



## Nakekela Christian Community Centre Association

Greetings from South Africa! Over the last few months many exciting things have happened. We'll try to tell you all about them!

At Nakekela, we care for the body and soul of our patients. Sometimes the care given is basic; bathing, feeding, showing love, giving medication, etc. Other times, more is needed for the patient to successfully survive outside of the walls of Nakekela. Once again, our Home Based Care workers went out of their way to help an ex-patient in the long process of applying for and receiving his identification document and a disability grant. He was living with his 80 year old father and still had not applied for an ID, even into his adult life. Without an ID, it can be difficult to function in society. So, after many months of waiting, he finally received it. Along with the ID, he received a government grant for his disability. We are so thankful that God has opened the hearts of a few officials in the government agencies to help us attain such needed documents and money for those too weak to go out and work.



*Ella, Glory & Mirriam with the patient, showing off his new ID*

### 2013

#### STATISTICS TO DATE:

Admissions	72
Current Patients:	8
Discharge to Home:	28
Deaths:	36
HBC Field Visits:	540



*Ex-patients receiving blankets on Mandela Day*



*Mirriam distributing blanket and mattress covers to Anna Ntuli's Old Age Home*

We give thanks to African Blessings, another NGO in the Bronkhorspruit area. They came by with a bakkie load of donations. We received blankets; mattress covers, and hand and bath towels. From these donations we were able to bless so many other people, including the Ekhukanyeni Old Age Home, run by Anna Ntuli, (photo above right) who used to be a care worker at Nakekela. On Mandela Day the Home Based Care handed out blankets to ex-patients and their families. (Photo above left) We hope to use the remainder for our extra patients in the new extension next year.

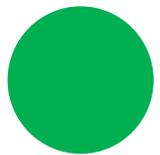


# MANDELA DAY ~ 18 JULY 2013

On the 18<sup>th</sup> of July we celebrated Mandela Day with the rest of South Africa. Approximately 40-50 people came to help out with various chores. There were ex-patients, neighbours, members of the Department of Rural Development and Land Reform from Witbank, Miss KwaNdebele and Miss Teen KwaNdebele, members of the KwaNdebele Gospel Choir, as well as off-duty staff members. Everyone pitched in to do their 67 minutes of volunteer work in memory of the 67 years of his life that Mandela worked for human rights.

Some planning had to be done so there wouldn't be chaos. The admin staff worked out a plan to make it organized and everything seemed to go well. The patients were blessed with packages from the Department of Rural Development and Land Reform, as well as the gift of fruits and vegetables for the centre. Many bags of cut up vegetables filled the freezer and the fresh fruit will be enjoyed by the patients throughout the week.

At the end of the day, all volunteers were given soup and buns to enjoy. The KwaMhlanga Gospel Choir sang some songs of praise for everyone. We thank God for this opportunity to receive so much support from the government and community.





*Donations of knitted slippers proudly displayed by the patients.*



*Sarah and Mirriam receiving clothing donation from a local woman*



*Dorcas receiving the donated laptop with the new SMS program installed*



*Our Home Based Care worker figured out a way to bring her patient, who couldn't walk, to Nakekela for treatment. She borrowed a neighbour's bicycle and pushed her patient all the way to Nakekela. She has since been discharged, but still suffers from poverty and cannot buy food. Dorcas met her one day and she was very weak from hunger, so we gave her veggies from our garden and some food supplies from the kitchen.*

**Report from Home Based Care** By Mirriam Rakwale

On one of our home visits we came across 3 small children who are orphans. We are very concerned for the youngest who is only 18 months old. She is living with an old granny who is already taking care of another small child. It is difficult for the granny to be able to take good care of all of these small children, especially since the 18 month old tested positive for HIV. Our Home Based Care team helps the granny by taking the child to the clinic every month for the treatment and check-up. Our team also assisted by applying for and receiving birth certificates grants for the children. After receiving the birth certificates, they applied for social orphan grants, which will help the granny financially to care for them.

This is just one story of many that our Home Based Care team face on a regular basis. We pray that God will give them sustaining grace to continue their work with the sick and needy people of this community.

**New SMS Program Donation**

We received visitors from Tampa, Florida who brought with them a laptop that had a special SMS program installed on it. Dorcas and Dori received training on how to use it to benefit our staff, ex-patients and even the broader community. With this program we can send out reminders to patients to take their medication at the specified time, we can send out information about HIV/AIDS and even send out reminders to our staff regarding training sessions or meetings. There are so many opportunities to use this way of communication! We are working hard to get cell numbers from each 'group' to be able to get it running in full swing. We are very grateful for it and can't wait to get it fully operational.

**Staff Governance Training**

In connection with our SALT Alliance, all of our staff members and board were trained in how an NGO is run. It was very enlightening to see how each staff member has their part to play in the broader scheme of things. We learned how different a Christian organisation is run, compared to a secular organisation. We see even in Scripture the various leadership and workmanship skills that are portrayed for us to follow. With this knowledge, we pray God will assist us to perform the work He has called us to do in this community that is still suffering with HIV/AIDS.



*On 30 August, the Home Based Care team went on a training course given by Sungardens Hospice in Pretoria.*

*"Striving to be the hands and feet of Jesus Christ in the community"*

In July, we received a team of young people from De Verre Naaste in the Netherlands. They joined us on one of our Support Group days and were able to view how the attendees shared their stories and encouraged each other. After lunch was served, the team taught those who attended how to make bracelets.



We are so thankful for the donation from **Word & Deed** to extend our building. The contractor began leveling out the ground and laying the foundation over the last two weeks. We look forward every day to see the progress! Check out our photos on the blog to see the progress! <http://www.nakekela.co.za/blog.html>

Students from local schools have come to us to ask our help to fulfill their school assignments. They are doing HIV/AIDS modules in class and must go and help out at a place that works with HIV positive people. Since we are the only place in the vicinity, we receive 5 to 10 school children each day to come and volunteering their time in the gardens, cleaning the facility and working in the kitchen.



**NAKEKELA CHRISTAN COMMUNITY  
CENTRE ASSOCIATION**



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