
SISTERS INCORPORATED



Sisters Inc. were assisted by the Rotary Club of Newlands with running costs and insurance on their vehicle.



The Club have been regular supporters of the "Sisters" for many years.

Much of the funding comes from a very successful golf day coordinated by Rotarian Johan Beukman

In 1959 **Sisters Incorporated** was founded to help young, single, pregnant girls with shelter, care and counseling. Since then, times have changed and they now also open their doors to women and their children who find themselves victims of rape and domestic violence.

Social Services place teenagers, who are on detention orders (place of safety), with them. The women and girls come from all parts of the community, regardless of race, culture, religion or social standing. Sadly, the need for places such as **Sisters** is increasing in a society where violence is part of many people's lives. There is always a waiting list of women desperate to find sanctuary. Many are referred to **Sisters** through the police and courts.

Over a year about 200 people pass through the doors, most staying less than five months. The needs of women have become more complex over time, and with this has come the need for more professionally trained staff to assist in the healing process. Their aim is not just to offer accommodation for a few weeks – they want to encourage and empower residents and their children so that when they leave they will be better equipped for their roles in society and be able to cope.

When they arrive at **Sisters**, few are employed and most can make no contribution towards their keep. Social Services provide only 20% of their run. They also receive funding from the Lottery, the Community Chest, Newlands R, various Trusts and Companies; the shortfall being raised by **Sisters**.



Sisters also provide legal assistance and support for court attendances – protection against physical violence is a very real need for women. They place children in schools. Instruction is also given on HIV/Aids and general health matters. Residents are encouraged to make contact with their various faith communities.

Sisters is deliberately a secular organization taking women of all faiths although they run along Christian principles. They have a full time Skills Training co-coordinator running our Skills Centre where we teach our women bead making, decoupage, fabric painting, sewing and



community health care.
