

Nakekela Christian Community Centre Association

Greetings from everyone at Nakekela in our fourth newsletter of the year. God has been good to us even throughout the cold. It is a joy indeed to experience the mercy and goodness of God. We had a lot of exiting things taking place at the centre and we want to thank God from whom all blessings flow.

Nakekela had the privilege to host some community members on Mandela day. We had people from the community who came to celebrate Mandela day with us and we were very fortunate to have the team from Legal Aid South Africa, the Upbeat Youth Centre and some representatives from the local Clinics. See page 3 for pictures.

We have two dedicated and local pastor's working together with us at the centre. See page 2 for Pastor Sifiso Hlatshwayo and Pastor Billy Zulu's stories and learn about their calling and work at Nakekela on Saturdays and Sundays.

Dorcas Mathibela, the General Manager and Letty Tjiane, the Personnel Administrative Officer and Counsellor went to a SALT meeting in Western Cape and had a week of learning with other organisations including a strategy that can be incorporated in our present working situation namely "The family approach". Rather work on healing the family than just one individual, because the family operates as a unit in itself.

2014

STATISTICS TO DATE:

Admissions:	71
Discharge to Home:	23
Deaths:	32
HBC Field Patients:	528
HBC Field Visits:	3581
Outpatients:	85



Visitor's from the Dutch Reformed Church, Bronkorspruit who were singing for us and brought some gifts for the staff and patients



I will bless the Lord at all times; his praise shall continually be in my mouth. Psalm 34:1

The Calling of Pastor Billy Zulu

My name is Billy Zulu and I am doing mission work under the banner of Dutch Reformed Church in Bronkhorspruit. I started work in Kwamhlanga and surrounding areas in 2013.

My main focus is on mission work, bringing and sharing the Good News to the poor and serve community. I minister the gospel through public evangelism, distribution of Christian literature as well as clothing to the poor and needy.

I also minister in the Kwamhlanga hospital. I thank GOD always for the open window at Nakekela to be able to minister on Sunday afternoons. I am always thankful to GOD for Nakekela and the partnership. I also believe in empowering the totality of mankind and community through social development, skills development and education and training.



Above is the picture of Pastor Billy Zulu



The Calling of God Pastor Hlatshwayo

My name is Sifiso Hlatshwayo, a founding Pastor of the Grace Fellowship Church and a resident Pastor at Nakekela. I was born in Breyten, Mpumalanga and later relocated to Kwa -Mhlanga to pursue my Theological studies.

My first visit to Nakekela (2005) was when I was still a student at Mukhanyo, the purpose was to do research relating to my studies, but I ended up preaching to the patients telling them about God's love, forgiveness, the salvation and hope that are found in accepting Jesus as Lord and Savior. The response was so overwhelming that the patients requested me to come more often, a request I forwarded to the then centre Manager and she gladly approved it.

That marked the beginning of my ministry at Nakekela, a ministry I have been doing for over a decade now. It is worth noting that when I started ministering to the patients the stigma around the disease and the centre was very rife, very few people then would risk coming near the centre and the patients. But regardless of what other people were saying including fellow pastors at the College, I continued ministering, because to me it felt as a calling and I also felt I had no choice but to obey God. I love the work am doing at Nakekela. It is a special kind of ministry. I also cherish the relationship that I have built with my colleagues and the current and former patients.





Dorcas Mathibela, the Manager and Letty Tjiane, the Personnel Administrative Officer and Counsellor went to a SALT meeting in the Western Cape and learned more about the Family Approach



Above is pictures of Mandela Day. We were richly blessed by the Legal Aid Team that brought us a large donation in the form of fruit, fresh vegetables and meat to contribute to the care of our patients

Report from Home Based Care

By Mirriam Rakwale

Martha Mtshweni, one of the Home Based Care workers had a patient in the field whose house burned down. The woman with two of her children nearly died in the house when her ex-husband had set it on fire. The children were still at home, preparing for school when the incident happened.

The woman had to climb through a window and got hurt. She was assisted by her neighbours to go to the hospital. Her two daughters were by the grace of God able to escape the fire, unfortunately her ex-husband died in the blaze. It is so sad that now they have to start from the beginning as they have lost all their earthly possessions.

One of the children affected by the tragedy, a young boy did not understand the concept of death and feared his father would come back to hurt him. The woman and her daughters also had nightmares following the incident. The counsellor at Nakekela, Letty Tjiane, had two counselling sessions with the family to set them at ease. The counselling relieved them of so many of their fears that the one daughter requested another visit. The little boy also highlighted that the reading of the Word of God and the prayer helped him a lot to cope.

Our counsellor also thanked God that He protected the family. Nakekela was also able to provide them with clothes and blankets to try and restore their life to what is was earlier.



Above (on the left) is the picture of Martha the Home Base Care worker pointing that the burned house. On the right is Letty Tjiane with the woman and her three children.

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



Above (on the left) we have a photo of 15 young people from the Netherlands, who came to visit us at the centre for a day and they did some crafts with the patients. It was a joy to have them with us at the centre. They bought many of the cards made by our patients in their therapy sessions.

Above (on the right) we have photo of other young people who also came to visit us from the Netherlands. Their parents are friends of Joke Parre, the founder of Nakekela. These young people heard a lot about Nakekela over the years and now had the privilege to come and see the project themselves. Above they are with Dorcas Mathibela, Nakekela Manager and Ernest Matsela the Manager of the Themba lethu Child Care Centre.



Some of the young people from Netherlands having fun while doing crafts with patients and of the staff members.

**NAKEKELA CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY
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It was good to have Marie Kegel, Hans van Hamburg and Ellen van Hamburg visiting us at the centre from the United State of America.

