



BRAVERY AWARD

BRONZE

Presented to

Keegan Lowe

for his courageous actions on 20 November 2024 when he went to the aid of 4 local teenagers swept out to sea by rip currents at Pennington Beach, South Coast KZN.

Linda Putter, NSRI Rocky Bay deputy station commander, reported that at 13h15, Wednesday, 20 November, NSRI Rocky Bay duty crew were activated following reports of a drowning in progress at Pennington Beach, KZN South Coast.

NSRI EOC (Emergency Operations Centre) had received the initial emergency call from an eyewitness and NSRI duty controllers at NSRI Rocky Bay received additional calls from Gladiator Security, local security. The KZN Surf Rescue Network was then also activated.

On arrival on the scene, it was established that 4 (believed to be local teenagers) boys were swimming when they were swept out to sea in rip currents.

In the meantime, a 16 year old local male Good Samaritan, Keegan Lowe, who had been at the beach with his sister and friends, had entered the water, wearing one body boarding (diving) fin, and he had managed to rescue 2 teenage boys together, who he found in the surf break.

After getting the first 2 boys safely to the beach Keegan then grabbed a yellow rescue torpedo buoy stationed at the beach and re-entered the water, still wearing the diving fin, and armed with the rescue torpedo buoy, to go after the other 2 boys who were still in distress beyond the mid surf break.

Keegan reached one of the male teenagers, beyond the mid surf break, but he could not locate the fourth boy. He was able to bring that third teenager out of the water safely to the beach. Keegan tried to locate the fourth teenager but by that stage sight of the casualty had been lost in the outer surf line.

A shoreline search effort then continued being conducted by NSRI, Lifeguards, IPSS, security officers and Police, but no signs remained of the missing teenager. The 3 survivors were medically evaluated by paramedics and they required no medical care.

Keegan Lowe's bravery and selfless actions that day played a major role in saving 3 lives. As fellow South Africans we are proud to be able to recognise and honour his achievement, with this Bravery Award Bronze.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Velloza'.

Jonathan Velloza
Chairman: Board of Directors



14 April 2025

Date