



ANNUAL REPORT 2015/16



Presented at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) of
the Thabang Children's Project in Thabazimbi

31 August 2016

© THABANG CHILDREN'S PROJECT

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Contents

Vision, Mission Statement and Values _____	3
Chairperson's Report _____	4
Treasurer's Report _____	4
General Manager's Report _____	5
Reports from the Thabang Child and Youth Care Centres:	
Youth Centre (YC) _____	6
Children's Place of Safety (CPoS) _____	7
Educational Empowerment _____	8
Social Worker's Report _____	9
Thabang Community Care Centre:	
Drop in Centre _____	10
Donors _____	12
Contact Information _____	12
Independent Auditor's Report _____	13
Addendum:	
Financial Statements	



Vision

THABANG Children's Project is an organisation that empowers children, families and communities to restore their dignity and independence.

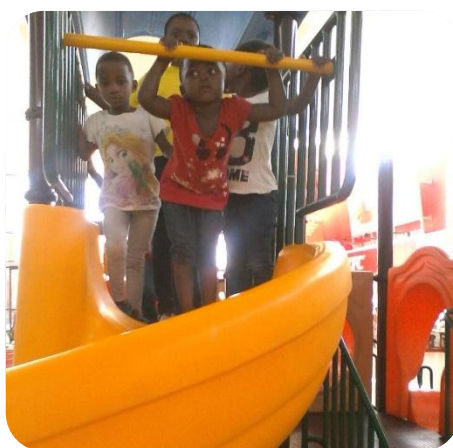
Mission Statement

- To provide centres for the reception, care and development for orphans, vulnerable children and youth.
- To empower the children in our care by providing educational opportunities and skills development.
- To empower family structures through therapeutic services, advocacy to families and communities, through partnership with other stakeholders.

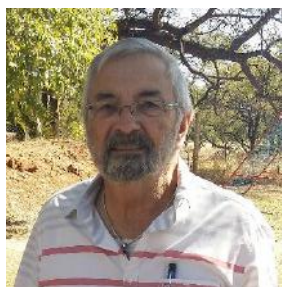
Values

THABANG Children's Projects' work is driven by the following values:

- We value equality of all human beings
- We encourage participation of our beneficiaries and staff
- We value transparency, honesty, integrity and accountability
- We prioritize our vision and mission
- We value mutual respect of people and properties
- We value commitment to serving the needs of our beneficiaries



Chairperson's Report



The Management Board of the Thabang Children's Project is happy to announce that during this report year of 2015/2016, the board has achieved the targets and goals that it set for itself. It has been a year

of success.

As required by its constitution, which was finalised during this report period, the Board met every three months, and the Annual General Meeting was conducted at the applicable time. Various topics were discussed at these meetings, including general administration, human resources, finances, admission and the policy surrounding that, the children and their progress at school and at home. Importantly, the children had representation at each meeting, and were able to voice their own opinions and requests through their representatives.

An important advancement - the consolidation of the Youth Centre and the girls' centre (Place of Safety) into one area - has been started, and will hopefully be completed during the forthcoming (2016/2017) report year. This has been made possible through the goodwill of a donor, the Lefa la Rona Trust. We are indeed extremely grateful for this contribution to Thabang. It will lead to considerable benefit in the future.

the Thabang Trust, Berlin Verein, Daniel Jaeggi and other private donors.

Our success as an organisation leads to success for our children. This is not possible without the generous and spontaneous support of the community whom we represent. To all our supporters and donors we offer our sincere thanks and gratitude. Thank you for making the project possible.

On behalf of the Management Board, I wish also to thank all the staff of the Thabang Children's Project for another year of dedicated, able and kind service. Your contribution is extremely valuable. As Chair, I also thank the Board Members for their sincere contribution.

Over the years, the Thabang Board of Trustees has been the main driver of the project, and the Trustees are thanked for their continued support.

Harold Braack



Treasurer's Report



Our Auditors, Jordaan, Prinsloo & Davel, have completed the audit for the 2016 financial year and have issued their opinion which is included in the annual financial statements.

The statements show that the generated revenue has

increased to an amount of just over

R3,1 million from R2 million in 2015. Of the total income 35% came from the Department of Social Development, 28% from a new donor, the Lefa La Rona Trust, and the remaining income came from

The Trust's total expenses were R3,38 million, an increase of R48 755 compared to the previous financial year. The staff costs accounted for more than 58% of our expenses. The high staff costs are a necessity in Thabang's line of work, as taking care of children is a fulltime responsibility. The other major expenses are for fuel, food and Kambaku Private School.

We would like to extend our utmost gratitude towards each and every donor/funder for their continuous support. We would also like to encourage our donors and funders to please keep on supporting the Trust. Without your support the Trust would be unable to do what it was intended to do.

Carel Jordaan

General Manager's Report

The year April 2015 to March 2016 was a year of preparation and implementation. The previous year (2014/2015) was one of assessment, restructuring and setting new goals: The new goals were defined as:

- Academic empowerment: Exploring new schools which can empower our children as the state schools they were attending were having challenges.
- Independent Living skills: Developing a programme that will empower the older youth with more life skills that can enable them to become independent and have a better chance of acquiring jobs upon exiting Thabang.
- Consolidating the two Child and Youth Care centres to one site: Negotiating for partners to support Thabang to erect buildings at the boys' (Youth Centre) site and consolidate the project at one site.



April 2015 saw Thabang beginning to implement new initiatives to reach the aforementioned goals.

- Academic empowerment: The children who showed academic potential were transferred to other schools in the hope of receiving a higher standard of education. Ten children were admitted to Kambaku Private School which is based on the Cambridge system of education, while three children were admitted to Thekganang Technical School.
- Independent Living skills: Funds were acquired to enable some youth to study for a Learner's Licence for driving and to attend a driving school. Hereafter they would be able to apply for a Driver's Licence. Funds were also acquired to support youth who were required to exit Thabang due to their age. The funds were used to acquire the basic essentials to start up small homes for them.
- Consolidation of the two sites: Negotiations with the Lefa la Rona Trust began and a partnership was subsequently established which will enable Thabang to build a hostel for the girls at the boys' site on Klipgat farm. The goal of consolidating the two residential Child and Youth Care Centres on one site was becoming attainable. The building commenced in April 2016.

In the meantime Thabang's day-to-day business and fundamental programmes had to be kept going. Thanks to everybody who helped with:

- The safekeeping and support of 32 needy children placed within our Child and Youth Care Centres.
- The offering of therapeutic (Social Work) programmes to empower the children to overcome the trauma that they had experienced and to develop them into strong, independent individuals.
- The offering of recreational and developmental programmes to enable them to develop holistically.
- An Orphan and Vulnerable Child (OVC), care programme which monitors and supports the many vulnerable children within the informal settlement of Smash Block.
- A Drop-in-Centre service for the school going OVC's within Smash Block. This is an after school care service to empower the community's needy children and provide them with opportunities which they would otherwise not receive.

Thank you to all the staff of Thabang who kept the ship afloat, despite the many challenges it faced. Thank you for making sure that the children were all on board and kept safe and dry and progressing to a future with hope.

Thank you to the Management Board and the Trustees for their guiding and supportive hands.

Much appreciation goes also to the many different donors and sponsors - big and small. Everything counts and makes a difference. A special word of appreciation goes to Daniel Jaeggi for his support of our academic empowerment programme, to the Lefa la Rona Trust for its support of our Social Work and Drop-in-Centre programmes and the building of the new girl's structure and to the German Verein who constantly holds our hands with many smaller projects. We also appreciate the partnership with the Department of Social Development and the support that it provides.

At the end of the reporting period, by March 2016, Thabang was in a good "space" despite the constant challenge of financing the project. Not only has the organisation moved forward step by step, but it has carried many needy children with it.

Tessa White

Reports from the Thabang Child & Youth Care Centres:

Youth Centre (YC)



The Thabang Youth Centre has been home to 18 boys and young adults supported in the Independent Living Programme. As manager of the Youth Centre it is a pleasure to report on the successes of the past year.

Firstly a big thank you to the staff that helps with the daily chores of cleaning, cooking and the running of a home the size of the Youth Centre. We are regularly monitored by the Department of Social Development and always receive compliments on the clean and tidy condition of the Centre and of the quality of the food served. Two boys have entered the work place and are doing well in their respective jobs. One lives independently but receives regular guidance with his finances and when problems arise. The second is still at the centre whilst on a Learnership and will be leaving at the end of September 2016 to live with family in Regorogile. He should then be on a permanent contract.

All the boys who are sixteen and older have received their ID documents.

The decision to help the boys that are over eighteen to get a driver's license was implemented and to date three boys have attained their code C1 license. This will be of great benefit when they apply for work once they leave school.



The Youth Centre offers numerous programmes for the educational, emotional, intellectual, spiritual and physical development of the boys. These include support from external teachers and the Thabang social worker; church for the adolescents and Sunday school for the younger boys; soccer practices and matches against teams from Thabazimbi; participation in the marimba band with performances at weddings and functions; outings to Marakele National Park, Thaba Tholo game farm, Marakele Predator Centre, Aventura in Bela-Bela and the mall in Moruleng.

The aim of all this input into the boys' lives is to enable them to support themselves once exiting Thabang and to make them responsible citizens in the communities that they came from. The success is evident in the boys that are working and the good feedback received from their employers.

Thank you to the Thabang Trustees and the Management Board for their generous support and to the community members who support the Thabang Youth Centre in various ways.

Cecil White

Children' Place of Safety (CPoS)



Over the past year there were 14 girls accommodated at the 'Place of Safety' on the Roodedam site. The youngest turned three years old this year and considers herself the matriarch of the centre.



The other young ones, who we fondly refer to as 'The toddlers', are actually no longer toddlers! They have all developed into determined young individuals who attend school and stand up for themselves.



The once pre-teens are now young ladies, very much aware of themselves and whoever may be noticing them!



After the turmoil of the previous year, the girls settled down nicely this past year and focused on their school work and getting their priorities sorted out. This they did with the help and support of the external teachers, the Social Worker and the caring staff. Thanks to all of them.

During the school holidays, most of the girls are able to visit various family members. However, some of them are unable to go anywhere, as there are not suitable places to visit. It is important that the children visit somewhere that provides a stable and supportive home. Many thanks go out to the open hearted people who generously host some of our children. Thank you for taking on such a responsibility – we really appreciate those who hold our hands in uplifting and caring for these needy children.

The girls have also enjoyed similar activities as the boys at the Youth Centre. We look forward to the future when soon the girls and the boys can participate in activities on the one site. Thank you to all donors and supporters who have blessed our children with many different items, from meat to clothes, stationery, Christmas gifts etc. **Tessa White**

Educational Empowerment: Teachers' Report



Two teachers have been appointed to assist the children of Thabang with their school work in the afternoons. One of them is also involved with the children at Thabang's Drop-in-Centre in Smash Block. The centres' children attend 5 different schools: Thekganang

Technical, Kambaku Private, Ysterberg Primary, Mabogopedi High and Frikkie Meyer High School. The teachers' aim is to impart knowledge to our children and guide them through various stages of their academic development. Because the children have different learning needs and developmental levels each child requires an individual approach, but ultimately the aim is to provide every one of them with a firm academic foundation to help them realise their full potential.



Since January 2016 four children have been transferred out of Kambaku Private School. Three of them are currently attending Ysterberg Primary where they have settled well and are better able to cope with the academic requirements than that of the Cambridge syllabus followed by Kambaku. One girl chose to slot back into the national educational curriculum and was transferred to Frikkie Meyer High School. The support she received from Kambaku empowered her sufficiently to cope with the higher standard of education that was offered at Frikkie Meyer as opposed to the previous state school she attended. The other 6 pupils who remained at Kambaku are performing well academically and there is regular communication

between the school and Thabang concerning the progress of the children.

Of the 11 children currently attending Ysterberg Primary, 7 are doing well and are getting good marks. Most children have shown great improvement and this was evident in their school reports. The few who are struggling are doing so mainly because they were enrolled according to their age groups and not according to their competency as no assessments were done. However, the Thabang teachers are working hard at teaching them the basic foundation, hoping that with time they will attain the same academic level as other children in their age group.

Two of the three children attending Thekganang Technical School were transferred to Mabogopedi High School as they were struggling with the pure Maths and Science all Thekganang students are compelled to take. Maths and Science are however required for a course in Architecture, which the remaining student plans on taking when he finishes school.

The 7 Thabang children who were attending Mabogopedi High School performed below average due to challenges at the school. Other avenues need to be explored to empower them and fill in the gaps left by inadequate academic tuition. No school reports were issued for the first and second terms of 2016.

Twice-a-month Saturday classes were started for the children at Thabang's Drop-in-Centre in Smash Block. The children, all attending the local Chrome Mine Primary School, are embracing the academic support they are receiving. The attendance has been tremendous and the children love to compete in class.

As teachers involved with Thabang we strive to develop the children academically to the point where they can get qualifications and find work to sustain themselves, where they are doing what they are good at and live fulfilled lives.

Fedrick Muzhamba

Social Worker's Report

INTRODUCTION



As the newly appointed Social Worker, I am reporting on a period preceding my employment presence at Thabang. However, preparing the report offered me a good opportunity to come to grips with what is required from the Social Worker at this Child and Youth Care Centre. Already I have bought into the Vision and Mission of Thabang; I feel proud to be part of the team and am looking forward to becoming an integral part of this project.

SERVICES

A. Individual sessions/counselling

During the year, until January 2016, a total of 72 individual interview sessions were conducted. The children at both centres were given the opportunity of being counselled by the in-house Social Worker at the time, Christina Pilane. The one-on-one session interviews are confidential and allow the children to express their concerns or problems in private. Children are encouraged, although not forced, to discuss personal issues with the Social Worker. With children 7 years and younger play techniques are utilized to assess specific situations. Sessions are planned in collaboration with their developmental needs and Individual Developmental Plans (IDP's).

B. Group work

Group work was done with 30 children.

C. Care workers support

Sixteen Care Workers attended a 3 day training course on parenting and discipline by CATT.

D. Reintegration services

Although family reunification services are mainly the responsibility of Case Managers, the Thabang Social Worker assists with this task as part of permanency planning.

- Children are given cell phone access on request to speak to family members.
- Home visits are done during holidays in order to ensure that the children are safe and happy.
- Interviews are conducted with family members visiting children at the centres (Site visit interviews).



During the 3 longer school holidays in April, June and December the majority of children visited family members and hosting families. Activities and outings were organized for the children remaining at the centres.

Food parcels were sent to hosting families where it was required. Some of the children paid only short home visits due to economic restraints at home. Obtaining evaluation reports for home visits from Case Managers (DoSD) has been a challenge.

Family Group Conferences were held as part of the reintegration process. Altogether 32 Individual Development Plans and 32 Permanency Plans were prepared.

E. Statutory work

All the children who have been admitted to the centres had legal court orders during this period. All release orders for visitation during weekends and holidays, extension orders and discharge orders as required by the Children's Act 38/2005 were also in place. This requires liaison with Case Managers.

F. Health issues

The centre has children with chronic conditions. Their health is closely monitored and they are taken to the hospital on a monthly basis for their medication. Drs De Kock and partners are consulted in case of emergencies and serious conditions. A mobile clinic also visits the centre a few times per year.

G. Education

Children have attended Ysterberg Primary School, Mabogopedi Secondary School, Kambaku Private School and Thekganang Technical School. Two part time teachers have been assisting children with their school work every day.

H. Meetings

The Social Worker attended the following meetings on a regular basis: meetings concerning the staff, Organisational Staff Meetings, Management



Committee Meetings, Budget and Finance Meetings, Teachers and Multi-disciplinary Team Meetings and Management Board Meetings. Altogether 32 Family Group Conferences and 32 Multi-disciplinary meetings were held during the reporting period. The Social Worker attended, and participated in, the AGM on 26 August 2015.

I. Administration

Reports and statistics on service delivery were submitted to the Department of Social Development on a monthly, quarterly, six monthly and yearly basis. Reports have been submitted to the LLR Trust.

Linda Grobler

Thabang Community Care Centre Drop in Centre Report

BACKGROUND

Smash Block is one of the biggest informal settlements (housing approximately 20 000 people) in the country and is located between Thabazimbi and Northam in the Waterberg District. Due to the impact of HIV and AIDS, the high rate of infection and poverty afflicting the community, Thabang started operations in 2005 and opened a Drop-in-Centre in 2010 for Orphans and Vulnerable Children (OVC's) in Smash Block.



SERVICES RENDERED:

1) Extra mural activities

- Teaching of life skills appropriate for the children's ages
- Bible study is done under the supervision of a carer.
- Traditional dances are practised
- Sport

2) Academic support

- Children are attending Saturday classes twice a month by the Thabang teacher.
- Carers are also helping the children with their school work. These measures have brought a positive outcome judged by the children's improved school reports.

3) Skills development

- The children participated in the establishment of a vegetable garden at the

DIC site. They now know how to maintain a garden and crops, useful skills for the future.

- In February 2016 the local Department of Agriculture presented a workshop during which seeds and fertilizer were donated. Monitoring and assessment by the Department is ongoing.
 - Paint classes are presented on Thursdays.
- #### 4) Counselling by a social worker
- Individual counselling
 - Group counselling
 - Guardian support sessions
 - Family counselling
- #### 5) Food distribution
- The DIC staff help determine where the need is highest and distribute food parcels, donated by Wes Enterprise, accordingly.

6) Motivational events/ campaigns

- Youth Day was celebrated at CPoS on 13 June 2015. Seventeen children from Smash Block and DIC carers joined in to celebrate the event.
- On 18 July 2015 Mandela Day was celebrated with the Kxanimamba/ Lesengo Pharmacy staff who donated groceries.
- The Thabang AGM was presented at CPoS on 26 August 2015.
- A Heritage Day function was attended at CPoS on 25 September 2015. Eighteen Drop-in-Centre children attended.
- A Christmas party for the community children was conducted on 28 November 2015. Altogether 231 children attended. The in-house social worker spoke on children's safety.
- A Children's Christmas party (for DIC children) was held on 30 November 2015. Toiletries were donated.
- On 2 December 2015 DIC children joined the Thabang centres on an outing to Aventura Bela-Bela.

7) Referrals and Home Visits

- One of the Drop-in-Centre children was placed at the Thabang Youth Centre on 26 November 2015
- Carers monitor and refer children to professionals where necessary
- Home visits are done to the homes of the DIC children

STATISTICS REPORT

- Altogether 68 OVC's were cared for of whom 42 attended the Drop-in-Centre.
- The carers conducted 1706 home visits. During visits to orphaned households the living conditions are observed and meetings held with guardians.
- Altogether 27 children were referred to social workers, some for foster care grant, and some for therapeutic reasons.
- Eleven children were referred to the clinic, either for medical conditions or contraceptives. They have been accompanied by their care-givers.
- Altogether 22 OVC households receive monthly food parcels donated by Wes Enterprise.
- School uniforms were donated to 33 DIC children by the Lefa la Rona Trust in January 2016.
- Seventeen children have been referred back home to their places of origin.
- Twenty children have been admitted to the DIC. These children were identified by the carers during home visits.

THANK YOU:

- Jaeggi for the financial support for the DIC teacher
- Lefa la Rona Trust for the provision of operational funds
- The ward councillor for organizing the donation of mobile toilets for the DIC
- German Verein for helping in various ways

Xolile Glory Vilakazi



CONTACT INFORMATION

TESSA WHITE



GENERAL MANAGER

Tel 083 296 6940
twhite@thabang.org

GLORY VILAKAZI



CCC MANAGER

Tel 083 226 7758
Xolilevilakazi05@gmail.com

LINDA GROBLER



SOCIAL WORKER

Tel 073 467 2185
socialworker@thabang.org

THABANG CHILDREN'S PROJECT

Roodedam Farm, Thabazimbi
Tel 014 7721268
Fax 086 667 2992
www.thabang.org



Donors

Without its donors, Thabang could not exist. We thank all the private businesses and caring individuals who supported our children this past year. We appreciate each one.

Thabang's main donors and contributors during the report period are:

- ❖ AB Labour Services, Thabazimbi
- ❖ Atkins, Zelda
- ❖ CRONIMET Chrome Mine SA (Pty) Ltd
- ❖ Daniel Jaeggi (Family Foundation)
- ❖ Debonairs
- ❖ Dickerson, Julie
- ❖ Dinaledi Concepts (Pty) Ltd
- ❖ Drs De Kock & Partners – Medical Services
- ❖ International Belting & Marketing (Pty) Ltd
- ❖ Ivan Pauw & Partners
- ❖ Jordaan, Prinsloo & Davel Rekenmeesters en Ouditeure
- ❖ Kumba Iron Ore Mine, Thabazimbi
- ❖ Limpopo Department of Social Development
- ❖ M.H Coetzee
- ❖ Makgeru, Walter
- ❖ Mauss, Egon
- ❖ National Lottery Distribution Trust Fund
- ❖ NG Kerk, Thabazimbi
- ❖ NHR Mining Timber Sponsor
- ❖ Northam Platinum Ltd - Mine Hostel
- ❖ Roots Butchery - Northam
- ❖ Seepwinkel
- ❖ Shofar Church
- ❖ Supermarkets: Die Lantern Kafee, Pick 'n Pay, Thaba Superspar, Choppies, Shoprite
- ❖ Thabang Initiative für südafrikanische Kinder e.V. Berlin/Germany
- ❖ Thabang Trust
- ❖ Thabazimbi Koelkamers CC
- ❖ Thabazimbi Pest and Weed Control
- ❖ Toyota Northam (Pty) Ltd
- ❖ Trollope, J & P
- ❖ WES Enterprises (Pty) Ltd, Thabazimbi
- ❖ Wild Spring Farms (Pty) Ltd