Agri Securitas
Trust Fonds/Trust Fund
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Plaaswerker erg getraumatiseerd
FARM WORKER SERIOUSLY TRAUMATISED

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Plaaswerker erg getraumatiseerd

"'n Plaaswerker en sy vrou is so erg getraumatiseerd na 'n plaasaanval dat hulle nie meer op die plaas wil woon nie, daarom het die Agri Securitas Trustfonds, wat oor jare traumaberading aan boerderygemeenskappe verskaf, dié plaaswerkers bygestaan met traumaberading" sê Japie Grobler, voorsitter van die Agri Securitas Trustfonds.

Volgens Grobler, "speel plaaswerkers 'n belangrike rol in die daaglikse aktiwiteite van 'n plaas en moet ons as boerderygemeenskap toesien dat ons hulle ook bystaan wanneer hulle erge trauma na 'n plaasaanval ervaar. Ons is bly dat ons op die wyse ook 'n bydrae kon maak om dié mense se lewens te help heelmaak".

Die voorval het op 'n plaas in die Hertzogville-distrik in die Vrystaat voorgekom toe veediewe in die middernagtelike ure op die boer se voerkraalbesigheid toegeslaan het. In die proses om ondersoek in te stel het die boer geweerskote in die lug afgevuur, die polisie is ontbied maar geen diewe kon in die omgewing van die voerkraal opgemerk word nie. Intussen het die plaaswerker en sy vrou by die boer aangesluit om hom te help. Aangesien geen diewe opgemerk is nie, is almal terug na hulle wonings.

Met hulle terugkeer is die plaaswerker en sy vrou deur vier verdagtes by hulle woning ingewag en aangeval. Die plaaswerker is verskeie kere met 'n mes gesteek en sy vrou erg aangerand. Die boer het hulle na die plaaslike hospitaal gehaas waar hulle die nodige behandeling ontvang het.

Volgens Vrystaat Landbou was daar die jaar reeds twaalf aanvalle op plaaswerkers, met een moord. Die werkers is erg aangerand, hulle raak toenemend bang om op plase te woon en wil eerder na die dorpe verhuis. Dit bied verdere uitdagings vir die effektiewe bestuur van die plaas. "Aanvalle op boere en plaaswerkers behoort op alle vlakke van die samelewing ten sterkste veroordeel te word aangesien die land afhanklik is van sy boerderygemeenskap vir die daaglikse kos wat op huishoudings se tafels beskikbaar is en dat die land nog selfvoorsienend is in sy voedselbehoeftes" sê Grobler ten slotte.

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“A farm worker and his wife are so traumatised after a farm attack that they no longer wish to live on the farm. For this reason, the Agri Securitas Trust Fund, which has over the years offered trauma counselling to farming communities, has assisted these farm workers with counselling,” said Japie Grobler, chair of the Agri Securitas Trust Fund.

According to Grobler, “farm workers play an important role in the daily activities on a farm therefore we as the farming community must ensure that they receive support when suffering serious trauma after a farm attack. We are grateful that we can make a contribution in this way towards healing the lives of these people.”

The incident occurred on a farm in the Hertzogville district in the Free State when stock thieves targeted the farmer’s feedlot business in the small hours of the night. While investigating, the farmer fired shots into the air. The police were called but no suspects were found in the vicinity of the feedlot. In the meantime, the farm worker and his wife joined the farmer to assist him. Since no suspects were found, everyone returned to their homes.

When the farm worker and his wife arrived at their house, four suspects were waiting and attacked them. The farm worker sustained various knife wounds and his wife was badly assaulted. The farmer rushed them to the local hospital where they received the necessary treatment.

According to Free State Agriculture, there have been twelve attacks on farm workers during the past year with one murder. These workers were brutally assaulted and are becoming increasingly afraid to live on farms, preferring to relocate to towns. This poses further challenges for effective farm management. “Attacks on farmers and farm workers should be strongly condemned at all levels of society because the country relies on its farming community to put food on their tables every day and to ensure that the country remains self-sufficient in terms of food,” concluded Grobler.

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