

04/12/2024

4th TERM PHAKAMISA REPORT

Forth term opening was exciting as we had visitors from the UK Trust Mr. Dave Pain and Mrs. Marylin Pain, it was truly an honour to receive them after so many years.

Early Childhood Development Programs

Childminder & EDU-care (ECD)

We have finally wrapped up this program with a graduation ceremony hosted on the 3rd of December 2024. This was huge success. Even though the recruitment of training teachers this year, was not so great because we had less numbers compared to previous years. We carefully monitored how payments were made towards registration for the course, our students were battling to pay in time. We can all agree that indeed Covid 19, floods and unrest hit hard, more especial in KwaZulu Natal, cost of living is high let alone the basic human needs are not even met. People are battling to make ends meet.

We also had what we call Block training (where office staff goes out to do training in the community) at Mbumbulu area for a Child-Minder course, even though we had drop-outs but it went very well. It also boosts our shortage of numbers we had on our office-based training.

LEVEL 4

Is a two-year training course that is accredited by ETDP-SETA (Education, Training and Development Practices) We reported on our last report that we were wrapping up this programme, students are waiting for verification from ETDP-SETA and Love Trust there after we will plan their graduation ceremony which will be hosted in 2025.

We are also excited to mention that we have recently started a new class which will end next year in December.

Wandering School Centres

On the 4th of October, we had our outing with our W/S children, which was a huge success as they were enjoying out-door plays and water-play. We had 64 kids on the day.

Inanda Wandering school – This school had issues during the year, where there was a burglary issues for a number of times, we installed security bars on the windows and we fixed the toilet, please note, this is a pit toilet due to the area where the Wandering school is. The roof was affected by

severe weather conditions that we have been experiencing this year. We are pleased to report that it was fixed, thanks to the donations we received to make sure that our children are able to attend school and also feel safe.

Village Wandering school – After 10 years of existence, we discovered that there are so many things that needs to be fixed in this school. The roof is too old and rusty, this has been fixed several times but it clear that we need a new roof due to weather conditions that we are experiencing, the walls are affected by mould. The Board members decided that it will be a good idea to get a new windy-house and quotations were made prior to this, which came to R9 000. We then decided to put this on hold until next year 2025. Another issue we still have is that we can't even build a toilet for this W/S due to space and also due to security reasons for the kids. We are also trying to find a new space for this Wandering School before we decide to build a new Wendy-house for them.

Clermont Wandering school – The issue we had at Clermont was that the roof was collapsing which puts our children in danger, we then opted to fix it even though Clermont Wandering school is using the community hall, we figured that we are liable to do some work since we occupy the space as well. This will be fixed before we close for holidays on the 13th of December.

Skills program

On the 28th of August we held a woman's day celebration which was a huge success, where we empower all women despite of age, spiritual, health wise and how we can curve the poverty and support one another. We had our Christmas party on the 3rd of December. It has been fulfilling to watch and celebrate the achievements of these woman and man, to see them go from strength to strength and finally to acquire what they came for at Phakamisa and more.

Our caregiver monitors worked tirelessly to make sure that support was rendered to grannies in the gardens, huge sales of vegetables were sold in their communities, the testimonies we receive from them is tremendously humbling as to how Phakamisa has changed their lives. We donated garden stuff to boost those gardens that were struggling to make sure they continue to work.

Other:

Phakamisa Staff

Looking at the changes that might affect Phakamisa as an ECD Centre, we saw an urgent need to uplift staff members to be well equipped more especially now since Department of Education is implementing new policies and programs that will strengths ECD education. Secondly, since Phakamisa has a continuation of partnering with The Love Trust under accredited course for Level 4 ECD, having skilled staff members will be beneficiary.

Two years ago, we received a donation from Irish World Development Relief which was meant for something else, a new proposal was then made for uplifting staff members, IWDR agreed to this proposal. Four members were elected and 1 student from the Level 4 class. We are excited to be able to uplift these members as they will be planting back to Phakamisa once competed this course.

RETIRING STAFF:

We have come to a time where everything is changing, three of our staff members are retiring:

Mrs Alexia Zuma – ECD Trainer

Ms Nelisiwe Magudulela – Beadwork Trainer

and Mr Themba V. Kubheka – The Driver

We also have staff members who have retired but decided to stay for another year (2025). They were given a contract which will be reviewed every end of the year. They are:

Mrs Zola Masikane – Kitchen Trainer

Mrs Thabile Msomi – Caregiver Monitor.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Wandering school furniture – this was a huge success of what we have been longing for. It made a huge impact in their learning environment. They are even able to have their porridge while sitting on the table, very fascinating to watch. Thank you
- New Stoves – Kitchen has changed for the best, we are now complying
- A child who came in at the beginning of the year who had a barrier of speech, As the year continued, we received the news that she started to try and utter words because of the teaching and involvement with other kids at Clermont Wandering school. She has started to attend speech therapy at hospital through the help of our W/S teacher.

CHALLENGES

- Change is always difficult but it is necessary. The loss of excellent staff members makes it hard to anticipate the turnover for 2025 moving forward even though we had best candidates for these posts and we do not doubt that they will do their best. The challenge was to find the best. We prayed for candidates that will fit to this family and we believe that God granted us that.
- Finances of the organisation had us so worried for some time. It is worrying not knowing what tomorrow will bring more especial in these trying times for everyone. We thank God for always showing up to Uplift His mission work. Even though we ended the year on a good note, but the concern is always there.

HOPES and Wishes FOR 2025

- New buildings for our Wandering schools.
- Meals for the day for our wandering school children, not just porridge only but to also have a snack or substantial meals,
- A donation of 5 pounds per child could feed that child for a month (a prayer) this could make a huge difference.

Note:

I would like to take this opportunity on behalf of staff members and MANCO to extend our heartfelt gratitude for your never-ending support, we wouldn't have achieved everything that we did this year without you. May God Keep you safe from harm, may God protect your families in Jesus Mighty name.

Announcements:

Our Admin Carol Mzotho delivered a healthy beautiful boy on the 5th of November

Offices are closing on the 13th of December 2024

2025 School Opening – (11)-15/ 01/ 2025

Compiled by Miss Ntombizethu P Kuzwayo

Director