



HOPE - STORY

Ps 68: (5) A father to the fatherless, a defender of widows . . .

(6) God sets the lonely in families. . . .

Nov/December

No 8-2015

Dear friends,

We appreciate each one of you and the support you have given to this ministry of outreach to the poor. We are humbled by your love and partnership! Your support spans financial giving, administration, advice & encouragement, gifts of clothing, household goods & soap (including boxes), time spent in the community, graphic design skills, *pro-bono* audit and

2015 has been a year of growth and focus on the vision of restoring families to Godly order. Give thanks with us, firstly, that Jesus is the Way and not a *cul-de-sac*! Because He is the Way we can also give thanks for

1) The Malopos (name changed), a family of mentally challenged parents and children who through the gospel and love of Hope Trust staff

- progressed from total dependence upon community goodwill and hand-outs for survival, to the dignity of having disability grants aiding the support of their children; and having
- their youngest children enrolled in Ntokozweni school for the mentally disabled.



2) Jane Brooks, prompted by the Holy Spirit, established a **Reading Club** for youngsters that has been rewarding and fruitful. The activity exposes kids, who have never seen a book in their own homes, to the world of stories, imagination and new horizons. 20-30 children meet weekly in a small room, given by a mother in the community, for the dedicated use of the **Reading Club**. Denny Britten and her children are also involved in supporting this initiative.



3) The birth of Hope-Soap. This arose from the conviction of Dave and Karen Williams to help Hope Trust start a journey towards sustainability. It has galvanized energy, interest and motivation around this ministry. Make sure to buy your soap gifts for friends and family this Christmas! It is great on the skin!

If you are keen to help anyone earn extra income (or even pocket money) they can buy a box for R240 (40 bars @ R6 each) and sell each bar for R8. If a bar is cut into blocks they could sell at 4 x R2.50 or even 4 x R5. You can work out the profits!



4) Financial faithfulness: We are so grateful to the Lord for **our staff** who have endured with us through thick and thin financial seasons. They have persevered through financial lack (Sept saw only half salaries being paid) and the daily pressure of interacting with a community in which witchcraft and idolatry are the prevailing belief systems—even among many who call themselves Christians.

5) Soccer: Unkulunkulu Unathi (God with Us) are now in the SAB Soccer League. They have won one, drawn one and lost 9 matches! These new & greater challenges require more discipline & are part of maturing & growing up. Coping with failure is a necessary skill & the need for increased fitness means more exercise, less free-time and builds character.

6) Family Economic Empowerment: We thank God for the following:

- ◆ By November 2015, 29 savings groups saved R324 859.
- ◆ Forty Groups of 5 (G5s) were trained in deep trench vegetable gardening.
- ◆ 25 G5 members were exposed to small business skills and financial literacy training. At present there are 18 micro businesses being mentored.

- ◆ One new business started this year. Micro & small businesses like spaza shops are susceptible to the undercutting powers of the general dealer stores and supermarkets, which are not only run but also owned by foreigners from outside the community.
- ◆ Thank the Lord for 18 new conversions from among Savings groups and G5s during this year.

During the 2015 year we assisted 500 people in one or more of our social and economic empowerment activities. Each person assisted, costs Hope Trust R115 per month. We would love you to consider pledging R100/mth or more, for the next year. This would greatly facilitate budgeting & also admit you to **Hope 100**, our broad based funding initiative which aims at 500 or more monthly givers.

We have a **January 2016 Hope – Story** about miraculous family reconstruction and we will have pointers for your involvement during the year. Watch this space meanwhile have a wonderful Christmas break—rest well, travel well, be blessed.

Much love

Dave, Jean and all the staff.

PS To receive by email contact Dave (see below)

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

We are on the Web at www.hopetrust.org.za and Facebook at **Hope Trust RSA**

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