

29 August 2018



Genevieve Linney (Public Relations and Fundraising for Camphill School) was overwhelmed with emotion when the L2L ladies arrived at the campus on Friday to tell them that they have been selected as the main charity for the 2019 L2L Ladies Walk next year in March.



The kindergarten class at Camphill School was ecstatic to hear that they would be able to get the school bus they need and couldn't hold back their excitement as they ran towards their principal and the L2L ladies.

PHOTOS: Taylum Meyer

Camphill School chosen as charity for 2019 L2L Ladies Walk

The Lighthouse Ladies Walk has become an iconic event in the Overberg since its inception in 2006 when 26 ladies hiked for five days from Struisbaai to Hermanus (about 121 km) and raised R10 000 for CANSA Hermanus. The walk has since grown to approximately 110 ladies each year and has been shortened to four days, covering a distance of 100 km from Cape Agulhas Lighthouse to Danger Point Lighthouse.

The main purpose of the walk in March every year is to raise funds for charities within the Overberg District Municipality. The process for choosing a charity for 2019 began this month after the charities that applied were narrowed down to seven finalists. These seven charities then had the opportunity to give their presentations on Tuesday 14 August at the L2L Registration and Charity Presentation Evening held in the United Church Hall.

The seven finalists were the Overstrand Association for Persons with Disabilities (OAPD) and the Overstrand Wheelchair Association (OWA) jointly; Camphill School Hermanus; Ella Gordon Crèche; Learn to Earn; Overstrand Hospice; Hemel-en-Aarde Pebbles Project; and Whale Coast Conservation. All of the presentations were extremely heart-warming and choosing a winner for 2019 was a difficult task for the voters, but in the end the L2L ladies chose Camphill School as the main charity for 2019. The OAPD/OWA were the runners up, making them the recipients of the funds from the practice walk that will take place later this year.

Camphill School and OAPD/OWA were completely surprised when the L2L ladies arrived on Friday to bring them the happy news, as nothing had been announced regarding the winners until the L2L ladies were literally on their doorstep. It was an extremely emotional occasion for both the beneficiaries and L2L.

Established in 1952 as an independent, special needs school located in the Hemel-en-Aarde Valley, Camphill has offered generations of children with intellectual and other disabilities the opportunity for high quality education and



It was smiles all around on Friday for (back from left) Isabel Fauël (L2L), Genevieve Linney (Camphill School PR and Fundraising), Marlinda Wright (L2L), Jeanne-Marié Botha (Camphill School Principal), Simone Heunis (L2L), Nicoleen Potgieter (Camphill School Bursar) and Geraldine May (Camphill School Reception).

care. As one of only two small special needs schools in the vast, largely-rural Overberg region, it caters for both day and residential learners, aged from 5 to 19 years. Using a curative educational approach, the school not only offers pupils individualised education in small classes, but they also have access to a wide range of therapies, an educational psychologist and a social worker. They are currently in need of a school bus to transport their pupils.

The Overstrand Association for Persons with Disabilities (OAPD) and the Overstrand Wheelchair Association (OWA) are two organisations that aim to increase the quality of life for persons with disabilities by helping them

to reach their full potential and to become "able" in their community. The OAPD and OWA are in need of a bus to transport staff and facilitators.

Last year's winning charity was the Hermanus Senior Centre and the L2L ladies were able to raise a considerable amount of money – over R600 000 – as well as a further small sum for the runner-up charity, Hermanus Animal Welfare, through their practice walk.

Registration for the 2019 L2L Ladies Walk took place after the presentation evening and for this group of dynamic women the task of raising funds for Camphill School will now begin.