



EDITORIAL

Dear Prayer Partners,

What a joy it was for us to conduct the HCFSA Conference in Bethlehem, 21-26 August, 2018! The numbers were less than originally anticipated however the Lord encouraged us from the example of Gideon found in the book of Judges where God used only a few Israel soldiers to defeat the armies of the Midianites.

Under the theme: **“Rebuilding the Broken Walls of Healthcare in South Africa”** the delegates from all over the country gathered, listened to various presentations/challenges in our healthcare system and then prayed to God for solutions and direction. The outcome was a document prepared for submission to the National Department of Health as well as seven candidates that responded positively to full time service in HCFSAto God alone be the glory!!!

Together in His service,

Thembí Mngomezulu

Chairperson, HCFSA

A MILESTONE CONFERENCE AND PRAYER SUMMIT

Dr. Mandla Regional Promoter for Southern Africa



This year's HCF conference was a milestone! For the first time a conference and prayer summit was combined in **HCFSA**.

It was quite liberating to hear the Lord tell us as His children not to blame others for the problems we are facing as a country, but that as His children we hold the answer: “ If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways- - -”. One way or another, we have been part of the problem, either by commission or by omission and it was beautiful to see a lot of us repenting of the sins and unrighteousness committed in healthcare, not blaming others.

We put into practice what we have been praying and talking about, i.e. influence the decision makers in healthcare. After the plenary sessions the topic of the day was discussed in different commissions and summaries presented to the delegates. A task team took the summaries and worked on some resolutions We trust and pray these will be presented to the department of health. That makes us truly the salt of the world, part of the solution and hopefully, not part of the problem. We have to boldly declare our stand, let our voice be heard and be unashamedly followers of Jesus Christ.

A CONFERENCE WITH A DIFFERENCE

Erica Grunewald National Coordinator HCFSA

I had the feeling that this conference and prayer summit would be **different!** When I thought of the theme 'Rebuilding the broken walls of Healthcare' and the topics; '*The state of healthcare in South Africa*'; '*Where did we go wrong?*'; '*Restoring compassionate care*'; '*Moving from policy to practice and from practice to policy*'; '*Investing in the Nursing Profession*'; and similar topics – issues never dealt with at our conferences before - I wondered how the programme would proceed. Another **difference** was that prayer was included throughout the Conference and especially in the evenings when we came before the Lord – sometimes in repentance for all that had gone wrong in the health field, and at other times earnestly seeking His will.

Some highlights:

In spite of some of the transport hassles, the servant spirit of some of the HCF leaders, so **different** from worldly standards, was evident as they willingly gave up time for rest and sleep in order to fetch some of the students who were stranded a good distance from Bethlehem.

Priscilla Afeke played a major role in prayer coverage as she was sensitive to the leading of the Holy Spirit. One of the **different** things was when she called for a representative from each of the various categories in healthcare to come forward and repent on behalf of their department for the wrongs done to patients. This was a serious and moving time as one after the other asked for God's forgiveness.

What a joy to have a number of students and young professionals among us. They were well integrated in the programme and some gave a summary report of the afternoon workshops. **Different** from having a seasoned HCF'er do this.



YES this was indeed a conference with a **difference**. All praise and heartfelt thanks to God for all HE did and our prayer is "Oh Lord God, please let this conference not be an end in itself but may it result in "The rebuilding of the broken walls of Healthcare in our land".

Mamsy Lekhalanyane

Mamsy was one of the young professionals who gave a summarised report following the afternoon workshops. This she did with confidence. Mamsy is from Free State and is part of the Provincial HCF Action Team.



Marli Janse Van Rensburg: I was asked to coordinate the time of worship in song at the National HCF Conference. As I began to pray about this task the Lord helped me with the selection of songs. We needed a key board and someone to play it. This need was brought before the Lord and shortly before the conference God provided. There was something special about the National HCF Conference.

I deeply appreciated the presentations on practical issues affecting Christian healthcare workers. Having some discussion on these tough issues and listening to the mixture of comments, questions and heart cries of fellow believers was encouraging and I feel much better equipped to face issues in the workplace.



WORSHIP TEAM AT THE CONFERENCE

TESTIMONIES

Professional Nurse Authur Molomo

I would love to start by thanking God for enabling me to be part of the HCF National Conference and Prayer Summit. I experienced a revival in my character as I realised that God needs me to serve Him where He has placed me, 'in my workplace'. The book of Nehemiah opened my eyes to the need of prayer at all times in carrying out each activity and the importance of listening to God and getting His guidance. Dr Tommy Gray one of our speakers said; "Nurses are the heartbeat and backbone of healthcare". This means I have to stand in prayer for myself and my colleagues to be able to stand in our important role.



Firstly I would like to say I'm very grateful for the opportunity afforded me to attend the conference and a big thank you to the department that sponsored the students to attend. The conference has taught me a lot and given me insight into HCF, it's missions and vision. The theme; "Rebuilding the broken walls" has opened my eyes as a 'new 'nurse in the making' to the importance of compassionate care. I realized there is a different way to that which I was doing in rendering service to the sick. The messages from Nehemiah brought motivation and encouragement it keeps me going when I want to give up. Lastly the 'Integral Disciple Making' I am applying this strategy of studying the Bible at home and it makes it easy and interesting to read the Bible especially with the small children. Thank you

Student Nurse from Eastern Cape Zenande, Magalele

PLEASE PRAISE AND PRAY WITH US FOR:

- ◆ PRAISE GOD for the success of the National Conference
- ◆ The seven people who responded at the National Conference to become full time staff with HCF South Africa. Wisdom for them as they complete their application forms and for the National Board in the application process.
- ◆ Christine Petersen. Still on extended sick leave in Cape Town with her family due to a serious back problem. She is on medication and seeing a doctor. There is hope of an operation and we trust God with her for the right treatment to be done.
- ◆ Ethney April, HCF team leader in the Western Cape (presently on sick leave) receiving treatment for cancer. Those on the team with her to be strengthened and guided by the Lord for the work in Western Cape.
- ◆ Secretary needed in National Office.
- ◆ Spring Cleaning of Hebron in November. Strength and unity for the team.
- ◆ UPCOMING Leaders planning meetings **17-20 JANUARY 2019** at Emseni Conference Centre, Brentwood park, Benoni.

Thank you for your faithful partnership with HCF. Your support is much appreciated!

Loving greetings

Erica Grunewald and National Team

BANK DETAILS

Name: Hospital Christian Fellowship

Bank: Standard Bank Kempton Park

Account No. 020 193 505