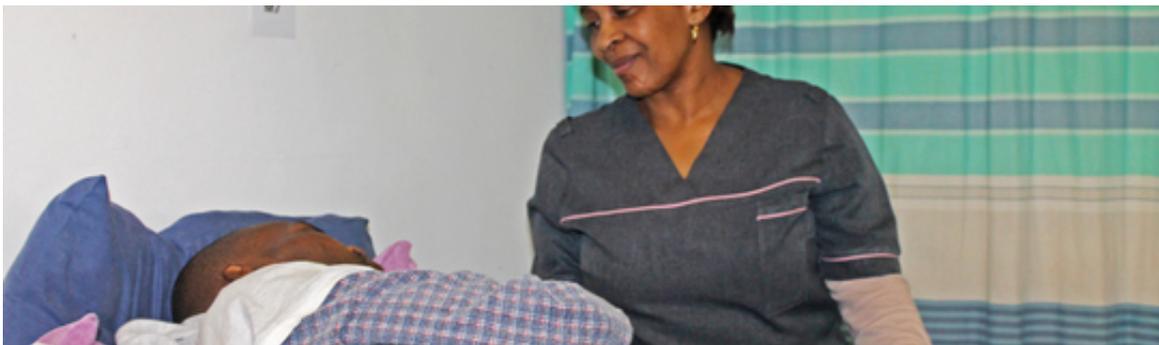




Hillcrest AIDS Centre Trust

"The way they treat the patients is very different to the other hospitals I experienced. They care about the patients here; they give you enough time as a patient to really look after you.

And the medication is the right one. It was the first time I received this kind of medication and yet I have been in and out of hospitals for two years,"
Joseph - Respite Unit Patient.



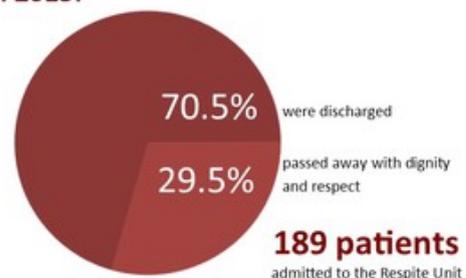
Dear Friends of HACT,

Our Othandweni (Place of Love) Respite Unit provides a second chance at life for patients with advanced stages of AIDS, offering palliative and respite care, for 24 patients seven days a week, all year-round. It is the only such Unit in our region.

Our carers and nurses provide love and care to all patients, giving them bed baths, helping them take medication, reading to them, dressing wounds, feeding them, providing one-on-one exercise sessions and praying with them. We are a home away from home for those in need.

We give thanks that roughly 70% of our patients are able to recover and be discharged. Those who pass away are remembered by having their name painted

In 2015:



on a beautifully decorated tile on our memory wall. As we remember them we pray that in the years to come the number of AIDS-related deaths will decrease thanks to prevention messaging, early diagnosis, treatment and a decrease in stigma.

Last year a number of our large international funders reduced or stopped their funding in South Africa, and therefore to our Unit. To fill the gap we are appealing to individuals, families, businesses, churches, groups and institutions to 'Adopt-a-Bed' in our Respite Unit, by making a monthly contribution or a once off donation.

If you are not yet a HACT donor, or if you have the capacity to increase your current contribution, please consider supporting our Respite Unit. It is only together that we can turn the tide on AIDS, transform lives and turn our community into a better place.

Olivia Myeza
CEO

[Donate to our Respite Unit](#)

Unconditional love for all patients

Our staff and volunteers focus on the emotional and spiritual wellbeing of the patients, as well as their physical recovery. We provide prayer, trauma and pastoral counselling, take patients on excursions and help them apply for a disability grant before they are discharged from the Unit.



Linda Locke, one of our very special local volunteers, comes to the Unit twice a week to pray for patients and takes them to CityHill Church Embo on Sundays. She [shares her story](#) and some of the amazing ways God is moving in the Unit.

Joseph's battle to save his life and find hope

Joseph* arrived at our Respite Unit in June 2015. He had been sick for two years - in and out of hospitals - and not getting better. Forty-two years old and a father of four, his life was on the line.



Through the unconditional love and care of our nurses, volunteer physiotherapists and home based carers Joseph has recovered physically. On the day he walked out of unit, with his bags packed and eyes smiling, [he told us his story.](#)

Understanding the link between HIV and TB

The 24th March this year, World TB Day, highlighted the devastating effect Tuberculosis (TB) is having in our country. Despite being a preventable and curable disease, it is currently the single leading cause of death in South Africa.



Many patients in our Respite Unit struggle with TB, which is common in people with weak immune systems, such as those with HIV.

[Learn more about it here.](#)

Adopt-a-Bed and become a monthly donor today

Donate monthly to our Respite Unit by becoming an Adopt-a-Bed donor.

To fund the care of just one patient we need to secure R6000 a month to cover medication, 24 hour nursing care, food, pathology, xrays and running costs. Your regular monthly donation, whether it be big or small, will help ensure the sustainability of the Unit.

With your monthly donation we can cover the following costs:

- R25 feeds one patient for a day
- R175 feeds one patient for a week
- R700 provides one patient with medication for a month
- R3500 covers one full time care giver for six patients in the Unit for a month

All donations made by South African donors are tax deductible. [Donate today.](#)

Donate to our Respite Unit

Meet a HACT monthly donor

Ann Hotchkiss - monthly Adopt-a-Bed donor

Ann became part of the HACT community when she bought a young woman she was close to to the Respite Unit for help. Inspired by the care Cindy* received, and in her memory, she now gives to the Unit monthly.

"We were so grateful to the Unit because Cindy was very ill. It was great to have a sympathetic and kind place to bring her. She said she felt safe in the Unit.

Sadly, she passed away, but I give because I know my donation will help someone else. We've all experienced being ill and the hospitals are overfull. People can come here and recuperate and find their peace."



*names have been changed to protect privacy



Hillcrest AIDS Centre Trust

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SOUTH AFRICA

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