

Kalk bay St James Special Rates Area Social Development

RE: TRISH

Over the last two years, much debate has been raised from concerned SRA community members regarding the well-being of a woman who has been living on the streets of Kalk Bay for the longest time. She is known to many as “Trish”. There have been many challenging times in trying to find a sustainable solution for Trish, often without her cooperation. Sometimes it felt like an impossible situation, however, perseverance has finally paid off.

After collaboration from many concerned parties, including the local business association, community members, security providers, SRA fieldworkers and the City of Cape Town’s field team, Trish was reunited with her daughter on Tuesday, 12 June 2018. The field team from the City of Cape Town assisted by the SRA fieldworkers, tracked down the family and ensured that reunification could happen. While the reunification was special it is only the first step towards a sustainable outcome for Trish and her family.

The family lives in a shack in someone’s backyard in Lavender Hill and is living below the breadline. An extra person to care for will undoubtedly add strain to the family’s situation as well. The SRA has assisted with a donation towards the application of an ID card for both Trish and her daughter, as well as food vouchers. It is hoped that this donation will serve to alleviate the pressure in a small way. The City’s reintegration team will provide support to Trish and her family going forward too.

The compassionate concern shown towards Trish’s circumstances by the community, local businesses and the City of Cape Town’s field team has highlighted the fact that positive outcomes can be achieved when collaboration occurs. We will continue to monitor this case in the hope of a sustainable outcome for Trish and her family. The road ahead is long and requires support from all partners in whatever way or form. If you would like to assist in any way, please contact the SRA Social Worker, Marion Thomas, via email on mamadu06@gmail.com.

The SRA expresses its sincere gratitude to all parties involved in making this possible. We hope that Trish will be able to sustain this opportunity with the proper support that keeps her from the streets for good.

