



# HOPE - STORY

**Deut15:11** For there will never cease to be poor in the land. Therefore I command you, 'You shall open wide your hand to your brother, to the needy and to the poor, in your land.'

**Jan/Feb**

**No 1-2016**

**Dear friends,**

## **A TROPHY OF GOD'S 'FAMILY RECONSTRUCTION'**

**The seven member refugee family** that HCF members so generously helped last year with clothing, food and spiritual support, are now married before the Lord and according to South African law. Dave attended the marriage ceremony at their church — a wonderful affair with much colour and celebration. Then Bernie graciously conducted the civil ceremony and processed it through Home Affairs. This family arrived in Sweetwaters early 2015 with very little to their name. They received the gospel with joy which has been such an encouragement. Jeffrey has piece-work (he can do plastering and related construction jobs) and Zodwa is engaging with local children and together with our care-givers has started a children's play-group. The first week drew in 34 kids! The local Induna has identified a piece of land on which Jeffrey can build. This all has such a good feel. We have seen God provide, there has been a humble and grateful response and the local 'born-again' church reached out to them with clothing, catering and transport for the wedding! This is family reconstruction! They came out of economic and social devastation. It has been wonderful to watch God respond to those who respond to Him.



***Jeffrey and Zodwa: Trophies of God's Infinite Grace and Love***

### **Savings and Credit Groups**

Our Development staff are particularly encouraged because their 29 groups saved nearly R450 000 in 2015. This is about R60 000 up on 2014!

### **Hope Soap**

We continue selling individual bars and boxes of bars. Several members of HCF have an outlet through their domestic staff, some of whom are selling as many as 2 boxes (80 bars) a week. In doing this they are making about R500 a week for themselves and R500 for Hope Trust. Perhaps you can consider opening doors for anyone you know, who needs extra income!

### **Soccer Team**

The soccer team are struggling in their new league where they are encountering not only stronger teams and opposition off the field but some subtle injustices too. However, the benefits of discipline, exercise, identity, belonging & coping with injustice are nevertheless character building!



## The Reading Club

Jane and Denny have done a great job of getting this going. They are now looking to open new clubs, working with our staff, in new areas .

## How Can I Serve Jesus Through Hope Trust?

We list afresh some of the ways in which you can participate with us in this ministry.

### 1. Administration:

- ◆ Assist with regular updating Web-site & Face-book, graphic design etc
- ◆ Secretarial role eg attend Wed morning welfare meeting—keep notes, type-up & produce agenda for following week; filing.
- ◆ Respond with 'Thanks' to donors.

### 2. Prayer support & engagement

- ◆ Participate in Wed 4-5pm prayer meeting
- ◆ Participate in &/or lead prayer visits to needy homes as requested by staff
- ◆ Be an ongoing intercessor for the outreach.

### 3. Financial engagement

- ◆ Arrange fund-raising events eg golf days etc
- ◆ Promote and administrate 'Hope 100' (encouraging people to give R100 or more on a committed basis)
- ◆ Participate in **Hope 100** as a contributor
- ◆ Help prepare & submit fund raising documentation to potential donors
- ◆ Promote sales of Hope Soap to both low-income & high income markets

### 4. Medical/Welfare

- ◆ Contribute medical inputs to selected workshops/holiday clubs eg around ARVs, HIV/AIDs & TB, teenage sexuality etc etc

### 5. Sport

- ◆ Sponsor the soccer team : travel costs, equipment (eg 4 balls a quarter), salary for coach. . . . .
- ◆ Assist with Netball including possible arrangement of matches with teams outside Sweetwaters
- ◆ Provide a new netball from time to time
- ◆ Assist with 'coaching the soccer coaches'

### 6. Youth activities

- ◆ Help with youth workshops, holiday clubs, reading groups (catering, games, organizing etc)

### 7. All sorts

- ◆ Assist with packaging of soap for high value markets eg health shops on 3rd Thurs of each month
- ◆ Jumble sales: sorting, packing & selling 3rd Thurs
- ◆ Help build a home for the newly married couple
- ◆ Visit or transport the orphan girl in Greytown as needed (possibly 4 times a year)
- ◆ Transport our staff on select days of the week to areas further into Vulindlela (20-30km round trip) thereby facilitating our geographical expansion
- ◆ Help arrange orientation tours from time to time for interested parties, to see & understand the work.

There are some 139 verses in which 'the poor' are referenced in the bible, revealing the heart of love that God has for them. Nehemiah spoke of rebuilding the wall around Jerusalem as a 'great work' from which he should not be distracted. Ministry to the poor is in similar vein a 'great work' from which we should not be distracted because it is so much on God's heart.

We are immensely grateful for your support in many different ways both for the ministry and for us. We cannot do this without each of your unique contributions.

Much love

**Dave, Jean and all the staff.**

PS : To receive by email, contact Dave (see below)



**2012 Parenting Skills Course graduates—our heart is still to get such courses going on a regular basis. Pray with us for this.**

**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](http://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](mailto:hopetrust@hcf.org.za)