

ABOUT STRAATWERK

Straatwerk is a Public Benefit Organisation (PBO) which runs a job rehabilitation and life rehabilitation programme for the destitute and unemployable. Called 'OPHELP', the initiative offers teams of workers who perform unskilled and semi-skilled manual labour under the supervision of a foreman as services to the benefit of the community as they learn to uplift themselves with dignity.

The labour is drawn from a pool of unemployed and homeless who are willing to work. They provide services such as street cleaning, graffiti removal, weeding and pruning, as well as loading and moving of heavy objects.

From the pool of willing workers, participants are allocated shifts on a rotational basis. As an incentive to progress, regulars who have proven themselves reliable get first option on some of the shifts available. The teams work in shifts of four hours.

Straatwerk operates in the Newlands to Observatory area out of a cleaning depot in Durban Road, Mowbray where job-seekers and those seeking help sign up for the programme on a daily basis. The organisation already attends to the cleaning requirements of several City Improvement Districts but has extended its service offering to a broader base, more particularly to local businesses and members of the public.



THE PRINCIPLES BEHIND THE 'OPHELP' INITIATIVE

'Ophelp Projekte' essentially are not simply "job creation" operations, they include a variety of "job rehabilitation" programmes for persons who do not yet qualify or are not yet able to work productively and responsibly on their own. The initiative helps desperate people, very often destitute, to obtain "cash in hand" by means of 'honest day's work' in a supervised team, as an alternative to aggressive begging or criminal activities.

Recruits participating in these activities are coached in the basic principles and ethics of hard work as a source of honest income and encouraged to obtain other employable skills by other means to eventually get themselves employed. They are also encouraged to become disciples of Jesus and join a disciple group, which is, however, in no way compulsory.



HOW YOU CAN HELP AND BENEFIT

Interested parties may partner in this endeavour by engaging an OPHELP team to undertake any manual labour projects that need doing. In this way the cost of the labour is sponsored by the company or community member providing the work opportunity.

Furthermore, all parties have their needs met in a prudent and practical way:

- OPHELP needs manual labour opportunities where willing participants can be coached to lead a productive life
- You, the Sponsor, need manual labour for your project or business
- Participants need cash in hand to survive and an opportunity to improve their lives

All of this adds up to an industrious community.

This partnership is more than just a business deal. By employing one of Straatwerks' teams, you are participating and investing in the rehabilitation of our community and of its most needy members.



TYPICAL SERVICES PROVIDED

A representative list of the private services offered in the Southern Suburbs, following the railway line and/or taxi routes from Observatory to Kenilworth are:

General unskilled labour in teams, doing

- Litter cleaning
- Field clearing
- Clearing out buildings
- Loading and off-loading
- Moving heavy objects

Semi-skilled labour in teams, doing

- Weed Removal and Bush Cutting
- Weed Spraying
- Storm Water Drain Cleaning
- Street Gutter Cleaning
- Grass Cutting and Pruning
- Graffiti Removal
- Road Marking
- Minor Road Maintenance

WHAT SATISFIED CLIENTS HAVE TO SAY

"The hard work has transformed the area and I hope it will remain like this for a while."

"Many thanks. I think you guys do amazing work – Straatwerk must be one of the organisations in CT that do more for the homeless/unemployed than any other I know of."

"Thanks for the continued clean up in our area, the street definitely looks better, especially after your team has been there."

For more information:

Call our Operations Office on 021 425 0140 or email us at ophelp.admin@straatwerk.org.za or visit: www.straatwerk.org.za/ophelp-projekte

COST STRUCTURE (RATE OF SERVICE)

Typical standard rates per 4 hour shifts (normal day time). All services can be tailored to specific requirements.

Details regarding the unskilled/semi-skilled services are as follows:

- General labour team* = 1 Regular Foreman + 2 Regular Workers = [R80 + (R60 x 2)] + 20% Admin Fee = R240
- Weed Removal and/or Bush Cutting team* = 1 Dignity Foreman + 1 Dignity Worker + 2 Regular Workers = [R110 + R70 + (R60 x 2)] + 20% Admin Fee = R360
- Weed Spraying team* = 1 Dignity Foreman + 1 Dignity Worker = [R110 + R70] + 20% Admin Fee = R216 etc
- Storm Water Drain Cleaning team* = 1 Dignity Foreman + 1 Dignity Worker + 3 Regular Workers = [R110 + R70 + (R60 x 3)] + 20% Admin Fee
- Channel Cleaning team* = 1 Dignity Foreman + 1 Dignity Worker + 3 Regular Workers = [R110 + R70 + (R60 x 3)] + 20% Admin Fee
- Grass Cutting and Pruning team* = 1 Dignity Foreman + 1 Dignity Worker + 2 Regular Workers = [R110 + R70 + (R60 x 2)] + 20% Admin Fee
- Graffiti Removal team* = 1 Dignity Foreman + 1 Dignity Worker + 1 Regular Worker = [R110 + R70 + R60] + 20% Admin Fee
- Road Marking team* = 1 Road Maintenance Foreman + 2 Road Maintenance Workers = [R120 + R75] + 20% Admin Fee
- Road Maintenance team* = 1 Road Maintenance Foreman + 2 Road Maintenance Workers = [R120 + R75] + 20% Admin Fee
- General unskilled labour* = 1 Regular Foreman + 2 Regular Workers = [R80 + (R60 x 2)] + 20% Admin Fee (Minimum Team size)



STRAATWERK

**HELP US TO HELP OTHERS
AS YOU HELP YOURSELF**

