



NEWSLETTER – NOVEMBER 2009

Bursary & School Partnership Project

Thank you very much to Westville Boys High School for responding to our request for a group career guidance session for this year's 19 Grade 12 bursary applicants from Chesterville Secondary School. The advice and resources provided were most helpful. The two successful applicants (Thobeka and Tsepo), who will receive sponsorship for their tertiary study in 2010 from SUNCOAST, were announced at a special assembly in October. Both these students have applied to study Law in 2010 and are currently writing their matric final exams.

SUNCOAST is also sponsoring 6 school bursaries - 2 Grade 8 (Chesterville Secondary), 2 Grade 5 (Christopher Nxumalo) and 2 Grade 1 bursaries (ukuKhanya Kwelanga). These children will be receiving assistance with school uniforms, stationery and related education expenses; as well as monthly support sessions with SUNCOAST staff (mentors) from the 1st term of 2010.

Our current bursars (Samukelo and Philile) are writing their final exams through UNISA and ICESA Matric School respectively. They have applied for further study in 2010. Thank you to Prestige Cleaning Services & The Victor Daitz Foundation for sponsoring their studies.



The Mike Strong Educational Trust is offering one supplementary bursary to a Grade 12 learner at Chesterville Extension Secondary School. The successful candidate (whose name will be announced following receipt of her final examination results) has applied to study teaching in 2010. This bursary is renewable and includes mentorship. We are most grateful to the Trustees for extending this opportunity to Chesterville Extension Secondary.

Amongst other planned improvements, we are seeking to assist the school gradually improve their Staff Room. A few couches were donated recently, and we would like to continue working with the school (and any companies willing to assist) to help create a pleasant, inspiring environment for the teachers to spend between lessons.

Community Safety/Street Committees



Following the 2-day Induction Training Workshop held in August for the 26 Street Committees formed in Chesterville, Committees have been attending to various safety and social concerns in their areas. A [Progress Report](#) on the status of the Street Committee Project in Chesterville is available on the Vukukhanye website:

www.vukukhanye.org/site/reportsandnewsletters

Hospice Shop – Chesterville Day Centre (Road 1, Chesterville)

The shop is open Monday to Friday 9:00am–2:00pm. Donations of clothing, linen, bags, shoes and kitchenware will be greatly appreciated. For collection, please contact the Highway Hospice Pinetown depot on **031-709 2647**.



Chesterville Secondary School:
Grade 8 & 12 bursary announcement

After-School Sport Project (Sport For All)

Over 300 children have registered as members of Sport For All, Chesterville. This includes 'paying' and 'sponsored' children. Approximately 100-150 children attend coaching daily after school and play friendly matches most Friday afternoons. The coaches have also been helping the children with homework and exam preparation in the Sport For All container. A number of U13 and U15 soccer players attended Wits & Swallows Club trials and have been provisionally accepted into their development academy. Two other children have been invited to the 'School of Excellence' in Johannesburg.



Sport For All, in support of the **Stand Up Against Poverty Campaign**, (www.standagainstopoverty.org) participated in the global initiative which ran from 16-18 October. The Campaign was a worldwide call to show support to end poverty and achieve and exceed the 8 Millennium Development Goals. Sport For All Chesterville played its part by distributing information and presenting to 1000 learners at Insimbini Primary School in Chesterville, at their school assembly on the morning of 16 October. The 8 Millenium Development Goals were briefly explained and the children stood up to demonstrate their support.

The Sport for All Drum Majorettes and their coach, Hlengiwe assisted at the SUNCOAST Quarterly Staff Awards where they welcomed the staff, performed a routine and danced with Lauren Lang. They did Sport For All proud!



Ten Sport for All Children attended the launch of an Astro-turf Sport's facility (Tiger Turf Arena) at Gateway, facilitated by the SA Legends Legacy Park Trust.



Sport For All Year-end Camp

The Sport for All Chesterville Team would like to make it possible for a group of 60 members (children aged 10-15) to attend a weekend away at Koinonia Camp Site in Botha's Hill. The purpose of the trip is to celebrate the first year of operation of the Sport For All Franchise in Chesterville, as well as to motivate the children and reward them for their commitment and discipline during 2009. The children and coaches have been raising funds toward the costs, but if anyone would like to contribute this would be most appreciated.



Life skills

Life-skills training is an integral part of the weekly Sport For All Programme. Topics include respect, self esteem, values, children's rights, peer pressure, domestic violence, teenage pregnancy, hygiene and human trafficking. We have recently made contact with two new providers of Life-Skills training i.e. The Olive Leaf Foundation and a private life-skills specialist. Thanks also to Phelophepa for conducting training in October.

SUNCOAST 'CUP' ('Community Upliftment Project') VISITS

The staff of SUNCOAST are conducting monthly visits to support schools and other community projects in Chesterville. To date they have visited and donated clothing and resources to the Chesterville Satellite Hospice, the Disabled People's Support Group, Mazenod, Ekuthuleni, Nobantwana & Bamba iZandla Preschools, Dinga Mahlasela (local boxing coach), a soup kitchen operating from Sicheluthando preschool and Umhlange Society for the Aged.



Community Welfare Support

Vukukhanye's social worker, Janine Pepper, continues to offer social work services in Chesterville. A number of volunteer community workers refer cases to Janine who operates from a sub-office in Chesterville (Chesterville Residents Association office) 2 days per week. Examples of cases dealt with in October include foster care, identity and birth documents, grant applications, referrals to other organisations and emergency assistance (e.g. food parcels and infant formula). Five of the community workers will be attending a 2-day 'voluntary counselling and testing' training course on 21-22 November, facilitated by the Olive Leaf Foundation.

Much work is being done to establish good working relationships with government and other organizations such as SASSA (pensions and grants). In October we were invited to join the Hospice Palliative Care Workshop. A steering committee was formed, who are responsible for forming and driving a Health and Welfare Forum in Chesterville. Represented on the Steering Committee are Vukukhanye, Highway Hospice, The Chesterville Residents Association, Olive Leaf Foundation and Muthande Society for the Aged.

"I am very excited about this as we have an opportunity to meet with every single organization big and small, formal and informal doing work in the community! This opens many doors and scope for a whole lot of work that I am very keen to be involved in and fits perfectly into Vukukhanye's vision of helping other organizations, networking etc. Twenty-five organisations have been identified so far and this forum will also include all churches operating in the area. The forum will help with cooperation amongst organisations, the sharing of resources, preventing duplication of services and will help identify which services are not available in the community". (Janine Pepper, Social Worker)



Early Childhood Development

The network of preschools with which we are working has grown to 8. Nine teachers from these schools recently completed their Level 1 training through the Hlanganani Preschool Association. This two month course was sponsored by the Westville Rotary Club and the venue provided by Westville Christian Fellowship. Thank you very much.



Cygnets Pre-Primary School hosted another excellent and inspiring workshop for the principals of the preschool network (the next workshop will be held on the 19th of November). Tables and chairs donated by Cygnets were shared between Inami, Mazenod, Ekuthuleni and Sicheluthando Preschools.



Sicheluthando Educare Centre



Inami Crèche

Top-Tots recently donated a large selection of toys which will be distributed to the schools.

["Save a Life" - St John 1st Aid Training for preschools](#)

Nineteen teachers and pre-school workers attended a 1 day first aid training course ("Save a Life"). Thanks to Westville Rotary Club for funding this vital training and to Cathy Dedman and St John Ambulance for their time and expertise.



Zamokuhle Preschool Upgrade Progress

The upgrade of Zamokuhle Preschool is progressing well. SUNCOAST has sponsored a new fence and new windows, while the SUNCOAST maintenance team has completely renovated the toilets and is working on the kitchen and classrooms at the moment. Once these structural repairs are complete, the donation from Prestige Cleaning Services will be used to supply teaching aids and other resources required.



TOILETS
(before & after)



NEW FENCE



CLASSROOM UPGRADE

Children's Foster Home Westville (est. 2001)

There are presently 8 children being cared for at the Children's Foster Home. Recent changes include:

- Lwandile, a 2 year old boy, was placed at the Home for 3 weeks while placement at a crisis home was facilitated for him and his mother. Vukukhanye will continue to assist and support them wherever possible.
- Thulisile, a 5 year old girl, has been placed at the Home for a month or two while her mother receives treatment at Hospital.



Thank you to everyone who continues to support the children:

- A team from Estee Lauder revamped the homework-room. The team painted, fitted new curtains and provided teaching aids, kiddies tables and chairs, a couch, radio and computer!
- A Grace Family Church Group has been volunteering once a month and have done a major clean up in the garden.
- Aurecon held an **"Aurecon Cares Day"** and painted Tryphinas bedroom, Saneles bedroom and the passage; worked in the garden and had a braai with the family.
- Crompton Hospital donated furniture (lounge unit, coffee table, kitchen stools and shelving)
- SUNCOAST recently hosted a special performance of the **"Chasing Tales"** children's show. Over 100 children from Chesterville and the Westville Foster Home attended; along with many others from other organisations in the Durban area. The children were each given a meal and were captivated by the action from start to finish!



HOMEWORK ROOM



Thank you very much. Please feel free to contact us at ...

admin@vukukhanye.org / 031-266 2288

www.vukukhanye.org

