



eThembeni
PLACE OF HOPE



Annual Report 2020

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REGISTRATION INFORMATION

CMD Usizo Aids Trust IT 2077 / 2004
Affiliate of KZN CMD NPO-009-231

Board report

MRS CONSTANCE MOLOI SUMMARISES 2019/2020

A year to thank God for



The year in question had both positive outcomes and some challenges for eThembeni. As a Faith Based Organization the presence of God was felt throughout this year.

As an NPO the road could not always be smooth. In our good times we were thankful to the Almighty God. During difficult times we always leaned on God and asked for His guidance.

PARTNERING WITH OTHERS

eThembeni has been a pillar of strength to partner organizations like CMD Usizo Uthukela and CMD Pomeroy/Umzinyathi. The staggering economy of South Africa demands that eThembeni provides a helping hand financially to these organizations. In addition, eThembeni offers relevant programmes that support families, the building blocks of society.

WOMEN EMPOWERMENT

Women play a vital role in our communities, especially in rural areas where many families are led by women who are single parents or who have “unavailable” husbands because they are migrant workers or unemployed. In other families, children are raised by their grandmothers or extended family because they were abandoned by their parents or orphaned. These struggling women-led families need proper support and the parenting skills to raise children.

Many of the rural women we reach out to are involved in eThembeni’s self-help group programmes where the focus is on economic, social and political development. It’s essential that families are preserved and strengthened.

WORKING WITH YOUTH

A number of our programmes are targeted at youth since our young people are the future of the nation. Our youth are growing up in a time of many social ills which influence their upbringing. eThembeni’s youth programmes

aim to transform young people of school-going age into self-assertive individuals who make wise choices and decisions in their lives. These youth eventually become change agents within their communities.

FOCUS ON MEN

For a long time eThembeni has focused primarily on women and youth. During this year we developed a programme for men to strengthen and encourage them to fulfil their Godly calling. We see how important it is that men take their place to protect and provide for their families and children, and be the role models in our communities.

GRATEFUL FOR SUPPORT

The financial, material and spiritual support from local, provincial, national and international partners this year is deeply appreciated. A list of these partners can be found at the end of this annual report.

I wish to mention the commitment of the Trustees, the Board and our staff in the various programmes. Thank you. Seeing positive outcomes in all of our programmes has given hope to eThembeni and the ambition to continue despite all odds.

I would like to thank Dr Schoeman for his ongoing commitment and willingness to labour for the success of eThembeni. His love and passion for God’s calling to care for everybody unconditionally cannot be unnoticed.

May God’s blessings be with everybody involved in eThembeni.

About eThembeni

VISION, MISSION & HISTORY

Creating places of hope

VISION

We create communities of excellence by bringing hope to people in need.

MISSION

To co-ordinate and develop the compassionate services of participating churches and the organisation to render Christian-based social prevention, provision and after-care services to all people in material, social and spiritual need, irrespective of race, gender or religion.

eThembeni actively contributes to local communities by offering support, resources and skills development, thereby empowering communities to look after themselves and find hope.

OUR HISTORY

In the 1980s HIV and Aids caused many deaths, family disruptions and orphaned children in South Africa, with sick people coming home from the cities, particularly prominent in the province of KwaZulu-Natal. Aids was soon seen as a poverty-related social crisis that needed holistic intervention.

Two branches of the church came together to address the pandemic impact of HIV and Aids in the Msinga Municipality and uThukela District, which included Mnambithi, uKhahlamba, Mtshezi, Mpofana and Ndaka. Their approach was more “whole-istic” and addressed the whole person in the context of their family and community. Christelike Maatskaplike Dienste is the Christian social services arm of the Dutch Reformed Church and Usizo is the Zulu Church’s arm of compassion. Together, the two church outreaches started the CMD Usizo Aids Trust. Multiple partners came on board, including organisations like the Red Cross, churches from the Western Cape, Tygerberg Medical Students, Scripture Union, Farming God’s Way (Foundations for Farming), ACAT, Sinamandla, Bijzondere Noden from the Netherlands as well as local businesses.

Today CMD Usizo Aids Trust is known locally as “eThembeni”, which means “Place of Hope” in the local Zulu language. This partnership of churches, government, hospitals and organisations has grown to be a strong community-based structure which strengthens the weak and the affected.

OUR COMMITMENT

eThembeni is committed to...

- close collaborative partnerships with other organisations
- managing our youth and agricultural training centres well
- training locals to become trainers in their own communities
- fundraising to underwrite costs of training courses we offer
- forming viable networks locally and internationally
- establishing good stewardship in management
- establishing accountable mentoring and evaluation programmes
- regular reviews of all our programmes and outreaches
- community empowerment
- addressing the whole person in the context of family and community
- capacity building of individuals and communities

ALFRED DUMA & MSINGA MUNICIPALITIES

KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa



ALFRED DUMA MUNICIPALITY is a Category B municipality in the uThukela District within the region of northern KwaZulu-Natal. The municipality covers 3,764km² and features the uThukela River and the Greater Drakensberg Mountains.

It comprises a range of settlements, from urban to municipal service centres, agricultural landscapes, industrial and semi-rural residential settlements, and is predominantly rural. In some parts of the municipality community access roads are in very bad condition; some only exist as tracks. The rural nature means there are severe backlogs in infrastructure and communities experience much poverty.

Population (2016): 356,274, of which 37% are under 15 years old and 4% are over 65.

Education (adults 20+): 37% have no schooling, 35% have a matric, 6% have a higher education qualification.

Household services: 84% of homes have electricity, 32% have access to piped water, 44% to refuse removal and just 42% to a flush toilet.

Household dynamics: 52% of households are female-headed, 70% of adults (ages 15-64) rely on family members for economic support.



MSINGA MUNICIPALITY covers 2,375 km² of largely rural areas with 70% of its area being Traditional Authority land held in trust by the Ingonyama Trust. The remaining 30% is commercial farm land, all of which is located to the north of Pomeroy. Due to the rural nature of the municipality, approximately 99% of the population lives in traditional areas. Msinga is largely located in deep gorges of the Tugela and Buffalo Rivers. This effectively isolates the area from the immediate surrounding municipal areas.

The strong traditional culture prevalent particularly in Msinga is a valuable asset that must be preserved and valued, providing support mechanisms for the communities as well as living custodians of the culture. Msinga Municipality has the lowest levels of basic services when compared with the rest of the municipalities in this district. There is a heavy reliance on government grants to provide infrastructure.

Population (2016): 184,494

Education (adults 20+): 37% have no schooling, 19% have a matric, 6% have a higher education qualification.

Household services: 48% of homes have electricity, 1.7% have access to piped water, 0.3% to refuse removal and 0.9% to a flush toilet.

Household dynamics: 67% of households are female-headed, 88% of adults (15-64) rely on family members for economic support.

* Source: www.municipalities.co.za

CAPACITY-BUILDING

Programmes & projects

AMAZISIZE RURAL WOMEN EMPOWERMENT

This programme is all about empowering women to support their own families, build good support systems in their communities and become politically relevant role players within their regions.

FAMILY STRENGTHENING & PRESERVATION

The Christian Social Services Family Preservation programme is a KwaZulu-Natal CMD programme, with specialised focus on family life and preserving the abilities of families to be core building blocks of a strong community. Our dream is to see families being strong, healthy and safe for all, especially for women and children.

HOME-BASED CARE

eThembeni offers quality home-based care services to families caring for the sick at home and also assists several community-based care centres who employ, monitor and mentor trained volunteers doing home-based care in the area. Teams work to ensure that more families have access to quality medical services in remoter areas where transport is difficult and income is often marginal.

MEN'S MINISTRY

eThembeni men's ministry initiative encourages men to attend camps and participate in mentoring groups where they are strengthened and encouraged to fulfil their Godly calling. We long to see men take their place in communities/families as protectors, providers and role models.

SOCIAL CRIME PREVENTION AND AWARENESS

This is a three year programme working to address the root causes of social crimes. Overlapping with the Life Coaching currently implemented by eThembeni's other teams, the Social Crime programme presents both awareness and prevention programmes in local communities.

STATUTORY WORK

eThembeni is commissioned to take responsibility for the statutory social services in several towns. These services deal mainly with foster care grants, adoptions, family restoration and care for traumatized children and women.

Practical assistance is also given in the short term (food parcels and clothing) and in the longer term through establishing sustainable family structures.

YOUTH LIFE COACHING

The Transformers project aims at transforming young people (youth) of school-going age into self-assertive young individuals who make wise choices in their life.

Transformers works on a project-by-project basis, facilitating school visits with focus on life choices, weekend camps, youth gatherings in the communities over school holidays, and identifying and supporting positive peer change agents in local schools.

The Transformers dream is to see young people who come from challenging backgrounds learning to stand up, find healing from wounds and become change agents in their communities.

GOVERNANCE

Board & Team leaders

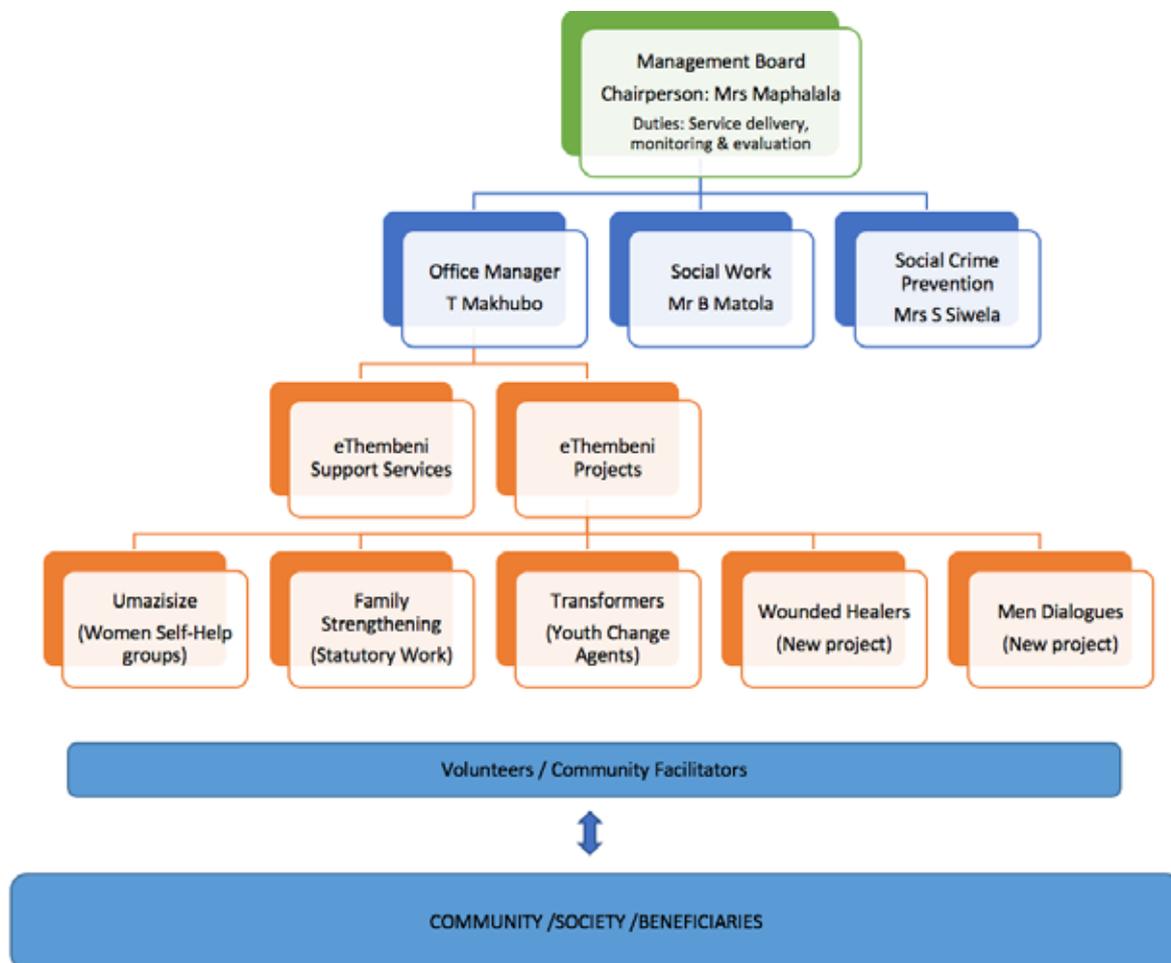
ETHEMBENI'S BOARD

eThembeni relies on the input and wisdom of its Board of Directors. Each programme is headed up by a team leader or programme manager, reporting directly to the Chairperson of the Board. In all things, prayer, transparency and interdependency are emphasized.

The board comprises Mrs Constance Moloi, Dr. Lourens Schoeman, Mrs Alta Pollard (Finance), Rev. Simon Mnisi, Ds. Gerhard de Lange, Rev. Isaac Ngema and Ds. Gerhard Botha (Chairperson).



THE ETHEMBENI TEAM & STRUCTURE



Amazimize women's groups

HELPING RURAL WOMEN TO HELP THEMSELVES Strengthening, encouraging, equipping

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**COMMUNITIES
IMPACTED**

IN 2019/2020...

**14 NEW SELF HELP
GROUPS STARTED**

**60 FUNCTIONING FOOD
GARDENS (COMPARED TO
JUST 36 FOOD GARDENS
IN 2018)**

**1 GROUP GENERATING
EXTRA INCOME THROUGH
BEAD MAKING**

**1661 WOMEN ACTIVE IN
GROUPS (AN INCREASE
FROM 1546 IN 2018)**

PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

The Amazimize Self Help Group programme is an investment in women for the future of their children. This programme is very special in that it does not focus on providing temporary or once-off aid in the form of money or food. Instead, Amazimize empowers women to look after their children, families and communities in a comprehensive and sustainable manner.

THOSE WHO HELP THEMSELVES

'Amazimize' is a Zulu term which, translated, means "those who help themselves". The Amazimize Self Help Group movement has the power to achieve social change. It releases women from poverty which is rooted in a historical system of dependence. At the same time it gives women a voice in a society which otherwise often denies their presence.

COMMUNITY-LED

The Self Help Group programme runs with the help of seven Community Facilitators who mentor self help groups in their different communities.

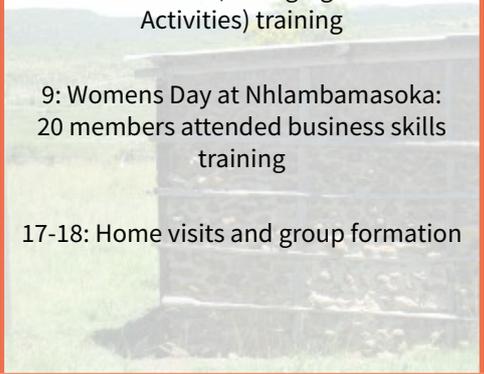
At our monthly meetings with the Community Facilitators we discuss the successes and the challenges that they face in their work. These sharing times are a great place of learning and growth. After discussions the group comes up with refreshed ideas and ways to impact their communities.

Topics discussed this year included:

- Self Help Group concept
- Saving, loaning and credit management
- Business promotion
- SHG vision and goal setting
- Communication skills
- Leadership

This mentoring helps the Community Facilitators to gain confidence and skills, including how to share ideas, how to speak in public and what works in other communities.

Together, these facilitators are continuously discovering and understanding ways to release the potential that individuals have to make communities safe places for everyone.

<p style="text-align: center;">JANUARY</p> <p>30: Meeting with all the community facilitators at Ezakheni</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">FEBRUARY</p> <p>13: Cluster level association meeting at Nazaretha</p> <p>15: Cluster level association meeting at Sahlumbe</p> 	<p style="text-align: center;">MARCH</p> <p>20: Meeting with widows at Sahlumbe</p> <p>22: Group meeting for Usizolwethu group at Mhlumayo</p> <p>28: Meeting with community facilitators at Ezakheni</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">APRIL</p> <p>9-12: Conference at Bonkospruit area</p> <p>16: Cluster level association meeting at Ohwebedeni</p> 	<p style="text-align: center;">MAY</p> <p>7: Cluster level association meeting at Sizolwethu group</p> <p>13: Group formation at Mkhumbane together with home visits - 3 groups formed</p> <p>27: Community meeting</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">JUNE</p> <p>11: Ubuhlebembokodo Cluster Level Association meeting</p> <p>17-21: Bredasdorp Church visited Nhlalakahle</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">JULY</p> <p>1-5: Community facilitators leadership training including topics on sewing, emotional intelligent and training styles</p> <p>10: Durban Overall visit to Mkhumbane</p> <p>22-26: Training on 'Foundations for farming' at Nazareth: 20 people attended</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">AUGUST</p> <p>13: Cluster level association meeting at kwaHlathi</p> <p>19-23: Leadership training at Pomeroy: 20 people attended</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">SEPTEMBER</p> <p>2-6: Micro MBA (Managing Business Activities) training</p> <p>9: Womens Day at Nhlambamasoka: 20 members attended business skills training</p> <p>17-18: Home visits and group formation</p> 
<p style="text-align: center;">OCTOBER</p> <p>2-3: Soya training at Sahlumbe</p> <p>11-13: Dignity Campaign 'Train the Trainer' external training in Cape Town</p> <p>15-18: Bronkospruit Conference for champions in Foundations for Farming</p> <p>22-23: Soya training at Nhlalakahle</p> <p>29-30: Bergville visit with Thabile</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">NOVEMBER</p> <p>6-9: SALT Alliance training hosted at eThembeni: Dignity and Dare facilitator training</p> <p>12-13: Soya awareness training at Roosboom</p> <p>25: Meeting with community facilitators</p> 	<p style="text-align: center;">DECEMBER</p> <p>3: 16 Days of Activism: hosted an event raising awareness of women and child protection (100 attendees)</p> <p>4-10: Distributed donated bicycles to Mhloshane Primary School (Bergville), Cancane Primary School (Mhlumayo) and women in Nhlambamasoka area</p>

RURAL WOMEN EMPOWERMENT

Reaching out to 1661 women in Msinga and uThukela

NEW GROUPS

All areas of operation have been working hard to build up the community through starting new groups. We were able to form four groups: three in Mhlumayo and one in Nazareth. Both of these areas are in rural communities and were most successful.

We started with home visits, urging ladies to attend the meetings and sharing the benefits of being part of this women empowerment. We then hosted the group, with an introduction to the concept of the Self Help Group.

We have 11 CLA (Cluster Level Associations) meetings where the women met to discuss challenges and then find a way forward to help their community. Each group came together and made a R200 donation to the problems faced in the families or towards what the community needed.



FARMING

Women were trained in Foundations for Farming. The course covers the following topics:

- How to use the soil and ensure the land maintains its minerals
- Compost making
- The four values of foundation
- On standard, on time, no wastage and with joy
- The value of the Earth that provides us with everything we need as humans, showing us that God has a perfect plan for us living in this world
- The importance of reading the Bible every day, not only in church

SAHLUMBE UPDATE

We have a support group for 20 widows in a rural area called Sahlumbe. The group met regularly to discuss the issues that they are faced and came up with solutions to those challenges e.g. there is a tradition in the community that widows must wear a black gown for three years and may not travel or move around.

TRAINING WOMEN IN POMEROY

A Pomeroy leadership training for 20 women covered topics including how to be a leader in your community, the characteristics of good citizens of a society are and how they live, and an introduction to business skills, including how to run your own business, manage the home and provide for your family.



STRENGTHENING FAMILIES

Learning & leaning on each other



Participant Ms. Sithebe shares:

"We all started not knowing what will come out of this saving R2 but now I am one of the many women in the community who have proven for herself that when women come together they can achieve a lot!

We attended the Foundation for Farming training where we learnt about enriching soil and also about the Bible. I realised that each day we need to enrich our souls by reading the Bible daily.

When I went to church after the training I paged through my own Bible which we received as a gift from Foundation for Farming. That gave me confidence to listen while also I am seeing what the pastor is talking about.

Thank you to my mentors Mrs Makhaya and Mr Davis for being there for us and letting us know the good news."

NHLALAKAHLE UPDATE

A Cape Town church came and taught the community women the skill of how to sew a pillow. The pillow can be used to kneel on when praying as well as decoration. The ladies decorated their pillows with flowers and decorations signifying growth in faith. Part of this training time included the importance of forgiveness and the attitudes each individual can choose to embrace (having a clean heart or a dirty heart).

DEVELOPING EMOTIONAL INTELLIGENCE

A training session on emotional intelligence was held for the community. Topics included self-awareness, emotional awareness, self-management, social awareness and social skills.

16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM

We hosted a "16 days of activism" awareness programme at Nhlambamasoka. It was encouraging to see the men in this community supporting the women by also attending in order to understand the concept of working together to create a safe space for their children to grow in.

SOYA TRAINING

We facilitated soya production training for the community facilitators in each of the seven areas we are operating in. The training taught the attendees how to produce soya products including yoghurt, soya nuts, ukara chips and soya mahewu. Soya is a nutritious food at home and a good cash crop.

DIGNITY PROGRAMME TRAINING

Our team leaders attended a Dignity Campaign 'Train the Trainer' course run in Cape Town. Our new Dignity facilitators will run Dignity Days for girls at schools, in churches and in the community, teaching young women about identity, belonging, purpose, God's wonderful design of their bodies, menstruation and helping them overcome challenges girls face. At Dignity Days girls will also receive reusable menstrual products of their choice, which helps to keep more girls in school. The facilitators will also run follow-up Cherish Dignity mentoring groups to provide ongoing support for 6-8 weeks.

BICYCLE DONATIONS

We received 60 bicycles which were equally distributed in schools where children have to walk far distances. These schools included Mhloshane Primary School in Bergville, Cancane Primary School in Mhlumayo and a women's self-help group in Nhlalakahle.

Social crime prevention

IMPACTING COMMUNITIES
In partnership with DSD

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MUNICIPALITIES
SUPPORTED

IN 2019/2020...

24 EMPLOYEES
RECEIVED WORKPLACE
COUNSELLING

9677 INDIVIDUALS
REACHED THROUGH
SOCIAL CRIME
AWARENESS EVENTS

77 EX-OFFENDERS
RECEIVED
REHABILITATION
SUPPORT

620 CHILDREN TOOK
PART IN A PROGRAMME
FOR SEXUALLY REACTIVE
KIDS

165 FAMILY MEMBERS
PARTICIPATED
IN PARENTING
PROGRAMMES



PROJECT BACKGROUND

Social crime can be overcome

"Social crime is a popular form of lower class social resistance involving behaviour characterized by law as illegal, yet still supported by a society as being moral and acceptable. Social crime prevention is an approach to crime prevention that addresses the root causes of social crimes."

- Mrs Simangele Siwela
Team Leader

ADDRESSING THE ROOT CAUSES OF SOCIAL CRIMES

At the end of 2018 the Department of Social Development in KZN contracted eThembeni to run social crime prevention programmes in the district municipalities of uThukela (Mnambithi), Mzinyathi (Nquthu) and Amajuba (Newcastle). Twelve social workers were employed with full salary subsidies and an administration budget covering fuel and office running costs.

The programme overlaps with the Life Coaching done by eThembeni and the teams work closely together.

Focus is placed on awareness interventions including victim empowerment, restorative justice, child trafficking, drug abuse, gender, social media and road safety. Prevention programmes are conducted at schools and during holiday activities, offering parenting skills and support, leadership development and workplace counselling.



WORKPLACE COUNSELLING

Workplace counselling is all about assisting workers to deal with their personal challenges and make good long term choices, ensuring that they didn't lose focus at work.

Counselling sessions took place at Durban Overall every Monday from 11am to 3pm. Workers requested counselling for various challenges: work-related, family issues, personal issues, financial problems, alcohol and drug abuse, child neglect, loss, robbery and more. Counsellors made use of the parenting skills programme, YOLO manual, Soul City manual as well as general counselling skills.

Some of the workers are related and our counsellor was able to mediate their family challenge and assist them to find a solution. A widow was able to reconcile problems with her in-laws and other workers benefitted from counselling. Counselling can carry stigma, so there were fewer clients towards the end of the year.

The counselling sessions will continue at Durban Overall in 2020 and there is a good relationship with management.



ADDRESSING ROOT CAUSES

Awareness & early intervention

PREVENTION & CRIME AWARENESS EVENTS

Prevention and crime awareness programmes were held at schools, malls, service centres, institutions of higher learning and at taxi ranks. In addition, educators in Early Childhood Development Centres and schools were trained on awareness and early identification of victims of crime. A total of 9677 beneficiaries were reached.

PROGRAMME FOR SEXUALLY REACTIVE CHILDREN

The social crime prevention team was asked to develop and present this programme - in total 620 beneficiaries were reached.

REHABILITATION

The rehabilitation outreach addresses social and physical needs for ex-offenders so that they can help and support one another. Ex-offenders struggle to find employment when they applied at companies, NPOs and Government sectors. They have skills but find it difficult to use those skills purposefully. 77 ex-offenders benefitted through the Rehabilitation Programme run in partnership with the Ladysmith Corrections Office.

SUBSTANCE ABUSE PROGRAMME

To reduce social crime, we needed to reduce the number of people who abuse substances. We received many reports of domestic violence and crime caused by substance abuse within communities during the year. Encouraging individuals to make healthy choices was a key in all our interventions.



BUILDING STRONGER COMMUNITIES

Healthy families are the foundation

Strengthening parenting skills to reduce the number of abused and neglected children

PARENTING PROGRAMME

This programme encourages parents to overcome parenting challenges and find new ways of helping their children succeed.

The parenting programme was run at Ladysmith Provincial Hospital using the Botswadi parenting material, reaching out to parents whose sick children and grandchildren were admitted to the hospital. The hospital serves an estimated population of 27,000 people from the Umnambithi and Indaka Municipality.

The programme is structured into six sessions, each with a key topic:

1. Introduction and Orientation: Getting to know each other, where do we come from, where are we going?
2. Balanced care opens the way to your child.
3. Physical care for a strong child and loving care for a happy family.
4. Learning opportunities for a clever child and developing a conscience for a responsible child.

Each parenting group chose a name for their group. The parents were easy to work with, friendly, willing to participate in activities and to use the information we gave to them. They also shared their prior knowledge in the sessions which added to group discussions. The programme is continuing in the Hospital and the eThembeni team have a good relationship with the Ward 6 staff members.

Challenges:

- There are many neglected and abused children within families, neighbours and communities.
- Parents have their often-difficult histories and personalities which negatively shaped their parenting skills.
- Parents are living with “mind your own” communities where there is no support from others when they are raising their children.

A total of 165 family members benefited from attending Parenting workshops.



Youth life coaching

SUPPORTING YOUTH, INSPIRING HOPE

Tackling the tough issues with love

Our vision is "Christ Centred leaders in relation with youth ministry" and our mission statement is 'Leading young people to know how to walk with God'.

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**GEOGRAPHICAL
AREAS
IMPACTED**

IN 2019/2020...

**3057 YOUNG PEOPLE
TOOK PART IN LIFE
COACHING IN SCHOOLS**

**28 SCHOOLS INVESTED
IN YOUTH INPUT &
COACHING**

**742 CHILDREN
PARTICIPATED IN
HOLIDAY CLUBS**

**2000 YOUTH ATTENDED
YOUTH CAMPS**

LIFE COACHING IN SCHOOLS FOR 3057 YOUNG PEOPLE

eThembeni Life Coaches are privileged to be welcomed into many of the local schools to run life coaching sessions with learners. The coaches work with teams, typically arriving and briefing first with the team/teachers. A typical session starts with fun ice breaker activities, followed by a recap of the previous session happens and a vigorous discussion of the current topic. Teams sit with learners at their desks to interact directly and encourage participation.

Programmes that we use include JIKA Generation which a Scripture Union toolkit, Grassroots Soccer developed by the American Peace Corps, YOLO or You Only Live Once which is a programme developed through a partnership of the Department of Social Development and USAID and finally, USAID Life Skills & Leadership.

The teams have worked hard this year and we had feedback from students, parents and teachers about improved passmarks and positive behavioural changes.

SCHOOL CHRISTIAN GROUPS (SCGS)

We ran several School Christian Group meetings at schools. We met with students to pray together and share the Word of God. eThembeni used the Veritas Bible School's reading methods. We believe that a focus on integrated leadership development and personal mentoring also adds value to these groups.

HOLIDAY CLUBS REACHING 742 CHILDREN

This year we offer holiday clubs for children from Nhlalakahle, Keats Drift, Pomeroy and Wasbank areas in partnership with churches from the Western Cape and Stellenbosch University, who helped us with the mid-year short term outreaches.

2000 YOUTH ATTENDED CAMPS

As much as teens and tweens would love to play all weekend we also want our camp participants to develop skills and knowledge. Our programmes at camp include a balance of learning and play. In total, we ran 13 camps this year reaching almost 2000 young people. Youth were offered Bibles at camp and taught how to read and study the Word of God. For many children this was the first time they had held a Bible or received a gift like this.

AREA & COORDINATORS	SCHOOL	GRADES	# LEARNERS	# SESSIONS
Ladymith: town & township Sihle Madonsela Siyabonga Dhlamini	Gqama Primary School	Gr 7	205/263	10
	Joseph Shabalala High School	Gr 8	250/254	10
	Mnambithi Primary School	Gr 7	205/201	10
	Nhlonhlweni Primary School	Gr 7	120	10
	Slindokuhle High School	Gr 8	280/194	2
	Staedville High School	Gr 9	164	
Msinga: Pomeroy & Keats Drift Nkazimulo Ngcobo Mvikeli Sithole	Latha Christian School	Gr 8	186	10
	Lotto Primary School	Gr 7	36	10
	Nomfomela Primary School	Gr 6, 7	127	10
	Macingwane Senior School	Gr 8,9	165	10
	State-aided Primary School	Gr 6,7	63	10
	Umbonje Senior School	Gr 8	147	8
Msinga: Nhlalakahle & Chunu Khanyisani Mbatha	Dlabesuthu High School	Gr 8	70	3
	Mgabadeli Primary School	Gr 7,9	73	2
	Mhlumba Primary School	Gr 7	75	7
	Mqamathi High School	Gr 8	83	3
Ladymith: Driefontein Nkanyiso Dhlamini Siyabonga Dhlamini	Harvest High School	Gr 8	91	12
	Hesley Primary School		78/91	7
	Limit Hill Christian School	Gr 8,9	183	10
	Mhlanganyelwa Christian School	Gr 9,10,11,12	172	10
	Mahkweyana Primary School	Gr 6,7	78	
Indaka: Area 1 Sthembiso Mdakane	Hlonipha Christian School	Gr 7,8,9	64	10
	Mfanelo Primary School	Gr 7	109	10
	Wettekleinfontein Primary School	Gr 7	78	10
	Zimisele Primary School	Gr 7	74	10
Indaka: Area 2 Khanyisani Mbatha	Makayane High School	Gr 11	51	3
	Sgweje High School	Gr 8	109	4
	Silokoza High School	Gr 11	23	5



TRAINING, RESOURCES, ENGAGING MEN

Life skills, Dare program, leadership, dialogues

DARE FOR BOYS TRAINING

Some of our life coaches attended a Dare Facilitators training programme. The Dare programme educates boys on seven important topics and challenges them to “dare to be different” to the negative influences they see around them. Topics include identity, belonging, purpose, manhood, relationships, sex and pornography. Once our life coaches were trained as Trainers, we also trained some of our volunteers to facilitate the Dare programme. We are excited to have 25 men ready to run Dare in schools, churches and communities in the next few years.

South Africa is struggling with children and women abuse. Through Dare and programmes like Dare we want to help young boys and men and give them positive role models to follow and healthy goals to aspire to. If we can address these important topics with young men while they are forming their identity and purpose we believe that we can raise a new generation of strong and committed men who will protect their families and stand for what is right in their communities.

LEADERSHIP TRAINING

We started leadership training in schools with a special focus on raising up Grade 11s to be leaders in their schools. We ran the training mostly on weekends to accommodate the schools, and we also held several one-day training interventions during the school week.

BICYCLES FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN

Working hand in hand with Durban Overall and Rotary Club, we were able to distribute almost 500 bicycles into schools in the rural areas. It's our hope that this will improve the lives of the students by helping them to get to school more easily instead of walking or paying for transport.



THE UPS AND THE DOWNS

Success stories and challenges

Dr Lourens Schoeman shares:

"Part of working with youth includes working with fathers and men in the community.

This year we held dialogues in Staedville and Mathondwane where we challenged the 'Indonda ayikhali' or 'men are strong' culture which denies men the opportunity to talk about challenges they face.

At these two sessions, men started sharing how they felt and what they had experienced being fathers, dealing with unemployment, relationships, drug abuse, male abuse and more. As a follow up, the men were invited to our men's camp at the end of the year."

SUCCESS STORIES

- uMsinga Department of Education have asked to meet to find out more about programmes we offered.
- Full support from schools and educators.
- Good relationships with the schools and in the community - schools are starting to ask for our services and now we are well known.
- Youth shared testimonies of change in their lives.
- Some young people we taught several years ago are now coming back to serve with eThembeni.
- Through our mentorship and the training of leaders we ourselves are growing.
- The uniqueness of the project encourages us to Go and Do more - we always gain a lot by doing what we do.
- Introducing young people to God.
- Principals opened doors to our programmes and the Department of Education invited us into some areas as their partners.
- Teachers also came to camp because they enjoyed seeing their young people happy.

CHALLENGES

- Clan fights were common; children took the clan fights into schools that we worked in, which sometimes made it dangerous to attend.
- It was not always safe for our female leaders to go into schools alone due to gender-based violence.
- Not all volunteers could afford to work for free with families to support.



STORIES FROM UTHUKELA DISTRICT / LADYSMITH

Reaching out to teens and youth

Sihle Madonsela reports:

"I was very privileged to be accepted in the schools around Ladysmith since there are many service providers in this area with different visions and missions for our young people.

Over the past years we have built solid relationships with several schools - it is our privilege to partner with them in life skills coaching and leadership training."

Gqama Primary School has very disciplined students who are eager to learn. At first they were hesitant to ask questions but after creating a friendly environment they managed to ask questions, find their confidence and engage with each other. We had a great time with them.

Joseph Shabalala High School is based in the town, with the majority of students coming from the township. We coached six classes of Grade 8 learners. Two of the biggest issues in the school were discipline and drug abuse. We ran a life skills programme for the students and we want to start with a leadership programme next year to raise up young men and women who can be change agents for their peers.

Mnambithi Primary School is a school where learners are confident to express their freedom of speech. This made our sessions more successful because the learners enjoyed engaging with us and sharing their lives with our coaches. At times this was challenging: students sometimes got a bit over-excited to learn in new ways from different people who don't judge them but who understand! It was a privilege to work with these children.

Slindokuhle High School is located in the township. We ran two life skills sessions and then had to stop due to high violence in the schools. The school struggles with gangs and gang violence. We managed to get 60 students to come to camp where we ran a leadership camp. Through the camp we identified some students who are potential leaders for their school. We also would like to run a Dare program for the boys next year.

Nhlonhlweni Primary School's principal heard about eThembeni's youth life coaching and came to our offices asking for our services. This was one of my highlights for this year. We look forward to working with this primary school in 2020 and raising up young leaders.

Life skills training was one of the first trainings we held. We identified volunteers to help us run life skills in schools and also help with our camps. Twenty volunteers attended the first training and after the second training we were excited to have 45 volunteers in total.



STORIES FROM KEAT'S DRIFT & POMEROY

Learning, communication, sharing

Nkazimulo Ngeobo reports:

"This year I have improved my active listening skills, had a fresh heads up to the reality of the life these young people live in, learnt to avoid making judgements, Keep a positive attitude at all times and be brave enough to trust others when I need help. I also learnt to set up a media international youth exchange implementing our coaching approach which was a great experience. So many different elements have been in motion this year: learning, communication, sharing."

Our teams went into six schools: Umbonje Secondary, Macingwane Secondary, Nomfuomela Primary, Latha Combined School, Lotto Primary School and State Aided Primary School. Each week we travelled approximately 375 kilometres to spend time with 724 learners.

Topics we covered included "Spectacular Me" which helps children learn about self-esteem, values, decision making, Boy Meets Girl (sexuality), Abstinence, HIV and AIDS, and "Lean on Me" (a caring and support module).

We worked with the children to encourage the development of life skills through asking questions, facilitating discussions, helping them to reflect, developing self-awareness. We talked about failure and how failure can help us to learn and move forward. We supported the children and helped them to set their own goals for their lives by directing them in the learning process. We offered step-by-step coaching and helped them to differentiate needs versus wants.

We distributed Bibles to 400 learners in three different schools. We led devotions in morning assemblies and shared the Word of God and prayed with children and teachers.

A prefect leadership workshop was held at Macingwane High School. A team from eThembeni ran the successful day with lots of learning and laughter. Thanks to Sihle, Sthe and Nkanyiso for their great facilitation and input.

Working in the schools was challenging but also rewarding. Five learners shared deeply personal stories with me - I believe that being able to share their stories without being judged saved their lives. I was able to keep in touch and follow up with all five learners who are now doing well. We are grateful for the full support of schools and educators.

Challenges youth in this area faced included fighting at schools, high levels of strikes, vandalism of roads and community facilities, high incidence of drug abuse and lack of access to data and airtime due to lack of finances. We also had fewer volunteers as our change agents could not afford to work for free and needed to provide for their families.



STORIES FROM NHLALAKAHLE/CHUNU

Working closely with schools

Khanyisani Mbatha reports:

"I would like to thank God for giving me the opportunity to serve as a Life Coach under eThembeni. 2019 has been a good year to me and in the community around Msinga. The children benefit much and their thinking (mindset) has been changed.

Special thanks to the Bredasdorp partners who assisted Grade 12 learners from Mqamathi High School and Dlabesuthe High School with study guide material and funded a prefects camp for Mqamathi prefects. And a personal thank you for buying me a car so that I can travel for work without relying on public transport.

I have gained so much experience of working with youth this year thanks to my mentors Mr S MdaKane, Mr N Dlamini and also Mr S Madonsela. In their leadership I trust God."

At **Mqamathi High School** this year we trained Prefects as well as learners from Grade 8 to 12 to be camp leaders. They did very well. One of our key helpers was the President of the school, who did very well academically and also helped us as a volunteer at our camps.

We were also able to host and facilitate a Prefect Leadership Camp for the Mqamathi prefects which was a great success in preparing learners to lead their school well and be youth change agents.

Mhlumba Primary School is an English-medium school. We worked with the Grade 7's who were very aware of what was happening in the world and enjoyed the sessions. We were asked to also facilitate Grade 6 next year.

Nomahaye Primary School approached us to run our programmes for their Grade 7 learners in 2020. The Deputy Principal had heard about the work that we do and the camps that we held for Mhlumba Primary through Mrs Ziqubu, an active community member who serves on the Mhlumba school governing body, as well as in the local church. It was good to hear that the community appreciates our input.

Dlabesuthe High School is a great school to work in as the learners are willing to participate and their self-esteem is very high.

We facilitated life skills for Grade 8 and 9 during the year, working with 325 participants. The deputy principal also requested us to arrange a camp in 2020.

We were given permission to bring a team from churches in Bredasdorp into the school, to assist Grade 12 learners with Maths, Business, Life science, Physics and also with the study guide material. Our thanks to the Deputy Principal Mr Madlala and Mr Zondi who teaches Physics in Grade 12 for giving us the opportunity. The participants were very excited and they were eager to learn more; we did as much as possible during the time that we were given.

Life coaching in Chunu area / Nhlalakahle

Through the life coaching program our team coached 400 teenagers and hosted a camp for 200 teenagers from the Chunu area. In addition, approximately 500 learners attended a most-successful Holiday Club program held in partnership with the NG Kerk Bredasdorp.

Volunteer update

The team in Nhlalakahle now has three volunteers helping out with the school outreach programmes. The guys are doing very well in running the programmes in the schools.



Finances & thanks

INCOME AND EXPENSES

Our investment into individuals and communities

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

The external auditors Reyneke Erasmus Chartered Accountants are responsible for independently reviewing and reporting on the organisation's financial statements. Audited annual financial statements are available on request.

INCOME		ASSETS	
1. Donations	768,377	Non-current assets	1,619,333
2. Bizonderen Noden	742,306	Current assets	144,822
3. Rent received	1,395,423	Total assets	1,764,155
4. Fundraising	34,850		
5. Focus on the Family	38,640		
Total income	2,979,596		
EXPENDITURE		EQUITY & LIABILITIES	
1. Salaries	804,604	Non-distributable reserves	0
2. Youth camp site	392,454	Trust Fund - retained surplus	1,764,151
3. Other	1,960,411	Current liabilities - trade & payables	4
Total expenses	3,157,469	Total funds & liabilities	1,764,155

THANKS & ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Friends, partners, teams, family

THANK YOU ONCE AGAIN TO OUR FUNDERS, PARTNERS, SUPPORTERS AND FRIENDS WHO BRING JUSTICE AND RESTORE HOPE.

INTERNATIONAL FUNDERS

ADEN, American Peace Corps
Bijzondere Noden, Prisma, USAid

LOCAL FUNDERS

CMD uThukela, Durban Overall
Harvest Combined School
Jabulani Trust
Ladysmith Construction
Lourens Elektries, Paradise Gas
Qhakaza Mbokode Research Clinic
Local churches

NATIONAL FUNDERS

ACAT KZN, Department of Social Development
Drakensville ATKV Oord, CMD KZN
Eden Social Development Foundation
Eza Clothing (Pty) Ltd, Family Impact
Kommissie vir Getuienisaksi, Msinga Partnership
Tygerberg medical students
Usizo: URCSA Diaconal Services in KZN

OUR PARTNERS

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Sinamandla, Scripture Union Pietermaritzburg
Street Biz, TransWorld Radio: Botha's Hill, KZN
Veritas Bible College

We dream of
HEALTHY, SUPPORTIVE AND GODLY LIFESTYLES
established in the
BROKEN AND FRACTURED COMMUNITIES
OF KWAZULU-NATAL, SOUTH AFRICA