

COMMUNITY SERVICE AT FOREST FARM CENTRE

Introduction: Forest Farm Centre is a residential facility for adults with cerebral palsy. Cerebral palsy is a condition that is normally diagnosed at birth. It is usually caused by damage to the brain, which leads to mobility disabilities. In many cases, as we have at Forest Farm Centre, cognitive, intellectual and speech disabilities also make up part of the condition.

Forest Farm Centre is a Non-Profit and Non-Governmental Organisation (NPO & NGO). It has been in existence since 1968. Our vision is to holistically care for, develop and enhance the quality of life, of our adult residents. We aim to do this through fund raising and creating awareness of Forest Farm Centre's needs and challenges; as well as awareness about Cerebral Palsy and our services. The centre is situated at the intersection of Republic Road and William Nicol Drive in the suburb of Hurlingham, Bryanston.

A total number of 75 residents are provided with 24 hour care in a tranquil and compassionate environment.

Opportunities for Community Service

- **Workshop** – the protective workshop runs from 09h00 to 15h00 on weekdays. Scholars can get involved by sitting, working and interacting with the residents. Best for school holidays
- **Sense lab** – the sense lab runs from 09h30 to 12h00 on week day mornings. Scholars can get involved by facilitating stimulation activities for the residents (puzzles, colour matching games, building blocks, colouring, reading stories, board games). Best for school holidays
- **Social activities** – these usually take place on Wednesdays. Scholars and parents can help out by donating decorative materials and items for gifts, prizes and goodie bags (monthly birthday bash, valentines dance, men's tea, ladies' tea, spring day sports, year-end concert)
- **By arrangement** – scholars can come and facilitate arts and crafts, play and sporting activities and other social activities at times that suit the scholars and the centre. Usually Saturdays or school holidays
- **Age:** from grade 9. Negotiable for younger learners, only grade 7 and 8.
- **Safety:** learners must be signed in and out by an adult at the social work office. If not the parent, there must be an accompanying letter (or e-mail in advance) stating the details of the person who will be transporting the learner.
- **Learners must be fully vaccinated**
- **Comfort:** learners must dress comfortably (tekkies, long jeans and t-shirts are suggested). Learners must provide their own refreshments if required.
- **To arrange** community service activities at Forest Farm Centre, contact the social worker Bulelwa Mahura (Buli) on 011 789 3008 or e-mail bulelwa@forest-farm.org . **VERY IMPORTANT: Please set aside 20 minutes for a mandatory parent meeting for first time visitors.**

