



NEWSLETTER – AUGUST 2009

Bursary Project

The current bursary recipients (Samukelo and Philile) are progressing well, and thanks to sponsorship from Prestige Cleaning Services, Samukelo's tuition fees for 2010 have been secured. Samukelo and Philile were invited to address the Grade 12 learners at Chesterville Secondary School to encourage them to work hard, have a vision for their lives and apply for the two bursaries being sponsored by SUNCOAST. Their efforts seem to have been successful as 19 applications were submitted, 8 more than in 2008. The two successful bursary recipients will be announced in October. However a group career guidance session for all 19 applicants has been scheduled, and will be run by Westville Boys High Schools career guidance counsellor.

SUNCOAST is also sponsoring 6 school bursaries - 2 Grade 8 (Chesterville Secondary), 2 Grade 5 (Christopher Nxumalo) and 2 Grade 1 bursaries (ukuKhanya Kwelanga). Bursaries will be renewable annually and will include mentorship by SUNCOAST staff members. The recipients have been selected by their teachers and the bursaries will be awarded from September.

A supplementary bursary, sponsored by the Mike Strong Educational Trust, will be offered to one Grade 12 learner at Chesterville Extension Secondary School.

SUNCOAST Open day



SUNCOAST arranged a fantastic Open Day at the Chesterville Sports Grounds on Saturday the 18th of July. The over 600 children who attended were treated to face painting, a clown/magic show, lunch, a jumping castle, colouring-in competitions and much more. Simba the lion and the Smarties man also made an appearance. Thanks to the Sport For All Team for their assistance, including arranging the friendly games, the main match being between Chesterville United and SUNCOAST. Thank you to SUNCOAST for hosting such a wonderful day.

School Partnership Project

Phase 1 of the Dreambuilders "Dream Beyond Impossible" programme has been completed with the Grade 8 learners at Chesterville Secondary School. Some of the learners comments were: "I have learnt I don't have to listen to people who say negative things about me"; "we have learnt we have unlimited potential" and "if it's meant to be it's up to me". In 2010 Dreambuilders will continue with Phase 2 with the Grade 9's and will repeat Phase 1 with the new Grade 8 class; as well as seeking to inspire and motivate the teachers, particularly those responsible for "Life Orientation".

Peter's Papers recently donated a generous amount of paper and cardboard to 6 schools in Chesterville – Bamba Izandla Preschool, Zamokuhle Crèche, ukuKhanya Kwelanga Junior Primary, Christopher Nxumalo Senior Primary, H.P Ngwenya Primary, Insimbini Public Primary School, Chesterville Secondary and Chesterville Extension Secondary School. Such support of these schools is warmly received as resources are often stretched. Local business can play a significant partnership role, which also serves as a welcome encouragement to the principals and staff.

Don't Waste Services (DWS) has offered to sponsor 3 'buy-back' recycling centres to be located at schools in Chesterville. These will teach the children the importance of caring for the environment, and may generate income from the sale of the recycling which can be used towards needs at their schools.



After-School Sport Project (Sport For All)

The team of 6 local Sport For All coaches and facilitators remain committed to the core objective of keeping children productively occupied and safe after school, and are working hard to market the Sport For All project in Chesterville. Coaching sessions are conducted daily after school from 1 to 5pm - the dominant sporting codes at present are soccer, netball, cricket, drum majorettes and traditional dance. Aerobics, touch rugby and indigenous games have been introduced and life skills sessions are conducted weekly. Friendly matches (esp. soccer, netball & cricket) between Sport For All and other local teams are held every Friday afternoon at the Chesterville Sports Ground.



Recent support & donations:

- SUNCOAST has sponsored the registration of 60 new orphans and vulnerable children from August and September.
- A large donation of second hand sports equipment was acquired through the Mr Price/Red Cap Foundation 'Gear up our Kids' campaign. Thank you to all the schools and companies who participated and to Mr Price Hillcrest for receiving the donations.
- A 'matching grant' from the Westville Rotary Club (in partnership with 5 Canadian Rotary Clubs) benefited a number of projects. The grant funded new sports equipment for Sport For All, including that required by the drum majorettes (maces, batons, pom-poms etc.), training aids, cones, bibs and a shade awning for the container.
- As a result of the above Rotary Grant, a donation of punching bags, boxing gloves and medicine balls was made to the renowned Chesterville boxers Dingaan Mahlalela and Ivan Buhlalu, who run a boxing gym in Chesterville.
- The Iqraa Trust has generously sponsored R200,000 towards the initial Sport For All Franchise set up costs for Chesterville.
- Screening of Chesterville Sport For All (Lets' Play Event) on Supersport channels.



FIRST AID



Sport For All team receiving Level 1 St John certificates

On duty at the Sport For All / Let's Play Event

Thank you very much to Cathy Dedman and St. John Ambulance for their assistance.



DRUM MAJORETTES

The Sport For All Team reaching out to help Sport For All members in particular need.



A STREET MEETING

Community Safety & Street Committees

Thanks to the commitment and perseverance of the Chesterville Residents Association (CRA), 26 street committees have been formed since the start of the 'on-the-ground' street committee roll-out in Chesterville in July 2009. This represents nearly 300 street committee residents. Committees are being formed 1 street (or small area) at a time - this involves calling street residents to a meeting, communicating the purpose and responsibilities of street committees and then the election of a street committee chairperson and members for that street. Roll-out will continue to cover the remaining areas of Chesterville. Six two-way radios have been donated by Jwayelani, which will significantly improve the committees communication ability.

An **Induction Training** weekend was held at the University of KwaZulu-Natal for the 300 street committee members on the 8th and 9th of August. Besides being trained on the roles and responsibilities of street committees, delegates were addressed by specialists on topics such as child abuse, domestic violence, human trafficking, substance abuse, HIV/AIDS, rape & forensics and case management. Speakers included representatives from Childline, SANCO, the International Office for Migration, Department of Community Safety & Liaison, Department of Justice, and Safer Cities. Thank you very much to all the guest speakers, and to Don't Waste Services for sponsoring the bus transport of delegates to the venue.

The Chesterville Residents Association & Vukukhanye were invited to the recent Growth Coalition Breakfast, where Terry Rosenberg had the opportunity to share the progress made in Chesterville over the past year, particularly regarding the Street Committee Project. Subsequent newspaper articles have helped spread the news of the process in Chesterville, and have resulted in a number of calls from others involved in community safety initiatives. We continue to seek to build relationships with all relevant stakeholders and appreciate the support that has been provided thus far.



INDUCTION TRAINING WEEKEND

Community Welfare Support

A number of training opportunities have been arranged for the community workers supervised by the Chesterville Residents Association and Vukukhanye – they have completed the 'Quality Living with HIV/AIDS' training course (run by Dr. Photini Kiepiela) as well as the 2-day "Introduction to HIV & AIDS Care and Treatment" (provided by Zoe Life). This training will help prepare them for a 10-day HIV counseling training course to be run in January. The Zoe Life training was made possible by the Westville Rotary Club and Zoe Life, for which we are most grateful. The Community Workers have also been involved in the distribution of food parcels → sponsored by Westville Rotary Club. One hundred food parcels have been distributed so far to child-headed households and families supporting orphans and vulnerable children in Chesterville.



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, as well as Mazenod and Ekuthuleni Preschools.

DISABLED PEOPLE'S SUPPORT GROUP

Thank you to Westville Rotary Club, Starfish Greathearts Foundation, Robin Hood Foundation and Edcon for their generous donation of 300 blankets through the Winter Warmth Campaign. These will go a long way in keeping out the winter chill in Chesterville.



Hospice Shop – Chesterville Day Centre

Three volunteers from Norway and Lithuania, who are studying Community Development at UKZN arranged a very big collection of clothes and other donations from fellow students at the university. This was in aid of the Chesterville Hospice 2nd hand shop (operated by Highway Hospice). Proceeds from the sale of goods are used to fund 5 care workers who assist people affected by HIV and other serious illnesses.

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**.



Training opportunities for Chesterville Residents



Learntrade have offered sponsored places to 2 unemployed Chesterville Residents in their electronics learnership. This is aimed at equipping the unemployed with the skills required to start their own small business or obtain employment. Modules included in the 4-term annual programme include understanding the fundamentals of electricity, the construction & wiring of basic electrical circuits, soldering, domestic appliances, solar water pump etc.

Profitnet

Fifteen candidates have been identified by the Chesterville Residents Association to become part of the Profitnet entrepreneurship support programme ('Profitnet') - a learning network for SMMEs run by the University of KZN & the University of Brighton.

Enforce Security Officer Training

We have been able to follow-up on the funded security officer training through Enforce Security. Sixty candidates, identified by the Chesterville Residents Association, have been submitted for courses starting on 7 and 28 September. Further intakes will take place in January 2010. Learners will be registered with SASSETA and PSIRA and their end qualification will allow them to perform a security service as an E Grade Officer.

We are very grateful to all those who are partnering with the community of Chesterville, to facilitate employment opportunities and support small business.

Early Childhood Development

Training has been the focus of the Early Childhood Development Project over the last few months. Cygnet Pre-Primary School hosted a principals workshop for the principals of 7 preschools in Chesterville. The workshop focused on values, mission and syllabus. We are indebted to Gayle Harris for organizing such an interesting and inspiring workshop, and for offering to host quarterly sessions (the next workshop will be held on the 17th of September).

Level 1 training for 9 Chesterville Preschool teachers began on the 26th of August. This is a 2 month (2 days/week) course run by the Hlanganani Preschool Association, and is another initiative made possible by the Westville Rotary Club.



Zamokuhle Crèche is in the process of an exciting upgrade. This includes new windows throughout, new fencing and a complete 'make-over' of the entire school building (including toilets, kitchen and classrooms). This is greatly improving the learning environment at this school, which has been a significant part of early childhood development in Chesterville since it was established by the CRA in the late 1980's. SUNCOAST and their maintenance team have shown amazing commitment to this worthwhile project. Prestige Cleaning Services have also generously sponsored the upgrade at Zamokuhle.

Saturn Pre-Primary School and Cygnet continue to support the Chesterville preschools with donations of classroom equipment and furniture such as children's tables and chairs.

Children's Foster Home Westville (est. 2001)

Congratulations to Sanele, the eldest of the seven children being cared for at the Children's Foster Home in Westville, for passing his Driver's License. We are so proud of his achievement. Sanele attended his Matric Dance with a school friend on the 21st of August, a last treat before the hard work of matric trials and finals.

Tryphina (foster mother) will be enrolling in the widely recognized, FET accredited National Association for Childcare Workers (NACCW) Child and Youth Care training programme. This will further equip her for the crucial role she plays in nurturing the children placed in her care. Thank you very much to the team of people who provide ongoing support to this special family.

Thanks to Bevan & Damon at East Coast Radio for arranging Sanele's limo ride to his dance!



RECENT OUTINGS:

- Red Square and Edcon treated the children to a fascinating morning at the Umgeni Bird Park, lunch at MacDonalds and a visit to Moses Mabhida Stadium. Thank you to Anusha Chetty and team for organizing such a fun-packed day.
- Cygnet Pre-Primary School hosted the younger children at their annual Fun Day.
- The children attended "Orchestra 2009", sponsored by the British Cultural & Heritage Society. This has become an annual outing for the family. Perhaps Sli (steel drums) or one of the other children will be part of the orchestra next year?



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

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