



Pebbles Project

CHANGING LIVES

CELEBRATING 10 YEARS



NEWSLETTER

CHANGING LIVES

June 2015

OUR 2015 GOALS

In our March newsletter we shared our goals for 2015. As we reach the half-year mark it is as good a time as any to take stock of our progress thus far. We look at 3 of these goals:

"IMPROVING WORK SPACES & LIVING CONDITIONS to make sure our beneficiaries live safely. Identifying communities and infrastructures that need to be improved in order for the communities live in healthy harmonious conditions." - Our Flenterskloof crèche and After-school Club are in the process of being renovated. Through a generous donation from Imperial Managed Logistics the children at this facility will also receive one year's free health and wellness services through the Owethu Clinic. A huge Thank you to Imperial Managed Logistics!

"CREATING EXCITING RESOURCES & PROGRAMMES to keep our beneficiaries engaged. Practical tools and programmes allow for a tangible difference to be made in the lives of our beneficiaries." - Our Baby Programme is now called the First 1000 Days Programme. The first 1000 days from conception until a child is two years old have been demonstrated to be crucial, requiring adequate provision of health and nutrition support to aid in a positive social and economic outcomes later in life. We have established a training programme to equip the ECD teachers with the skills needed to independently evaluate and develop their own daily programmes in terms of curriculum guidelines and their contexts. This is achieved by implementing a modular approach to training, ensuring that teachers develop skills in specific focus areas. Through our Nutrition Programme and the Owethu Health Clinic, we meet the children's nutritional needs in their formative years. Screenings are undertaken by the nurses on any children who are identified as being underweight where intervening measures such as nutritional supplements can be introduced to their diet.

"MAKING THE PARENTS KEY ROLE PLAYERS and giving them the opportunity to nurture their children. Engaging the parents in programmes that allow for them to care for their children better."- We continuously host parent workshops throughout the year aimed at improving parenting skills and showing greater awareness of how their own behaviour impacts on their children. In addition to being a human right, education is an enabling and empowering right. Computer literacy has fast become as vital as literacy itself this is why we are rolling out basic computer lessons to parents on our farms in an effort for them to be fully empowered in society thereby becoming better parents.

PROUD MOMENTS

Lizzie Mathiso from Sijongephambili ECD centre recently won the Western Cape ECD Practitioner of the Year Award. She has been entered into the national competition and will travel to Joburg in July for a three day workshop and final awards ceremony.



Pebbles has been supporting Lizzie for 8 years with training, resources, equipment, furniture, outdoor playgrounds and educational toys.

We are extremely proud of her achievements!

SANTAS SHOE BOX WINTER PONCHOS

The Cape winter continues to pose a challenge for some of our children, especially our After School Club children, to attend our programmes.

The winter rainy season in Cape Town and surrounding areas, which starts about mid-May and continues until the end of September; threatens the children's health and wellbeing and often results in them staying at home and not attending school or the Pebbles supported facilities.

This year however, winter is looking different and we have a warm solution in place for the dreary rainy days. Through a collaboration with Santa Shoebox, 330 children recently received rain ponchos. The poncho has a safety strip on the back making each child visible on dark rainy mornings. They are dark green and made from printable, water-proof fabric, with sealed stitching so that no water can seep through. Not only can they can walk to school and back warm and safe but their schoolbags and books will be kept dry. Thank you Santa Shoebox!



CHILD PROTECTION WEEK

We commemorated Child Protection Week from 27 May to 2 June this year to continue to raise awareness of the rights of children as articulated in the Children's Act of 2005. Each Pebbles staff member wore a green ribbon in commemoration and our Social Workers hosted Child Protection workshops. Children were taught how to feel protected and through these workshops a conduit was created through which other rights may be claimed and protected.

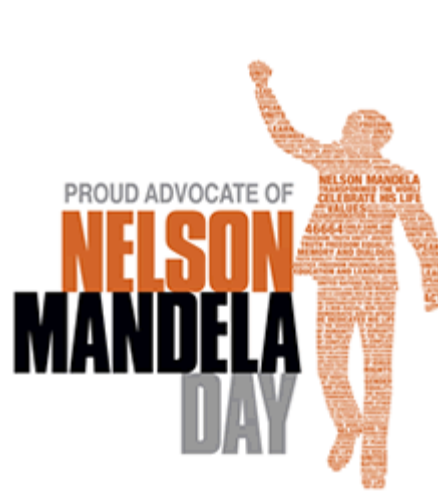
WELLNESS IN THE WORKPLACE

The heartbeat of any organisation is its people. Pebbles staff are men and women who are passionate about their work; we are also an organisation that values the balance of work and life and through our fun-filled quarterly staff team building activities we have unearthed some hidden yet quirky talents.

29 June to 3 July 2015 is our Owethu Corporate Wellness Week where individuals can book a full health & wellness screening at R100 per person and learn how to strike that well-being balance. Book your screening with Byron on byron@pebblesproject.co.za.



MANDELA DAY 2015



We will join the rest of the world to celebrate Mandela Day in honour of a true South African icon. Our theme this year is "Contributing towards the health and wellness of a child". In Nelson Mandela's words: "Health cannot be a question of income; it is a fundamental human right". We have a number of activities that you can get involved in, contact Charmaine Gola on charmaine@pebblesproject.co.za for more information.

THANK YOU's

We remain thankful to all the donors, organisations and individuals, whose generosity and support allows for the success of our organisation.

We are privileged to have had continued supporters who every year sign up for our charity teams for the Cape Cycle Tour and The Old Mutual Two Oceans Marathon. Each team member used their race participation to raise funds and generate awareness for Pebbles. The 20 brave runners who joined our Old Mutual Two Oceans Charity Team and the 24 Cycle Tour cyclists managed to collectively raise over R65000 for Pebbles. JF Hillebrand once again organised the charity team that cycled this year's Cape Town Cycle Tour.

For the second year in a row Shiraz SA donated a pallet of wine to Pebbles, from which we raised over R27000. We also joined them at the recent Shiraz Showcase where the public was treated to the best Shiraz that South Africa has to offer.



THE PEBBLES PROJECT TEAM

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