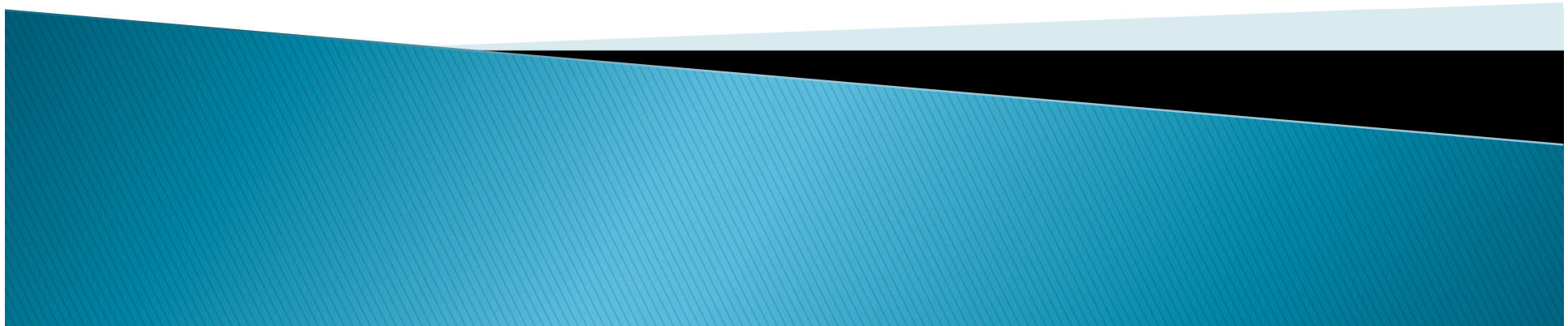




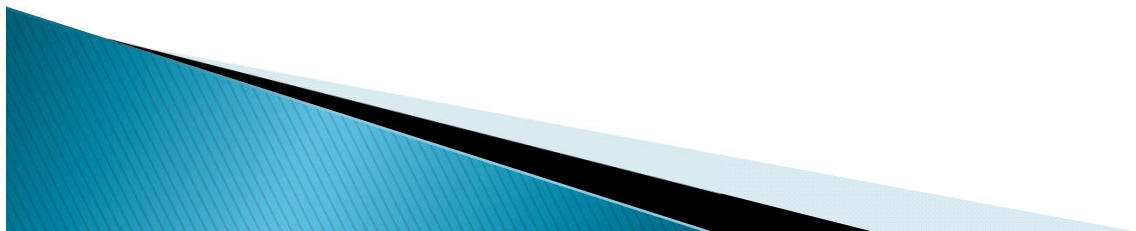
South African Older Persons' Forum

Roedolf Kay



History of the SAOPF

- ▶ In the year 2000, the former Minister of Social Development commissioned an investigation into the abuse, neglect and ill-treatment of older persons.
- ▶ Public hearings were held in all provinces and older persons told of the abuse they suffered at the hands of their families, communities and government officials.
- ▶ In 2005 the SAOPF has established to promote the rights and dignity of older persons, consult and advise government, influence legislation and policy.
- ▶ The SAOPF was established to give older persons a voice in society and government.



Mission & Vision of the SAOPF

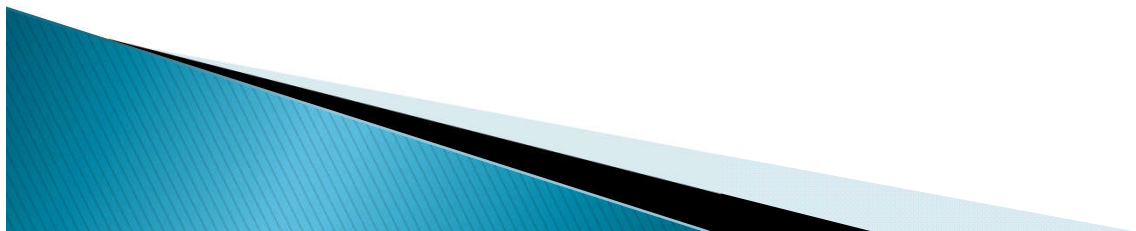
SAOPF Vision

A society for all ages in which:

- ▶ the contribution of older persons is acknowledged;
- ▶ older persons can experience security and personal fulfilment;
- ▶ the right and dignity of older persons is respected;
- ▶ and older persons have a role to play in development.

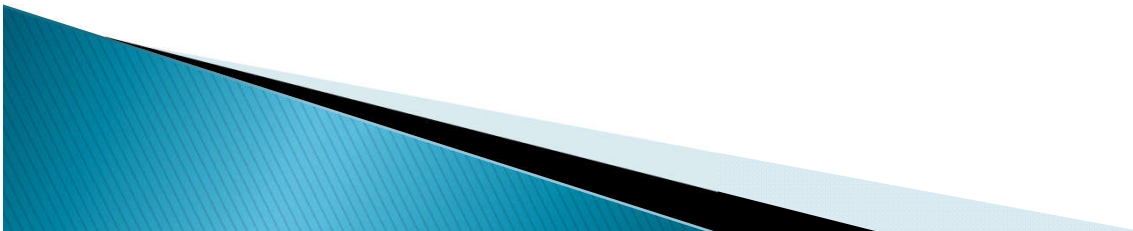
SAOPF Mission

The mission of the South African Older Persons Forum (SAOPF) is to identify and articulate the concerns and needs of older persons, as voiced by them, and, in consultation with Government and other role players, to ensure that these needs are addressed in legislation, services and programs.



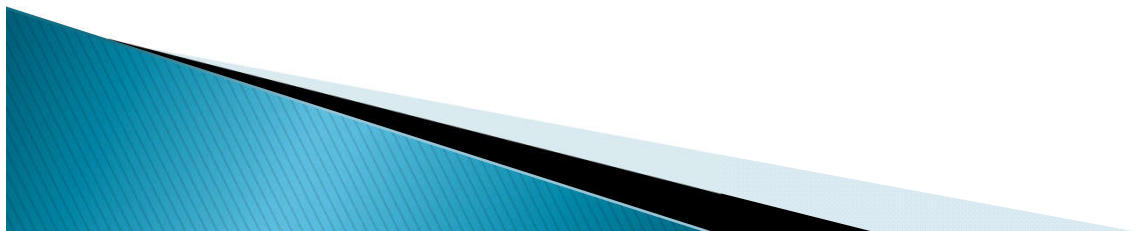
Core Objectives

- ✦ Ensuring a well-defined, cohesive, inter-sectoral national, provincial and local older persons lobby;
- ✦ Advocate and lobby for the needs and concerns of older persons;
- ✦ Coordinate and represent the aged sector;
- ✦ Monitor legislation, policies, and budget allocations relevant to older persons.
- ✦ Establishment and capacity building of provincial older persons forums;
- ✦ Conducting provincial dialogue sessions with older persons;
- ✦ Raising public awareness of the rights of older persons;
- ✦ Receiving, using, disseminating, storing and distributing information on the rights of older persons.



The SAOPF Today

- ▶ Forums in all provinces.
- ▶ Expanded to grassroots level
- ▶ Strong working relationship with DSD and other government depts.
- ▶ Regarded as the voice of older persons by government

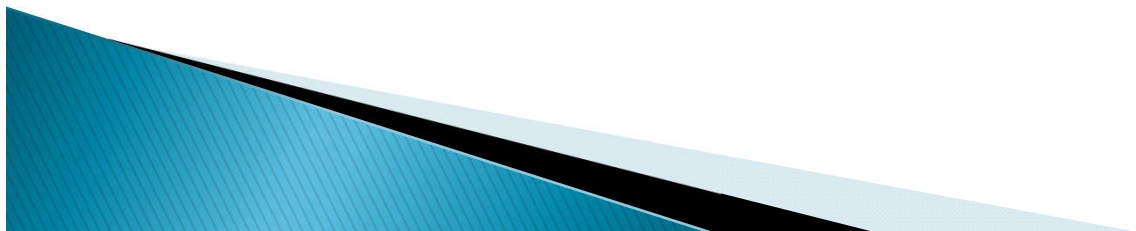


Representivity



Conclusion

- ▶ Representing an entire sector is challenging.
- ▶ Representing the voice of the most critical issues affecting older persons critical to responsible lobbying and advocacy.
- ▶ A forum is an open platform for the exchange of views and ideas.
- ▶ Inclusive, not exclusive.
- ▶ Participation and Inclusion open for all stakeholders.



Thank you!



"Human Rights don't stop at sixty"

