



Rural Doctors Association of Southern Africa
P.O. Box 702
Mqanduli
5080
Tel: 072 858 9751
Fax: 0866 114482
31 March 2010

Dear Health Practitioner

The Rural Doctors Association of Southern Africa (RuDASA) is a support network for all health care providers practicing in rural, remote and underserved areas around Southern Africa.

RuDASA recognises the shared challenges faced by health practitioners in rural areas, and exists to function as a forum for discussion and action around these issues, and as a representative voice for rural health advocacy, working closely with the Rural Health Advocacy Project (RHAP).

The vision of RuDASA is for all rural people in Southern Africa to have access to quality health care, and to this end RuDASA strives for the adequate staffing of rural health services by appropriately skilled medical staff and to be a voice for the rural doctor regarding training and working conditions. RuDASA works closely with Africa Health Placements (AHP) in this regard. AHP is a non-profit organization which works to recruit and retain local and international health workers in rural areas, whether these be locum or permanent staff.

We would love to have you join RuDASA and be part of vision for improving rural health care!

Annual membership costs are R200 for doctors and R75 for students and allied health workers. Paid up members are entitled to:

- regular newsletters and updates on RuDASA activities
- opportunities to network with rural practitioners on a local and national level, reducing perceived isolation
- discounted registration fees for RuDASA's annual rural health conference
- opportunities to serve on provincial and national RuDASA committees
- access to channels for raising concerns and ideas and influence policy developments in the field of rural health
- support in dealing with e.g. unfair labour practices and other HR challenges (Note: RuDASA is a support organization and not a labour union)

Chairperson: Dr. Karl le Roux karlleroux@gmail.com
Vice Chairperson: Dr Alwyn Rapatsa phutirapatsa@webmail.co.za
Treasurer / Administrator: Ms Lindsay Meyer (Ukwanda Centre for Rural Health) lindsaym@sun.ac.za



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Name: _____
Contact no.: _____
Email address:- _____

RuDASA's motto is 'inspiring others towards rural health', and we would like to find out what we can do to keep you inspired! Please assist us with this by completing the following:

What challenges do you face as a health practitioner practicing in a rural area?

- Difficulty in accessing CPD activities
- Need for further education opportunities
- Staff shortages
- Drug stockouts
- Locum shortages
- Problems doing locums at hospitals
- Lack of clinical supervision
- Other (please specify) _____

How would you like to offer your expertise and assistance to RuDASA?

- Offer clinical (telemedicine) support (specialist or otherwise)
- Become an accredited elective site for medical and/or other health science students
- Contribute towards our university sponsorship fund(s)
- Become a clinical mentor to e.g. a sponsored student
- Provide detailed information on your hospital for a new website promoting rural community service
- Serve on the provincial RuDASA committee responsible for coordinating communication between doctors on a local level
- Other (please specify) _____

Would you like to recommend RuDASA to another rural health practitioner?

Name: _____ Contact no. _____ Email: _____

Thank you very much We value any other comments or suggestions and look forward to continuing to engage with you as we strive together to improve health care for all rural people.

Regards in rural health

The RuDASA Committee

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