



Project report to stichting Kwasa

TransCape annual report

From 1 September 2013 to 31 August 2014

The difference stichting Kwasa's donation are making to the lives of the people living in Rural Eastern Cape, South Africa

A WORD FROM THE CHAIRPERSON

Dear donors, friends, family and supporters of TransCape,

A new year is passed which great work for sustainable development in our working area. The projects go through ups and downs but are stable enough to continue and have a positive influence on the people we work with.

In August we celebrated our 10th anniversary. One of our volunteers did a fundraising and managed to have a gathering in Mdumbi with lots of stakeholders, community members and staff. Around 500 people joined us for this special moment. There was a lot of cultural dancing, singing, slaughtering of sheep and braai and porkie. A group of orphans from Mzomtsha came special to Mdumbi to perform traditional singing.



Figure 1: traditional dancing during our 10th anniversary

We took a moment where we thanked the Mankossi community for their participating in our projects and their patients in some other projects.

We as TransCape are happy with the help from the volunteers we get. Especially our afterschool program made big steps with the help of a professional German teacher. Our preschool continued the year with two teachers (last year there were three) and continues help of at least one volunteer. We are proud of Nokubonga who is studying next to her fulltime job and implement new lesson ideas. The adult education run on lower capacity this year but since we combine it with computer lessons the interest of the community comes slowly back, although we still need to get more people who want to take this opportunity to gain more knowledge.

Our HIV-team in Canzibe had support from a local volunteer. She did mainly the ‘children in need’ program but also assist in other projects where she could. This year we had our first ladies soccer event. Everybody enjoyed it a lot and we want to organize this more often. Our counselor keeps visiting different places and is counseling daily a lot of people whose lives are changing.

We are very proud on the new clinic we build in Mankossi. Unfortunately it is not active yet but we hope in the near future to get it runt by the government.

A side project which definitely doesn’t do under for our main projects is the cataract project. Every month a full taxi drives to Mapuzi and Zithulele hospital with (old) people who get a change to get their view back since years. Without this project they are not able to have a bright view on their lives.

The Mdumbi eco-centre went into a new stage. The garden is upgraded and a new accommodation is coming for volunteers who want to live sustainable. The volunteer accommodation will soon run sustainable on energy and water.

With the whole team we put lots of energy in all the projects. It was hard work but we do everything to develop a sustainable community. We are proud of the work we have done and hope we will be able to continue the coming years. I want to give a big thanks to all the people who supported us financially and encouraging our projects. Without this help we wouldn't be able to get to the level we are now.

This year we had a small change in the organisation structure. Almost all of our project teams have a local project leader. We have now one person who is on the ground and supporting all the project teams and who is available for any questions at any time.

The main thing we are challenging is fundraising. The economic crisis is giving us a hard time. Next to this we are in need of somebody who is able to make good proposals and send them out.

I'm happy to be the chairperson of this organisation. It is nice to work with a motivated team.

Enjoy reading the annual report 2013-2014.

Yours,
Luzuko Bango
Chairperson TransCape NPO



Figure 2: Luzuko Bango, chairperson of TransCape

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INTRODUCTION

TransCape NPO was registered as a Non-Profit Organization on 4 August 2004. It developed through a partnership with Mdumbi Backpackers' workforce and friends and the medical staff at the local Canzibe hospital. It was founded in order to support the local hospital, to improve its service delivery and to assist people to become active in their communities. TransCape works in the heart of rural South Africa, with and for the Xhosa people. In the Mankosi community, the role TransCape plays is to facilitate and help local residents to take ownership of their own resources, to live sustainable livelihoods in harmony with their social and natural environment. Since 2004, TransCape's activities have come to be divided into areas of Health and Social activities, Business and Education. Social and environmental sustainability suffuse all aspects of the organization's work. Based in the rural communities of the Eastern Cape, we are faced with a poignant context of poverty and poor health populated by the thriving energy of a people who want to live full and healthy lives.

Our vision: We are a connected community, comprising of holistic, healthy and empowered individuals in an optimally developed and fairly managed sustainable environment.

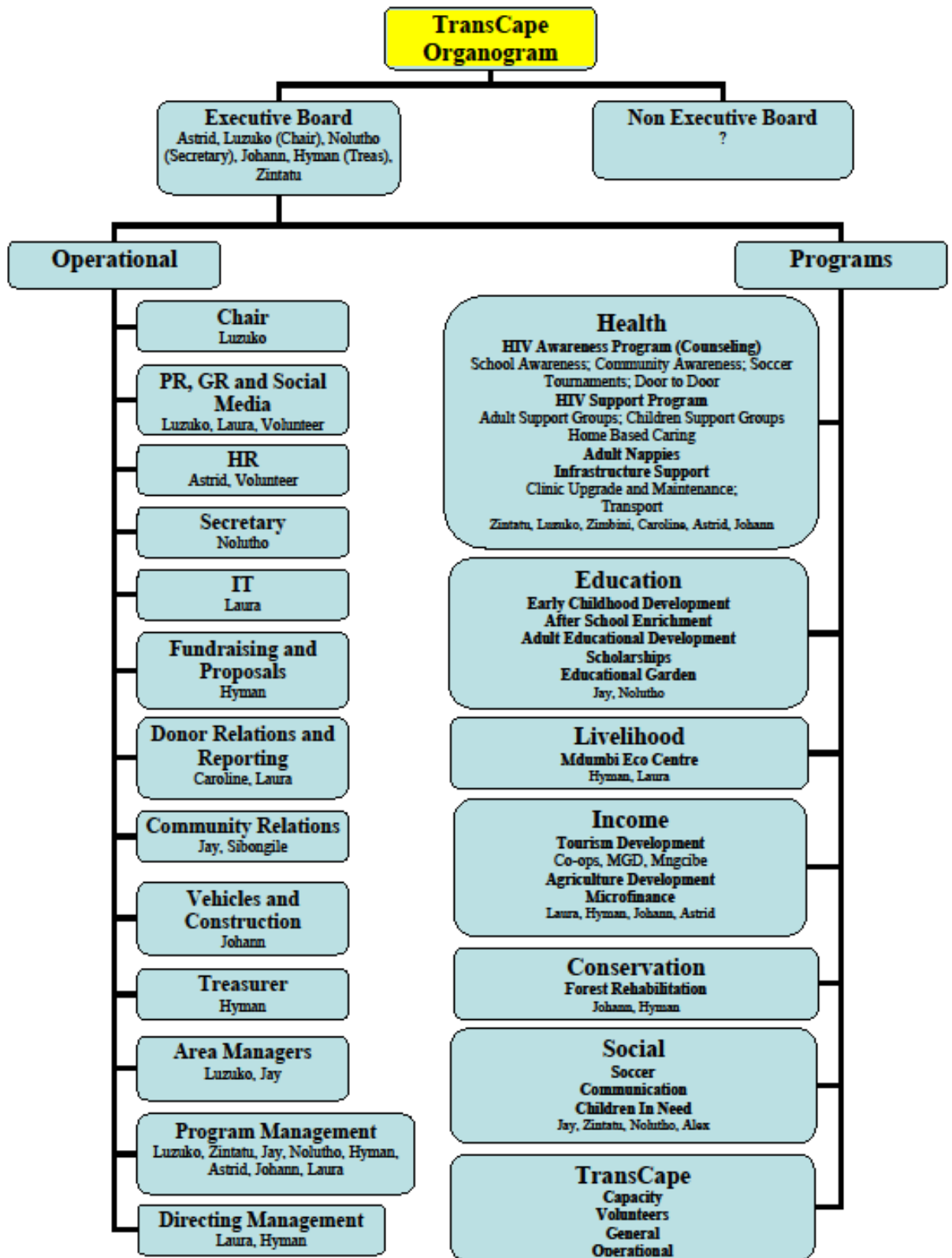
Our mission: Rural action for sustainable community development To be an optimally informed, monitored, open and accessible hub with relevant examples, tools and networks for making positive choices about how to live.

To work towards our vision we have several projects running. This report explains all the work we have been doing with our team from September 2013 until August 2014.



Figure 3: The afterschool children on the beach forming TransCape

TRANSCAPE ORGANOGRAM



Mankosi clinic

In the last year we completed the building of the Mankosi clinic, which will become one of the feeder clinics to the Canzibe hospital about 26 km away from it. There are about 13 other clinics that are linked to Canzibe hospital and the closest one from us was 7 km away what is a two to three hours walk for a sick person. The idea for the clinic was to build one with funding received from Mdumbi backpackers and the Mankossi community but by far the most from our donors. Then get the government involved to provide the clinic with staff and medicines.

The last few months has being a process of getting the government on board again and like expected this is quite a process in Africa. But we feel that we just need to keep on trying and after enough pressure things does eventually happen here. We got the doctors from Canzibe hospital on board now as well to try and see if they can approach the department of health from their position.

In the last few months we have managed to complete:

1. The water catchment from the roofs and installing plastic water tanks to collect the water and connecting this to the ablution facilities. We have approached the people working with the government water supply and were given permission to tap into their pipes which will help a lot in the dry season. I am trying to get the community to pay for this as they do have money available for this.
2. We have completed all the tilling and corn access.
3. We have painted the whole building inside and outside.
4. The inside doors where hang.



Figure 4: Left the ablution facilities for man, right the Mankossi clinic from the outside

We have being approached by the home based carers if they can use the little wooden house outside the clinic on the odd occasions and they have done so. In the long run we might move them to the clinic premises because at present they are quite far away but this will need some thought still.

HIV project

The HIV team is working from the office in Canzibe. There are two fulltime employees and last year there was a volunteer. The HIV project consist of the followings projects

counselling and education from clinics, schools and home visits, awareness, community and soccer events, adult and children support groups and home based care groups. With all our previous experience and strong networks that we established, we believe we still have a major role to play in making sure the right message reaches where it is needed most. We know the Canzibe feeder area better than anyone else. Where strong HIV support structures are established and where it is needed, which clinics are more motivated and active in the fight against HIV/AIDS, where people living with HIV is still suffering under stigmatic discrimination.

Zintathu Luvalo, our HIV counsellor: "It's been such an awesome and challenging journey to be doing what we did during the year but most important was to try to do our level best to serve the community that we are working on and reach our target. "

Children support group

There are two children support groups, the first one is in Canzibe hospital and the other is at Ntibane clinic. Both groups come together ones a month on different dates .The children support group is for children who are HIV positive. During this day the children take their treatment. A couple of times we invited a doctor from Canzibe hospital to check if the children are receiving the right treatment. This is done due regarding the weight of the child. The doctor did also a check for tuberculosis and other diseases. Often it happens that a child didn't gain weight and several were diagnosed with tuberculosis and referred to the hospital.

After we have finish checking the children it is time to quickly prepare the sandwiches for them because they are hungry and they have been in the ARV unit since early morning. Some arrive at 6:30 some at 7:00 and most of them are not living near the hospital so they eat happily and they really appreciate the food. They queue in a line to receive the food. We start with the youngest. While they finish eating we play some games together while others take colouring pens and books so that they can be creative and colour while others playing soccer and netball.

Our counsellor then sits with them together, she talks about the changes that affect them in their lives and that makes them to maybe forget treatment and also things that they think they are unusual in their bodies it is easy for them to open up to her because they know each other very well.

Some of the children the counsellor meets at school when she visit schools, they open up and ask many questions. For example they ask if it is necessary when sometimes they go to the school tour to not carry their medication but I emphasize the importance of the treatment to them.

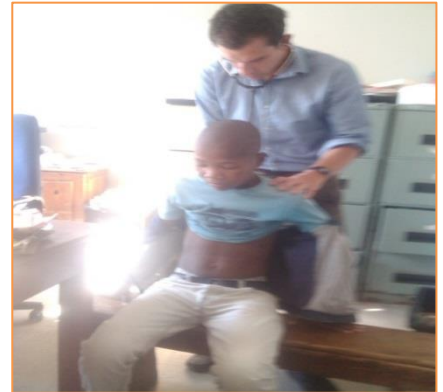


Figure 5: children support group in action; the first picture the doctor checks a child, the second entails the food what is prepared for the children, the third the children are queued up to receive their food and the last one the counsellor answers all the questions the children have.

The children support group find place every month on each location except December so our counsellor attended 22 meetings in total last year. The amount of children in each group is 40 what makes a total of 80 children she is helping.

Adult support group

Adult support groups are opening the dialogue for people who have to live with HIV. HIV is still a taboo for some people and living with HIV can make your life unnecessary hard. By joining one of the adult support groups people support each other and spread the knowledge off the group members.

Every month there is a meeting with the leaders from each group led by TransCape. In the meeting each group talks about the challenges they are facing. Currently there are 15 groups active. Each group is maintaining a garden around their meeting place.

Counseling

There are three active ways counseling is done; Clinic visits, home visits and school visits. Our counselor is also active on awareness events that TransCape is organizing.

Clinic visits

Twice a week our HIV counsellor visits a clinic where she gives education and counsel approximately 10 people on a day. Our HIV counsellor Zintathu Luvalo explains her day at a clinic. During clinic visits I give education on HIV/AIDS, advising people to know their status and those who already living with HIV must adhere to the treatment, take it according to instruction and always respond to changes. We also avail ourselves that they can talk to us or ask any questions that they maybe feel uncomfortable to ask to their nurses or caregivers. By doing this, we are making friendship and comfort ability to our clients and it has been working very well as they feel it is easy for them to talk to us. I then during education make sure I make some kind of posters that explain clearly what is it that I am talking about that gives clear understanding to people and allow for questioning even though sometimes they normally prefer if they ask when we are doing one on one. This is my favourite part of the day.



Figure 6: two different one-on-one counselling sessions in the counsellor tent during a clinic visit.

These sessions provide me with the opportunity to empathise with clients and to really understand the personal obstacles they have with regards to HIV/AIDS. I find clients use my sessions as a platform to explore more about the disease and to ask questions they previously have not been able to ask. I am able to tackle, on a small scale, the stigma and presumptions surrounding HIV/AIDS, therefore providing people with an educated approach to HIV testing. My presence allows for opportunistic testing; people often attend without the intention to test but end up doing so. By way of example, the lady above was merely escorting a relative to the clinic but came to me for counselling before then attending for an HIV test.

I also after giving this session to people I then re-visit homes to see if they are still on their medication if they were found HIV positive. To those that were tested negative I give a reminder to go to the clinic again after three months as I always emphasise that there is a window period, which one needs to consider after they are tested. As always

people sometimes don't find it easy to accept their status when first diagnosed but later on they do join support groups where they get advised from other people with the similar understanding. That always makes it easy for me when I have a new client it is always much better to refer them to the support group even though they normally prefer to be unknown but the dangers of the unknown is that some of them even fear to go and take treatment and that is dangerous especially if the doctor ordered you to be on the antiretroviral treatment.

Also the good advantage in working with the clients at the clinic is that it is always easy to refer the emergencies to the nurses. Also if there is something that I personally do not understand I go and ask the nurse and get better understanding as some of the cases my clients come with different problems. For the problems that needs social development or social grant services I consult the social worker, sometimes I even accompany them to social development. This then create a good relationship and network with the other stake holders.

School visits

Last year we have been working with four different schools which we visit on a weekly base. During school visits it is important to talk to the teachers and explain what we would like to do with the children. Most of the time a teacher of life skills/life orientation assists and takes me to the children in the school hall. The children get information about subjects that are close to them; teenage pregnancy, hygiene and drug and alcohol abuse.

I first meet with the teachers for introduction then after I present to them what I have for the children at school and I normally be given a teachers that does life skills/ Life Orientation as they do most of what I am doing, then after I get together the school leaners to a school hall where I give education to all of them I mostly talk about the following:



Figure 7: Children are keen and happy to learn when they get a chance to hear about things that surprises them

Teenage pregnancy is about how they can prevent from unwanted pregnancy by giving the options of abstinence, faithfulness, use of condoms to those that are already sexual active also give the choice of using contraceptive NB: I often tell them the disadvantages of using contraceptives that is they can't prevent one from getting HIV/AIDS and all the infections.

Hygiene is important because it is related to many preventable diseases. I often notice that in some cases it is a choice to the students to wash and clean their school uniform so we talk about those changes in their bodies. For example when they were growing up they saw nothing wrong with not washing, but now that they are teenagers you start by having smelling armpits. When you are with others and they notice that problem they start isolating themselves and that makes one have low self-esteem and with low self-

esteem you won't have better marks at school. Same as not brushing teeth and have smelling breath others will make jokes and put you in awkward positions.

Drug & alcohol abuse is dangerous for teenage pregnancy and giving HIV with needles to somebody else. In the community there is a huge problem with children that are using drugs and alcohol. I have notice that most of the time it is because of lack of attention at home and being isolated at school. When I was talk to the students I notice that there is a lack of self-confident, while drinking alcohol they normally get the powers to say how they feel. I try to talk the sense of doing what they feel happy to do like sport at school, traditional dances or poetry for example. Rather focus on the things that make them uses drugs and alcohol and also how important it is for them to have role models in the community. It is also importance to have dreams and goals; in this way it makes it easier to achieve something as it gives the motivation to reach your target. This was inspired by the training that I did which was called create yourself a job. This training was inspiring all the teenagers to see better vision towards their future that they must be visionary and know what they want and believe in them selves

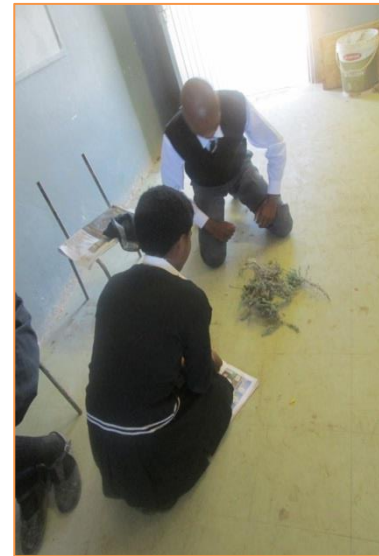


Figure 8: A little drama play that shows that if somebody is on medication, they should not mix with traditional herbs but take the ARV. This was done during a school visit.

Home visits

This is where I go to people's houses visiting them to their homes where they feel even more comfortably because they are within their premises. I also make it a point that they get as much information as they need with the help of educational pamphlet's and posters. For example I have a poster of HIV as a monster so it's a very ugly monster caring an axe and inside a human body, it kills all the cells that are protecting your body. When somebody goes to the clinic and get tested they know their status the ARV'S stops that monster from killing your body cells and when you don't know your status it kills all of them and one become weak and that stage is stage 4 where it is known as full blown aids. One day a week the counsellor is doing home visits where she visits at least four different homes. Because of the remote areas it is difficult to reach more homes on a day.

This story of this old man who didn't wanted to do testing. He believed that HIV does not exist so after I talked to him and showed him that it does and it's a human immune virus, I showed him the monster pamphlets. He then wanted to test right on the spot. He now saw the reality of it and he then called his neighbour friend to come and listen. That to me was very nice as I notice that now that he is convinced he will spread the word around. He will stop to believe that he should have many partners because he said the man in him wants to have many partners. Also I noticed that the woman that was his wife is now happier as he saw that his husband is about to be a new man. I came out of that home as a happy person as I noticed a huge change that was about to happen.



Figure 9: a special moment in one-on-one counselling

Awareness days

There are three different kinds of awareness events organized by TransCape NPO. All focused on a different group of audience. There are school awareness, soccer awareness and community awareness days.



Figure 10: children who are interested to learn about HIV and do this in an interactive way of drama, dancing and storytelling.

School awareness day

Before a school awareness day is happening I visit different schools, five this time, to give them education about HIV/AIDS. While I do this the students gather all the information. On the school awareness day, all the schools are gathering together. The students perform this day different things like drama, poems, comedy and readings all to teach each other about HIV. For example there was one of the schools that made a poem about HIV/AIDS. The poem was about warning others that it is a disease which is out there and lives in humans, everybody should stop ignoring it because it is dangerous and once it's in the body there is no way out. The doctors had tried their best but it's not yet curable. This was really touching and other learners were listening properly.

Also the teachers from other schools that I invited really saw that the day is very educational. Teacher from other schools asked if we could do the same to their schools even though they are from high school and we only focus to junior schools.

After all schools have done their educational performances I take my part in educating them about other diseases. And at this point they all want to join to be part of the day. I have to clarify that they are already participating because they were supporting those that were performing. Other departments that join us also got to talk and give words of wisdom to the children also the head masters of the participative schools they give words of wisdom to the kids.



Figure 11: words of wisdom to all students gathering together for a HIV school awareness day.

There was one big school awareness event where 350 students attended; 215 women and 135 men.

Soccer awareness day

During a soccer awareness day we always have four teams that play. There is a little competition set up during the day. They play because we want that day to be special to the communities as football is the most loved sport in this area. It attracts a lot of people to come and watch the game; both youngsters and adults. On the pictures it shows our special football day as we had the ladies playing against each other because it was the first time we hosted the ladies football. We didn't know what to expect but it turned out to be the most memorable day that we had as the ladies were playing others were dancing and cheering at them and there was a lot of hamory and happines and they responded to education very well.



Figure 12: The first soccer event where only ladies participate

During the game the others that are watching there are kids that are entertaining with their traditional dances and singing so there is lots of entertainment and some of the people are coming to the small tent for counselling and education and want information and getting pamphlets and some of them getting condoms as they going back and won't be with us the whole evening.

In total we hosted six soccer events last year. We had about 4490 attendees of 2440 males and 2050 females.

Community awareness day

By community awareness day we have a gathering where we invite the whole community from where the event is taking place and all stake holders like social development, SAPS, agriculture, department of health and others. We educate the community about HIV/AIDS and get help from support group and home based care groups who do dancing, drama and cooking. Especially the drama sessions are a good way to get attention from the audience. The main message of the day is that you should get tested.

Many of the stakeholders introduce what exactly is their role in the community. Then give the chance to the community to ask questions as they sometimes not know who is responsible for what in the community.

In total there have been six events during this year with a total of 2640 people attending.



Figure 13: Gathering of the community to listen to HIV education and the importance of condoms

Home based care group

Home based care groups take care of critically ill and bed ridden people, orphans, the frail and elderly, people on HIV and TB treatment and people with disabilities. They do door to door visit to inform people about HIV and tuberculosis and perform on awareness events.

They support qualifying people to access social grants. Siyakhula and one more group are now fully supported by Department of Social Development; we continue to support the remaining three.

We are still supporting three groups with solar power systems that they use to sell cell phone charging as income generation for the group. We provide them with support in networking, training coordination, sport programs, organizational issues and fundraising. They keep us updated with the social and health situation in their communities.

Masonwabe is the home based care group in Lujizweni no5. This year they started with a soup kitchen on Monday and Wednesday in the clinic of Lujizweni. They manage to buy the soup and bread and help the patients.

In total we support five home based care centers. All of them do home visits and come to a monthly meeting with is led by TransCape.



Figure 14: The first soup kitchen from Masonwabe home based care group in Lujizweni clinic.

Cataract project

Cataract is a common condition which affects the eyesight. It simply means a blurring of the lens in the eye, which can be helped with a relatively easy operation. Once the blurry lens in the affected eye is replaced by a clear new lens, people can fully regain their eyesight. A lot of people in rural areas don't know they can be helped; they will simply take their loss of eyesight for granted as a problem of advanced age. By the time they reach hospital because they are completely blind, they are being told the next available date to be seen by the specialist eye doctor in the referral hospital is more than a year away. The referral hospital is overcrowded with a shortage of eye-specialists.

Fortunately doctors from Zithulele hospital organize



Figure 15: A doctor is checking the eyes of a patient.

outreach in a clinic called Mapuzi clinic. TransCape wants to help people regain their eyesight by enabling them to attend eye-clinics and eye-surgery.

The doctors who work in Canzibe hospital get a lot of patients with have a bad view. The doctors make a list who need to have further research on their eyes. TransCape gets the list before the next trip and organizes the practical things like transportation and phone the patients to come that specific day. The first trip goes to Mapuzi clinic where there is a selection between people who need glasses, who can go for a surgery or people who get eye drops and get a surgery later.



Figure 16: waiting in Mapuzi clinic to get an eye-test

The people who need glasses come back to Mapuzi clinic in a week to buy glasses for R30.

The people who need a surgery will go the week after to Zithulele hospital. Here they check the first day how the patient is doing. On the second day the surgery is for free and the third day is a check and then they go back home. This is just for the first eye. After 10 days this group needs to go to Mapuzi clinic again to see if the surgery was successful. Then for the other eye they need to go again for three days to Zithulele hospital and for the last check to Mapuzi clinic.

In the last year 150 people were happy to be part in this project and have a bright sight on life again.

MICRO FINANCE

The microfinance project is a good example to empower individuals. TransCape offers interested home based care groups a week of training. The ones who pass the exams can get a loan of R3000.00 (±€ 250.00). This money is used to start up their selected businesses. Stock and tools are bought with the loan. Examples of successful businesses so far are chicken farms, vegetable gardens, spazza shops, clothing shops, hair salons, brick making etc.

After six weeks we do the first evaluation of the businesses and the first instalment is due. There will be an interest rate of 1% charged; the loan will be paid back over a twelve month period. We assist the client when there are problems and help them with their book keeping. The local community is happy that they can upgrade the living circumstances in this way.

Project shuffle

The micro-finance project was undergoing a 'reshuffle' of sorts with Astrid (the project manager since the projects inception) moved to East London due to family reasons. It was always going to be difficult even with the most dedicated and capable person taking over from her. We scouted for someone who was young, committed and enthusiastic and recruited Caroline Nono from the Mankosi community which was good as she lived nearby.

Troy Gifford, Astrid's husband, took over the project management from Astrid in April 2014 as she was now working full time.

Unfortunately Caroline did not show any of the star qualities as she did when being interviewed and she had real trouble in doing the most basic of assignments. Troy did not manage to get to Mdumbi to oversee the progress as the family was settling into a new city and new schools etc. The volunteers who were situated in Mdumbi were having to attend to her intensively and told us that she was not ready for this kind of responsibility. Caroline was hired on 13 September 2013 and had to be dismissed on the 20 March 2014.

We have assigned two people for the micro finance project; Jay Siya as project manager assistant and Luzuko Bango as 2nd project manager assistant. Between Troy, Jay and Luzuko the project is looking to be back up to speed after the somewhat unsure few months it has been through.

Lindiswa Matiki is 33 years old; she has two children and four other dependants who rely on her. The highest level of education is grade 11. She is part of the Nomadolo group which was established in April 2014. This young lady initially wanted to start a sewing business, where she would purchase a sewing machine and fabric from Mthatha and then make clothes and sell them to her village and the community. She did well with the start-up and managed to make good profit early as she worked really hard. She was able to repaint her house and also bought a television. Her children got new uniforms for school and are doing well. Lindiswa is really driven and she did not stop at the small sewing business. She went on to start a vegetable garden where her family eat nutritious food daily and the surplus gets sold. What an amazing person she will go far.



Mankosi group #1

The Mankosi group was established in June 2013. The pay-out for the loan of R2500.00 was made on the 17 July 2013. The group consisted of 11 people and they are required to pay back R208.00 per month. Unfortunately this group was not well managed of late when we had all sorts of trouble with the wrong people running the project. So it is no surprise that they have had trouble with businesses.

No-Andile Duba initially started a chicken business; she said that people were not buying her chickens so she started a spazza shop instead. With the profits she planted a garden as you can see below. She makes a profit of R700.00 a month and was able to buy water tanks for her house. She is also able to send her younger children to school with new uniforms. She has an outstanding balance of R622.00.



Figure 18: No-Andile in her spazza shop and her garden on the right from where she can sell her products

Nomzekelo Matshini has a Spazza shop and sells long life milk, sugar and a few other items which bring in a good income. Profit per month is R500.00 and she is able to send her children to school and her outstanding balance is R208.00



Figure 17: spazza shop of Nomzekelo



Figure 19: the cloth produced by Nosukile

Nosukile Lukhozi started a sewing business and says she make R500.00 profit every month. She purchased a new sewing machine and a water tank, also managed to buy blankets for the winter time. She misses a payment here and there and still has an outstanding balance of R860.00.

Nomandla Nkefane has a garden as business. As the winter brought no rain the crops all died. She is not making anything at the moment but hopefully when the summer rains comes then she can get back on her feet. She did manage to buy a couch when the business was doing well. The balance outstanding is R674.00

Noxolo Matsoboyi has a spazza shop and it is still going. She makes every month about R 500.00 profit; she built a new building at her home and bought a television. Her outstanding balance is R626.00



Figure 20: clothes who Nokhwakha will sell for her business.

Nokhwakha Makhehle went into business for herself selling clothes. She tells us that her business makes R1200.00 a month. She bought a water tank and she did some building. She has missed some payments and has a balance of R846.00.

Andiswa Jampo had a brick making business and it didn't go very well, she said the people did not buy the bricks. When the business was running it made R500.00 per month and she built a new building and bought a television. Her outstanding balance is R408.00. She is still continuing to make a few bricks and sell them; she will finish paying the loan.

Yoloisile Duba had a vegetable garden which also is no longer running as there was no contingency plan for the winter. It is a problem that the business closed as he looked after 3 children and 4 dependants. His balance is R434.00.

Thandiswa Duba has a garden and it is still running as she was clever to buy water tanks before the dry winter. She makes a small profit of R200.00 a month. She also managed to buy a stove. Her balance is R1236.00. This is fine that she misses a payment or two during winter as if the business closes then the start up again is expensive so we allow for them to finish paying after the expected date.

Minah Gxala started a spazza shop, Minah was doing well on her business but she left the community two months ago, her children couldn't continue with the business but she is still sending her children to pay back monthly. The balance outstanding is R135.00

Nomnikelo Gebengana had a brick business. Her business does not exist anymore. She is not living in the community now. She has an outstanding balance of R1042.00. Although her business stopped she is doing the payback.

This group has a hard time as you can see by the amount of people whose businesses are not operating anymore. Some of them will be worse off than when they started. I will need to go there and do a full post mortem on all the contributing factors surrounding this. The lack of a reliable person to head up this group and find out what they need to continue trading was a big problem. Two managers came and went due to different reasons, and for someone who is starting a business venture for the first time it can be very daunting. I hope to get to Mankosi area sometime and have a visit there.

Phumlani group #1

The Phumlani group has been a success story from the beginning. This group was established in March 2012 and comprised of 11 people who all started various businesses. They all paid back the capital loan within the time frame given, that is when we decided to give them an another loan to continue and grow their businesses and uplift the community which is Lujizweni no 5.

On 13 August 2013 we paid out to seven people to grow their livelihood. They received R2500.00 with an expected instalment of R208.00 per month.

Nokwaka Mpikipo is selling clothes and is doing great. She makes a profit of R1000.00 a month. She bought fences for her gardens. She purchased a television and a freezer and she manages to send all her seven children to school with new uniforms. Her payments are going well and she only has a balance of R628.00 left.

Nowethu Hlomendlini is making a living selling clothes and she also runs a small spazza shop. Her profit per



Figure 21: the clothes Nokwaka is selling.

month amounts to R1000.00. She bought herself a fridge and some blocks to build onto her house. She pays well and has a balance of R652.00



Figure 22: Nowethu is selling clothes and shows proudly what she could buy with the income to better her living situation.

Nosandla Gonongo sells chickens and she makes a profit of R500 per month. Through her business she managed to buy a fridge and school uniforms for her children. She pays well and has a balance of R652.00



Figure 23: Nosandla makes R2000 a month with selling clothes.

Nosizile Zihange is selling clothes and household goods to the community. She does very well and in the interview she divulged that she makes R2000.00 a month. She has bought a lot of stock for her shop and will make good money. Her balance outstanding is R628.00



Figure 24: Noputhumile built a six corner rondavel from her profit.

Noputhumile Mawulana has a clothing company and just built this six side rondavel with the profits from her business, she has R1000.00 profit a month. All four kids go to school and they have new uniforms. She is on track and has R452.00 balance.



Figure 25: Noteko shows some of the clothes she is selling.

Noteko Mxhego also has a clothing business and does well. She put a new roof on her rondavel and she bought a fridge. The three kids have new uniforms to go to school. She missed the last three payments, but she says that everything will be back on track in September. Her outstanding balance is R836.00



Figure 26: Nokwanda restarted a business to sell cloth after her chickens got sick.

Nokwanda Nyathi started out selling chickens, the problems she encountered were: 1 she gave people credit and they didn't pay her back: 2 the chickens got a disease and some didn't make it. She now sells cloth. She claims to have a monthly profit of R700.00 and she was able to buy fencing and some bricks to build. She also bought a stove and radio. Her outstanding balance is R628.00

This group has almost finished paying their initial Loan amount off. The way of life is very much been raised for the families that are benefitting.

Phumlani group #2

The Phumlani no 2 group was established in November 2013, there are eight members in this group. They received R3000.00 each on the 29 of December 2013 and the monthly instalment they have to pay back is R250.00.

Nceleni Nonjonjo first started with a spazza shop in mind. He however did not start the business as he used the money to buy cement, sand and plastering for his house. He now sells airtime for cell phones and blankets. He makes R500.00 a month profit. He has started building a two room flat that is not finished yet. He is paying well despite the change of business and has a balance outstanding of R1050.00.



Figure 27: Left Nceleni with blankets to sell, right Nolubabalo with her chickens in front of her new rondavel she could build with the profit of her business.

Nolubabalo Madusubane started her chicken business and is doing well. She built the rondavel you see in the picture with her profits. She makes a profit of R500.00 a month. She also has money for the children to take a taxi to school. She has a balance of R1500.00 outstanding.

Xolile Sitshikiza is selling clothes to the community. He makes good profit of R1000.00 a month. He built himself and his family a four room house and also bought the children school uniforms. He is paying well and has a balance of R1000.00.



Figure 28: Left Xolile with the clothes from town which he sells and on the right Phelokazi proud with her chicken.

Phelokazi Magxikimane initially started running a spazza shop. She made the mistake of offering credit and the community members did not pay back. She changed her business and is now selling chickens. She makes a profit of monthly R300.00. She managed to renovate her house and plaster it. Her balance outstanding is R1250.00.



Nolitha Ntusi started out with a chicken business. She is successful and has renovated her house and plastered it, also she bought a television and a stove. All the kids got school uniforms as well. She makes a profit of R1794.00 per month and has an outstanding balance of R1250.00



Nonkanyiso Boyana started with a spazza shop but also had the same problem with people not paying her after she extended credit to them. So she as well turned to buying and selling chickens. She makes R600.00 and she purchased building material as her house was falling down, and built a flat with two rooms. The balance outstanding is R1250.00.

Figure 29: Above Nolitha and under Nonkanyiso with their chicken to sell.

Mandisa Ncancashe started a sewing business. Her outstanding balance is still R1750.

Nolast Mkhwe is making a living of sewing. Nolast is paying back and owes TransCape R1250.00.

This group is doing nicely everyone making a success of it and no one has stopped paying. So that shows they are running their businesses. One of the biggest problems we face is the lack of bookkeeping skills, we do this with the people in the basic business training and they grasp it but it is hardly ever implemented. 90% of the people don't have a proper ledger or in and out book. It would be great if we could do a refresher course with the group, now that they are making a living from their hard work, it would be nice to have real books.

Nomadolo group #1

The Nomadolo Group was established in April 2014, initially the group comprised of 12 people and after the basic business training we ended up having nine people who passed the business test and qualified for the loan. Unfortunately the three people who were unable to continue with the micro finance loan were:

- Nolutando Bhutomane; she has two small children and does not have time to do the business course, so she decided that she could not run a business.
- Thandkazi Bhutomane; her husband did not allow her to attend the course and open her own business.
- Busisiwe Mcotheli; she moved to Cape Town.

This group received R3000.00 on the 23^d May 2014 and are paying back R250.00 per month.

Novotile Masayina has a spazza shop running and is making a small profit of about R500.00 per month. Through her business she managed to buy bricks and renovate her house and also purchase blankets. She skipped one payment in three months, so she still has an outstanding balance of R2500.00



Figure 30: Novotile in front of her little shop

Lindiswa Matiki has a sewing business and also started a vegetable garden. She repainted her house so far with the profits and she also bought a television. Her children were able to get new school uniforms. This is a lady who is working well for herself. She has paid reliably and still owes R2250.00.



Figure 31: Left Lindiswa working in her garden and right Phumzeka with the clothes she makes.

Phumzeka Bhotomane started a sewing business and is doing well and makes a profit of around R250.00 a month. She bought a television and she was able to buy her kids new school uniforms. She missed the 1st payment and still owes R2320.00.



Figure 32:
Nokwakha with her frozen chicken

Nokwakha Lukhuni is buying and selling chicken. She makes a profit of R500.00 per month and she managed to renovate her house by putting a roof on it. She also bought herself a radio and the children got new shoes. She has a balance of R2250.00

Noluvuyo Bhotomane started out growing chickens and she found it too slow, so she changed her business to a vegetable garden. She makes a profit R350.00 and has erected fences around her garden and bought a television, she also purchased school uniforms for her kids so far. She has a balance of R2250.00



Figure 33: Above Noluvuyo and under Noxilile with their gardens

Noxilile Cona is also doing a vegetable garden and is finding it difficult as she didn't have a fence and the cows ate her crops. She did buy some shoes for her kids and had some decent nutritious food on the table. She is paying back and has a balance of R2250.00

Nomfundo Genuka is making a living planting spinach and cabbage. She has a spare R300.00 every month and she managed to paint her house. The kids received uniforms for school and she has a balance of R2250.00



Figure 34:
Nomfundo in her garden with spinach and cabbages



Tabisa Qhelane is selling electricity and airtime and is busy. She clears a profit of R500.00 a month. She painted her house and also bought school uniforms for her kids.



Nothobile Mavis Bhotomane has a business of buying, growing and selling chickens. She makes a profit of R750.00 per month. She painted her rondavel with water paint so that it can be cleaned better. Her outstanding balance is R2250.00 and she is on track.

Figure 35: above Tabisa and under Nothobile with their business

This group is doing well and as a young group has not had any major problems/failures. They will grow as a community and be successful.

Challenges of the micro finance project

The biggest challenge we have faced and will continue to face is the absence of a resident project manager to head up the project and more importantly train someone locally to take over the micro-finance project.

We invite a volunteer to come and take this project on and the results will be worthwhile and long term. This is a good project and the people's lives, their extended families and the communities are uplifted and they all enjoy a better life.

If a volunteer can come, I suggest that it will be for a time period which he/she can adapt to the lifestyle and really get to know the way the Xhosa people do things and then they will be able to best implement a structure which is successful.

I would like to thank you all for the work you are doing. Thank you for supporting the micro-finance project. It makes a huge difference. May God bless you and keep you safe.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Yours Troy Gifford
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Eco homestead

People cannot live if they do not develop resources. If they develop it too little, they cannot satisfy their needs. If they develop it too much, it damages the environment and doesn't last. This is an initiative based in rural Eastern Cape along the central coastal regions where many people are still suffering because the resources in the area they live are not developed enough. It strives to support local people in a process to develop local resources in a fair and sustainable way.

The Sustainable eco homestead project is about the sustainable provision of buildings, (hot) water, toilets, power and food to people at their homesteads in an eco-friendly and people oriented way.

Firstly it entails the creation of model eco centres that will be used to experiment with and test permaculture, earth building and renewable technologies as homestead solutions. This centre is called the Mdumbi eco centre.

Secondly it will provide a venue for sustainable livelihoods and environmental education. Thirdly these solutions will be rolled out to surrounding homesteads by locally based cooperatives. They will distribute and install renewable products; build earth buildings; design renewable and sustainable systems and buildings according to homestead needs and manufacture many renewable products themselves. Lastly Mdumbi Eco Centre will provide direct income to two local families through paying volunteers staying there and wages for maintenance and taking care of the garden and livestock.



Figure 36: Caar-Hym homestead with surrounding garden.

The renewable and sustainable solutions entail

- Cob, compressed earth, grass, pole, lathe and wood building techniques
- Rain water harvesting in ground dams and plastic water tanks
- Three styles of composting toilets – urine separation bucket system; urine separation solar dryer; two compartment non urine separation system. These toilets are integrated with composting systems for fertiliser

- Four styles and combinations of water heating – solar coke bottle system, solar black pipe spiral, flat plate wood and solar combo, solar and rocket stove combo
- Different sizes off grid solar and solar wind hybrid power systems
- Cooking with wood saving rocket stoves, solar cookers, solar ovens and clay ovens
- Permaculture gardens integrated with chicken and rabbit systems for a diverse supply of nutritional organic food
- Homestead clusters with grid tie hybrid solar and wind power and power backup systems
- Homestead clusters with integrated biogas systems

The Mdumbi eco centre consists of two neighbouring homesteads, the CaarHym and Tokaas homesteads. One volunteer accommodation with experimental solar kitchen and shower are being built in between the two homesteads. CaarHym was a homestead created in 2010 by my partner and I in which we lived for two years and then donated to this project. Tokaas is a local young Xhosa man who lives in Mankosi community and who is very keen to find local solutions to better his living standard. Most renewable systems are already installed and in use in both these homesteads.

CaarHym homestead

The CaarHym homestead has the following in place:

- 125Ah solar power daily – 500Ah battery storage and 400W solar panels. A combined 12V and 24V system. The 24V system powering a water pump, small fridge, 20 led lights and light combinations, two laptops, radio and inverter
- 400W wind turbine with options of hybrid or single charge of 2 x 100Ah deep cycle batteries
- Flat plate solar water heater heating 150L in an old, not powered, electric geyser providing hot water to the kitchen sink and bathroom basin and shower
- Urine separating bucket system composting toilet
- 25 000L rainwater tanks harvesting from roof with a pre tank filter providing water to the household through the 24V pressure pump
- 2500L elevated rainwater tank harvesting from roof to gravity feed to garden
- 30 000L ground dam with innovative lining for water seal harvesting rainwater through french drains and water tank overflows
- 5m tower with 1000L water tank and homemade 200L drum vertical wind turbine to pump water to header tank for vegetable garden drip irrigation. The pump and power generator still need to be installed to the turbine.
- The house was built with tree off cuts and exists of one training room, kitchen, bathroom, workshop and a small sleeping space above the bathroom



Figure 37: from top to bottom; water tanks, solar water heating system, ground dam for the garden, CaarHym homestead with solar panels, garden. All in the CaarHym homestead

The outside area was designed according to permaculture. The geographic location in combination with the house building provided a wind free zone which was utilised for fruit trees and a small food forest area. The north sloping side are utilised for the vegetable garden with vetiver grass for wind sheering and innovative triangular shade cloth structures over the beds for wind, sun, pest, water, animal and plant management. There are nine beds for human food production which will incorporate crop rotation and successive planting. Three beds are available for animal feed. The chicken and rabbit dens still need to be erected and will be integrated with the composting and vegetable garden areas. There is an herb spiral and banana and pawpaw circle and many other trees for wind protection and nitrogen.

Tokaas homestead

The Tokaas homestead has the following in place:

- 2500L rainwater tank, harvesting from roof
- Coke bottle solar water heater system heating 25L per day
- 75 Ah solar power daily of a 12V, 200Ah batteries, 140W solar panel all installed on a wheelbarrow
- Urine separating bucket system composting toilet



Figure 39: left a solar wheel barrow and right a solar water heating and water harvesting system

Garden

A low pressure drip irrigation system and sustainable organic vegetable production are in progress. Income generation through the selling of organic vegetables have begun. The construction of a nursery is in progress.

Next phase entails home based organic chicken, egg and rabbit production. The final phase entails small scale milk and biogas production.

Volunteer accommodation

In between the two homesteads at Mdumbi eco centre, a volunteer accommodation is being constructed. This is an experimental earth building; making use of local building materials although the foundation and floor are of concrete. Adjacent to the earth building sleeping courters, we are constructing an experimental solar kitchen and shower. The kitchen has one side that faces directly north where a solar oven will be installed. For cooking one would have a choice between the solar oven, clay oven and rocket stove. The solar shower has a header tank fed with rainwater from rainwater harvesting tank and small solar pump. From here water is heated by a solar water heating system in combo with a rocket stove water heater. Lastly a bucket system urine separating compost toilet will be installed.



Figure 38: a new accommodation for volunteer made of materials of the earth

Headman homestead

At the headman homestead we installed

- Ground dam
- 5000L roof rain water harvesting tank
- Gravity fed 50L coke bottle solar water heating system
- Two compartment composting toilet in conjunction with the vegetable garden
- Solar cooker and oven

Collaborating with a communications project, these systems as well as a two battery solar system on a trolley for mainly cell phone charging have been monitored since 2011.



Figure 40: Left above the headman home stead, right above a compost toilet, left down a solar water heater and geyser, right down a ground dam at the headman’s place

Coceka Renewable Systems primary cooperative was able to start with the distribution of their first renewable product using the Mdumbi eco centre as meeting, training and storage venue. Working with Global Eco Project’s Estovu project, the co-op members are training local women how to use Global Eco Project’s wood saving rocket stove and then sell it at a much reduced price through the carbon credit movement. We are working on a business plan to include self-manufactured solar power, cooking and water heating products for distribution.

Within the following two months, Coceka will start with the distribution and installation of small solar light systems at homes with students. These systems will have two to three lights of which one light is dedicated to the students in the homestead for studying. These systems are subsidised by Kwasa to make them affordable while each household is paying a small contribution.



Figure 41: left the Coceka renewable systems coop, middle the rocket stove and right a training at the Mdumbi eco centre

Project developments

The GIZ is a German Renewable Energy company consulting to our government. They are very interested in this project and we are working together to expand it. They will help to provide more products for Coceka to sell and to make Mdumbi eco centre an exhibition and awareness centre.

We had a site visit from Department of Environmental affairs appropriate technologies section. They were impressed with our project and reported to the department. We hope to obtain more funds to continue to the next phases.

On the 22nd of October we are planning to have the first renewable workshop in Mankosi Community.

Conclusion

We have learned a lot since we started with this project. It is continuously growing and taking on new aspects. Lots of networks have been built with government and private sector.

Mdumbi trail run

The Transcape Mdumbi Trail Run was born in 2012 and was initially supposed to be the 'Run for Education' and the idea being that all the funds rose will go toward the Transcape Education Centre. The concept was launched and then the ideals shifted with the money rose being used for the operational costs and running of Transcape NPO. The run itself comprises of two loops, the novice loop is an 8 kilometre loop of village and beach and is not too difficult which is good for runners and walkers who don't want to spend too much time on the trail. The second, longer distance is 18 kilometres and starts off with some beach then it goes up the Mdumbi river, inland with a shallow river crossing. It then has some flowing hills typical of the Transkei, finishing off coastal 5 kilometres with another river crossing at the mouth of Mdumbi. Presentation and prize giving is at the beach with drinks, lunch and some stories.

Sponsors

The sponsors we approached were all from Mthatha and our anchor sponsor for the day being from Elliotdale. Elliotdale Circle Spar and Tops was the main sponsor but there were many more. They have been since the runs inception in 2012. They supplied everything which included:

Goodie Bags; sweets, drink, chocolates, water bottle, chips and energy drink

Drinks for after the run

Lunch for after the run

Printing for the shirts

Prizes

Vehicles for the day fuel etc.

Without the generosity we would not be able to hold a day like we did which was a huge success. So a massive thanks to all sponsors for giving so freely.



Figure 42: The start and finish of the Mdumbi trail run 2014

Social Responsibility

The interaction with the community is one of the highlights and it is great to see all the people coming out to participate and be part of the day. The youngsters all challenge each other and put in some thorough training leading up to the race. This is wonderful to see as the older men have noticed that there is less drinking in the community as a result. Some of the younger children come to a water point to see what is happening and are more than happy to help there collecting the cups after the runners throw them away.

What was achieved on the day

The day was a huge success. We managed to raise an amount of R20 780.00 which is a welcome monetary injection. I personally think that the money was not the biggest thing that got raised by the event. Runners/walkers who came from as far as England, Cape Town, Durban and East London were part of the day, and through sport we are able to attract another class of interest. In total 98 people joined the sportive part of this day. The community is also a big part of the success of the day, they understand that the work and fun is to empower them and this is wonderful to witness. The aim is to have the community run the event one day.

Conclusion

When you have such a young event with powerful potential, there will be teething problems. We are learning a lot every year and this will no doubt become one of the best Trail Runs in the country. Hopefully we will get some big names next year trying to beat the record or we will secure a big corporate sponsor, or we produce the next 'Ryan Sands' from the Mankosi area. We might even launch a mountain bike loop as well. Whatever happens, we are growing year by year and with team we have the sky is the limit.

Children in need

In 2014 the children in need project has been really active with a volunteer putting a lot of time in the project actively looking for children who are in need.

The project is basically about assisting the children who are neglected and in need and whose families cannot afford to look after them.

The support given to the children

We visit homestead and do surveys as to determine the standard of living. We first ask questions to the parents/guardian's weather they are working, if not how are they surviving. If they are struggling with the basic needs then we look if the children getting government grant. In most cases they are not getting it due to the fact that they don't have birth certificate for what we involve the social workers to assist them. Some families do not have a birth certificate because they delivered their children and never went to hospital to get the clinic card and get check if their baby is healthy. In these cases we refer that child to the clinic as they should get immunization.

As we were doing door to door we discovered that children are really infected with worms so we educate them about hygiene. We offer pamphlets with the basis on how to prevent your child from getting worms. It includes the most important basics like to wear their shoes all the time, cover their food, wash their vegetables before using them, and wash their hands before they eat. Most important is whenever they notice that their kids are feeling sick they should always take them to the nearest clinic. Families who cannot afford it themselves we give hygiene bag with soap, toothpaste and toothbrushes.

We have noticed that some of the parents are not taking their children to clinic because they do not have options for transport. They are still waiting for the government grant or the parent is still searching for a job. Here we assist them with transport money and we try to do follow up as to speed up the process for them to get the social grant. While they haven't got the grant we help them with food parcel so that the kids can go to school without feeling hungry. Normally if they apply for social grant this month then the following month they get it but it needs more follow up.



Figure 43: Children taking hygiene bags and food to their house.

There are also children who don't have a change to go to the school which is free for everybody. The only requirement is that they need to have a school uniform but not all families can afford buying a uniform for their children. We bought a couple of school uniforms last year to give a change to the children for a better future.

EDUCATION

Preschool

The pre-school is a strong and sustainable program. Our community likes the project and as a result they give support to the school. Lots of children are happy to join us. In this report we give an overview from September 2013 to September 2014.

Volunteers

We had four volunteers: Carla from Canada, Venetia from California, Alex and Chris from Germany. Carla only took a month but she made a big difference while she was here. Venetia took one month and some weeks. She helped one of our teachers Nokubonga who is doing Level 5 early childhood development in her assignments. Alex organized swimming lessons for the children. She focused on the children that are leaving next year because she said it is not possible to each a once and then go to another kid next time. Unfortunately Chris did not stay too long because of personal reasons.

New learners

In 2013 thirteen children were assessed to see if they are ready for Grade 1. All of them succeed and in November 2013 we had a graduation



Figure 44: the children on the stage for the graduation party.

party as usual for these students. They did very well and the party was successful. They all received a certificate for attending the pre-school. After the party we did interviews for news learners. We manage to select thirteen children out of twenty children that came.

Out of 31 old learners four dropped as their parents moved to the cities. We left with 27. The total is 40.

In 2013 the preschool team contained with three teaches. Kholiswa found a new job and left us so now we are two. Sometimes it is difficult to deal with a large amount of children because we usually split into three groups in mathematics time. This is a challenge to us but we manage when we split the group in two. We are proud of our teacher Nokubonga who is doing level 5 of early childhood education this year with the support of TransCape. The course is for one year.

Daily routine

It is important for our young learners to have a good rhythm. Every day we follow a learning schedule from 8:00-12:30 that includes:

- Fine motor, spatial noticing, puzzles and language development
- Songs, rhymes, circle greetings
- Phonological awareness (rhymes, rhythms, pre-reading)
- Life skills
- Reading and language arts (studying the alphabet and stories)
- Outdoor play (gross motor development and games)
- Mathematics
- Writing
- Arts, crafts, fantasy play, block building and other play

Some of the lessons are done in English especially some songs, rhymes and little readings.



Figure 45: Nokubonga is teaching the children new rhymes



Figure 46: Nolutho with her son

My name is Nolutho. I am 31 years old. I started to know Mdumbi pre-school in 2008. I stayed with my niece Luyema who graduated in 2009. At this time my son was two years old.

I liked the teaching of the school and I decided that when my child turns three I will take him to learn at this school.

And it happened in 2012. At the moment my son is 6 years and will graduate in November 2014. The other thing I like about the school is that we also get some workshops in how to give our children healthy food.

Parents involvement

The preschool is working with a board of parents; they give advice and discuss the problems. The board has six members at the moment. Last year the meeting took place in September, November, January, February and June. After each school governing body meeting there is a general parents meeting to inform everybody. The most important things which were discussed are the school fees, attendance of the kids and the cooking for the kids by parents. Everybody agreed on the discussed issues. This is important for us so we know that we are on the right line. With the restart of the cooking by the parents it went really well. Unfortunately the parents are not coming regularly at the moment. This means that the children don't get a lunch if there is no volunteer cooking.



Figure 47: Parents attending a meeting about the preschool

Beach time

The beach is on not even five minutes walking from the school. We usually go to the beach on Fridays during sunny days. The purpose is to do some other lessons using nature. The children use sand to write numbers and they also collect shells for counting purposes. We play some games at the beach and give them allowance of individual free play.

Other Pre-Schools

Nonkqubela pre-school is one of the schools that is supplied by TransCape. TransCape built a new building for that school. They had 26 kids and two teachers. One teacher get a stipend from TransCape and the second one is paid by the community.

Manangeni pre-school is closed due to lack of funding from Transcape as they had no building.

Nceba pre-school also had two teachers with 30 children. It is also supported by the community and TransCape. The teachers get stipend by the community.

Afterschool

Transcape has this programme called afterschool enrichment. The aim of this programme is to assist children in all the academic problems they come across in English, math and computer skills. This has made a huge difference to the children and to the community at large. We manage to take the Mankosi community to the higher level with the help from the teachers and from the volunteers. This does not help only children; it also makes things easier for the teachers in government school where the children are attending.

In afterschool we have three different groups of children which we separate according to their age level and grade. Each group comes twice a week. We have a group called Red, it's the youngest group that we have. They attend on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Another group is power of love, they are the middle group. They attend on Mondays and Fridays. Our last group is Young angels, it's the oldest group and they come on Wednesdays and Fridays. On Fridays it's the combination of power of love and young angels.

We had three volunteers from last year. Two of them were from Germany and one was from Canada. Two of them were professional teachers. They were a very big help to our teachers. They had a lot of good ideas on how to make lesson plans and how to give a lesson to the kids. Another volunteer came in March. He was also from Germany. He was also a big help to our teachers and kids, especially the oldest group.

In December last we had a sport day. We took all the children from afterschool to the beach. We played games. We had lunch together and we gave them prizes. It was all fun; the children were so happy.



Figure 48: For the year end we organised a sport day for all the afterschool children with a diploma and price giving afterwards.

Red group

This is a group for the youngest children who are from 4 till 9 years old and who are in grade R up to 3. They normally arrive early. We give them a chance to play with the dolls and games until it's time to start the lesson. We start the lesson by doing beginning circle where they are introduced to short and simple questions in English and they are expected to answer in English. After that we introduce the word cards from the story, and then read the story pointing to the cards on the wall. Then it is time for maths exercises. Sometimes we do inside and outside games and life skills. In October 2013 this group was super motivated and sometimes even 100 children attended a lesson. This was due the effort of a professional teacher who was volunteering for us. In May 2014 the attendance dropped down and there is normally a group of 15 till 30 children attending, not always the same.



Figure 49: The red group in the lessons and in the garden.



Figure 50: Power of love attending a lesson

Power of love

This is the middle group that we have. They are from 10 to 13 years old and they are doing grade 4 to grade 6. They attend on Mondays and Fridays. This group is also motivated and they are very competitive during class sessions. Beginning circle is every group's favourite session. They love gardening so much that every day when they arrive one of our teachers takes them to the garden to do weeding and watering. These kids come from all over Mankosi area. Next to the English lessons we

focus on maths because the children are struggling with this in school. Sometimes we do inside and outside games and life skills. The number of children coming to afterschool increased from October last year up to almost 50. In May this year it dropped again, sometimes there are only 2 children but most of the time between 10 and 15.

Young angels

This is the oldest group that we have. We have children from 13 till 18 years old and they are doing from grade 5 up to grade 9. This is the group that we mostly look up to. When we choose children for the scholarship program, we choose children who are strong enough to get scholarship and we choose from young angels. The conversation is their favourite session because they believe it gives them the opportunity to speak freely and confident among other children. One of our volunteers (Felix from Germany) spent most of the time with them trying to make them feel confident to speak English. Another thing this group sometimes does is computer lessons. They enjoy this lot. At the moment there are 1 up to 8 children attending the lessons. In October it was up to 21.



Figure 51: Young angels working on an English exercise.

My name is Sibisiswe Siya. I'm 13 years old and I'm doing grade 8. I'm from the group called Young Angels. I started attending afterschool from 2010. By that time I was in the group called Power of love. Since then I never stopped. I have been attending here for 5 years now. The reason why I come to afterschool is because I want to improve my English language, my computer skills and my math understanding.

Every Wednesdays and Fridays here I get the inspirations from my teachers and other children. Afternoon classes help me to have more knowledge, to be confident among other children and other people around me and to understand English better.

When I first came here I couldn't use computer because I was not used to them, I couldn't understand English and I was very bad in Math. Now things have changed .I'm getting better in everything. My favourite session in afternoon classes is discussion. During this time we sit in a circle and discuss the topic for the day. This help us to improve our English and to speak freely and confident among other children.

I have challenges as afternoon student though. Sometimes we are given loads of work to do at school. That makes me to be late in afternoon classes or even not to attend. The time changing in winter is also a problem because it gets dark early. Wednesdays and Fridays are my favourite days of the week.



Figure 52: Sibisiswe Siya who tells her story in the textbox on the left.

Where is the money spent on?

Afterschool is an on-going programme that means we always have to buy new equipment like stationery. We bought erasers, pencils, pens, calculators, different types of games, rulers, printing papers, crayons etc. We bought new furniture-chairs and benches in the end of 2013 from a donation of a school. We also bought the pre-cooked porridge for the children so that after the lesson we give them porridge which is specially made for nutrient food in poor areas. By giving this we make sure the children are getting their daily need of nutrients and will study better.

Challenges

The children that we deal with here are not doing the same grades .Each group contains three different grades, which means we have to reach out to all these different grades when we give them work to do. Sometimes they are given loads home works from their school that means we have to help that certain group and we have to take care of those who do not have homework. Luckily there are always two teachers available but if there are too many children attending it is challenging to give individual attention to each of them. The time is also a problem to the older children because sometimes they don't have time to come to afterschool because of the work they are given at school. Unfortunately the children don't attend always twice a week. There are some really enthusiastic children who attend as much as possible but there are also children who attend less. Because of this it is difficult to make learning line in the program.

Scholarship

There are currently eight students in the scholarship programme. Four of them are new added in 2014. Most of them are selected from the Afterschool enrichment programme due to special skills. One of the scholarship students is a preschool teacher who is improving the lessons of the preschool this year.

Zintle Ntlangano

Study: Management assistant

School name: King Hintsa College, Butterworth

Zintle came to the afterschool classes when she was 12 years old. The teachers saw lots of potential in her and asked her to be part of the scholarship programme. TransCape has supported her from grade 10. In January 2014 Zintle started her college for management assistant. This was a big change with what she was used to. In 2013 she was in a gap year and back to school after this is not easy, especially not in a new place where nobody looks after you and you don't know other people yet. Luckily she is strong and didn't had real problems to adapt to this situation.

The modules she is following are communication, computer practices, information processing and office practice. The most difficult module is information processing, this is lots of work on the computer. Unfortunately there are not always enough computers available.

'With some other students I started a studygroup to assist each other by having extra classes to deal with our different problems into each of specific module because our lectures are not committed as they should be.'

Zintle did really well the first year.

The main challenges is the availability of study materials; books and computers to practice.

In 2015 Zintle needs to follow another year of classes and afterwards there is a service training. She is really excited about this and hopes she will be able to find this as soon as possible after her study so she can graduate.

"Being part of the scholarship programme has slacken my home situation both financial and social which also stretched my wings towards better future. I real appreciate TransCape and their donors about thinking into dispersion about my community and our poor families and give them better future. "

Zikhona Mpehlule

Management assistant

School name: King Hintsa College, Butterworth

In 2013 Zikhona had a gap year because she wasn't accepted in university or college. It was difficult not to be able to be in school if you want to learn. January 2014 she could start in Butterworth to study management assistant. 'The college atmosphere is way different than in high school which I am familiar with. In high school you often find teachers who always hind the student making

sure presence of each learner and a lot cooperation between parents, teachers, students and government officials all trying to assist students to reach their destiny. Unlike in the



Figure 53: Zintle Ntlangano



Figure 54: Zikhona Mpehlule

college whereby it is just you as student and lecturer that is not even available full time in the class, to copy on your studies. You definitely have to socialize with other students and make study groups.'

The most difficult part of the study for Zikhona is working on a laptop. It needs a lot of time to understand but she sees that the computer will be quicker in the end then doing things manual. Next to this she is struggling with 'information processing', this is really complicated. One of the problems is the marking strategy; if you get two points for a question but the question afterwards you do wrong you lose your first two points as well. At the moment Zikhona is preparing for her exams with her study group to achieve better results. So far her performance was good and she looks forward to next year.

'Wow! I am so proud of my career I see myself sitting next to my senior, discussing the matters of the business. When I chose this study I was not aware of what I will do exactly when I am working but as I attend the classes I really know what I can do.'

Siphesande Mabhulu

Business management

School name: Regent business college, Durban

Siphesande didn't pass for all her exams in 2013. Due this there were only two modules to do in 2014. These outstanding modules are financial management and marketing management which she started on 15th July 2014.

In the first part of the year Siphesande gave birth to a boy. While she is studying her mother looks after this child. 'I am really looking forward to complete my studies this year so that by next year I could be able to find employment and support my child.'

I am now preparing for exams which I am going to conclude on the 10th of November.

"The last five years being in TransCape scholarship I received a lot of lesson as a young woman and how to deal with study problems because sometimes I would lie about my results and TransCape would caught me but that have never changed the way they treat me, instead they give emotional support and everything kinds of supports. I thank you them and their donors."

Phatheka Siya

Gap year

Computer lessons

Phatheka have passed her grade 12 last year (highest grade in high school) with 50% but she couldn't be admitted to the university because of late application. Universities oft--en prioritize very high percentages of grade 12 matric results which mean 50% of students are not that much appropriate to reach university level. With 50% the candidate could be eventually considered in terms being accepted to the



Figure 55: Siphesande Mabhulu



Figure 56: Phatheka Siya

university. Phatheka has taken this year as gap year but is also trying to excel herself by participating on small local trainings that may keep her mind into educational environment. ‘Early this year I have been working as local researcher for the University of the Western Cape, I saved my small salary and now I am currently doing a six months basic computer course in Mthatha.’ She doesn’t need to pay for accommodation because she is staying with her sister in law who is working in Mthatha.

She applied this year for university and college for 2015. At the moment she is waiting for answers to see if she gets accepted. Hopefully she gets accepted to study marketing in 2015.

“What so ever happened this year, was real good year to me because I am also doing something else (Computer course) which will help me in the university next year. I am very happy with TransCape scholarship to give me such support because without TransCape my families would not be able to send me to school.”

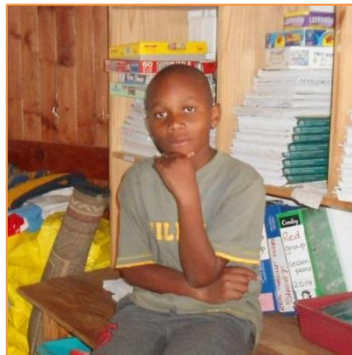


Figure 57: Musa Jampo

Musa Jampo

Grade 6 students

School name: St Patricks Junior Secondary School

Musa was doing well enough last year to go to grade 6. His marks have been better before. He has been in a difficult situation in the place he’s living. We still trying to solve the problems there but his family is delaying the process by not giving us the information we need.

Lately we find a new accommodation nearby the school where Musa will have much more options to focus on his homework. . This accommodation will be finalized by the end of October 2014. This place is managed very well; there is a person who does laundry, kitchen and have security day and night. This accommodation will allow Musa to access extra math’s classes and other subjects. We believe that this new place will improve his school performance. His results are now out and they seem much better than the once he received last year 2013

LEARNING PROGRAMME	KEY	MARK	ACHIEVEMENT INDICATOR
Social science (gr 6)	2	38	Elementary achievement
Natural science and technology (gr 6)	3	42	Moderate achievement
Mathematics (gr 6)	5	61	Substantial achievement
Life skills (gr 6)	4	56	Adequate achievement
IsiXhosa home language (gr 6)	3	49	Moderate achievement
English first additional language (gr 6)	5	67	Substantial achievement

Musa his school report term 2, 2014

Abenathi Gxiyana

Grade 10

School name: Sehushe commercial

Abenathi is new in the scholarship programme since 2014. She was selected from a group of the afterschool enrichment programme. Especially in communication in Xhosa and English she performs above general.



Figure 58: Abenathi Gxiyana

Her uncle is taking care for her in Mdumbi, unfortunately both her parents passed away when she was very young. Her uncle has several biological children who get more attention than Abenathi. There is no money for good education although she receives a foster care child support grand. 'I need scholarship because I'm just alone and no one can support my education'. TransCape scholarship programme can help her to receive better education.

It was a big step to move to another place and the pressure was high to learn new things; a new school but also a new kind of life. It hasn't been easy but Abenathi did well.

Abenathi is in grade 10 her subjects are Xhosa, English, accounting, mathematics, business studies, economics and life orientation. She did pass the midyear exams but is not happy with mathematics and business studies results.

'I still have to put more effort to my Mathematic and Business studies because these are one of the subjects that I am struggling with or I would like more support like extra classes.'

"Overall I am very proud about myself by just able to pass this means a lot to me."

Esakhe Nono

Grade 10

School name: St. Martin's school

Esakhe is a really motivated student from the afterschool who even comes on rainy days when all his friends and classmates are staying home. During the classes he is active and helping other students. This is why TransCape offers him a place in the scholarship programme. Since the second quarter of the schoolyear 2014 Esakhe is in Mthatha going to St. martin's school.



Figure 59: Esakhe Nono

It has not been easy the first month in school to catch up with the first semester. Also being independent and find new friends is difficult. All taking this in consideration the results so far are fine. With being used to the new life we expect higher marks in the near future.

Although Esakhe still needs more then two years in highschool he knows exactly what he wants to do after; starting his own busines. In this business he wants to give jobs to his family members so do also get a nice income.

"I need a scholarship because there is no money at home to take me for further and better education"

Ntombizolile Siya

Grade 10

School name: St. Martin's school



Figure 60: Ntomibzolile Siya

Ntomibzolile is a star in maths and keen to help with extra tasks the teachers ask help for. She deserves a place in the scholarship and started grade 10 in Mthatha in the second quarter this year.

“This is my first year to in TransCape scholarships programme and so far so good everything is going well, year 2014 seems good to me and progressive, I would like to take this opportunity to appreciate the whole TransCape team and TransCape scholarship donors, these two bodies/organizations have made my life easier”

Ntomibzolile also made a big step in life by going to a new city, new school and new friends. She is doing well now but her results can improve in the next semester.

“If anyone would help me with funds that could be super a huge privilege”

Nokubonga Pitipiti

Level 5 preschool teacher
Masikhule college, Mthatha

“I am doing a preschool training course and I’m very excited to do these studies. It upgrades my enthusiasm and motivation on my studies, they will be finished by November this year and by now I am preparing my last assignments and thereafter I have to write a small exam.”

Nokubonga has been working as preschool teacher for five years now without having this level five which is regarded as most important level in her work field because this level makes her to be a qualified preschool teacher. She realized and decided later last year that she should go to school to improve her level of education and she consulted TransCape about her decision. The study is often in the school holidays and in the weekend she attends study groups. It is continues assessment programme whereby she gets assignments to write and submit at a certain period of time. There is no final exam, all she needs to do as student is to pass her assignments and doing presentation in the class about specific topics they give. The time is challenging for Nokubonga, it is not easy to have a fulltime job, take care for your family and do a study next to it.

“I have good hope that I will do well because the whole course is more about what I am doing in the class’s day in day out now I have better understanding.”



Figure 61: Nokubonga Pitipiti

Challenges

The education training system in South Africa is continuously changing. Almost every three years there are significant problems for those learners who did not meet University requirements because Universities only admit students that have got very high matric results. Those learners who have adequate matric results tend to fall to the colleges although most of these colleges are not nationally and internationally recognized. One of the biggest challenges in many colleges has been their weak educational management and unavailability of student financial aid schemes. This is because these colleges are privately owned whose targets are mainly on a business concept and not on educational methods. Zintle Ntlangano and Zikhona Mphehlule have been through this situation whereby they matriculated in 2012 and never been admitted to the university and they were only admitted to the college this year 2014. One year they had a break from learning in which they did some ABET classes with TransCape. Phatheka Siya has the same problem this year.

Insufficiency of career exhibitions in our primary and high schools is a challenge as well, you likely find TransCape scholarship students at matric level still unsure what they want to study for in universities or colleges during the tertiary application period.

Unavailability of facilities such as computer labs for accessing studying information in our high schools to assist children to apply to the universities or colleges has a huge negative impact and results in our scholarship students being unsure with their careers. This problem may permanently stop or hinder the student studying progress because she or he was not expecting what she/he is experiencing at the university or college.

Our scholarship programme is up to date and progressing.

Adult education

The adult education programme is following the ABET training organised by Mediaworks. ABET stands for 'adult basic education training'. In 2013 there were 60 students who wrote exams. Only three of them failed and two had supplementary. Unfortunately none has written the supplementary exam.

The programme has been struggling this year on a management level. Mediaworks didn't provide the information we needed and students are not that motivated after running the programme for several years. To improve the programme we asked the students what they are interested in. The majority asked if it is possible to add computer lessons to the programme. It took up till August that we got a good start while by that time not all the learners' books were available but we didn't want to delay more.

ABET programme this year have got 40 learners who are participating on our programme. The programme consists of communication in English, maths literacy and basic in computer. The computer course covers Microsoft Word, Microsoft Excel and Outlook and internet. Normally there is a minimum of 60 learners required in the ABET programme but Mediaworks authorized us to have this number of learners since they are doing administration for this programme. Mediaworks will also shortly inform us about exam date and project end date.

The learners mention often that the programme is positively influencing them. What they learn from the programme is helpful and provides them with advanced knowledge, speaking English, being able to count and computer skills which are required skills for any job opportunity. They stated that it is not too easy to study while you also have other responsibilities such as home responsibility and family ones.



Figure 62: students from the adult education programme are working on the computers

Jay as project manager: *“This Adult Basic Education and Training programme is one of the most challenging programme, adult students are more owning their houses, looking after their families and also desperately looking for jobs of which these responsibilities each student regard them as their main priority and education is the last thing. This situation makes hard to determine attendance of the learners therefore it is unstable and we also always working on it to try to get better solutions. We have organise several meetings with our learners to encourage them and find solution for attendance problems, they promised to come to school often but also as teachers we should help or assist them by reminding each learner about coming to school a day before because they forget to school since they have home duties. The meeting we had with the students seem changed and improved our attendance.”*

CONCLUSION

I would like to thank you all for the hard work you are doing. Thank you for supporting the different project. It really makes a huge difference in people their lives.

May God bless you and keep you safe.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Yours Luzuko Bango
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