

The 2017 Table Mountain Cableway Charity Challenge was again a resounding success. Two hundred athletes took to the mountain on a bright and sunny April fool's day and managed a combined 740 summits in just under 12 hours.

The athlete's 1,350 sponsors pledged a total of just over R970,000 of which we managed to collect R930,000. We are working hard to resolve some of the email firewall issues we encountered last year which will hopefully raise the collection rate.

The entire event is planned and managed by a team of volunteers from the JDI Foundation and wherever possible costs associated with the event are sponsored or donated.

Thanks go to the following for their contributions:

- Table Mountain Aerial Cableway Company headline sponsor
- IBIS Consulting Environmental Impact report
- Adidas race event shirts
- Pick 'n Pay race refreshments
- Messaris race refreshments
- Peninsula Beverages race refreshments
- Mantellis race refreshments
- Fairview wine and cheeses
- Striped Horse beers
- Top Copy printing services

However, there are expenses relating to the event such as Public Liability Insurance, SANParks and City event permits and their related costs which need to be covered out of proceeds from the day.

These totalled R30,000. A further R30,000 was retained in order to purchase an automated timing system for future events. Athletes participating in the 2018 event beware – you will be our guinea pigs!

The balance of R870,000 was paid out to:

- Wilderness Search & Rescue R90,000
- SAEP R260,000
- Paedspal R260,000
- Coolplay R260,000

Our beneficiaries are all extremely grateful to everyone involved in the event. It has become increasingly difficult to fund raise in our current economic environment and a big thanks go out to all athletes and sponsors alike.

Below is a short synopsis from each of the beneficiaries on where the funds raised will be applied. For more information about the organisations, please visit their respective websites.

SAEP (South African Education Project) – www.saep.org

SAEP has been a beneficiary of this event for 3 years.

In 2016 the funds from the event provided stipends to 70 students and in 2017 86 students were provided with an allowance ranging from R 1500 – R 5000 for the year. These allowances allowed student to cover their transport and academic expenses.

In addition to the financial support, the programme was able to provide extensive psycho social and on campus support. This was achieved through individual visits sessions, monthly report check in and visits to university campus. These support sessions allow for tailored support and to flag potential students who are struggling academically.

Funds were also used to cover transport and refreshments for students going on hikes throughout the year which gave them the opportunity to enjoy and appreciate our mountains and the natural environment.

Paedspal – www.paedspal.org.za

Paediatric Palliative Care is in very limited supply in SA and only the very fortunate are able to access it. Children from all walks of life, with life threatening and life limiting illnesses, are falling through the cracks and seeing out their very short lives in environments that are totally inappropriate. At the heart of it, children are not meant to die – but they do. The medical profession aims to cure children and will provide all the resources it possibly can to ensure that their patients can pull through and go on to a good life. In reality however, some kids just can't. These are the kids that we aim to look after and provide a multidisciplinary approach that caters for the kids and their families. (You may not know – but existing Hospices – like St Luke's – which do amazing work do not accept kids).

With the help of funding such as we received from this wonderful event, Paedspal are able to run an outpatient clinic as well as visit patients referred by public and private hospitals as well as hospices.

The team consists of 2 paediatricians, a medical officer, counsellor, OT and aromatherapist who regularly visit Red Cross, Groote Schuur and Mowbray maternity hospitals.

Coolplay - www.coolplaysa.com

CoolPlay is a program that changes the lives of young people by teaching them crucial life skills, through the medium of team sport. We work with over 1,000 kids with our team of 'Champions', who are trained coaches sourced from the communities we work in, who can teach both the sport and the life skills through the CoolPlay way.

Specifically, the CoolPlay Way takes kids through eight social and emotional competencies, which they work on throughout the year, teaching them about mutual respect, values, the right attitude and goals and dreams, giving them the skills and good foundation they need to achieve them. CoolPlay started with rugby, but has grown to netball, and soccer, with room to grow further - it isn't specific to any sports discipline (and it isn't really about the sport) - it's about giving the kids life lessons in an environment where they're likely to be open to them.

The funding received from the Cableway Charity Challenge in 2017, assisted us in growing our reach in at risk communities. In 2017, we delivered 2667 life skill sessions to 65 squads at 30 schools across the Western Cape. We were able to reach 1,100 children's each week across 5 areas and successfully hosted 5 sports tournaments: developing Champions and fostering good community spirit.

