Dear Members and Friends of Sinasra,

The year has almost come to its end and the festive season we are all lasting for is coming soon!

We want to take this opportunity to wish you a merry, peaceful and blessed Christmas season and a happy, healthy and successful New Year 2019!

Thank you for your constant support of Albino Care Sinasra, all your efforts, ideas, your inspiration and for the wonderful projects you have initiated. With your support Albino Care Sinasra was able to make a true difference in the lives of many persons with albinism in Namibia.

More than half a year ago you received the first newsletter and we got a lot of positive feedback which encouraged us to continue and to summarize for you what Sinasra has done in the recent past.

Now you hold the second edition in your hand and we hope you will enjoy reading it!

What has happened since May 2018?

1. We are happy that we received funds to realize our Christmas card project as part of our awareness rising campaign. Our fellow Rotarians Pius and Jürgen have actively supported us and in early November the Christmas cards and posters were printed and ready for collection. Our proud and beautiful photo-models are learners from the School for Visually Impaired. We had a lot of fun during the shooting – although our photographer Rotarian Pius had to stand for hours in the heat while taking pictures. Many of you already received samples of our cards and posters. There are still many left and you are welcome to pick up cards and share them with your family and friends.
2. Sinasra won the Bari-Bari Award “Under the same sun”. We decided to spend the prize money on activities at the occasion of the International Albinism Awareness Day which we celebrated at the School for Visually Impaired. We produced Golfer-Shirts with the Sinasra logo on it and bought sunglasses which we distributed on IAAD. The permanent secretary for Education as well as a representative from the German Embassy attended our event. We also distributed telescopic spectacles which were donated by the German Embassy in 2017. It was a lovely morning with children from the School for Visually Impaired.

3. Anna, Paulus, Annelle and Ruusa organized an open day in Katutura to raise awareness for the special situation of persons with albinism as part of Sinasra’s activities on IAAD. The event was well attended. Anita organized an awareness rising event in Rundu which formed part of Sinasra’s outreach campaign beyond the borders of Windhoek.

4. Our IAAD activities were accompanied by an awareness rising campaign and many newspapers covered not only the event but printed stories about wonderful people with albinism. Anna’s story is very touching and it is phantastic that our member shared her experiences with so many people all over Namibia. If you missed it, please read here the story about an amazing little girl with albinism. All Africa also made a film about Anna’s family.
5. Our new flyer which was kindly designed by Peter’s daughter Nuria and could be printed thanks to a generous donation from the German Embassy. The flyer is now available and already distributed widely.

6. With the help of our new volunteer Regula we were able to reach children in Katima. The local optometrist is now part of our Sinasra network. He will do eye testing for free for persons with albinism and collaborating with Sinasra.

7. At the occasion of the SADC Summit in Windhoek, a side event on the situation of persons with albinism in Southern Africa was hosted by Amnesty International. Sinasra was invited to take part in and to share its experiences. It turned out that Namibia gives a leading example in a Southern African context with regard to the protection of persons with albinism. Later, Sinasra was approached by many organizations and asked for assistance. The event was a good opportunity to establish a Southern African network and to exchange experiences with other African organizations.

8. This year, again, we received many donations Sinasra is so grateful for. Not only companies and organizations that are supporting us for many years now like Ohorongo Cement and Support Ulm e.V., but also individuals approached us, were impressed by Sinasra’s work and contributed to its work with a donation. We would like to thank our donors for their generous support! Without these donations Sinasra would not be able to support people with albinism in Namibia!

Merry Christmas!

Natalie

(Chairperson)