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South Africa

*South African nurses contribute to a safe
environment: Marilyn Lahana Caring Award*





South African Nurses Contribute To A Safe Environment: The Marilyn Lahana Caring Award

***Presenter: Ms V. Fransman-Hendricks
South Africa***



Background

A dedicated nurse Marilyn Lahana, was the first person to contract- and die of Ebola fever in South Africa in 1996.

Marilyn contracted the viral fever while helping to treat Dr Clement Mambana from Gabon who unwittingly brought the Ebola virus into South Africa.

Ebola was only discovered after he was identified as a contact of Marilyn and Ebola antibodies were found in his blood.

Background

In commemorating Marilyn Lahana's life, "The Marilyn Lahana Trust Caring Award" was set up in 1998 in consultation with her family and being administered by DENOSA.

The award is to honour and recognise outstanding members of the nursing and midwifery professions annually who show a special quality of caring of other people;- patients, colleagues and employers.

Marilyn Lahana Picture



Aims of the trust

- *Profile quality nursing care delivered by individual nurses.*
- *Acknowledge excellent nursing practice.*
- *Promote community- care and participation in nursing.*

Nominations

Candidates for the award are nominated by their colleagues.

Nominees have to submit evidence of proof of their activities not older than two years in what they have been doing regarding the following:

- Contribution to the image of nursing and its impact.*
- Professional advancement of the person.*
- Contribution towards the community/employer.*
- Short- and long term effects of these contributions.*

Provincial Winning Candidates

Among winning candidates are nurses who have started shelters for patients; starting road emergency services; transforming dilapidated buildings with no sanitation/running water into a community clinic; written poems on HIV/AIDS aimed at educating the community.

Some candidates started as care workers/assistant nurses who also climbed the ladder occupying top positions in nursing.

Provincial Winner



*Nellie Sebuse,
while volunteering
at House of Hope,
she identified a
baby with a cleft
lip. The baby was
booked for repair.*

Provincial Winner

*Radio Talk at a
Radio Station
talking about
PMTCT.*



Provincial Winner

Desiree Roobaatjie provides healthcare outside of her work. In church, she holds several information sessions on promoting healthy lifestyles, management of chronic illnesses, cancer and HIV/AIDS awareness.



Provincial Winner



Lindiwe Mangala assists a recycling organisation with health and safety education to refuse collectors and encourages the community to plant vegetable gardens at their homes.

National Winner 2017

Angelina Vermeulen distributed 2400 male condoms and 60 female condoms at a health wellness day in 2016.



Care Centre



Care Centre

Water being brought in buckets from outside due to no running water inside the centre.



The Award

Nine Provincial winners each receiving a certificate and a laptop and other gifts;

Overall National winner = £ 608

1st runner up = £ 425

2nd runner up = £ 304

Conclusion

As this award is on for the past twenty two years, contributions made by nurses over these years are to many to mention.

Because of the impact these contributions are having, made one nurse saying that if it was not that her contributions were recognised, nor would her principals ever knew her capabilities.

Thank you