

Amelia receives R 230 000 payout from NWU

WOUTER PIENAAR

The power of community involvement was on full display at the NWU's Community and Stakeholder Engagement (CSE) annual Charity Ball event on August 26.

Financial payouts were given to various community organisations in Potchefstroom, Ikageng and Promosa, who applied as beneficiaries in the past 2025/26 year. Amelia Care Centre received the biggest payout of the evening, with an amazing R230 000 going to the facility.

The funds will be used to buy new mattresses for residents and materials for their workshop. John-Martin Parsons, the chairperson of Amelia Care Centre, was thrilled to receive this generous payout. "It is a huge honour to give the residents new mattresses so that they can have a great night's sleep," said Parsons. Dr Tasleem Sayed, chairperson of the CSE Advisory Board, emphasised the importance of CSE at North-West University using its resources, partnerships and student involvement to make a meaningful difference in surrounding communities.

She explained that true community engagement focuses on building lasting relationships, understanding genuine needs, and collaborating for sustainable progress rather than simply giving back.

Much of the funding for these initiatives comes from RAG, with CSE taking its responsibility for allocating these funds seriously. Sayed also praised the important role students play by connecting with children, foster families, older persons, schools, welfare organisations, and people with disabilities through these programmes.

"Behind every amount that we have mentioned tonight is a child who may have a safer place to play, a foster family receiving support, an older person living in a better-maintained home, an animal receiving food and warmth, a young person travelling on a safer road, or a person with a disability being given opportunities for dignity, participation and purpose.

That is what community engagement should ultimately be about: turning resources into meaningful change."



John-Martin Parsons (chairperson of Amelia Care Centre) with the payout cheque from NWU CSE. Next to him, from left to right: Michael Wade (Community and Stakeholder Engagement officer), Eagi, and Dr Tasleem Sayed (chairperson of the Community and Stakeholder Engagement Advisory Board).

Full list of payouts

- Love Potch – Safe Haven Aged Care: R1 500 towards repairs and maintenance at the Promosa facility.
- Pothole Drive – Promosa: R15 000 towards addressing potholes on a main road serving schools, residents and a clinic.
- Paws Haven Potchefstroom: R20 000 towards food and blankets for animals in its care.
- Retsa Tsela – Berts Bricks Primary School Restoration Project: R20 000 towards improving bathrooms, sanitation, hygiene and the

- school environment.
- Eco Hope: R25 000.
- Ebenezer Crèche: R37 000 towards installing a jungle gym. A project between NWU Faculty of Engineering and Oosterhof Ladies Residence.
- Vessels of Mercy – Healing Hearts: R45 000 towards supporting children in foster care who have experienced trauma and disrupted attachment.
- Potch4Life Family Support – COVERED: R55 000 for a trailer and shelving.

- Bafenyi Trust: R55 000 towards its Hygiene Pack Initiative and Christmas Project, benefiting approximately 1 000 people.
 - Thakaneng Home for Boys: R60 000 towards purchasing a washing machine and tumble dryer.
 - Voetlig Bedieninge: R65 000 towards constructing a carport and restoring the organisation's roof.
 - Amelia Care Centre: R230 000 towards new mattresses for residents and materials for its workshops.
- Total awarded: R628 500

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