



An Outreach Ministry of Hilton Christian Fellowship

June

5/2015

Proverbs 19:17 Whoever is generous to the poor lends to the LORD, and he will repay him for his deed.

Partner with us as we partner with the poor

Dear Friends,

Once again we can celebrate our God who is faithful in hearing and answering prayer. "I love the Lord because He hears my prayer for mercy. He bends down to listen, I will pray as long as I have breath." Psalm 116 vs1,2.

Welfare

In the January Newsletter we wrote about Miriam, a Gogo who had experienced deliverance from demonic oppression after our caregivers had walked & prayed around her house. The good news is that she has gone from strength to strength in the freedom Jesus has given her! She worships weekly at SCC. with the grandchildren that she oversees. This is one of the reasons she has not regressed spiritually, as so many people do!

Mbu¹ is a 33 year old who looks 16. He is one of the 3 addicts that we took to SANCA who has found freedom from addiction to Whoonga, Dagga and Alcohol. His perseverance in the rehabilitation programme has resulted in SANCA inviting him to reside in the Rehab. Centre for 3 months. Our Carers have been available to him, in an older sibling/ parenting role. His whole appearance has changed, the family with whom he lives no longer abuse him and we thank God that he has found "real" family in Khuthala and Amos who are loving and mentoring him.

Khutala and Amos spent 2½ hours with a neighbouring 16 year old boy who came to visit, debating his belief in the ancestral spirits of Zondi! Amos gave him a history of Christianity in Africa, to

dispel the belief that Jesus is for "the white man". In the end he saw the light!

Daphney has been running the children's "Reading Club" in Jane's absence. She is very successful in communicating with children in a meaningful way.

Jumble Sales continue monthly. This month the sale brought in R1810 which is welcome income for HT as well as blessing the local community of Sweetwaters with access to clothing at very low prices.

Youth Empowerment

Amos has been tutoring 2 FET students, who came to the evening meeting in HCF on Sunday. They described him as "a very clever" man! Amos also envisions Gr12 pupils for their future by offering them career guidance(not given in the local schools!) . For a foreign national, he has gained great acceptance by the community of SW and speaks Zulu like a local. He is a

great asset to HT in that he not only tutors pupils, he coaches a very successful soccer team and is involved in welfare ministry and savings clubs. In fact all the welfare staff function as social auxiliaries without the Diploma!

The exploits of the senior soccer team are developing a reputation. The values by which they live, their dedication to regular practice as a team and their growing skill, has turned them



'God with Us' + trophy—16 June

Footnote

¹ Pseudonyms are used to protect identity.

into a force to be reckoned with. On June 16th (Youth Day) they played in a tournament and once again carried off the trophy!

Land

The sellers of the land for SCC are scheduled to visit the Induna at month-end, accompanied by Manka, to take forward the next step in securing the rights to the land. Trust God with us that all the administrative stages are satisfactorily concluded!

Development & Empowerment

Baking: In the Bhubhonono area a baking training course was arranged. Participants learned the basics of baking & then sold their wares. A follow up course will take place in which participants learn new recipes but also support & encourage their business skills.

Food Security: Two deep trench gardening training courses were held. These courses also included training in the development of "tower gardens". The deep trench method is encouraged because it holds moisture enabling growth even during dry times. Also the addition of composting material aids growth without a need for expensive fertilizers. Home grown vegetables are healthy and their availability near the house encourages their consumption.

Since April the three development extension staff have made about 35 visits to households who have food gardens encouraging garden management, maintenance and protection. Unmanaged cattle, goats & chickens are the biggest threat and discouragement to vegetable production!

Savings and Credit Groups: There are now 36 savings and credit groups. Since the beginning of the saving season (starting late January 2015) they have cumulatively saved R102 230.00! However, it is noticeable that the rate of saving has declined in the last month or so. This seems to be a result of households feeling the financial impacts of rising food prices. Financial literacy training takes place at savings group meetings. This covers the advantages of paying cash for goods, the principles of and interest

costs of hire purchase & household budgeting. Most households have no clear understanding of how to manage money. The savings clubs & the rigorous record keeping are a demonstration of how money can be managed & accounted for.

Skills Training (Parenting Skills)

It is heart-warming, yet distressing, to see how often the HT Carers function in a parenting role! Many children and young people are "like sheep without a Shepherd". The single teenage mothers mostly have no effective father so they lack the ability to offer loving guidance to their children. This is also true for many families with both parents! Staff recently offered a parenting skills training course to a group of seven young women aged between 18 and 36, all with one or more small children. One of the young mothers had concerns about her son of 3 and his seeming unwillingness to play with other boys. One of the features of the course is that parents are taught & encouraged to play with their children. This mother took that seriously and the undivided attention of the mother playing with her son has given him the confidence to play normally with other little boys!

Upcoming Events

- ◆ Hope Trust AGM at HCF offices, 7pm on 23rd June. The names of new Trustees will be announced. You are most welcome to attend!
- ◆ The next jumble sale will be on the 4th July. As we embrace winter, blankets & warm clothing are welcome donations.
- ◆ A Holiday Club will be held in Sweetwaters in the mid-year holidays on 16th July.
- ◆ Join the prayer time at our home 4-5pm on a Wednesday. (Call Dave on 082 775 8833)
- ◆ Continue to partner with us prayerfully & financially.

Our special love and appreciation to you all.

Dave, Jean and the Hope Trust staff.

PS 1) Please note our new website www.hopetrust.org.za. It is still under construction but coming on slowly.

2) Note HT is registered with Payfast (details below) should that be an easier means of donating to HT.

Nedbank Account Name: Hope Trust; **Account No:** 1343 058 546; **Branch Code:** 134325; **Type:** Cheque a/c;

<https://www.payfast.co.za/donate/go/hopetrust> **Contact details:** Dave: 082 775 8833; Jean: 082 858 0443

Please give us feedback on what we can do to improve our communication. To unsubscribe email hopetrust@hcf.org.za