

"PHAKAMISA" is pronounced "PA-GA-MEE-SA" and means "TO LIFT UP, TO MAKE GROW"

4th TERM NEWSLETTER

We have come to that time of the year when we say farewell to 2014. This is the time where we look back at the work and wonders of God through this far. We are saying "EBENEZERI - THUS FAR THE LORD HAS BEEN WITH US". We have seen joy and much growth within Phakamisa community. We would like to forward our sincere gratitude to all the people who have supported us through prayers and funding or donations they really make our work worthwhile.

EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT (ECD)

As the first term of our Child Minder and Edu care course starts in October, the enrolment for this year is two hundred ECD teachers who have registered for our courses 2014/2015. We have increased our numbers by twenty this time. Thank you to the surrounding crèches and pre-schools who always support this programme at all times. One of the crèche supervisors once gave feedback saying "Phakamisa is the best training centre. All of my teachers have attended Phakamisa courses and my crèche is one of the best in the area." Thanks to our ECD trainers and monitors for keeping the level of training at a high standard.

ORPHANS AND VULNERABLE CHILDREN (OVC)

Phakamisa run the OVC programme through wandering schools. These schools target orphans and vulnerable children under the age of five in the surrounding areas of Pinetown. Phakamisa provide formal education for them

for free. During this term we had a Christmas party for them. One of the groups went to Spur restaurant thanks to HUB stores from Umhlanga who made a Christmas party possible for thirty children, they really put a big smile onto their faces. Once again thank you very much



Children's Christmas party outing at Spur hosted by HUB stores Umhlanga



Children carrying their bags full of clothes and toys received from the HUB stores handed out by Father Christmas

As HUB stores catered for the limited number, we then organised the Christmas party here at Phakamisa premises for the rest of the children who did not get the opportunity to go to Spur. We would like to thank the Thompson Travelling group for the gifts given to our children and also the INDWE Risk Services for the packs of goodies that they gave to our children. Our children really had a good time.



INDWE staff member giving a pack of goodies during the children's Christmas party



Children showing off their gifts received from Thompson Travellers staff

CARE GIVERS CHRISTMAS PARTY

The care givers closing party was very successful. Due to the large numbers of care givers who attend Phakamisa, we had to divide the party into 2 days, grouping the care givers into two groups. They sang, danced and gave each other some gifts. They enjoyed themselves so much. They were then served with lunch that was prepared by the staff members. One of the care givers said "besingazi ukuthi ePhakamisa sithandwa kangaka siyabonga kakhulu sizizwa siyizicukuthwane ezinkulu. UNkulunkulu anibusise - **we did not know that Phakamisa loves us this much we're really treated like big guests. May God bless you all**".



Care givers enjoying their cup of tea before starting the programme



Care givers performing during their Christmas party

CARE GIVERS GRADUATION:

During the day of our Christmas party some care givers were given certificates in different training that they were involved in during the year.

40 care givers who completed their training in the sewing project graduated during this time of the year. They were very excited to receive the certificates. They did some modelling showing the outfits that they made during the year. The other group that received certificates was the cooking group. 40 care givers graduated in this project. 30 beadwork ladies graduated this year and in 2015 they will be trained in an advanced beadwork course. This group also demonstrated the bead work that they had made during their training.



Beadwork group receiving their certificates



Cooking group during their graduation



Sewing group during their graduation day - most of them were wearing the outfits made by them.

CONCLUSION:

I hope this Christmas season brought you and your family much joy and happiness. Thank you from all of us here at Phakamisa. May God keep and protect you and your families till we meet in 2015, when I visit England.