

# Postgraduate Student Association

The University of Pretoria's Postgraduate Student Association (PGSA) is an independent, voluntary student body that serves as an official representative of the postgraduate (PG) students of the Faculty of Veterinary Science. The organisation was established in 2007 and operates and serves as a forum through which PG students and postdoctoral fellows of the Faculty unite and interrelate irrespective of tribe, nationality and race. It also provides students with an excellent environment and opportunity for exchange and cross-fertilisation of ideas (scientific, cultural, and social) towards their progress and development.

## Opportunity description

The Mohau Child and Youth Care Centre provides care and support to orphaned, abused, abandoned, neglected and terminally ill children and their families who are infected/affected by HIV/AIDS. Mohau Centre provides temporary or permanent residential care and community-based social services to children and families.

As a registered Child Care Centre, the Mohau Care Centre receives funding from the Department of Social Development for the residential care of the children

committed to the Centre, which offers community-based social services. This funding amounts to approximately 65% of the funds that are required to run the centre and therefore relies on donations for the remaining 35% of the funds. This was a great opportunity for the PGSA to step in and lend a helping hand to the Mohau Child and Youth Care Centre and they asked for donations in the form of new and old clothes, toiletries and food, which was provided by both students and staff of the Faculty of Veterinary Science.

## Impact

The Mohau Child and Youth Care Centre was provided with everything (clothes, toiletries and food) collected by the Onderstepoort Postgraduate Student Association (OP-PGSA) for children at the centre. The centre recognised this as a great gesture from the PGSA as the centre mainly relies on donations to care for and feed the children.

## Community partner

Mohau Child and Youth Care Centre, a non-profit organisation, NPO No: 019-230, is registered as a Section 21 company, registration number 2001/008316/08. The Centre is situated on the ground floor of Kalafong Hospital in Pretoria West.

