
NEWSLETTER 1/22

Dear Friends

Albert Einstein said: “time is relative; it’s only worth depends on what we do as it is passing.” I can assure you that we at Seven Passes spent our time well during this first quarter of 2022.

Here are some of the highlights:

At the end of 2021 we employed Shireen Miller as Operations Manager to lighten my load while giving me the opportunity to focus more on fundraising for the organisation and the work of SAPPIN – South African Parenting Programme Implementers Network.

Shireen has already initiated wonderful mechanisms for growth in the organisation and we are privileged to have her as part of the team. Shireen has many years of experience in the NGO world and specifically Early Childhood Development.



The number of learners attending our services increased dramatically. We currently have about 100-150 children attending per day with the highest recorded number 269 children who attended a Friday programme in February.



Board Members: Naizel Buys (Chairperson), John Ruiters (Vice Chairperson), Andrew Jeffery (Treasurer), Shannen Buys (Secretary), Sharon Fisher-Buys, Mark Rubin, Ryan Soldin

We offered a successful holiday programme during the March holidays. We divided the children into three groups. Grade R-3, Grade 4-7 and high school. On the first day 170 children attended. The high school learners ended their holiday programme with fun games on the beach.



It was the first holiday programme that our newly appointed EPWP education facilitators planned and executed. They did a marvelous job of engaging the children while containing them.



From the beginning of the year, York High offered extra support again to the high school learners. The York students are committed and learners from Grades 10-12 are part of the support project. They organised a lovely Valentine's surprise for our learners on 14 February 2022. We are grateful to Juffrou Ida and the students for their dedicated help.



The new facilitators and two ECD teachers started at Seven Passes in February 2022. They completed the Sinovuyo Kids programme. They also received Communication, Conflict Resolution training and Career Direct support from volunteer Marius Andrews.



We are currently delivering all 4 of our positive parenting programmes.

In Kleinkrantz the Book Sharing (Prente-Pretprogram) was concluded in the beginning of March and the participants really enjoyed the programme.

Sinovuyo Kids and Teens are being implemented in Touwsranten. Participants are committed to improving their relationships with their children.

Thula Sana (Mamma-Baba) is also delivered in Touwsranten. We currently have 6 mothers in different phases of the programme.

Sheridan is coaching an organisation in Breede River and both Sheridan and Roslynn, our trainers, are providing training to over 500 community health workers in the Garden Route/Eden District in the Book Sharing programme, in collaboration with Mikhulu Trust.



The third opportunity to do the fifth roll-out of the Free to Grow Family Violence Prevention programme started in March. We are delivering the programme at Tikketai to do final tweaks and adjustments to the programme before we pilot it in June 2022. Seven woman and one man are participating in the programme.



We are very excited to announce that our new ECD Centre (Early Childhood Development Centre / crèche) opened on 19 April 2022. It took a lot of time, hard work, perseverance and support from funders, friends and volunteers to be able to open.

Chantal Damons, previously our Aftercare and Food Manager is the principal of the crèche. She finished her studies at the end of 2021 and is a qualified foundation phase teacher. She is joined by Mila Gould and Genevieve Nkewuse. We offer classes for 3-4-, 4-5- and 5-6 year olds.



We received a visit from the Violence Prevention Team of the Institute for Security Studies in February 2022. We discussed ways to continue collaboration in future.



We had the amazing opportunity to visit and learn from community-based organisation, Net vir Pret in Barrydale. They do wonderful work with the creativity in the community. A memorable event every year is their puppet show that they host on 16 December. We discussed possible collaboration and learning opportunities for both organisations in future.



Two staff members successfully completed the Health and Safety Training and two successfully completed First Aid Training.



DESPERATE HELP NEEDED

We urgently need individuals and businesses who can sponsor a child or two. The monthly contribution is R180 and it supports one child to attend our aftercare. In a very difficult funding climate after COVID 19 we must rely so much more on individuals who support our services. If you want to become involved or want to organise a get-together with family or friends to find out more about this fundraising initiative, please contact Wilmi on 0726734346

FINALLY Thank you all for being involved and for caring, especially during these difficult times. We thank you for supporting us in our efforts and helping us to grow in the process.

Wilmi and the Seven Passes Team