consultations with the church and school to be able to create a beautiful mosaic with the words "Together We are Stronger". The positioning of the Mosaic near the entrance of the school was critical in ensuring that this welcomed learners and teachers as they arrived each day. The principal said it has really encouraged unity and collaboration among the teachers and learners.



Golf Day - September

Our annual Golf Day Fundraiser took place again at the Kloof Country Club. We were able to host 110 golfers with 40% participating for the first time. The prize-giving evening presented us with the opportunity to share the good news of Jesus through a testimony by Steve Cooper. We also offered "The Mulligan" book, a true story book written by Wally Armstrong, a golfer who found Jesus on the golf course. We offered the books for free to any golfers who took the challenge from Steve to come forward and grab a copy. We gave out 27 copies that we had available with requests for more.





Grove Beyond Charity - September

CAST hosted an evening of music at Home Ground Church for the community. It was a great evening for people to learn more about CAST, relax, and enjoy great music. We were so blessed by the musicians from Home Ground Church that provided great music and donated their time and talent to make the event a success. CAST is truly grateful for everyone who came through and graced the event.



Christmas Market - November

When we ran the Car Boot Sale earlier in May, we had such an overwhelming request from both vendors and the community to host another one. While some wanted us to do monthly markets, we opted to do a Christmas Market at the end of November. On the morning of the market, the weather did not play along and it started to pour heavily with rain. This did not dampen the event as we hosted more than 80 traders and were able to accommodate them all in the main church sanctuary and the side halls at Home Ground Church. The community showed up in great numbers to the event and really made it a huge success.

Feed a Family Campaign

Each year before Christmas, CAST runs a campaign appeal for support to reach more people in the communities we serve. We had noticed throughout the year, that the demand for food was not declining as a result of the floods. We never want to create dependency through our food parcel program and therefore, we ensure only the most needy families get the food. During the campaign, the goal was to feed 600 families during Christmas. We were able to secure funding to provide 528 food buckets, each feeding a family of four. It was incredible to be able to feed more families and share the Christmas spirit with them.

We cannot under-estimate the amount of work that goes into putting together such events, but the value to the organization is great as we were able to raise funds, create awareness, share about our work, recruit new volunteers/donors and celebrate those we serve.

- George Mwaura



RELIEF SERVICES REPORT

Sandy Reid (Relief Programmes)



Floods

2023 will be remembered for the year floods caused so much damage in Kwa-Zulu Natal. CAST and Home Ground Church joined hands and converted the youth centre at the church to a disaster centre. Our initial plan was to help the Westville community and the 9 church communities which CAST supports. By the end of the first day, we realised there was such widespread destruction in so many communities, we decided to help as many communities as possible. In the end, we assisted in 37 communities and assisted hundreds of walk-ins. We opened the disaster centre with 30 food parcels and a few winter coats, but really believed Father God would provide. We put the word out to church members and the community that we were needing water, food and clothing. For the next 39 days, we had a constant flow of donations and requests for assistance. We saw the youth centre full and empty every day. Father God really did provide.

It was truly devastating to see the destruction in so many communities and so many lives lost. Amongst this, it was amazing to see churches and communities open their doors to assist and provide shelter and food. We had the privilege of working with churches we had never worked with and to see the impact they were having in the communities. Many of the communities were without electricity and water, and roads were washed away which made communication and drop offs of supplies so difficult. Our initial assistance was to help with the basic daily needs and as time went on, we were able to help with the rebuilding of homes and provide furniture and household items. We did not limit our donations to just food and water as we realised people had lost everything so needed help with so much. The donation of items to the disaster centre really helped so many people who had lost so much. We were able to pray with every family we visited and provide the spiritual support they needed.



We are so grateful to those who donated money, time, home cooked meals, mattresses, furniture, and goods during this time. We could never have had the impact we had without the amazing support of businesses, shops, families, churches, schools and individuals. We were grateful to Container World for the use of a container to store donations as they came in, and Dustin from The Great Supply who regularly provided 1000L containers of water for the communities. As always, amongst so much destruction, there are some beautiful stories.

Sadly, a year later many homes are not rebuilt as the floods washed away the land and the community members are waiting for land allocation. The churches and CAST will continue to support where we can.

So many people were struggling with the trauma of the floods, so CAST facilitated the Sinxolo Trauma Counselling Workshops, developed by The Warehouse, with church partners and leaders. We quickly realised that so many South Africans have so many layers of deep trauma, and the floods were just another layer of trauma, and are needing ongoing support. These trauma workshops will continue in 2023.

Since the floods, CAST has attended several disaster workshops and has joined the eThekweni disaster response group made up of other NPO's and churches. This group is working together to respond to disasters in a coordinated way to ensure bigger impact in all communities and to prevent duplication.





Flood Relief in KwaNdengezi

Home Ground Church has a pre-school on the premises, and on the second day after the floods, one of the staff members, Princess, had still not come to school. A CAST staff member, George, knew where she stayed and decided to go see if Princess was okay only to find the access road had been washed away and many of the houses surrounding her had also been washed away with the family members in the house. George had to go by foot through large boulders and rubble to find Princess and her family who were safe, but so traumatised.

George knew the needs of the community were so enormous and it was not just about helping with food parcels or water, so asked Princess to link him with her Pastor. This was when CAST was introduced to Pastor Msomi from KwaNdengezi Local Church who truly is a man of God. Pastor Msomi shared the stories of what the community experienced during the flood and took us to meet the families who lost so much during the floods. CAST was able to support them with food, blankets, clothes and building of homes.

A group of farmers from Newcastle heard about the floods in KZN and travelled down with a team laden with items for the families who had lost so much. The church was so grateful for the support during such a difficult time. Pastor Msomi attended the Sinxolo Trauma Workshop and learnt ways to support the families in the community and how the church can be a light and safe place for those suffering from trauma. We really saw CAST aligning with the church for social transformation.





Farming God's Way

CAST was given the amazing privilege to do the voice overs for the isiZulu version of the Farming God's Way training videos. One of the CAST staff members, Bongani Mkhize, was chosen to do the voice over, and it was a great learning experience for him and the CAST team.

Bongani went on to complete his training with the KZN Farming God's Way group and then attended the training in Port Elizabeth at the Farming God's Way model garden at Grass Roots. The Farming God's Way training videos, can be found at www.farming-gods-way.org. We are really excited for 2023 to see this rolled out in the communities.



Food parcels

Every year we pray this is the year we can decrease the need for food parcels but, with the long-term effects of COVID-19, unemployment, and then so many people losing so much during the floods, there was a constant need for food in 2022. We continued to distribute food through the church and to not just provide physical food but also ministry and spiritual support.

We ensure the food parcel meets the basic food needs for a family and ideally, each family set up a vegetable garden to provide for the additional needs. We have appreciated the support from Send Relief, Abacus and many donors and volunteers who have supported the food parcel programme. At the end of the year, we ran a Feed a Family fund raiser and we so appreciate everyone who supported this and those who helped pack and deliver the food parcels.

We supplied to the church's 3 900 food parcels which fed 18 720 people. This excludes the individual food packs of a variety of food we helped with during the floods.



Clothing Ministry

Every quarter, CAST received a donation of clothing from Retailability who supply clothing stores all over South Africa. The donations are sample clothing of which some are torn, and some are in perfect condition. We have an amazing team of volunteers who help us sort the clothes. The torn clothes are distributed to the sewing groups at the CAST partner churches.

The sewing groups fix the clothes and sell them and the money raised supports the sewing groups e.g. ensure sewing machines are serviced, buy new needles and oil, buy material for projects. The clothes that are not torn are sold in the Hidden Treasure Charity Shop that supports CAST, sold on market days in the community to raise funds for the churches, and are packaged into sales bags.

The sales bags are sold through the CAST partner churches to individuals in the community who will sell the items in the sales bags. The money made from the sales bags may help with supporting their business or to help them buy the basic needs of the family. This clothing donation has been a great blessing to CAST, our partner churches and the community.



Impact Story

Sam runs an upholstery business on the veranda of his house in Chesterville. Sam was really struggling financially to purchase the material and tools for his business. West City Fellowship in Chesterville, who partner with CAST, were able to provide a sales bag for Sam. Sam sold the clothes in the sales bag and was able to buy material and tools. Sam was then able to do the upholstery work and bring in a stable income for him and his extended family. The sales bag just gave him that initial capital to get his business up and running.

- Sandy Reid

CHURCH IMPACT REPORTS



HOME GROUND CHURCH

2022 was a great year for Home Ground Church and CAST as our relationship and partnership continued to strengthen. We have seen new volunteers connecting with CAST and a general greater awareness and buy-in from the church towards CAST initiatives. The CAST offices and warehouse relocated to the central church offices, which was a great physical depiction of this continually unifying relationship. We are so excited about CAST's beautiful office space and invite you to come and visit (if you haven't already).

After the flooding in April, CAST and Home Ground joined together in full force as we converted the Youth Centre at our church into a relief warehouse. The community of Westville was absolutely incredible in their responsiveness to the disaster we were all facing. We had volunteers coming through with shovels and spades, helping restore roadways, removing mud and rubble from people's homes; others with mops and cloths, cleaning up the mess. Donations of food, water, clothing, and household items filled the Youth Centre for 6 weeks solid. As quickly as it came in, it went out, and more came in. It was beautiful to see many of the churches of Westville working together with CAST to support other communities through other local churches. We were overwhelmed by- and say THANK YOU for this incredible generosity!!!

Home Ground hosted a number of fund-raising initiatives for CAST, including a fun musical night out called Groove Beyond Charity; 2 incredible market days that brought many vendors and loads of people from the community together; and the Feed-a-Family campaign that we ran at Christmas time where we managed to raise funds for 518 food parcels for CAST's other partner churches to distribute.

Lastly, CAST has been working with the churches of Westville to develop a ministry to job seekers. Through their guidance and the work of the combined churches in the community, we plan to launch a ministry in January of 2023 called 'Vulindlela', which means 'open the way' in isiZulu. We are so grateful to God for the partnership we have with CAST, and for the way God has used CAST so profoundly over this year. We look forward to the future together.

- Pastor Debbie Austwick
Home Ground Church

EDAMINI BAPTIST CHURCH

The community of Edamini faces challenges of: a lack of youth resilience, teenage pregnancy and drug and alcohol abuse. Edamini Baptist Church has worked to address these issues by forming youth alliances to start a youth service, motivating them to go to school, morning prayers, and school monitoring classes.

In 2022, through CAST, we have also been able to implement a gardening programme, sell clothes and provide to those in need, and help people open small businesses.

We invite families from outside the Church to attend Sunday services. After receiving the Word of God, we give them food parcels donated by CAST for their physical well-being. We encourage these families to start their own food gardens to sell and sustain themselves.

- Nokuthula Sibisi
Edamini Baptist Church



CHIBINI BAPTIST CHURCH

In 2022, we supported 30 needy families with food parcels supplied by CAST every month. The church generated money from clothing 'sales bags' donated through CAST. The money from these clothing sales was used to add fencing around our church and buy approximately 200 blocks to finish building our outside kitchen. We have managed to save some money to equip the church with wiring.

Unemployment and teenage pregnancy are the biggest challenges in the community of Chibini. As the church, we have tried to encourage the people to participate in our church programmes in partnership with CAST, like gardening and sewing, where they can learn skills to help them generate an income. The church provides the space and volunteers to help in these ministries.

Food parcels have become a great help to our church members and community at large, especially to those who are currently unemployed.

- Pastor Amos Khumalo

Senior Pastor
Chibini Baptist Church



REDEEMED BAPTIST FAMILY CHURCH

In 2022, we had many highlights with CAST. We continued to do farming in our garden and trained a team that worked in the garden. The food that was produced helped to fund our church children's ministry and some was sold to the community.

Another highlight was receiving the 'sales bags' of clothing which helped the church and some members to generate money to support their families and some also got clothing that they could use. The church used some of the money to finish building our toilets and showers. We had a group of ladies that were sewing in our church. Twelve of these ladies were trained to design aprons and dresses. Some of their products were sold at the CAST Christmas Market at Home Ground Church.



CAST assisted us in helping two needy families in building and repairing their houses:

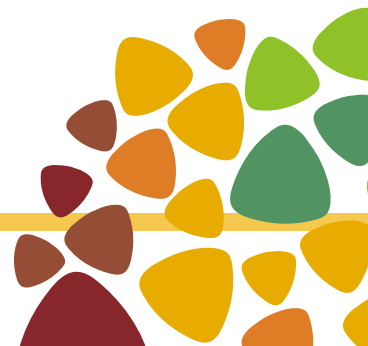
A) Silindile Mchunu who lives with 6 children was helped to add more rooms to the 2-room house they had. Silindile Mchunu is our church member, and she is very useful in our church. She is in the team of the ladies who come early every Sunday to cook food for our children in the church. We are so glad that God, with the help of CAST, blessed her with the blocks and cement to build her one room.

B) Thabile Mkhwanazi, who is also from our church, lives with her 2 children and she is not working. She was also helped by plastering her 2-room house. Her house is now safe from water that could penetrate the wall since, her house was built by stones. We are happy for her. Thabile is also one of the ladies that are trained in sewing from our church.

The biggest challenges we have in our area is unemployment, fatherlessness and children living with only gogos (grandmothers) and mkhulus (grandfathers). Each month, we were able to support 30 families with food parcels and clothing donated to CAST.

- Pastor Ephraim Mzobe

Senior Pastor
Redeemed Baptist Family Church



ESIKHAWINI BAPTIST CHURCH

CAST supported the Church by supplying food parcels where we had to reach out to the community and see the need of people within the community, especially in families with no income. We did home visits with members of CAST and it became clear how much people are struggling and how traumatized they are. Some go to bed with empty stomachs. But since we started, we have been trying to alleviate that and people have been testifying that the programme has changed their lives.

We also received clothing from CAST that has outstandingly met the needs of many and helped the church with fundraising.

The biggest problem that we identified in our community is unemployment. We have a lot of young and old people who are not working. We encourage them to start small businesses and organize classes for them to learn and be able to sustain themselves.

Another challenge in our community is child-headed families, where there are only children and no adults. We encourage members of the Church who have businesses, and members who are staying alone to adopt those kids or give them work so that they can better their situation.

Thirdly, we have a lot of school drop-outs in our communities. Some are still school-going age so we encourage them to go back to school and attend short courses to empower them and enable them to find work.



The Church has participated by outsourcing food parcels to supplement what CAST is giving because sometimes we run out of food parcels, so we encourage the Church members and leadership to bring food that we distribute. Through the Church's partnership with CAST, we've managed to renovate one of the family's houses that was in a very bad condition and leaked water through the roof when it rained. The house also only had 2 rooms that was shared by the parents and their kids, where the kids were sleeping in the kitchen/sitting room area. We managed to replace the roof, plaster and paint the house. All 5 family members also started coming to church.

When we took shoes donated by CAST to the schools, they were so excited asking where it comes from.

I pray that God can help CAST to get more sponsors to help us reach larger communities. We look forward to 2023 where we can reach another level of impacting our community. We are grateful to God for our partnership with CAST.

- Pastor Gideon Mahlakoane
Esikhawini Baptist Church



KINGDOM CONNECT MINISTRIES

The leadership of KCM are committed to the CAST programmes. I've been involved with CAST for many years and continue to believe in the programmes that CAST has to bring about transformation within our community and, as the leadership of KCM we are committed to CAST and its programmes because we have seen the fruits of those programmes.

The greatest challenge in Mariannridge, in my opinion, has to be the challenge of crime and drug abuse. We've had a number of house break-ins, people being held up at gun point and recently, we've had lives lost where people have been murdered in the community and much of this is also drug-related.

In 2022, two of the most impactful programmes certainly has to be: the Sinxolo trauma workshops and homework club at the primary school undertaken by facilitators and volunteers from KCM and CAST.

In our trauma workshop, we had 11 females and 1 male participating. One of the highlights is a woman who had an incident where her family were killed in a candle accident. When the candle was introduced in the workshop, she broke down because nobody knew that she had been carrying this trauma for many years but, in that trauma workshop, she received her healing. We are looking at continuing the trauma workshops in the new year.

The homework club has also been a highlight where one of the mothers expressed joy and gratitude at seeing her child who was struggling at school now blossoming because of the assistance that he was receiving through our volunteers particularly in the area of mathematics.

I want to express a big thank you to each and everyone who has participated and helped in these programmes. My encouragement to you is: don't stop. Thank you.

- Pastor Wayne Thring

Senior Pastor
Kingdom Connect Ministries

MELITHA BAPTIST CHURCH

CAST has been so helpful to most of our community residents in many ways, particularly with food parcels that we receive every month, as our community is going through unemployment devastation.

Drug abuse is one of the tremendous challenges that we are currently facing which has led to an increase in the crime rate and youth leaving their homes and residing on the street.

Volunteering

Most of the youth in our church are unemployed graduates. They had the opportunity to gain work experience through volunteering in CAST programmes which assisted in gaining employment by the Municipality as fieldworkers to conduct the National Census in 2022.

Capacitating Church Leadership

2022 was a particularly profitable year for our church leadership. We had a chance to gather all church department leaders & church executive committee members for a very profound and insightful leadership workshop that was hosted at Melitha and led by the CAST team.

Food donations

At the end of the year, in addition to food parcels, we received boxes of biscuits from CAST that we distributed to the elderly residents of our community. They were so excited that they would have something to share with their grandchildren during the Christmas season.

House Renovation

One of our members, Nonhlanhla Bhengu, has been assisted by CAST in repairing her roof and windows which positively impacted her family.

Clothing

The donation of clothing that we received from CAST had a big impact in our church and community members, especially during Christmas time.

Trauma Training

Our church representatives attended the Sinxolo Trauma Workshop facilitated by CAST, which they shared with the church congregations. The same platform of training gave Nolwazi Ngubane an opportunity where she received an invite from Ps. T Makhari to share some teachings with the youth of Zoe Worship Tabernacle.

- Pastor Gugu Thusini

Melitha Baptist Church



KWANDENGEZI LOCAL CHURCH REPORT

We thank God immensely for bringing us in partnership with CAST last year. CAST came at a tough time where people had lost hope after the floods. CAST assisted us in bringing hope back in the community. There was a time CAST leadership came, we travelled all around the area, saw broken homes and people had lost their valuables.

Flood Relief

We went around assessing the damage in the place where we preach. After that, our relationship grew and they were able to assist us with clothing, blankets and food, and we were able to share it with the community. There was a time in the church that they brought a donation for 50 people, and we were able to assist 10 members of the church and 40 other families in the community. The people thanked God and asked, "Bab Msomi, what have we done to God? First of all, we do not attend your church, what made you come to us? What have we done to God because, people of today only assist their friends? They assist people who attend the same church. Others, they do not care about us."

We thank God because there are people who have continued coming to Church because they see this as their home. They were not preached upon, but they saw the actions of God using the Church through CAST. A day I will never forget, just on the other side of the area, there is a hall which the flood victims had been accommodated by the Councillor. It happened that they had run out of food, and so they said that they had heard we receive food parcels and asked for assistance. CAST was able to supply food parcels. We thank God also for the leadership that we work with, because when we received the donations, we did not keep it to ourselves and think it's only for the people who attend church, but it also reached other families. We assessed who desperately needed the help and we passed it on to them.

Flood Rebuilding

CAST asked us to identify the most damaged homes in our community. In our midst, we identified 7 homes. After an assessment, CAST then gave the funding to rebuild the homes. Each home received a monetary donation for the rebuild. Some congregants have started rebuilding. We thank God that He saw our congregants were suffering and touched CAST to support our community.



Sinoxolo Trauma Counselling Programme

We have also gained knowledge and skills about trauma from the Sinoxolo Trauma Counselling workshop. The training helped us to not just visit people and pray for them, but to care for them.

Sometimes, it happens that you speak to a victim but not really see how deep the pain is. If you want to see how hurt a person is, do not rush to the conclusion and tell them what to do. You must listen and allow the victim to speak and tell you all the pain he's feeling. When someone shares their pain, you are able to see the vulnerability which comes from his/her own words. They also taught us that, in the mind, there is the Amygdala which is affected by trauma and can impact a person's memory, mood and reactions. We learnt that there are many people walking around with trauma. They say that others have headaches, some disabled, therefore we need training to start the courses at the Church. Another thing I learnt is that, within the church, there has to be a Green Space. A Green Space, the way they taught us, is a place where one can trust that I can speak about my issues and not regret it the next day. The Church has to allocate a Green Space. A Green Space is not physical, it's a place where one is touched in the soul and the heart. Know that there's a place where they can vent. It has to be a place that one knows, "if I go there, I'll get help."

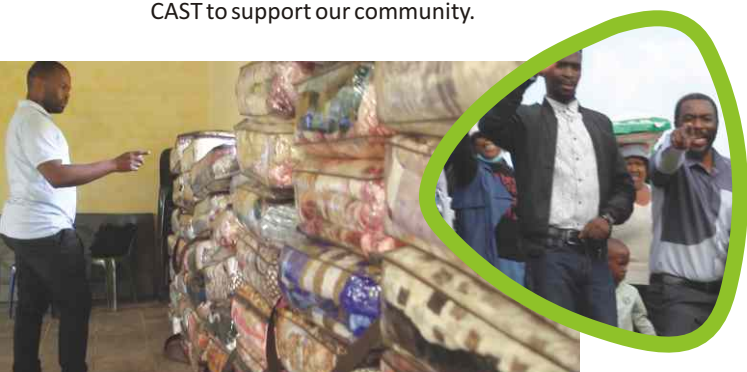
Lastly, we thank you very much for showing us love, even when we were out of water, our pipes had burst, you sent us pallets of water. We were able to drink, cook, bath. The work ahead of us is massive but we thank that God for trusting you and that He is seen in the work that we do together. To us, it's a privilege. We see God through you. Thank you very much. God Bless you.

- Pastor Strydom Msomi

Senior Pastor

KwaNdengezi Local Church

(Transcribed and translated from an interview with Pastor Msomi)



KWADABEKA BAPTIST CHURCH

In 2022, the CAST food parcel ministry and clothing donations had the biggest impact in our church, especially for families who have lost their breadwinners and/or jobs due to Covid-19, floods and looting. The clothing donations have also helped us in assisting the needy through giving surplus clothes to poor families. The volunteers that have helped to sort those clothes for sales also received a little stipend to keep them going.

Poverty, unemployment, lack of right family structure, teenage pregnancy and alcohol abuse continue to be the greatest challenges in our community. It is our hope to develop programmes in the near future in conjunction with CAST to help address most of these issues.

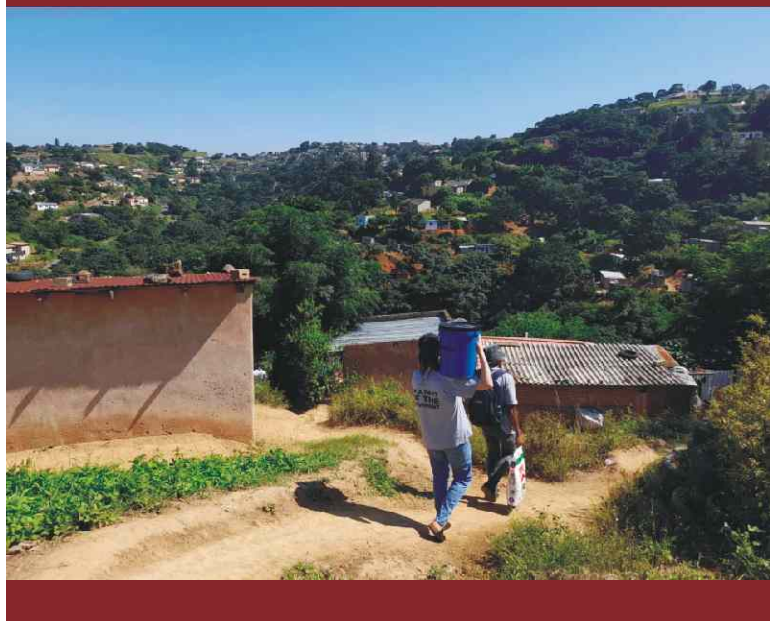
CAST helped us to assist families by supplying building material to repair their home structures. This made their everyday life a lot easier, and their self-esteem improved. As a result, they serve in the church with more enthusiasm and confidence.

Some recipients of food parcels have since started to fellowship with us on a regular basis. It is our hope that Christ will win their hearts and they will also serve Him sincerely with or without those food parcels.

- Pastor Sibusiso Ndlovu

Senior Pastor

KwaDabeka Baptist Church



CORNERSTONE COMMUNITY CHURCH

Post-pandemic it's been a challenge for us a community. It's not just been post-pandemic, we had other challenges we had to deal with, post-flood and looting. KZN had been hit with all of those issues and Phoenix was at the core of the looting. When all of these things happened, the Church became the central focus of helping to diffuse and to help the communities.

The way CAST has come on board with other partnerships, various other stakeholders and NGOs to help during the looting time and floods with food parcels, clothing, and other means of helping people that could get them back to a sense of normality. It's not easy when people are not in a place of normality. People are still reeling from Covid, the pandemic, then looting and floods which really impacted our communities and so people had been very challenged and going through so much in their lives and households. CAST and other NGOs helped us to become more relevant and reach out deeper into the community because, in our own capacity, we might not have had all the resources that helped us reach the community and be impactful.

When we needed wheelchairs for people that needed help, CAST came on board. There are people that walk into Church that are so desperate for food. In our community we have challenges with the different religions - we have Hindus, Muslims and Christians, and a lot of the non-Christian people are coming into the Church.

Through the Food Parcel programme, we are helping them, reaching out to them, giving them the Gospel, praying with them. We've had so many people come and say, "we're starving", "we need assistance", "we need help". These programmes have really helped our people. Thanks to those who have a heart for the Gospel, and a heart for the community. The CAST team has done well. There are lives that are continuing with hope because of the impact of these partnerships that we have.

We are very thankful for all the sponsors and donors that have come on board to help, especially in this time of need. The assistance from CAST has helped the Church to become a visible Church making an impact and reaching the community. God Bless, keep up the good work.

- **Pastor Clement Moses**

Senior Pastor
Cornerstone Community Church

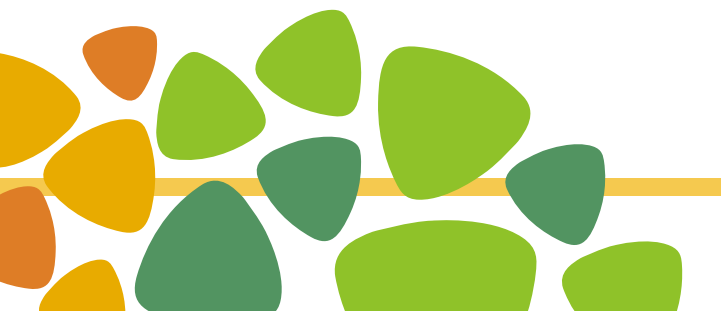


WEST CITY FELLOWSHIP

In 2022, the CAST programs that greatly benefitted our community of Chesterville was the food parcel and clothing ministries. This is due to the economic decline and increasing unemployment which has led to people going to bed with little food. The congregation support CAST's initiatives and the recipients are very grateful to be blessed with these essential items.

- **Pastor Kerby Pillay**

Senior Pastor
West City Fellowship



WORSHIP CENTRE CHURCH

Last year, in April, we had the flooding and CAST came to help the Church and the members providing food parcels. It was a very quick response from CAST to the Church members and the community who lost everything.

CAST responded with not only food, but also clothing, bedding, and shoes. It was a big blessing to the Church, and the community. The help from CAST encouraged us and we felt that we are not alone. The Church members were very happy. They felt that they also belong to the Body of Christ.

- Pastor Yamungu Munga



CAST provided funding for our Sewing Project. Our Church is located in Umbilo where we have so many street people and people who are hopeless. We were trying to decide, what can we do to impact this community and also the members of our Church who are both foreigners and South African citizens? So we introduced the Sewing Project. Our prayer was, "where are we going to get the funds to achieve our goal?"

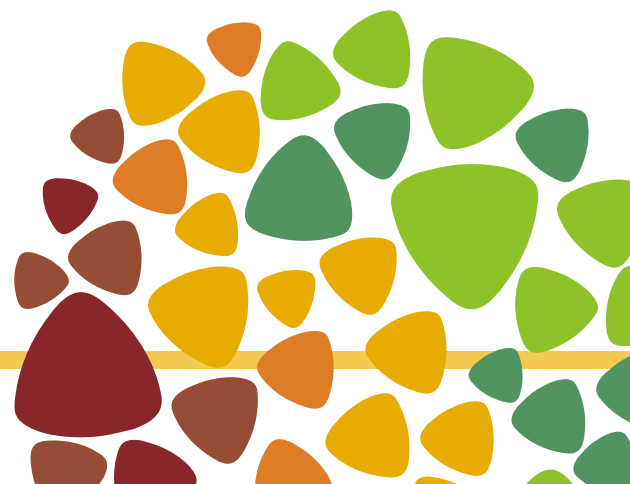
Through our relationship with CAST, we received funds, some sewing machines, fabric, and other material to train our five church members. We were very thankful, because it really came at the right time when we were struggling with how we can build the skills of the hopeless people we have in our church.

We've just finished the 3 months of the project, and we are hoping again to find support to continue, because 3 months is not enough time for them to learn and develop their skills.

We do have another project called, Table of Restoration, which we have linked with our Sewing Project. While sharing a meal, we identify the needs of the people and why they are living on the streets and welcome them to Church. When those people come, they see the impact of the training. We explained to them the love of God and showed them that through God, anything is possible. We encouraged them to develop skills to support their family and people around them, and they can preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

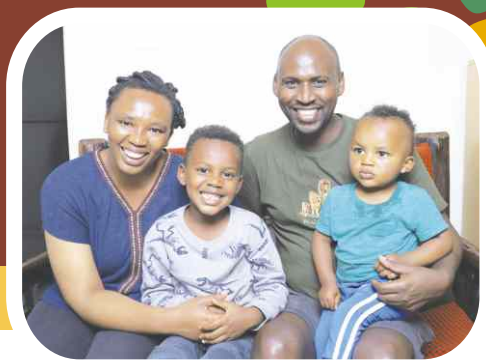
Thank you so much CAST for all your goodness, all your support.

- Butunga Bibimba Mufaune
Worship Centre Church



CAST KENYA REPORT

Joseph Bode (Executive Director)



Firstly, I want to give our Father God all the praises He deserves! He has provided us wisdom to make decisions, strength to serve His people, and resources to be able to be part of His grander mission through our ministry, CAST-Kenya. The past year had its highs and lows, but here are key points I would like to share with you..

CAST Kenya - Ministry

The year 2022 is the year I would call 'Trusting God for the Impossible'. If I recall well, the first quarter of the year was really challenging! We were at a bad place financially and almost anticipating a shutdown of some of our operations. As we approached April, we had already exhausted most of the little reserves we had in our accounts! Then, the impossible happened! At the beginning of May, funds started trickling in from various donors.

As at the end of 2022, I still can't comprehend how we managed to raise over seven million Shillings (approximately one million Rand). The donated funds covered all our needs and there was some extra. When I saw the figure after auditing, I had to confirm with the auditor if, by any chance, he had made a mistake in tallying. The auditor just told me that it seems I was not keeping track of the funds that were coming through. He was right! For the first time, as an organization, we had surplus funds that we could use to weather us through January to April in the New Year!

As I write this, I am fully convinced that nothing is impossible with our God! He remains faithful for those of us, who remain faithful to His Call. I know money may not be the best way to tell the success of an organization, but this 'Miracle of Numbers' tells it all! I would like to say thank you to all of you who prayed and supported CAST- Kenya in 2022.

With the funding we received, we managed to make a difference in the lives of many fellow Kenyan people. Through our Food Relief Programme, we distributed 2000 food hampers to 10,245 people benefiting directly.

Using our Local Economic Development programme, we trained 948 at different course levels. Out of this number, we assisted 11 entrepreneurs with grants to start new businesses or boost ones that already existed. We also managed to get some extra training kits to help us expand the programme.





For the year 2023, we are again trusting God for the impossible - we need to raise 10 million Shillings, for our Programmes and Operations. We ask you to please prayerfully consider partnering with us in prayer and support.

Our Sending Church - Home Ground Church

Our family (The Bodes) would like to send our heartfelt gratitude to the Home Ground Church family. Your continuous prayers and financial support has enabled us not to worry about our needs as a family. Your support has carried us through since 2018 to date! Your love remains evident because it is backed by action. We would not be where we are without your unfailing support! Again, we want to say a big thank you! Our prayer is that God would continue blessing you abundantly as you continue supporting our family and many other missionaries' families across the world.

I also wish to thank each and every family that has really rallied behind us with their financial support and many others that may consider joining us in this journey.

CAST South Africa

CAST South Africa, we really appreciate all the prayers, wise counsel, and moral support you bestow on us! Whenever, we shout out for help, you guys are always available to assist.

Our weekly online devotion with the CAST SA team is the highlight for us! We enjoy the fellowship, spending time in the Word, praying for each other, sharing successes and challenges, and so on. This fellowship builds us up and motivates us to serve with enthusiasm!

As our sister organization, we will always treasure your support as a younger sibling in this field. Thank you CAST South Africa for standing and journeying with us in the past year. We will continue praying for you as you pray for us.

- Joseph Bode



FINANCIAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

Neville Dunn (Treasurer)

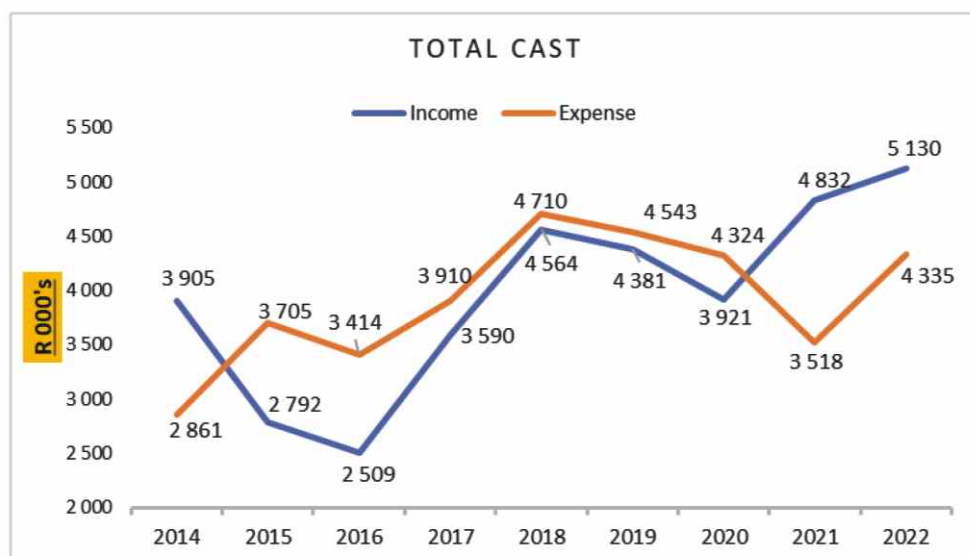
CAST continued to consolidate operationally and financially in 2022. The decision to focus on relief whilst rebuilding CAST's capabilities and relationships proved a good one. After the trauma of riots and looting in 2021, Kwa-Zulu Natal was devastated by flooding in 2022. The organisation was well placed, with a leaner more focused team to make a big impact in or partner communities.

Financially, CAST had another good year. Income grew 6%, fixed running costs decreased 6% and direct programme costs more than doubled to R1,7million. This resulted in CAST posting a surplus of R795k for the year.

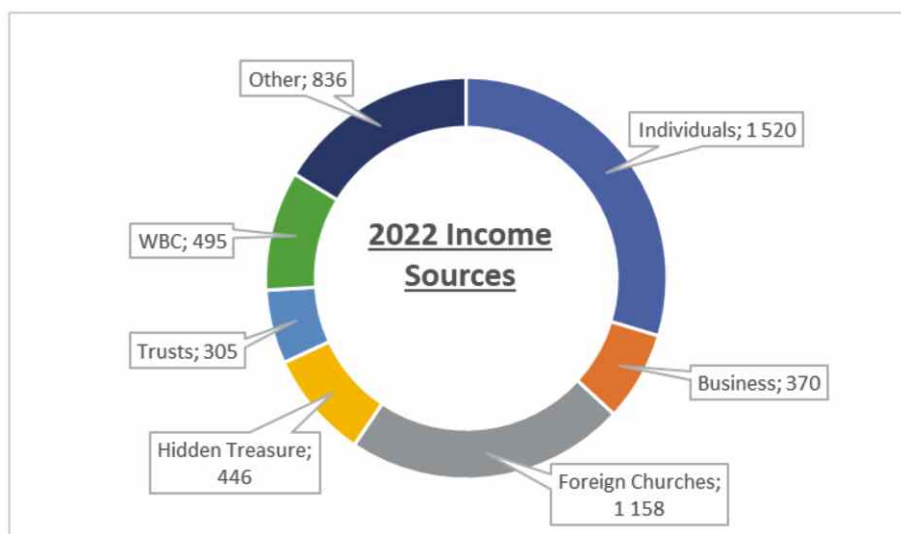
Summarised Income Statement for the year ended 31 December 2022

	2022			2021	Growth
	Designated Funds	General Funds	Total	Total	
Income	2 218	2 912	5 130	4 832	298
Expenses	2 276	2 059	4 335	3 531	804
Personnel Costs			1 672	2 126	-454
Programme Costs			1 743	775	968
Other Operating Costs			920	630	290
Net (Deficit) / Income	-58	853	795	1 301	-506
Accumulated Income beginning of year	2 888	1 934	4 822	3 521	
Accumulated Income end of year	2 830	2 787	5 617	4 822	795

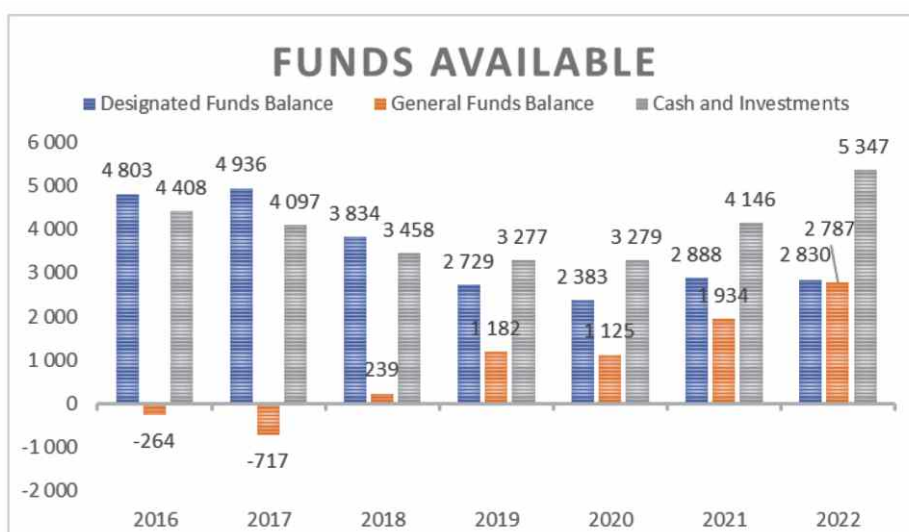
The reset of CAST financially can clearly be seen in the graph below. Over the past 2 years, costs have reduced to levels last seen in 2016 making the organisation more sustainable and ensuring that a higher proportion of donations can be allocated to direct programme costs.



Individual donors remain the backbone of CAST's income with foreign churches donation support vital for designated funds. The growth of Hidden Treasure has translated into the shop becoming a significant donor to CAST.



As a result of the improved financial performance, CAST's financial position is healthy. This is evidenced by reserves.



The reserve balances are backed by cash and investments. A healthy balance between Designated and General Funds ensures that CAST is in a position to both run healthy programmes and ensure that daily running costs are taken care of.

At year end, fund balances are:

	<u>R000's</u>
Church Leadership	16
Godefroy	2 051
Baptist Global Response	257
Relief (food parcels and Farming God's Way)	506
	2 830
General Funds	2 787
Total Funds	
	5 617

I look forward to another year of CAST working with partner churches to transform their communities.

- Neville Dunn
(Treasurer)

2022 MAJOR DONORS

(Private individuals are not listed here as most request to remain anonymous)

The Trustees, Board, Staff and Clients of CAST wish to thank all our volunteers, donors and partners for every gift of time, resources and finances in 2022.

Every gift helps to lift a family out of poverty and offers hope to the next generation.



MISSION HILLS CHURCH
REAL. MESSY. NEW.



Churches:

Home Ground Westville Baptist Church
Lake Pointe Church (USA)
Mission Hills Church (USA)
Musgrave Methodist Church
Richards Bay Baptist Church
Rosebank Union Church
Somerset West Baptist Church

Companies:

Abacus Automation
African Tree Lodge
CMS IT
Compass Medical Waste Services
Container World
Dieichmann Foundation
Grantleigh High School Richards Bay
Hidden Treasure Charity Shop
Lovemore Bros
Mobile Mission Maintenance (MMM South Africa)
Newcastle Farmers
Powafix
RB Associated Logistics
Retailability
SA Home Loans
Shaves Paint & Decor
Shelly Residential

Trusts & Foundations:

Clem & Nancy Ramsden Educational & Charitable Trust
Durbanville Baptist Church (DBC) Life Trust
Harry Brunskill Educational & Charitable Trust
Send Relief (USA)
SHAZH Foundation

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