

NELSPRUIT COMMUNITY FORUM

DIRECTORS REPORT Jan – April 2010

1. Intakes

The tail-end of the economic situation is affecting the community and the calls for help increase daily. We currently have 4426 registered families and individuals on our database. Every registration has and is being evaluated by our Social Worker's office and goals etc are contracted with both individual beneficiaries and beneficiary organizations.

2 Community work report

2.1 "Jewels"

The annual migration from the cold part of our country is already taking place and we see how many opportunists abuse the method of collecting as "shake-a-tin" at some traffic intersections. This is not always legit and the public should be alerted.

Stats Jan – April 2010:

| | | |
|--------------------------|---|---------------------|
| • Clothing provided | - | 835 items |
| • Personal hygiene | - | 215 interventions |
| • Medical aid assistance | - | 49 interventions |
| • Meals served | - | 14,400 meals served |

2.2 Weekly Food Parcels

1. The social worker office makes a large contribution to ensure only the needy gets this aid; identifying urgent needs and ensuring 'taking liberty' is minimized
2. We are very thankful to every donor helping us in every possible way to continue with this needed intervention.

Stats Jan - April:

| | | |
|-------------------------|---|------|
| • Food parcels provided | - | 1920 |
|-------------------------|---|------|

2.3 Basic literacy and computer training

The architect's drawing has been submitted to Mbombela municipality for approval. We are also appealing to the executive mayor to wave the cost of rezoning to SPECIAL SOCIAL WORK SERVICES under the INSTITUTIONAL UMBRELLA. Nyatsi Construction from Swaziland in a possible partnership with TRAC will develop this TURN-KEY facility. The development cost is R280,000. This centre will serve as a multi-purpose facility to the community needs including:

- ABET classes Mondays to Fridays presented by the FET College
- Needle work, beadwork, arts and craft
- Skills verification and development

2.4 Volunteer Workers

Although volunteers fill a huge void and are precious to us it is very important that we only use them at specific times, days or for special projects. We need to ensure that the permanent salaried staff work to their maximum potential serving the community at all times.

2.5 Employment program - MSR

This program does exceptionally well. Daily new placements are made ensuring an income to the unemployed helping them towards reaching sustainable livelihoods.

The financial short fall of R20,000 is partially covered by Immanuel Trust BUT we are still seeking an extra R10,000 per month to improve this program.

The placement statistics for Jan to April are:

- Permanent workdays - 2880 days
- Temporary workdays - 2640 days

2.6 Floodgates

Donations to FLOODGATES are decreasing every month. Consequently it has been necessary for us to purchase needed basic items to ensure that the daily food preparation in our kitchen and the weekly food parcels keep up a standard. The financial pressure of about R8000.00 each month places a severe burden on the already low income. In total 43 tons have been received over the reporting period showing a decline of ANOTHER 3 tons per month.

2.7 Overnight Shelter, Community House, Damascus work farm

These three residential facilities are permanently full. The **COMMUNITY HOUSE** that serves persons already earning a decent income has lost its financial independence because of the URGENT CALL FOR RESIDENTIAL CARE. This facility mainly addresses the needs of small family units.

The **OVERNIGHT SHELTER** is filling a much needed gap providing accommodation for homeless persons in the city.

DAMASCUS WORK FARM is developing well and residents have started vegetable gardening, a water-saving initiative and beautifying the small gardens in front of their "houses". Development to the communal facility needs some attention – providing for security, dining/recreational hall and a safe parking bay for the vehicle.

The three residential facilities have ensured 5400 safe, warm caring nights for the time of reporting.

2.8 Spiritual nurture, care and growth.

Daily 30 persons are reached with the Gospel

1. Thursdays (Food Parcel Day) the Gospel is shared with 120 persons.
2. "URBAN EDGE" community church reaches into the community every Sunday serving the Gospel to an average of 70 persons between 9am & 10am.
3. ASM (Africa School of Missions) students weekly organize a street outreach and community evangelizing.

3 Internal/IN-HOUSE Care

3.1 Staff issues

We are blessed to have on board RAY an American missionary with a passion for the city who is also spending time in Prison Ministry establishing a prayer culture inside the walls of correctional services in Mpumalanga.

The contract with Hennie Erasmus was not renewed and this puts more pressure and workload as well as responsibility on our existing staff and especially management. The position will not be filled in the near future because of the already tough financial position.

The following members of staff celebrated their birthdays:

| | | | |
|------------|---|-------------------|------------|
| Wiseman | - | Gardener | - 7 Jan |
| Johnson | - | Driver | - 14 Jan |
| Graytan | - | Cleaner | - 21 Jan |
| Nonkhutula | - | Computer literacy | - 14 March |
| TJ | - | CEO | - 13 April |
| Jenny | - | Receptionist/PA | - 22 April |

TJ's studies are well on course and we are grateful towards a private funder. However there is lots of pressure because of limited time BUT his first year of Mth studies is almost completed. His prayer is "Lord please stretch the hours per day."

3.2 Finances

The current economy has a long term impact on NCF and the donors. This places incredible pressure on the NCF cash flow that has already been running with a R30,000 short fall over the past eight months. The budget, in faith, AFTER CUT BACKS still falls short of R20,000 per month leaving the total shortfall at approximately R50,000 per month.

The financial implications have great effect on the salary components. TJ has not received his full salary for the past two months and receives it as and when available.

| <u>Jan 2010</u> | | <u>March 2010</u> | |
|------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|
| Balance B/F | R 41 246.83 | Balance B/F | R 23 416.96 |
| Plus Deposits | <u>R 140 012.95</u> | Plus deposits | <u>R 100 761.04</u> |
| Balance | R 181 259.78 | Balance | R 124 178.00 |
| Expenses | <u>R 121 591.13</u> | Expenses | <u>R 110 570.21</u> |
| Balance C/F | R 59 668.48 | Balance C/F | R 13 607.79 |
| <u>Feb 2010</u> | | <u>April 2010</u> | |
| Balance B/F | R 59 668.48 | Balance B/F | R 13 607.79 |
| Plus deposits | <u>R 70 642.20</u> | Plus deposits | <u>R 140 721.05</u> |
| Balance | R 130 310.68 | Balance | R 154 328.84 |
| Expenses | <u>R 106 893.72</u> | Expenses | <u>R 110 090.01</u> |
| Balance C/F | R 23 416.96 | Balance C/F | R 44 238.83 |

3.3 Donations, Donors & Partnerships

Because of the success of the program with street children in Nelspruit, NO MORE A PROBLEM, being the only government supported/funded/subsidized program we do not have a hope of much contribution from Government for 2010/2011.

The partnership developing with FOODBANK SA is alleviating pressure on the food bank serving the community of Mpumalanga.

We celebrate the MONDIPAK partnership involvement over the past 3 years; this year MONDIPAK has doubled the area under-cover of FLOODGATES by providing enough finances to construct a much needed area to expand the activities.

NCF is a level 4 BEE partner. This is an advantage to funders as we are also registered under the TAX classification of 18A making donations TAX deductible according to specific legal framework and policies. We trust that this will continue to encourage partnerships with individuals and businesses to invest in our city.

The IOM (International Organization for Migration) partnership is very active and it aims to take preventative steps in Human trafficking. Seven Micro businesses have been established and registered as alternative income streams for victims of organized prostitution Phase two of this wonderful partnership program has been submitted and we are waiting on the approval. Another reality is the human body-part trafficking that happens between South Africa and Mozambique; body parts being used by some traditional healers – Sangomas. The awareness campaign addressing this sensitive issue has nearly come to an end.

4. What is happening?

4.1 "NIGHT-IN-THE-PARK"

The date has been set for this community outreach on the night of 30 July; activities through the night include:

- "PRAYER WALK" – Prayer walking in the city; praying at specific points.
- "NIGHT-SAFARI", - "house visitation" to the needy and homeless inviting them to
- "DINNER-IN-THE-PARK", - enjoying a meal with the street persons
- "CONCERT & DRAMA-IN THE PARK" – variety program and entertainment

4.2 Other

The network is growing on local, regional, provincial and national level. We are trusting for a greater participation in receiving and sharing resources.

We had a visit from Ds. De La Harpe, a synod appointed person for the development of an urban mission center in Bloemfontein, on 23 April 2010. This bilateral conversation and discussion was very fruitful and productive. NCF was acknowledged as an example of good development; sound systems, procedure, effectiveness, innovation and leadership.

NCF will be accredited as a LEADERSHIP FOUNDATION IN AFRICA in November 2010. This was after our consultative, peer evaluation and self assessment visit to Nairobi Kenya and passed by the American Leadership Foundation. Nelspruit & Nelspruit Community Forum will then become the second city in Africa receiving this acknowledgement.

CSI Making the Difference, organized by HOMEGROWN MAGAZINES, acknowledged NCF as runner up in the category - "Not-for-profit Organizations Award" in Mpumalanga Province.

4.3 Prayer Actions

- Health
- Wisdom
- Resources
- finances
- Spiritual growth
- Perseverance