

## Kids can still be kids at MCDC care centres

Although the orphans and vulnerable children at MCDC's care centres have a lot of trauma to cope with, they can still enjoy the pleasures of childhood, thanks to the dedicated staff at the centres. This speaks clearly from our secret camera shots.



Phumzile is 13 years old and her dream is to become a social worker. "I am studying hard and I am very happy to be at Sun City Care Centre. We are three brothers and sisters living with my mother. My Father died in 2003 in a car accident and my big brother was found hanging in his room. But I am happy here. We all help with the little ones. They all are my brothers and sisters."



Please send news hints to: [kobie.coetzee@gmail.com](mailto:kobie.coetzee@gmail.com), or phone 072 867 0947



## Welcome

The year 2009 is well underway and many exciting things have happened or are happening at MCDC. This is our new internal newsletter, publishing all kinds of snippets from the everyday life at MCDC.

We invite everybody to participate and send us news hints and positive stories from our five care centres and Nakekela. We would also like to hear from all the initiatives like entrepreneurship, the talent competitions and any kind of newsworthy and interesting information. Anything that can be of interest to ourselves, but will also speak to the outside world about the work we do so enthusiastically at MCDC.

## From Vulnerable Children to Students in Theology

Two of our own OVC's enrolled at the Mukhanyo Theological College for the Certificate in Theology. They are Anna Mahlango and Pinky Mpeki.



Pinki says: "I am studying this certificate course now as a stepping stone to become a good Christian teacher. I don't want to just have a job and money. I want to teach children all about God – everything that I was taught at the Vezubuhle Care Centre. I want to teach them about the love of God and that He cares about each one of us. He is always there for you, even if you are devastated by the world around you – like I felt when my father died."

Pinki has been a Sunday School teacher for a few years. "I love children and I want to work with them for the rest of my life," she says.

Anna says:

At first I wanted to do the Certificate to be able to further my studies as a teacher, but now God is speaking in my heart to go on with BTh. I want to work with the youth and tell them about God's plan in



everyone's life. Today's youth only want alcohol and drugs, but they have to find God."

Anna says they were very poor. Sometimes she gave her food to her younger brothers, because they were so hungry. "But God sent the people of Sun City Care Centre to us and after that we were not hungry any more. At Sun City I found God and now I just want to learn more and more about Him.

### Our Own Social workers

A new agreement between MCDC, Mukhanyo Theological College and the Gauteng Provincial Department of Social Development, might lead to a very positive situation: that auxiliary social workers will do the practical part of their training at the MCDC centres.

From this year five students will attend classes in Pretoria for one week a month. The other three weeks they will work under supervision and mentorship of a MCDC appointed registered social worker in the field. They will rotate between the 5 Care Centres, Nakekela and the homebased care team in the areas where there are no centres yet. With this system they will get the maximum exposure in all their fields of study.

They will also attend classes at MTC in Christian Perspectives on Holistic Community Development and Biblical Counselling.



### Giving back to children in need

Filemon Moloko (front) came from a juvenile centre for rehabilitation, where he learnt carpentry skills. He decided to give something back to his community by teaching these skills to the senior boys at Phumula Centre. In this way he can build his own business and later employ the boys as apprentices. "Phumula has

enough space to start a business like this and I help the centre to pay the electricity bill. We are selling the stuff we make and in the end it is a win-win situation for all," he says.

### 1.1.1 Gifts....gifts....gifts...



There will be some very happy boys and girls at our care centres soon. These crates full of neatly packed Christmas gifts just arrived from st. James Methodist Church in America! Thank you so much!

### Lovely spacious new training centres

The new training centres at Mandela Farm is a breeze, says Vusi Sibanyoni of the IT Training Department and Thembi Ndlovu of the Sewing Department. Here the two enthusiastic trainers are explaining



the mysteries of their equipment to their students.