

22 September 2020

Statement in response to media reports

We are astounded by the news reports that appeared in the media this weekend particularly because of its sensational, vicious and factually inaccurate nature.

KwaSizabantu Mission in Kranskop is an evangelical organisation with good relations and complete openness to other churches and organisations. The Mission teaches no new doctrine and does not believe that it has exclusive ownership of the truth.

One of the fundamental aims of a cult is to benefit an individual or a group of people. By contrast, the aim of KwaSizabantu Mission is to uplift society. aQuellé and Emseni Farming are income-generating businesses started by KwaSizabantu Mission to sustain the good work started over 50 years ago. Funds generated directly support the Mission's activities and have been used to assist countless people across our country with food, aQuellé products, sponsorship and donations to charities.

The Mission is a totally different place to the one described by these vindictive people in the media exposé. KwaSizabantu Mission was established in 1970 with a holistic approach, which aims to uplift people's lives morally and physically. Countless people and families have been hosted on the Mission free of charge, without needing to pay for housing, electricity and water. Over 1300 people from the community receive employment.

For more than 10 years, the Mission has been running a programme for drug and alcohol abuse addicts where it offers free assistance, accommodation and food to over 18 500 addicts over the years. The Mission sustains a community radio station, which has operated for 25 years and continues doing good and uplifts the rural community of KZN. It hosts a school started over 30 years ago, a teachers' college of education and supports them through funds and bursaries.

This is not the first time false stories have been spread about the Mission. The Mission has always believed that turning to the courts is not the avenue of choice to stop the spread of false stories, which undo the good work. However, given the severity of this attack, we have appointed an external committee consisting of legal, financial, business and community individuals to investigate the allegations and publish their findings.

Further updates to follow.

"It will become a majestic cedar, sending forth its branches and producing seed. Birds of every sort will nest in it, finding shelter in the shade of its branches." Ezekiel 17:23

Trustees: EH Stegen, BE Ngcamu, L Dube, ED Stegen, A van Eeden