## SOLIDARITY FUND STAKEHOLDERS BULLETIN April 2021







# MESSAGE FROM

I hope everyone had a peaceful **Workers' Day** on **Saturday**. Although an international holiday, in **South Africa, Workers' Day** is both a celebration of workers' rights and a reminder of the critical role that labour organisations and unions played in the fight against **Apartheid**. This holiday is a testament to what can happen when different organisations work in solidarity towards a shared goal. As we face one of **South Africa's** greatest challenges in recent memory, I hope we all remember the importance of playing a role in the greater good of our country.

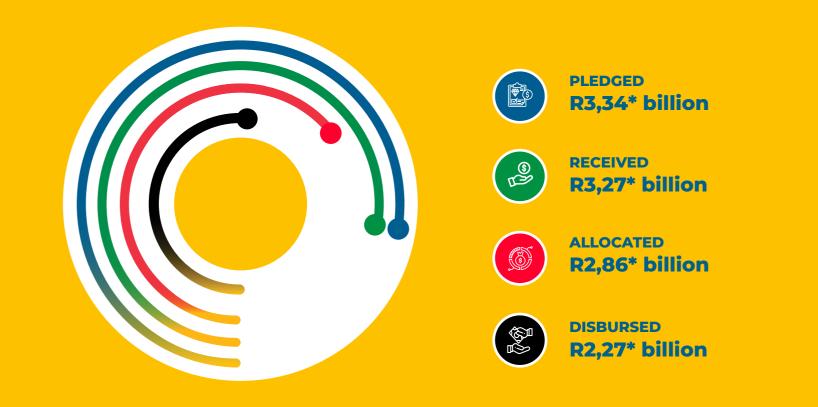
The National Vaccine Roll-out Programme is starting to hit its stride. The administration of the Johnson & Johnson vaccine through Sisonke is back on track after a very brief pause, the portal for vaccine registrations is up and running, and people **60-years** and over have been invited to register. Personally, I feel great hope that, with everyone working together, the **Programme** will achieve its targets. I urge everyone who qualifies to get registered so that they can be first in line to receive the vaccines as they become available.

At the **Solidarity Fund**, the work has not stopped. As the single-most important development in the fight against the pandemic, the vaccine roll-out is, understandably, the **National Department of Health's (NDoH)** greatest priority. As an organisation set up to augment the national response, our focus, too, has shifted to put greater emphasis on supporting the programme.

On the **25<sup>th</sup> of March**, we held our quarterly briefing. This happened to also coincide with our first anniversary. During the briefing, we unpacked the impact made by the **Fund** since inception, as well as looked ahead and shared how we were working with **Government** to support the **National Vaccine Roll-out Programme**. The briefing was a good opportunity to show **South Africa** what their generosity has contributed to and express gratitude to all the team members and stakeholders who work in solidarity to make incredible interventions possible. The **Solidarity Fund** is an incredible achievement, not just for the funds it has raised, or the initiatives that it has been able to initiate and implement under challenging, lockdown conditions, but also for the incredible sense of unity and teamwork that all have shown in making these important projects come to pass. I feel privileged to be working with such dedicated organisations and individuals and, as I look ahead, I know this solidarity is going to be our greatest strength.

Tandi Nzimande

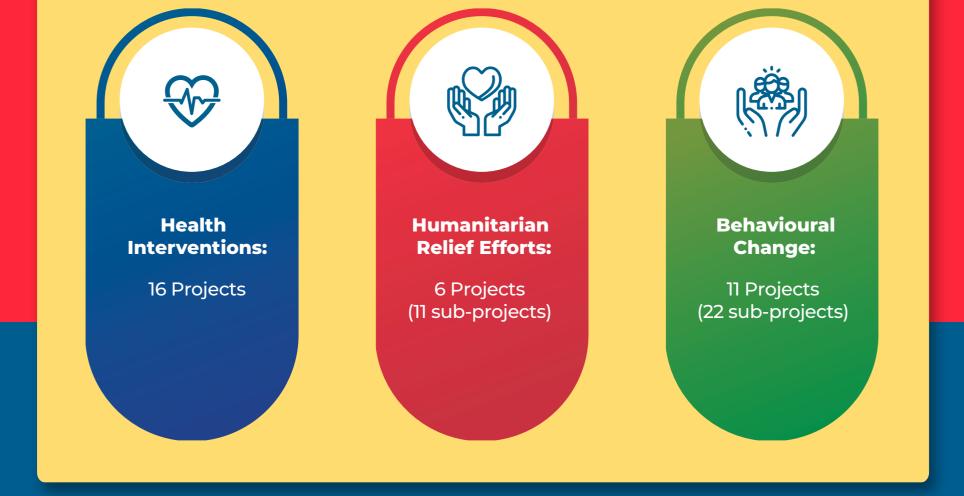
# A LOOK AT THE NUMBERS



**Disbursed- R2,27\* billion** (the difference between allocated and disbursed is as a result of a number of projects which are in execution but have not been fully closed off).

**PROJECTS UNDERWAY** 

\* Accurate as of 23 April 2021





# AT A GLANCE

| Pillars      | Allocated | Disbursed |
|--------------|-----------|-----------|
| Health       | R2,235bn  | R1,818bn  |
| Humanitarian | R425m     | R310m     |
| Behavioural  | R196m     | R141m     |
| Total        | R2,856bn  | R2,269bn  |



### **FIRST ANNIVERSARY** PRESS BRIEFING

The purpose of the press briefing, held virtually on the **25<sup>th</sup> of March 2021**, was to update **South Africa** and our stakeholders on the impact delivered by the **Fund** in the first quarter of the year, and to discuss the way forward as the pandemic moves into its second year. This briefing was in line with our commitment to transparency and accountability.

After a welcome from our **Chairperson**, **Gloria Serobe**, **CEO**, **Tandi Nzimande** provided an overview of all the activity undertaken by the **Fund** across its 3 pillars, including an update on total donations received, and how the funds have been allocated and disbursed. This was followed by an update on our role in the **National Vaccine Roll-out Programme**. Our initiatives here fall under both the **Health and Behavioural Change pillars**. As a vehicle designed for agility and speed, the **Fund** considers itself well positioned to augment the roll-out programme. **Adrian Enthoven** concluded with a call to all **South Africans** to continue to practice safe behaviours ahead of holidays and winter.

If you were unable to join us on the day, or should you wish to refresh your memory on all the content that was shared, the entire briefing is available on the **Solidarity Fund's YouTube channel**.

**CLICK HERE TO VIEW:** 

https://bit.ly/3329D88



### THE FUND'S EVOLVING ROLE IN THE NATIONAL VACCINE ROLL-OUT PROGRAMME

The Solidarity Fund's work in support of the National Department of Health (NDoH) and the National Vaccine Roll-out Programme began by catalysing the country's entry into COVAX with the down payment of R283m needed to secure the country's position. From there, the Fund was able to quickly respond, and the following programmes have been approved:

#### SISONKE STUDY

R50m in funding in support of the Sisonke Study and roll-out of J&J vaccines through the South African Medical Research Council (SAMRC), which helped kickstart the vaccination of Health workers ahead of a potential third wave and winter.

#### NDoH TECHNICAL SUPPORT

A co-funding contribution of **R69m** to provide technical support to the **NDoH**. This is to capacitate the national, provincial and district departments of health to implement an effective nation-wide **COVID-19 vaccination programme** to the general population.

#### NDoH CALL CENTRE

The **NDoH** identified a need to set-up and manage a dedicated central call centre to support phases 2 and 3 of the **COVID vaccine** roll-out – with phase 2 scheduled to start on the **17 May 2021**. The call centre will be set up by a leading service provider and managed by **Business Process Enabling SA (BPESA)**. **The Solidarity Fund** has agreed to support this important initiative with a contribution of **R72m**.

#### NATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS PARTNERSHIP

The Solidarity Fund is providing R8m in funding to support community/social partners that are represented at the National Communication Partnership, an initiative spearheaded by GCIS. The funds will be used to augment and amplify behaviour change and vaccine roll-out communication campaigns being carried out by COVID Comms, C-19 People's Coalition (C19 PC) and the Community Constituency Covid-19 Front (CCF).

#### RESEARCH

An amount of **R2m** has been approved to conduct research jointly

commissioned by the **Solidarity Fund** and **GCIS**. The research will enable a deeper understanding of attitudes, perceptions and behaviours amongst people so that evidence-based interventions can be implemented to ensure a greater impact of behaviour change public health campaigns and the vaccination roll-out. INTERFAITH NETWORK SUPPORT Support of R2m is also being provided to the South African Council of Churches' (SACC) Inter-Faith Behaviour Change Communications Programme. The creation and maintenance of an inter-faith leadership network for COVID-19 communication is a critical platform for influencing significant numbers of citizens.



### DON'T JUST TALK, LISTEN **SOLIDARITY FUND** TO LAUNCH NATIONAL COMMUNICATION CAMPAIGN On the 12<sup>th</sup> of May, the Solidarity Fund will be launching a large-scale national campaign aimed at creating behavioural change for the better. With extensive reach that will be achieved by utilising a broad and detailed media strategy, the campaign is aiming to reach 80% of the population. The campaign will target **three key objectives**: OBJECTIVE OBJECTIVE OBJECTIVE Listen and Distribute vaccine Reiterate and educate adapt. literacy and knowledge communities on and encourage **COVID-19** preventative registration. measures. The campaign will run on TV (with a $60^{\circ}/45^{\circ}$ spot and $4x20^{\circ}$ spots. 50% of the 20" spots will focus on vaccine messaging), Radio, Out-of-home and social media. It includes Rank TV, Taxi TV, and 80 Wall Murals spread across the entire country. A focused TikTok campaign launches on the **10<sup>th</sup> of June** with influencers, while **PR** will be utilised to achieve maximum reach and impact with respect to vaccine literacy and knowledge. Besides the traditional media, an online toolkit will go live on the 12<sup>th</sup> of May to assist South Africans in providing education on the virus and the vaccine. There will also be branding and messaging toolkits available for business and social partners to co-brand. The campaign activations, involving our Foot Soldiers and Behavioural Change Agents, will roll out from the end of May and will be highly targeted. Foot Soldiers are rural focused (approx. 280) and will activate in North West, Mpumalanga, Limpopo, Eastern Cape and Kwazulu-Natal. They will hold door-to-door conversations with citizens on preventative measures as well as a focused drive on vaccine literacy and knowledge. There will be leave behind toolkits to assist. Behavioural Change Agents will activate in Gauteng, North West, Mpumalanga, KwaZulu Natal, Western Cape and Eastern Cape, sparking conversations with a focused drive on vaccine literacy and knowledge. There will be leave behind toolkits at focused touchpoints, such as, schools, churches and plazas. DR GUGU NGUBANE **SPEAKS ABOUT** VACCINES AND THE

Our very own **Dr Gugu Ngubane**, the **Fund's health pillar co-lead**, has been busy making headlines and talking about the importance of the **National Vaccine Roll-out Programme** in the fight against the pandemic, as well as the **Fund's** role in the national roll-out. She has been featured in a number of online news outlets. You can read the article via the link below.

**ROLL-OUT** 

FUND'S ROLE IN THE

**View full article** 





The **COVID-19** vaccine is our strongest weapon against the pandemic – but only if we all register to get it. Registration for over-60's on the **SA COVID-19 Vaccination Programme** registration website has begun and we urge anyone who falls into this category to register today. Further, if you know someone who qualifies, encourage them to register and assist if need be. We all need to do our part in slowing and eventually stopping the spread by getting vaccinated.

Visit https://vaccine.enroll.health.gov.za/#/ to register.



As part of our responsibility to the public and our stakeholders, the **Fund** publishes reports on a regular basis with updates on projects and initiatives undertaken. Two new reports relating to our **Behavioural Change Pillar interventions** have been uploaded to our website since our **March** newsletter.



The Solidarity Fund partnered with the South African Council of Churches (SACC) in a campaign to produce, distribute and disseminate digital educational content to help prevent the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic. The content was designed for user friendly formats including animations, audio, documentary stories and other media. Content was distributed via printed posters, social media and radio, and was also housed on the churchinaction.org.za website.

The full report can be downloaded here.



### SOLIDARITY FUND SUPPORT OF THE COVID ALERT SOUTH AFRICA APP CAMPAIGN

**COVID Alert SA** is a privacy-protecting app built on **Apple** and **Google's API**. It does not collect users' personal information or track their location. The app uses **Bluetooth** – not **GPS** – to anonymously identify when two users have been in proximity. The key objectives and mandate of the campaign was to increase awareness to drive app downloads and educate citizens on the relevance of the app. The campaign targeted adults of all income brackets across rural, metro and urban communities.

The full report can be downloaded here.



https://bit.ly/32YQT9y

The **Solidarity Fund** is committed to transparency around all of our activities. You can find detailed information and reporting around donations received, how we allocate resources as well as the impact created by visiting **www.solidarityfund.co.za**.

Click on the icons below to follow us on Social Media.



