

# **BLESSED TO BE A BLESSING!**

**Executive Summary** 



www.helplift.co.za

## Introduction

The Helplift Network is for all Christian faith communities, ministries and organisations within South Africa.

#### THE NEED:

- Believers want to help and be involved in their communities, but do not know how and where.
- The needs of our communities are not effectively being addressed because a few obedient Christians try to make a difference on their own.
- ❖ Local faith communities are in need for more relevance and integrity.
- ❖ There is an overwhelming desire for better cooperation amongst faith communities of all denominations in our country.

#### **HELPLIFT:**

- Helplift believes in the mobilisation of the resources of local faith communities to be synchronised with the needs of their own community.
- Helplift wants to empower each and every faith community to facilitate, manage and administrate their own network between their members as Givers and the needs of their community as Receivers.
- ❖ Helplift assists these faith communities in the implementing, growing and sustaining of their own network and linking their network to the networks of other faith communities within their region.
- Helplift is a multi-denominational network where every Christian believer's talents and generosity can make a difference.
- Helplift exist to help faith communities to develop their full potential within the kingdom of God.

SOLI DEO GLORIA!

#### **SPECIFIC OUTCOMES**

- Unlock the potential of kingdom resources to address needs
- Encourage disciple making as an everyday lifestyle that reflects Christ
- Synchronise believers with people in need Opportunities to witness
- Empower believers to serve God in every sphere of life
- Cultivate a sharing and giving culture
- · Increase relevance and impact in the community
- Provide a platform for unity and cooperation with other faith communities

## Implementing and utilising the network within your faith community means that:

- Your vision and mission on realising the kingdom becomes a reality.
- Your **strategy** of disciple making becomes a lifestyle for all members.
- A **structure** is provided to synchronise and connect members with unbelievers and people in need.
- Your influence and impact is increased in all spheres of life.

#### WHY THE HELPLIFT NETWORK?

A deed of compassion is the best way to build enduring relationships with the population of South Africa. Possibly the only method currently available to reduce the rate of degradation and even turn the situation around would be through professional networking solutions that inspires and involves the community at all levels. In practice this means that we have to establish an effective network between the resources and talents of Givers and the needs of the community.

The Helplift Network is developed to address the important issues of relevance and integrity of the local faith communities. Our point of departure and central focus is the kingdom of God. The Church is the most important sign of God's kingdom but is not a goal in itself. Instead the Church serves the kingdom, points toward it, seeks to embody it, and proclaims its message. In the kingdom every believer is a full-time servant of God, the light of the world and the salt of the earth.

Therefor we believe that every local faith community is, and always will be part of God's answer to the needs of the world. Helplift Network strives to assist and support faith communities in realising the kingdom of God in South Africa. It is developed as a catalyst to cultivate a caring and giving culture and for a more comprehensive missions approach.

## **HOW DOES THE HELPLIFT NETWORK WORK?**

There are two realities that we have to acknowledge in order to understand the Helplift Network. The first reality is <u>the broken world</u> that is represented by all the faces of needs: i.e. unsaved people, poor people, unemployed people, people traumatized by crime, illiterate people, sick people, starving people, people that have been done injustice, people jailed, etc. The second reality is <u>the abundance of resources</u> that is represented by skills, products, services and finances of members within faith communities.

The aim of the Helplift Network is to bridge the gap between these two realities. This is what it means to realise the kingdom of God. This is what the great commission is all about! Disciple making is not only to say what Jesus said, but also to do what He did! The Helplift Network is in other words the link between Givers (people with a profession, trade or talent) and Receivers (e.g. a Children's home or a Food programme). The time and/or skills of members are used to help those it would benefit most. Products or finances are also welcomed and channeled to those in need.

# Helplift Network makes volunteering a simple, well managed and fruitful experience in all faith communities.

- It provides an honest transparent and professional network that links Resources of the Giver to the Needs of the Receiver (people and organisations in need).
- It places strict and transparent quality measure in place to ensure that the Receiver organisations are accredited and that their needs are REAL. This is done in order to stop abuse of any system in the network.
- Uses phone calls, e-mail, SMS's, and/or voucher system between Giver and Receiver to ensure that the well-defined resource is allocate to the correct person.
- Focuses on the upliftment of the needy instead of only short term solutions, to empower them to move from being a Receiver to being a Giver.
- Receivers also includes permanent care Givers (such as missionaries or house mothers
  of a children's home) to ensure that they are strengthened and revitalised for the
  invaluable work that they do and to ensure long term sustainability of these people.

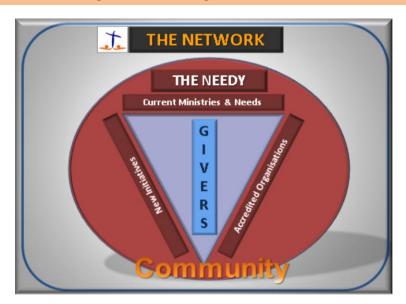
Helplift Network is a web based administrative program that makes it easy and practical for all faith communities to link their Givers (members) with Receivers (people and organisations in need). The impact is determined by the sphere of influence of the Givers.

## Three roles/functions are necessary to facilitate, administrate and manage the network.

- 1. Giver Mobilisation. (Inspiring, enrolling and enabling of Givers on the network.)
- 2. Need Assessment. (Screening, assessment and addressing of needs within the network.)
- 3. Network Administration. (Linking of Givers with appropriate Receivers.)

Depending on the size of a faith community these roles/functions can be done by one, two or even a team of people (with the necessary knowledge of how the network works and with a passion for the needs of their community).

## **GIVERS AND THE NEEDY OF THE NETWORK**



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## **Givers of talents and resources:**

Helplift Network is for those who want to make a difference with their God-given talents and resources, regardless of whether it is **Services**, **Products or Finances**.

It's simple. Register what you want to give for example:

- two hours a week of financial consulting
- 10 haircuts a month
- servicing of 2 cars /month up to a certain value
- 3 dental consultations / month
- 10 packets of medical consumables
- 1 day of plumbing services
- 2 afternoons of assisting children with their homework
- web designs for 2 Receiver organisations per month
- R 1,500 / month for counseling to traumatised children It's your talent to give as you wish.

Once you are a registered Helplift Giver on the network of your faith community, you will be contacted and informed whenever a registered Receiver's need matches your gift.

## Why become a Helplift Network Giver within your own faith community?

- You become part of a professional and effective network
- You can give time or skills based on your expertise or business
- You can specify exactly what you want to pledge, how often, when and where
- You can change your commitment should your circumstances change
- You can see and experience where your resources go to
- Your resources are utilised on Receivers who are really in need
- You will receive regular reports and feedback on your involvement

#### The Needy:

An individual cannot register with Helplift or access the network directly – only through a Helplift Network faith community or Helplift Network Receiver organisation or ministry.

#### The Needy are grouped into 3 categories:

- 1. Organisation/Ministries (i.e. Children's home, outreach)
- 2. Employees/Missionaries (i.e. house mothers, welfare workers)
- 3. Clients and/or Target market of the ministry (i.e. resident children, unreached people group )

A continuously need assessment of product, services and/or financial needs, within all three categories, is necessary (organisation, employees and clients) in order to link it with the available resources from the Giver pool of your faith community. This is to prevent organisations from getting an oversupply of what they need. Should a Giver however specify that his or her resource is only available to a certain Receiver or group it will be managed accordingly.

# **HOW TO IMPLEMENT, GROW AND SUSTAIN THE NETWORK?**

## Phase 1: Implementation

- Orientation of leadership and the faith community
- Training of roles/functions and registering of the needs of the community
- Launch with enrolment of first givers
- Linking and feedback

## Phase 2: Grow the network (Is done with assistance of Helplift Network)

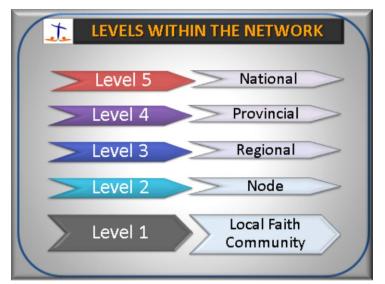
- Finding needs for unutilised gifts and talents
- Finding gifts for identified needs within the community
- Identifying of new initiatives based on the resources of our givers
- Development of an effective communication structure within the faith community (Announcements, newsletters, celebration in services, marketing)

## Phase 3: Sustain the network (Is done in partnership with Helplift Network)

- Training of "backup" roles/functions
- Inspiration and care program for givers
- Helping the needy to become sustainable and also to begin to give themselves
- Getting other faith communities to also participate in the network ("Pay it forward")

In other words, you may introduce this concept to other faith communities in your region if you want to grow the impact of the kingdom of God in your community. The Helplift Network office will be available to assist you with equipping, mentoring and coaching in this regard. Helplift Network provides a platform for unity and cooperation amongst faith communities. You can now work together in effectively collecting and distributing resources within your regions. The more other faith communities participate, the better you will be able to address and manage abundance and shortfalls within your region.

#### LEVELS WITHIN THE NETWORK



The strength of the Helplift Network depends effective on the management of talents and resources on all levels within the network. Level 1 is the domain of the local faith community. Levels 2-5 are there for if you they want to share your gifts and needs with other faith communities within your region, - province or the "Node" = country. (Level 2: Cooperation amongst faith communities as defined by them.)

All levels within Helplift Network

are based on relationships between faith communities of all denominations and affiliations. (Examples: Regular meetings, communication, etc.)

## The advantage of levels 2-5:

- Enhance cooperation amongst faith communities, organisations and ministries
- Eliminate duplication and waste of talents and resources
- Create kingdom unity amongst faith communities of different denominations
- Solve the problem of unutilised gifts and unaddressed needs

The main reason for levels 3 to 5 is for projects and/or ministries on a provincial, national and global scale. Examples:

- Big amounts of goods and/or services that is made available or needed provincially or nationally (i.e. Blankets, Food, Ministries)
- Initiatives and/or projects that ask provincial or national involvement (i.e. Disasters, Socio-economic development projects)

## **ABOUT US**

The network was founded in August 2008. The aim was to serve the community with the gifts and talents of Christian believers. Since 2009 the Helplift Network has been successfully linking Givers (believers of faith communities) with Receivers (people and organisations in need) within the Pretoria area.

The impact on the community was to such extend that it was decided at the end of 2011 to make this simple concept available for all faith communities in South Africa. For this to work the concept was further developed to be generically (for all types and sizes of faith communities) and with an effective national strategy (that will reach and appeal to all faith communities). As a registered section 21 we have to comply with strict corporate governance rules.

In line with our constitution and policy of transparency we do not take any commissions on resources linked.

## **MISSION STATEMENT:**

The goal: The kingdom of God

Mobilisation of all God given resources and talents to serve communities.

The strategy: Disciple making

Inspire, synchronise and celebrate acts of compassion through professional networking solutions.

The values: Christ-like lifestyle

- Stewardship
- · Servant hood
- Relationships
- Transparency
- Integrity
- Excellence

#### The foundation:

- Prayer (In everything God is acknowledged)
- Trinity of God (Everything is to the glory of God the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit)
- Word of God (Everything is based on the message and principles of the Bible)



## **SUCCESS STORIES**

## Some examples:

The following are real life examples and shows the variation of resources currently being linked between Helplift Givers and the needs of the community (organisations and /or their employees and target groups).

- Vehicles of Missionaries are being serviced, free of charge up to the first R2,500 per service.
- One hair dressing salon is providing 30 free haircuts per month. This is extensively been used by missionaries and pensioners.
- A retired dentist has been linked with a mobile dental clinic that had all the equipment but no dentist.
- More than 200 counseling sessions have been funded for a social worker giving trauma counseling at a children's home.
- One Giver donates R500/ month which have to be spent specifically on bread for children. Because he has seen the efficiency of the Helplift network, the Giver has increased it to R750 and then again to R1,000 per month.
- A deceased man's family has given loads of clothing and linen to a specific shelter.
- A catering service has been linked to a children's care and is supplying 230 meals per week.
- A branding company has assisted a faith community ministry to design new logos and marketing materials.
- An IT company has designed a website for a Receiver organisation.
- A gardening service company is now doing the gardening free of charge for a home for disabled children.
- Numerous missionaries have gone for annual dental check-ups at Giver dentists.

## A testimony:

## Patient treated by Gynecologist

"We are writing to ask you if you could kindly pass on our utmost gratitude for the outstanding hospitality, kindness and excellent care that was shown to my family by Dr. V (Gynecologist) and his staff during our visit to his office.

We are very much appreciating the fact that he never seemed rushed with us and that he graciously spent as much time as we needed. It was the first time we had a sonogram and just loved the way he was so excited with us after learning we'd be having a boy. It's these little things that make a difference in people's lives and we will forever be grateful.

It is a rare fact that people give back as Dr. v has ,and we as a family are truly blessed to have met with such a wonderful and dedicated man of God."

#### **CONTACT US**

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## **Directors:**

Dr. Johan Oelofse - CEO

Perry French - Managing Director

Ds. Peter Malan - Mobilising Director - 0823497964

Dr. Nico Schutte - Director
Pieter Breytenbach - Chairman

# YOUR PARTNERSHIP IN MOBILISING THE BODY OF CHRIST IN SA

In line with our constitution and policy of transparency we do not take any commissions on resources linked. However in order to meet the development, marketing, mobilisation, training, implementation, upgrading and operational costs of the network are dependent on donations. (Section 21 Company - Registration number: 07/027074/08)

Account Name: Helplift Network Bank: Standard Bank
Account Number: 012729205 Branch Code: 012345

Please do not look at this as a payment, but rather as your contribution to the expanding of this network for the sake of God's kingdom in SA.

