

Annual Report

– September 2026 –

Report on the activities, projects, and services



About QASA

The QuadPara Association of South Africa (QASA) is a registered Non-Profit Organisation (NPO 000-881) and Public Benefit Organisation (PBO No. 930003176 | Ref. RG/0014/08/04), committed to improving the lives of individuals living with quadriplegia and paraplegia.

Aims and Goals

QASA Mission

- Preventing quadriplegia and paraplegia through prevention strategies.
- Supporting research aimed at finding a cure.
- Protecting and advancing the interests of Quadriplegics and Paraplegics in South Africa.
- Developing and implementing national policy and strategy to enhance the quality of life and realise the full potential of individuals with spinal cord injuries.

Governance and Structure

- QASA operates under its Constitution (Amended Sep 2023) and is directed by a Strategic Plan.
- The head office is located at 17 Hamilton Crescent, Gillitts, 3610.
- The General Manager reports directly to the QASA Management Board, while the Executive Board, elected post-AGM, oversees day-to-day operations.
- QASA's financial year ends on 31 March.
- QASA holds level 1 BBBEE status.

Affiliates and Membership

- QASA has three affiliated Regional Associations, each operating under a constitution aligned with QASA's national framework.
- QASA also provides direct support to Quadriplegics and Paraplegics in KwaZulu Natal, Free State, Northern Cape, North West, Limpopo, Mpumalanga, and Eastern Cape.
- As a member-based organisation, all individuals registered with affiliated Regional Associations are automatically members of QASA and are subject to the QASA Code of Conduct.

MANAGEMENT BOARD

The QASA Management for the period September 2025 to September 2026 includes Anton Engelbrecht, Anthony Ghillino, Ari Seirlis, Vusi Ndimeni, Ezekiel Mathebula, George Louw, Aaron Mupeti, Simon Manganye and Philip Case.

Anton Engelbrecht (Chairperson), Anthony Ghillino (Vice Chairperson), Ari Seirlis (Treasurer) and Vusi Ndimeni served as executive committee members.



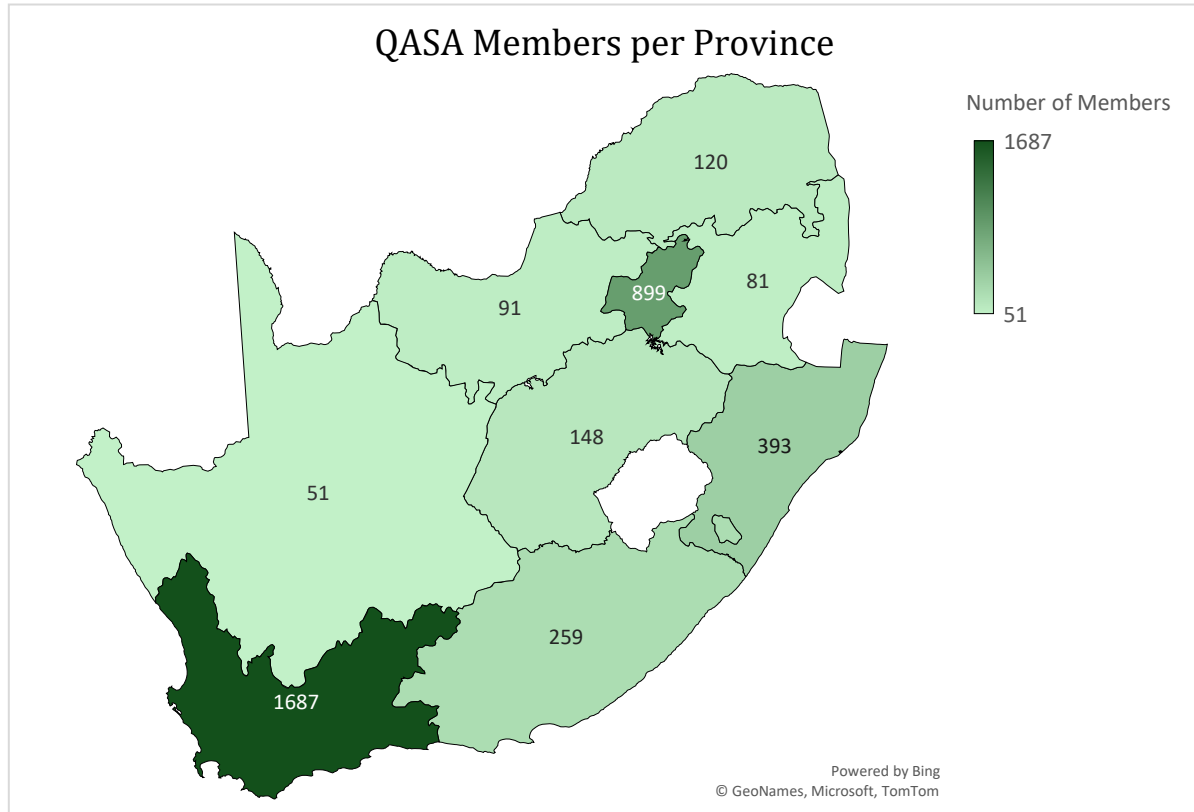
QASA MANCO MEMBERS:

Top row left to right: Anton Engelbrecht, Anthony Ghillino, Ari Seirlis, Vusi Ndimeni and Ezekiel Mathebula

Bottom row left to right: George Louw, Aaron Mupeti, Simon Manganye and Philip Case.

MEMBERSHIP

Membership of the Association has shown a large increase in the past year, supported by the continued efforts of the Regional Associations and various QASA initiatives. Members are encouraged to review and update their personal records annually to ensure the accuracy of the central membership database.



Province	Sept-25	Sept-26
Free State	88	148
KwaZulu Natal	218	393
Limpopo	80	120
North West	52	91
Mpumalanga	53	81
Northern Cape	32	51
Eastern Cape	203	259
Gauteng	721	899
Western Cape	1512	1687
Total Members	2959	3729

There is a total of 770 new QASA members within the last year, reflecting a 26% increase in membership.

Responsibility for SharePoint membership management now rests with the Office Administrator and Office Manager as well as Regional Administrators, ensuring improved centralised coordination and data accuracy across regions.

STRATEGIC PLAN

QASA Strategic Plan Overview

The QASA Strategic Plan serves as the blueprint guiding the organisation's activities and desired outcomes. It is rooted in QASA's vision, mission, and values; and aims to ensure the effective delivery of its goals.

This plan aims to significantly improve QASA's impact, broaden its reach, and expand offerings to members and stakeholders. These improvements are to be driven through innovation in methods, processes, and ideas, with a clear target of achieving measurable outcomes year on year.



VISION

All South African
Quadriplegics & Paraplegics
will live their lives to
their full potential



MISSION STATEMENT

To improve lives by
securing resources
to advocate, educate,
capacitate, support
& mobilize



GOALS

Conduct active lobbying
& advocacy
Be the knowledge, networking & service
centre
Grow Partnerships & Relationships
Create opportunities
Guarantee sustainability



VALUES

Activism
Dignity & Respect
Compassion & Understanding
Growth & Development
Accountability
Transparency
Equality

QASA THEORY OF CHANGE

IMPACT STATEMENT

ALL South African Quadriplegics and Paraplegics will live their lives to their full potential

OUTCOMES

ACCESSIBLE
TRANSPORT

WELL
INFORMED

SKILLS &
KNOWLEDGE

SUSTAINABLE
REGIONAL
ASSOCIATIONS

MOBILITY

EMPLOYMENT

HEALTH &
WELLNESS

EMPOWERMENT

ACTIVITIES

DRIVING
AMBITIONS

BAGS OF
HOPE

EDUCATION
FUND

MEMBERSHIP
DEVELOPMENT

ASSISTIVE
DEVICES

CV
DATABASE

PUBLICATIONS

WPRPD

LOBBY
DoT

PEER
SUPPORT

LEARNERSHIPS
& INTERNSHIPS

GOVERNANCE
& COMPLIANCE

SPORTS
FUND

EMPLOYMENT
PROJECT

LOBBY
DoH

LOBBY &
ADVOCACY

QASA
FLEET

ROLLING
INSPIRATION

LIFE COACHING

CONSTITUTION
ALIGNMENT

MOBILITY
AIDS

SENSITIZATION
TRAINING

RELATIONSHIP
SASCA

MONITORING &
EVALUATION

SADA
AFFILIATION

QASA
PUBLICATIONS

AFFILIATION
TO QASA

DoH ASSISTIVE
DEVICE
MONITORING

EMPLOYER
RELATIONSHIPS

INFORMATION
PROVISION

QASA
MEMBERSHIP

WORKSHOPS &
CONFERENCES

OUTREACH
PROJECT

DRIVING
AMBITIONS

SASCA
AFFILIATION

TRAINING

HOME ACCESS
PROJECT

ACCESS to
HEALTH PROJECT

WWW &
FACEBOOK

RESOURCE MODEL



RESOURCE MOBILISATION & FUNDRAISING

QASA Resource Mobilisation Strategy

To support the sustainability and growth of its programmes and operations, QASA continues to implement a comprehensive resource mobilisation strategy focused on diversifying income sources and strengthening organisational capacity. Key components of the strategy include:

- Fundraising initiatives and campaigns
- Provision of services and consulting opportunities
- Development of alternative revenue streams
- Utilisation of pro bono professional services
- Investment in income- and dividend-generating opportunities
- Endorsement initiatives and awareness-raising campaigns

This multifaceted approach enables QASA to secure both restricted and unrestricted funding, ensuring the organisation can deliver meaningful services, maintain operational stability, and respond effectively to emerging priorities and community needs.

Building Strategic Partnerships

QASA remains committed to developing and strengthening strategic partnerships with a wide range of stakeholders, including:

- Event organisers
- Grant-making organisations and donors
- Corporate sponsors and charitable trusts
- Government departments and public institutions
- Private individuals and philanthropic foundations

These partnerships are instrumental in mobilising resources, expanding organisational reach, and supporting the long-term sustainability of QASA's programmes, services, and advocacy initiatives.

Recent Support (Past 12 Months)

QASA gratefully acknowledges the generous support and grants received from the following partners:

- Davies Trust
- R B Hagart Trust
- The Cape 1000
- Coloplast
- Q20
- SABAT Batteries (Auto-X)
- Nedbank Payroll Giving
- Federated Employers Mutual Assurance Company (FEMA)

These contributions have played a vital role in sustaining QASA's projects, assisting individuals with disabilities, and strengthening organisational capacity.

QASA Shareholding and Member Benefits

QASA holds a shareholding in CE Mobility, the largest wheelchair manufacturer and distributor in South Africa. As a shareholder, QASA receives annual dividends based on CE Mobility's performance and profitability. This ensures an active voice of quadriplegics and paraplegics in the development and supply of wheelchairs across the country.



Additionally, QASA members continue to benefit from an exclusive 10% discount on all purchases made through CE Mobility, enhancing affordability and access to quality mobility solutions.

QASA also owns a 25% shareholding in Ukuhamba Wheelchairs (Pty) Ltd, a subsidiary company of CE Mobility, further strengthening QASA's strategic involvement in the mobility and assistive devices sector.

QASA further hold a 12% shareholding in Motiv Electrical South Africa.

Pro Bono Services

QASA benefits from several valued pro bono partnerships that contribute significantly to its operational efficiency and sustainability:

Deneys provides QASA with pro bono legal services. This partnership is invaluable in supporting QASA and its Regional Associations with compliance, legal matters, and governance. In this past year, they have assisted in ensuring POPIA Compliance is up to standard.



Newsclip has generously provided QASA with a complimentary media clipping service for over 10 years, supporting our public relations and media monitoring efforts. These services are crucial to ensuring that QASA is in the forefront of disability media.



Tracker supports QASA by offering free tracking services for all QASA-owned vehicles. Currently, three tracking units are active under this arrangement.



Mzansi Security & Fire delivers pro bono security services to the QASA Head Office, ensuring the safety of staff, assets and infrastructure.



Turrito continues to contribute to QASA's IT stability by offering free IT maintenance services, ensuring smooth daily operations.



Argantic provides a well-organised and efficient membership management system that ensures critical information is accessible and secure. This has been the driving force behind our member database, ensuring data safety and optimal data usage.



These partnerships are instrumental in reducing operational costs and enabling QASA to allocate more resources directly toward its programmes and beneficiaries.

Loyalty Programme Contributions

QASA continues to be a proud beneficiary of various loyalty-based funding programmes, which provide consistent and unrestricted income:

Nedbank Payroll Giving Programme



QASA has once again been appointed as a beneficiary of this programme from December 2025 to June 2026. Through this initiative, Nedbank employees voluntarily donate a portion of their salaries to QASA. A new contract with Nedbank ensures the distribution of funds, which are allocated toward QASA's programmes such as the outreaches and accessible homes.

Woolworths MyDifference Programme



Since January 2011, QASA has been one of six selected beneficiaries of the MySchool programme. The MySchool MyVillage MyPlanet initiative has transitioned into MyDifference, a unified loyalty and fundraising system by Woolworths. QASA has been confirmed as a MyDifference partner and has been working with Woolworths to ensure that our members sign up to receive funds.

These loyalty programmes are vital components of QASA's sustainability model.

QASA PROPERTY

QASA Properties and Utilisation

17 Hamilton Crescent, Gillitts

This property serves as the QASA Head Office. The outbuilding and granny flat are permanently occupied by tenants, which adds to QASA's income.

Additionally, office space within the main QASA office building is rented to Pro Mobility and OMS Medical.



QASA Head Office

QASA STAFF

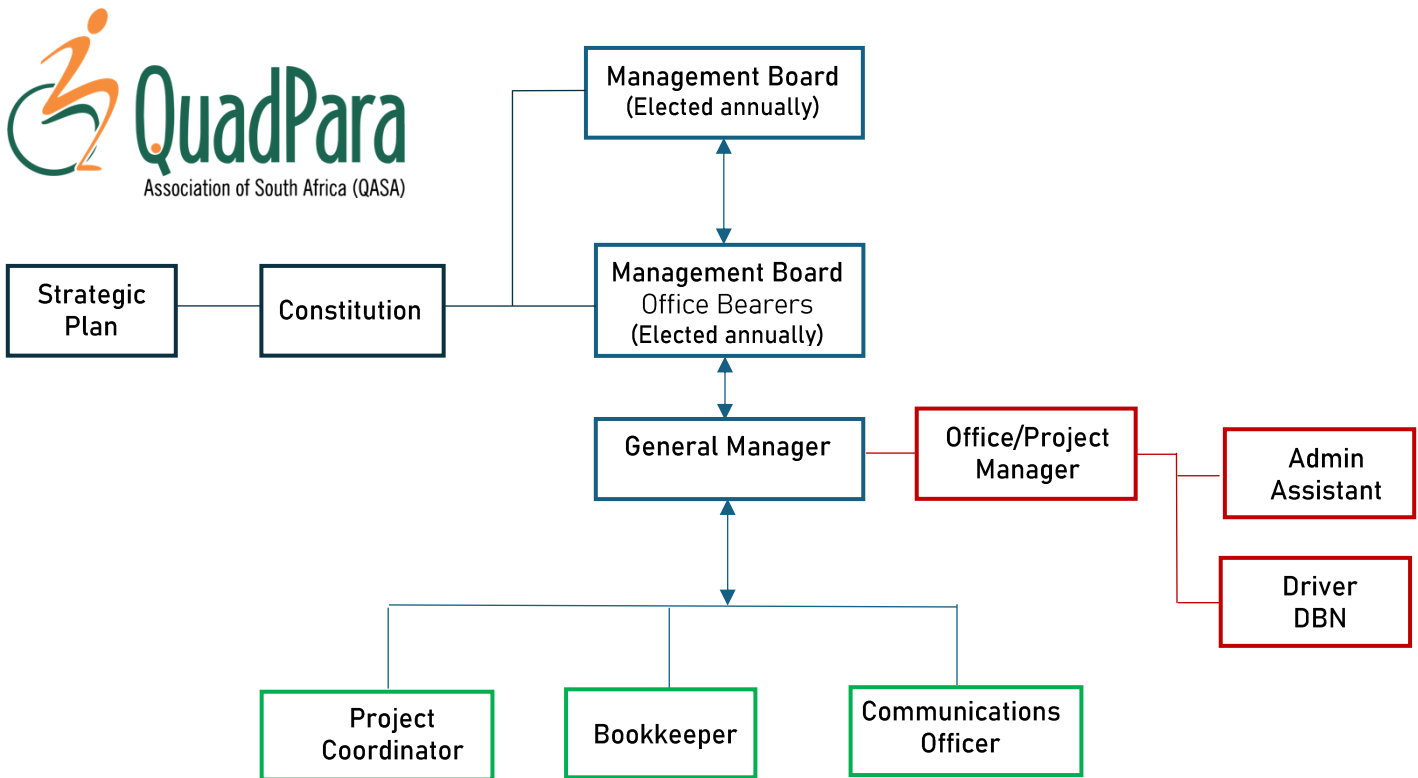


Ashley Scott – General Manager/ **Chadley Muller** – Project Coordinator/ **Mariska Morris** – Communications Officer



Louise Rode – Office Manager/ **Nonkululeko Jokazi** – Office Administrator/ **Gayleen Boulle** – Bookkeeper

QASA STAFF ORGANOGRAM



REGIONAL ASSOCIATIONS SUPPORT

QASA works closely with the Regional Associations through office development, capacity-building, and governance and compliance initiatives. We also supply brand materials, road safety resources, publications, promotional items, and offer Website and Facebook page support. In January 2026, QASA held a fundraising workshop for the regions, contributing towards their sustainability.

The Regional Associations ensure their members have access to QASA programmes, services and play a key role in facilitating the application process.

SENSITISATION WORKSHOPS AND TRAINING

QASA has run various sensitisation training workshops this year, which have proved to be very effective and generated a revenue stream. QASA can deliver good and effective training workshops, and are considered competent and competitive in Disability Sensitisation and Awareness Training.

Training was provided for:

- Colossal Aviapartner – Johannesburg; Cape Town and Durban in order to ensure good quality services for assisted passengers at the airports.
- Menzies – Johannesburg and Cape Town.

A total of 375 airport staff were trained. Furthermore, the executive team have been involved with engagements with Lift and SAFAIR regarding passenger assist services and the weights of wheelchairs allowed on the airlines.

This training provides valuable revenue for QASA and allows QASA to maintain relationships and strong partnerships with the airline industry.



Anthony Ghillino with airport staff during training

PROVISION OF MOBILITY & ASSISTIVE DEVICES

One of QASA's core responsibilities is to ensure that members have access to the essential equipment, assistive devices, and mobility aids they require, particularly where these cannot be obtained through the government or medical aid. QASA funds certain items directly for qualifying members and supports members in applying for equipment through partner funders and donors.

Before awarding mobility aids, especially wheelchairs to members reliant on disability grants, QASA engages with the relevant provincial authorities. This ensures that the distribution process aligns with the Department of Health's National Assistive Device Policy and helps identify potential constraints in service delivery. Applications for assistive devices, mobility aids, and repairs are submitted through QASA's Regional Associations on behalf of their members.

QASA has an established application process that includes both an assessment and a means test. This ensures the fair, transparent, and effective selection, distribution, and maintenance of wheelchairs and other assistive devices.

In addition to providing new equipment, QASA facilitates the repair and servicing of existing wheelchairs to support members in maintaining their mobility and independence. A total of 29 members directly benefitted from this project to the value of R 218 092.



Beneficiaries of the QASA Assistive Devices Programme

ACCESSIBLE HOMES

Through this project QASA aims to assist members who have limited or no accessibility within their homes including access to their front doors, bedrooms or bathrooms. Many quadriplegics and paraplegics in South Africa live in semi-rural or township areas and often lack the financial means to make these essential home modifications.

QASA plays a vital role in upholding the basic human rights of these members by ensuring they have safe and dignified access to their living spaces. To ensure fairness and accountability, QASA follows a structured selection process that includes a means test, ensuring that the allocation of assistance is fair, transparent, and effective in reaching those most in need.

Within the last year, 10 QASA members have had their homes adapted to ensure that they are able to independently move around their homes with dignity:

Location	Number of beneficiaries	Amount spent
Eastern Cape	1	R9 580.00
Gauteng	1	R15 929.00
KwaZulu Natal	4	R38 925.00
Western Cape	3	R31 767.17
TOTAL		R96 201.17



Photos from a recent project through the programme. On the left is the home before it was made accessible. On the right is the home after a pathway was built.

DATABASE DEVELOPMENT - Membership

An essential responsibility of QASA is the ongoing development and maintenance of a comprehensive database of members and persons with spinal cord injuries. In addition, QASA compiles databases of individuals who have participated in its projects or expressed an interest in the Association. Key initiatives contributing to these databases include the Work Readiness Programme, Driving Ambitions Project, SABAT Battery Project, Parking Project, Road Safety Programme, and Regional Association memberships.

In the past year QASA has worked towards updating this database, ensuring that the information gathered will benefit all members, within POPIA guidelines.

EDUCATION FUND

QASA offers bursaries to Quadriplegics and Paraplegics to study courses of their choice at institutions of their choice through the Education Fund. The project is promoted through QASA's Regional Associations and social media platforms.

QASA extends sincere appreciation to **Red Bull** for their continued support in funding our members' educational pursuits.

Within the last year, 4 members have had their studies fully funded through Red Bull, with QASA directly funding a further 3 members. This brings the total spent on education in the last year to R255 819.



Beneficiaries of the QASA Education Fund

SPORT FUND

QASA aims to provide Quadriplegics and Paraplegics with opportunities to access funding for sporting and hobby activities. Recognising the value of sport and hobbies in promoting health, social engagement, mental health and personal development, QASA seeks to encourage participation and development within these areas.

Although there were 68 members who applied, a total of 27 beneficiaries were supported at the OCC Wheelchair Race in February 2026, costing R49 950. Including other applications for equipment, the total funds distributed amounted to R 53 000.



Beneficiaries of the QASA Sports Fund

OUTREACH SERVICES

QASA provides outreach services both directly from Head Office and on the ground, in close collaboration with our Regional Associations. Our first point of contact with newly injured quadriplegics and paraplegics is through the **Bags of Hope project**, which offers essential information about QASA and the services available to them.

Through the QASA website and our active presence on Facebook, Instagram and LinkedIn, we ensure that quadriplegics and paraplegics can easily access information, support and opportunities. Individuals can connect with QASA's projects and services via their Regional Associations or, in areas where no Regional Association exists, directly through Head Office.

QASA also maintains a wide communication network using e-mail and project-related databases to respond to enquiries and share important updates. In addition, we make sure that our brand and resources are visible at key conferences, workshops and events, further extending our reach and impact.

This year, QASA has started to deploy "Community Partners" who are identified as leaders in their community to link quadriplegics and paraplegics to QASA and its services through visits to hospitals, and community members who are wheelchair users. The community partners undergo training and continuous engagement with the project manager to ensure that the information being disbursed is up to date and accurate.

In the last operational year, QASA has visited all 9 provinces, with a focus being on reaching more rural areas. We visited the following areas within the past year:





The QASA team during their Outreaches in 2026

SABAT/AUTOX BATTERY PROJECT



QASA's long-standing partnership with AUTO-X continues to deliver essential mobility support to quadriplegic members who rely on power wheelchairs. Through this initiative, eligible members can apply for a set of SABAT batteries every two years, ensuring their wheelchairs remain functional and reliable.

From September 2025 to September 2026, a total of **72 sets of batteries** were awarded and distributed. Applications are coordinated by the Regional Associations and approved by QASA, ensuring fair and efficient distribution.



Beneficiaries of the SABAT Battery Partnership

DRIVING AMBITIONS

Driving Ambitions, QASA's Driver Training Project, provides our members the opportunity to learn to drive using adapted vehicles, promoting independence and accessibility. The programme operates in Centurion, Pretoria, Johannesburg, Durban and surrounding areas, as well as the City of Cape Town and its surrounds.

QASA has established partnerships with reputable driving schools in Pretoria and Cape Town to deliver this service to our members. In Durban, QASA offers the programme directly through its own adaptive vehicle and qualified driving instructor, ensuring that members in the region receive comprehensive driver training.

To ensure fairness and accountability, QASA implements a clear application process for the Driving Ambitions Programme, which includes a means test. This approach helps identify and prioritise members who are most in need of support and best positioned to benefit from the opportunity to achieve driving independence. Within the past year, QASA met with a driving school in Coega, Gqeberha, to possibly provide a driving school in the Eastern Cape. These discussions are still in progress.

Within the past year, 11 QASA members have earned their driver's licence through the Driving Ambitions programme. This is one of our most popular programmes and continues to grow from strength to strength. The distribution of members is as follows:

Location	Number of beneficiaries
Gauteng North	2
Gauteng South	2
KwaZulu Natal	2
Limpopo	1
Mpumalanga	1
Western Cape	3
TOTAL	11

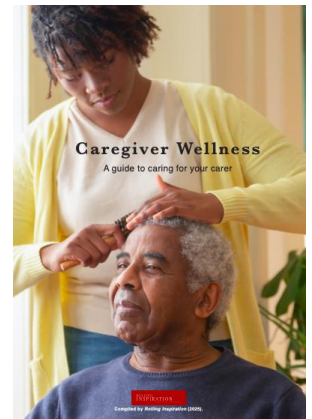


A beneficiaries of the QASA Driving Ambitions Programme

INFORMATION DISSEMINATION /PUBLICATIONS

QASA distributes information to Regional Associations, hospitals, rehabilitation units and schools on demand through our website. This ensures that service providers to the spinal cord injured community remain informed and up to date.

Information is also distributed electronically to members and health professionals, covering topics relevant to spinal cord injury, paraplegia and quadriplegia. This includes legislation, disability sensitisation, policy, human rights, regulations, health and wellbeing, sexuality, universal design, employment, assistive devices, reimbursement and accessibility. This year included the addition of the Caregiver Wellness Booklet, providing guidance on caring for carers to ensure a good quality and sustainable caregiving relationship.



QASA publishes a range of these booklets and manuals to distribute these to hospitals, rehabilitation units, individuals and members. Bulk orders are accepted and provide revenue for reprinting.

Publications available in the QASA Store:

[Hidden Consequences of Spinal Cord Injuries](#)

[Overt Consequences of Spinal Cord Injuries](#)

[Sexuality after a SCI](#)

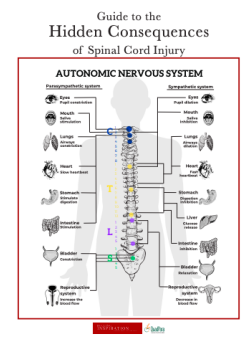
[Reimbursement Toolkit](#)

[Sawubona Disability](#)

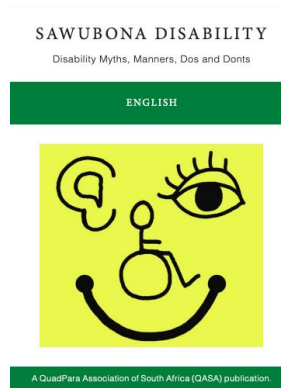
[Caregiver Wellness Booklet](#)

[Autonomic Dysreflexia Card](#)

[Hospital Pre-admission Form](#)



The publication of QASA manuals ensures the delivery of accurate and relevant information to members, persons with disabilities, and the health profession sector.



The range of QASA publications

ACCESSIBLE PARKING PERMITS

Wheelchair parking bays are reserved for persons who use wheelchairs, either as drivers or passengers. These bays are designed to provide safe and convenient access. They are not only located close to building entrances but are also wider than standard bays, allowing sufficient space for wheelchair users to enter or exit vehicles safely. This extra width ensures safer transfers and helps prevent damage to nearby vehicles.

To make use of these bays, a Disabled Parking Permit or Badge is required. This disc must be displayed in the vehicle whenever it is parked in a designated wheelchair parking bay. QASA provides this wheelchair parking card as an interim measure, to provide the accredited user with an identification so that the accredited user can feel comfortable and confident when using a wheelchair demarcated parking facility.



This card is not recognised by any Municipality, Local Authority or the Department of Transport but is an instrument issued by QASA and promoted by QASA in the effort to ensure that QASA members have rightful usage of wheelchair parking bays. There is no fee for the processing of the permit, however there is a fee for courier fees.

BAGS OF HOPE

The Bags of Hope Project is a longstanding partnership between Coloplast and QASA, established in September 2003, with CE Mobility recently joining the initiative.

A spinal cord injury can be life-changing, and the journey to recovery often requires months, and sometimes years, of intensive rehabilitation. During this process, individuals learn to manage critical aspects of daily life, including bladder and bowel care, wheelchair mobility and pressure relief. They are also introduced to the realities of independent living, employment, relationships and intimacy.

However, once rehabilitation ends and individuals are discharged, many find themselves without ongoing support and guidance. Recognising this gap, QASA developed the Bags of Hope Project to ensure that no person leaves rehabilitation feeling isolated, unsupported, or unprepared for life after injury.

Each Bag of Hope contains essential information and resources, including a branded Coloplast water bottle, a bottle of Q20 for wheelchair maintenance, The Hidden Consequences of Spinal Cord Injury booklet, the Sawubona Disability booklet, a Coloplast information pamphlet, a QASA brochure, and a QASA membership application form. Most importantly, newly injured paraplegics and quadriplegics are introduced to QASA's programmes and services, as well as informed about the benefits of membership and the support available to them.

These bags are distributed by Coloplast and QASA's regional representatives throughout South Africa, providing recipients with more than just practical resources. They offer hope, encouragement, and a vital connection to a supportive community as individuals begin a new chapter in their lives.



The QASA Bag of Hope with all of the contents included

ADAPTED CAR HIRE

The QASA bus fleet currently consists of a Toyota Quantum stationed at our Head Office in Gillitts, KwaZulu-Natal. This vehicle provides much-needed transport for members to attend various events, activities, and programmes. The Quantum also provides a source of income within Durban as members can book trips with the Quantum and Shaun as the driver.

We are grateful to Tracker for their continued generous support in providing a tracking service for all QASA vehicles, ensuring safety and peace of mind on every trip.



The QASA Toyota Quantum at the head office

QASA WEBSITE AND SOCIAL MEDIA

QASA has a website and several social media pages (including Facebook, LinkedIn and Instagram). These platforms are used to share vital information with the QASA members. Within the past year, we closed our X account as it is not an ideal platform to reach our QASA social media goals.

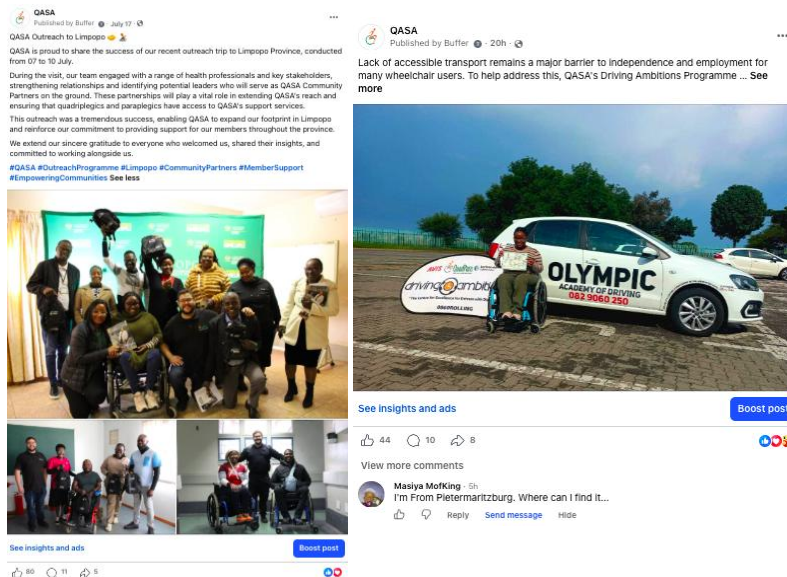
Please see below the reach achieved per platform per month. “Reach” is the total number of people who have seen and engaged with our content even if they don’t follow the page:

Platform	Reach (# people who saw/ heard content)										
	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec/ Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug
Facebook	10 648	61 158	36 606	17 649	47 999	19 583	11 143	29 491	26 571	23 468	17 719
Instagram	1440	3052	5875	441	720	412	213	7173	1234	1458	676
LinkedIn	2019	2086	2076	745	1601	1277	772	636	2940	1345	1228
Website	1400	2671	1700	1867	1700	1600	1500	1675	1567	1210	1491
TOTAL	15 507	68 967	46 257	20 702	52 020	22 872	13 628	38 975	32 312	27 481	21 114

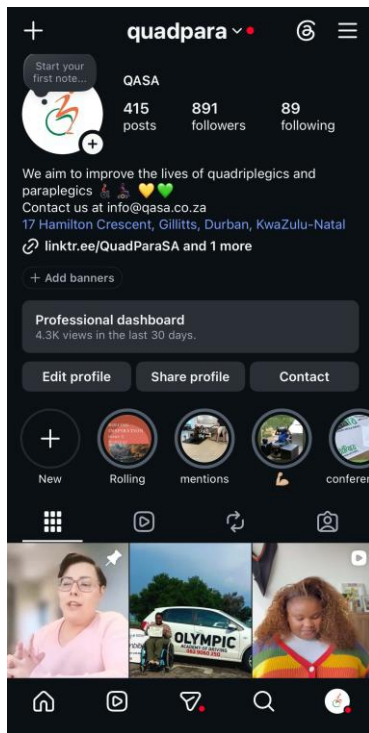
Our social media reach reflects the type of content released, with high numbers reflected in very busy months within QASA, where there is plenty of video content being released.

The website continues to be very active and is updated monthly with important information, updates and connections to information.

Find us on Facebook at @QuadParaSA:



Find us on Instagram at @QuadPara and on LinkedIn at @QuadParaAssociation.



ROAD SAFETY EARLY INTERVENTION & PREVENTION PROGRAMMES

SCHOOLS

The Road Safety Early Intervention and Prevention Programme aims to educate school learners about road safety and the prevention of spinal cord injuries and fatalities resulting from motor vehicle accidents. Through engaging, interactive, and age-appropriate presentations, learners are equipped with the knowledge and skills needed to make safer choices as passengers and future drivers.

The programme highlights key road safety practices, including the importance of wearing seatbelts, avoiding distracted driving, crossing roads safely, wearing reflective clothing when visibility is poor, and never travelling with drivers who are under the influence of alcohol or other substances. This year, we were also very excited to extend this programme to the Eastern Cape through the participation of our dedicated Community Partners.

Within the last year, the programme has reached and impacted more than 2 000 learners, reinforcing powerful QASA messages such as **“Buckle Up! We Don’t Want New Members!”** and **“No Texting While Driving!”**

In addition to promoting road safety, the programme fosters disability awareness and inclusion. QASA members who use wheelchairs share their personal experiences, providing valuable insight into the experiences and challenges faced by people with disabilities and encouraging respectful and positive interactions with persons with disabilities.

This initiative continues to play an important role in advancing road safety awareness, promoting inclusion, and preventing spinal cord injuries among young people. QASA extends its sincere appreciation to the Regional Associations and Community Partners whose commitment and coordination make the successful delivery of this programme possible.

Location	Number of Learners impacted
Eastern Cape	7 343
Gauteng North	2 649
Western Cape	1 374
TOTAL	11 366



The QASA team and Community Partners during School visits

FUEL STATIONS

The Road Safety Early Intervention & Prevention campaign at fuel stations emphasises the importance of wearing seatbelts and the risks associated with distracted driving. With the support of QASA's Regional Associations and Community Partners, members are positioned at fuel stations along major national routes, where they actively engage drivers in conversations about road safety. These prevention campaigns are specifically focused on the two busiest seasons on the road: December festive season and Easter public holidays.

Motorists are invited to sign a Road Safety Pledge and receive a "Buckle Up" licence disk as a visible reminder of their commitment to safe driving. Guided by the powerful slogans *"Buckle Up! We don't want new members"* and *"No texting and driving"*, the initiative promotes prevention and responsible behaviour on the roads.

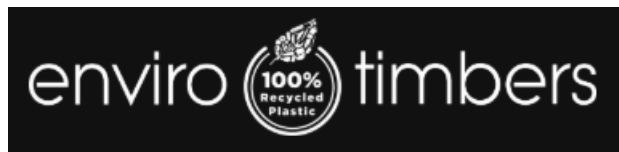
Within the last year, **3 140 motorists** have pledged to wear their seatbelts, avoid texting while driving, and adhere to the rules of the road.

Location	Number of pledges
Eastern Cape	377
Gauteng North	351
Gauteng South	1 370
Western Cape	1 042
TOTAL	3 140



A QASA member engaging with a driver during our Road Safety campaign at a fuel station.

BOTTLE TOPS FOR WHEELCHAIRS



QASA has partnered with Enviro Timbers for the *Bottle Tops Project*. This initiative focuses on recycling plastic bottle tops in exchange for funding toward wheelchairs. Enviro Timbers uses these recycled tops to manufacture high-quality furniture, including benches, chairs, patio sets, kiddies' furniture, and other outdoor items. In return, Enviro Timbers provides R3.80 per kg into the Assistive Devices fund, which funds wheelchairs for our members.

This year, QASA partnered with Nedbank in July to collect as many bottle tops as possible from the Nedbank staff across their 16 campuses and beyond for Mandela Day, to contribute further to the Assistive Devices fund. We are exceptionally grateful for the collaboration and green economy involved! The total amount collected from Nedbank will only reflect in the next operational year.

QASA has also outsourced the recycling of *bread tags* to various collectors. Although this project does not directly contribute to QASA's membership needs, it plays a valuable role in supporting wheelchair distribution. The provision of these standard wheelchairs has positively impacted many lives across the country.

From September 2025 to September 2026, QASA contributed **2 938.2kg of bottle tops** collected by Enviro Timbers toward recycling and funding for the Assistive Devices Project. This equates to R11 165.16 in funding for wheelchairs.

EMPLOYMENT PROGRAMME

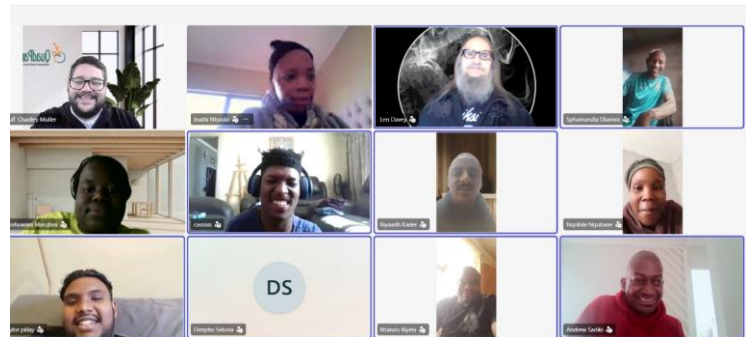
CV Database and Recruitment

QASA keeps a database of CVs provided by members so that when companies reach out to QASA indicating their interest in hiring a person with a disability, we can connect them to QASA members with skills in the required sector. This has been further strengthened in the last year with the new collaboration between QASA and **Sharon Callaghan Recruitment**, a company owned by a woman with a disability who specialises in placing professional with disabilities in positions in the corporate sector.

Furthermore, Sharon has assisted in providing CV revamping and interview training to assist in providing optimal outcomes. The project coordinator together with the recruiter is showing strengthened employment prospects for our members. Within the last year, between QASA and Sharon Callaghan recruitment, **32 CVs have been re-vamped, and 5 members have achieved full-time permanent employment.**

Life Coaching

Quadriplegics and paraplegics continue to face significant challenges related to independence, emotional well-being, and personal growth, which has shown to be a significant impacting factor in gaining employment. While QASA's previous Work Readiness Programme has successfully equipped candidates with valuable employability skills, many graduates continue to experience low self-confidence, uncertainty about their future goals, and difficulties maintaining motivation and a positive outlook.



To address these challenges, QASA introduced the Life Coaching Programme, a structured psychosocial support initiative designed to empower wheelchair users through the development of emotional resilience, self-leadership, and personal growth. The six-week online programme is facilitated by a qualified life coach who is also a paraplegic, providing participants with a relatable, peer-based, and empathetic coaching experience.

Through weekly one-on-one coaching sessions, participants are encouraged to explore their aspirations, identify personal and external barriers, and develop practical strategies to overcome them. The programme focuses on fostering a positive mindset, building self-confidence, challenging limiting beliefs, setting realistic and achievable goals, and creating actionable plans for the future.

The outcomes of the programme have been encouraging, with participants demonstrating improved self-belief, enhanced emotional well-being, and a clearer sense of purpose in both their personal and professional lives. By promoting independence, resilience, and self-empowerment, the Life Coaching

Programme plays an important role in supporting participants on their journey towards greater social and economic participation, including employment opportunities.

Between **September 2025 and September 2026**, a total of **39 QASA members** participated in the Life Coaching Programme.

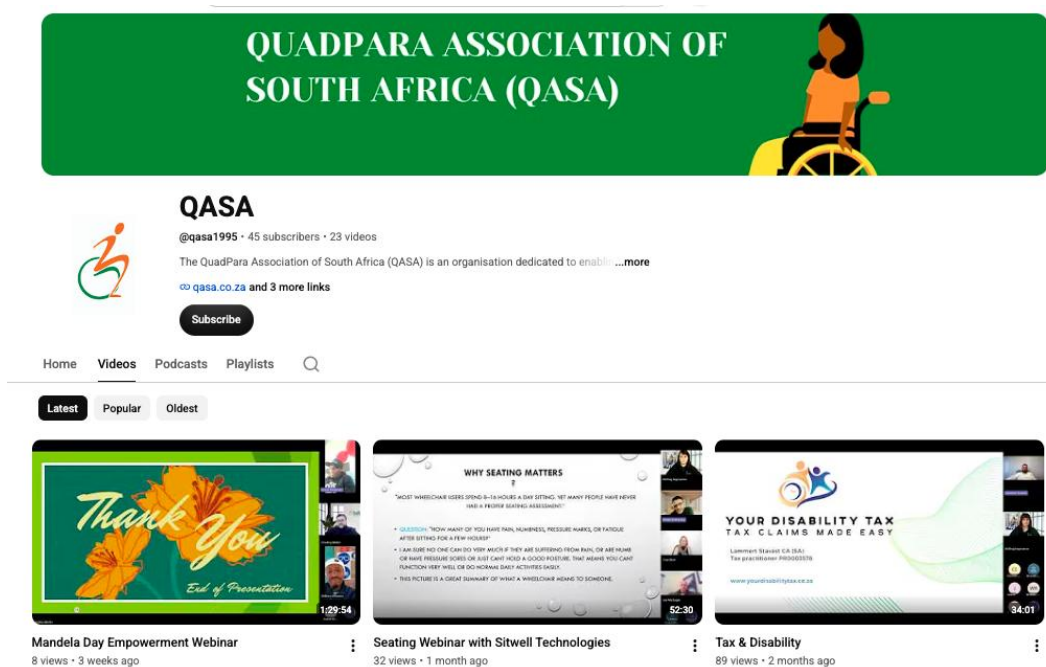
Province	Number of Life Coaching Graduates
Gauteng	10
KwaZulu Natal	9
Western Cape	7
Limpopo	5
Free State	3
Eastern Cape	2
Northern Cape	1
North West	1
Mpumalanga	1
TOTAL	39

WEBINARS

Within the last year, QASA has presented a robust schedule of webinars exploring different topics relevant to quadriplegics and paraplegics with speakers very experienced in the topics:

Date of Webinar	Attendees
03 December 2025: "Advocacy, Policies and the Law: Understanding and Advocacy for Persons with Disabilities."	Live attendees: 20 Views YouTube - 61
17 February 2026: "Love, Relationships & Disability: The Right to Belong, Connect and Be Included."	Live attendees: 29 Views YouTube - 18
27 March 2026: "Employment: Work is a Human Right – Advancing Employment for Persons with Disabilities"	Live attendees: 45 Views YouTube - 31
11 June 2026: "The Right to Financial Equality: Understanding your Rights and Responsibilities through the Disability Tax System."	Live attendees: 20 Views YouTube - 88
25 June 2026: "The Right to Freedom of Movement: Understanding your Wheelchair and Seating."	Live attendees: 15 Views YouTube - 31
15 July 2026: "Embracing the Spirit of Mandela: Your Right to Empowerment and Upliftment".	Live attendees: 16 Views YouTube - 8
30 July 2026: "Introducing the Product Infyna"	Live attendees: 35 Views YouTube - 5

The full recording of all our webinars can be found on the QASA YouTube Channel at @Qasa1995.



RESEARCH

Access to Health Project

The Access to Health (AtH) project is a research project funded by Coloplast Denmark. In the last financial year, QASA has been funded from phase 6 and now into phase 7. The main purpose of the research project is to engage with stakeholders to research and conclude the best practice protocols for bladder management to ensure that persons who use intermittent catheterisation can be assured that reuse is not imposed and that medical aids reimburse single-use catheters.



Phase 6 of the AtH project concluded at the end of November 2025 and the phase 7 contract of research funding proceeded in May 2026. The budget for this phase is R620 000 to achieve the Objectives QASA has committed to:

- **Objective 1:** Dissemination of the Council for Medical Schemes (CMS) clinical guidelines to funders, clinicians and users to make HCIC accessible to the wider South African population.
- **Objective 2:** Support the adoption and Implementation of the CMS guidelines via engaging with key stakeholders in the health policy arena
- **Objective 3:** Advocate for the adoption of the CMS guidelines by state and para-statal bodies (Road Accident Fund, COIDA, etc)

QASA established the Clinical Advisory Panel (CAP) which comprises of a group of doctors from the rehabilitation sector and urologists. It is facilitated by Mark Brand who is a consultant to QASA on this project. CAP is now hosted by the Southern Africa Spinal Cord Association (SASCA). This creates a valuable partnership between SASCA and QASA.



ROLLING INSPIRATION MAGAZINE



Rolling Inspiration, the lifestyle publication for people with mobility impairments, is owned and published by QASA. Since September 2025, four issues have been published:

Magazine	Views
Issue 4 2025	394
Issue 1 2026	500
Issue 2 2026	349
Issue 3 2026	421

*As at 16 September 2026

The magazine is accompanied by a website, monthly newsletter and social media pages. The website receives an average of 6 110 visitors per month. The newsletter has about 1 979 subscribers.

The Rolling Inspiration Facebook page has 3 986 followers, and the Instagram account has 574 followers. The pages reach a combined 11 412 people. The backbone of the magazine is the contribution from the columnists for which we are extremely grateful. QASA is also tremendously grateful for the support of advertisers.

Issue 4 2025



Issue 1 2026



Issue 2 2026



Issue 3 2026



EVENTS & Campaigns

Wings for Life World Run 2026

The Wings for Life World Run is a global race held on the first weekend of May since 2014 to collect funds for the Wings for Life Foundation. All funds raised through entry fees go toward the research for a cure for spinal cord injuries.

In partnership with Red Bull, QASA was invited to present medals to the racers at the in-person App Runs hosted by Red Bull in Cape Town, Gqeberha and Pretoria.

Due to weather warnings, the App Runs in Cape Town and Gqeberha were cancelled. The App Run in Pretoria went ahead with QASA members from the Gauteng North region presenting medals and representing QASA at the finish.



QASA members at the 2026 Wings for Life World Run

Mandela Day – 18 July 2026

In July, QASA ran an online campaign to encourage donations to the QASA Assistive Devices fund to align with Mandela Day. Members of the public were encouraged to donate a range of amounts related to R67, which went towards assisting QASA members with wheelchair repairs.



Scottburgh Beach Wheelchair

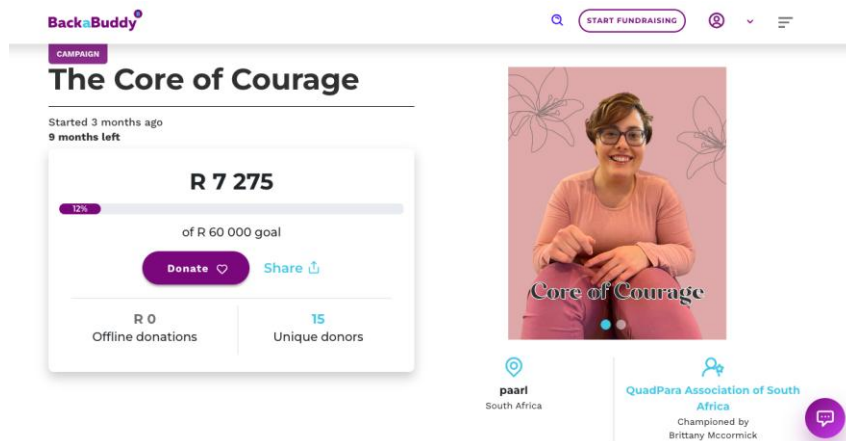
QASA Partnered with a Community Partner Sue Martin, who wanted to raise funds for a beach wheelchair in Scottburgh. Sue used a QASA BackaBuddy Campaign to raise R60 000 to purchase the wheelchair and facilitated the purchasing and organising for the upkeep of the beach wheelchair.

We applaud our member who stepped forward wanting to make a difference in their community and encourage all members to follow her lead!



Core of Courage

Brittany McCormick (cover lady for our Issue 2 for 2026) is currently raising funds for QASA's Employment Programme through BackaBuddy with her Core of Courage campaign. The goal is to raise R60 000. Brittany has already raised R7 275. The campaign can be found here: <https://www.backabuddy.co.za/campaign/the-core-of-courage>



QASA PARTNERSHIPS & RELATIONSHIPS

QASA is very active and involved in contributing to the following organisations:

- **The South African Disability Alliance (SADA):** QASA is very active with SADA and forms a part of the following sub-committees:
 - Small Business & Employment Sub-Committee
 - Transport Sub-Committee
 - Universal Access and Tourism Committee
 - Road Accident Fund Sub-Committee
- **Southern African Spinal Cord Association (SASCA)**
- **The Clinical Advisory Panel (CAP)**

QASA has representation of members in the **Presidential Working on Disability (PWGD)** and has attended stakeholder meetings at the Department of Women, Youth and Persons with a Disability.

QASA has a good relationship with the **Chris Burger Petro Jackson Players Fund (CBPJPF)** whose focus is to ensure prevention of catastrophic injury in rugby and sustaining the quadriplegics who have sustained their spinal cord injury because of rugby.



The QASA staff and executive team have regular meetings with Annie Dobson (CEO of CBJPF) and Shonee Cornelissen (Injured Player Welfare Officer) regarding changes in the industry as well as working together to ensure that our shared members are living their best lives! Successes have included the shared adaptation of two CBJPF beneficiaries' homes to improve independence of mobility.

Rugby's Caring Hands

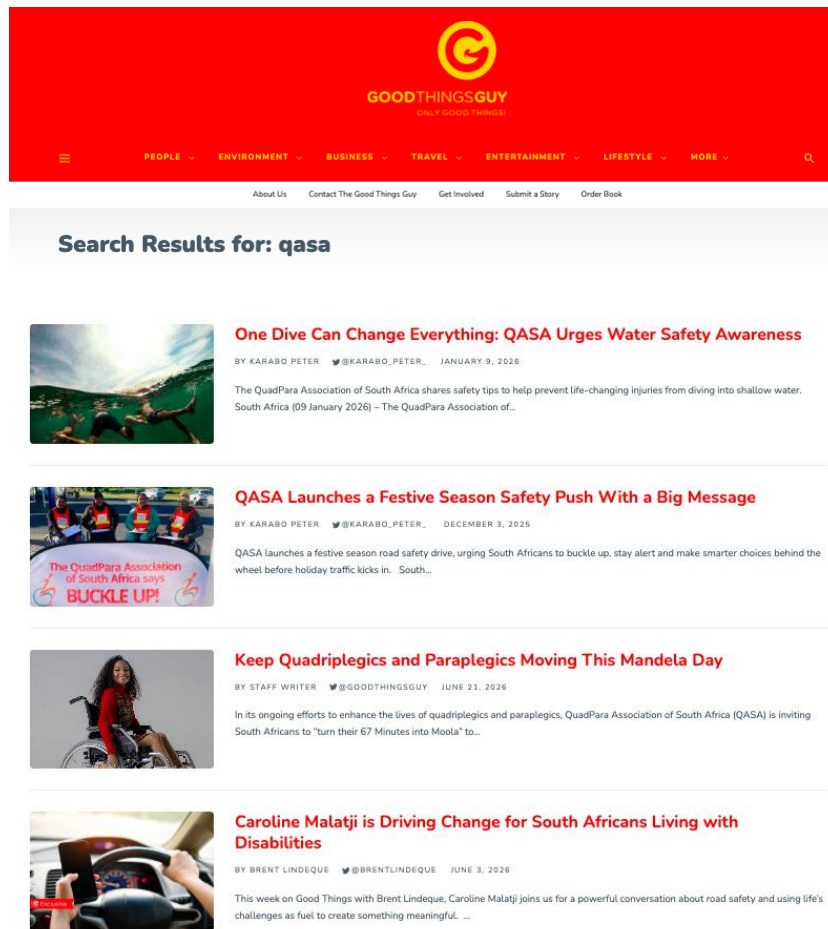
PR & MEDIA

QASA is proud of the strong and trusted brand we've built, recognised across communities, media, government, and corporate partners.

We are truly grateful to Newsclip for awarding us a continued 12-month pro bono media monitoring service. This allows us to see the real impact of our projects and how far our brand reaches. Even more special, this marks the 16th year that QASA has been a beneficiary of Newsclip's generous support.

QASA has released several press releases throughout the year mostly related to prevention including road safety awareness and a statement on the increased incidence of shallow dives over the December period.

These were picked up by Getaway (<https://www.getaway.co.za/travel-news/quadpara-association-of-south-africa-qasa-warns-against-shallow-diving/>) and GoodThingsGuy (<https://www.goodthingsguy.com/?s=qasa>).



QASA has had a strengthened relationship with GoodThingsGuy, Brent Lindeque and we were honoured to attend a podcast and speak about disability and road safety. This was attended by QASA member Caroline Malatji and QASA General Manager.



The full podcast episode can be found on the GoodThingsGuy YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vbu6ffwSVAA>. QASA also has regular slots on NFM and Skills Radio where different QASA initiatives and hot topics regarding disability are discussed.

QASA ADVOCACY & LOBBY

Advocacy and lobbying remain core priorities for QASA and will continue to feature prominently on the Association's agenda. QASA is widely recognised as a leader in promoting and protecting the rights of its members and persons with disabilities, utilising various legal instruments and the principles embodied in the White Paper on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (December 2015) to advance disability rights and ensure their effective implementation.

Through ongoing member engagement and public awareness initiatives, QASA has identified the misuse of designated wheelchair parking facilities as an area requiring continued attention. While not a primary focus of the Association's advocacy programme, the persistent abuse of these facilities highlights the need for greater public education and awareness regarding their intended purpose and lawful use.

To address this issue, QASA facilitates a public awareness and reporting initiative that encourages individuals to report the misuse of wheelchair parking bays. Members of the public submit photographs of vehicles unlawfully occupying these designated spaces via a dedicated WhatsApp platform.

These reports are monitored and followed up where appropriate to promote compliance, discourage repeated violations, and foster greater respect for accessibility provisions. The initiative also provides an opportunity for QASA to engage with a broader audience, expand its database of supporters, and raise awareness of the Association's programmes, services, and advocacy efforts.



**Seen someone abusing a
wheelchair demarcated parking bay?**
Please take a photo & ensure
the vehicle registration plate is clear
& wheelchair parking sign is visible
WhatsApp it to 073 853 9675
Please include location, date & time.

QASA is entering into a Memorandum of Understanding with the RAF and all the work in progress, QASA is in the final stages of agreeing on the terms.

National Parking Disk Policy continues to be formulated by QASA through the South African Disability Alliance (SADA). Regular awareness and information are provided to entities involved in parking-related matters.

QASA written to the Department of Health of all 9 provinces to account for the difficulty in accessing wheelchairs. This was responded to by the Western Cape and Gauteng Department of Health and continued communications are being held on this matter.

QASA has representation on the ACSA National Disability Forum (Cluster 1, 2 & 3 committees) ensuring access and management of people with disabilities in all ACSA owned airport facilities.

QASA is constantly addressing complaints of inaccessible environments and discrimination notified by Membership on an individual basis.

Members of the QASA Executive Committee also represent QASA and SADA at:

- Presidential Working Group on Disability (PWGD)
- Department of Public Works and Infrastructure (DPWI) Disability Advisory Council (DAC)
- STATS SA Disability Advisory Committee
- Commission for Employment Equity (CEE) – Department of Labour
- Community Based Rehabilitation (CBR) Africa Network (CAN)