



Manzini Youth Care

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August to October 2007 Review

Dear Friends of Manzini Youth Care,

It's been a busy few months with lots to update you on, so this newsletter's a little longer than usual. Enjoy!

****NEW EMAIL ADDRESS****

Some of you will already be aware of the problems that we have been having with emails recently. A lot of emails in both directions have been failing to make it through our system. Because of all of the problems, we've decided to change the system, which unfortunately means we have to change our email addresses. Our new email addresses will be as follows:

Fr Larry - sdbosco@realnet.co.sz

Development Office - bosco@realnet.co.sz



Please update your records to ensure that future newsletters don't end up in your SPAM Folders!

Here's more news from Manzini...

Rehabilitating the boys

With increasing food shortages in Swaziland, and more and more families suffering the effects of HIV/AIDS, growing numbers of the boys in our care come to us after suffering severe emotional and psychological trauma. For many years now MYC have been providing food, shelter and education and we are increasingly coming to realise that this is no longer enough. The need to assist the boys to reintegrate back into Swazi society has never been more apparent. One way in which we are attempting



to do this is by providing the boys with a programme of activities designed to raise their interest in traditional Swazi culture, and to foster commitment and teamwork skills. The development of this programme has seen increasing numbers of boys joining the choir and practising traditional Swazi dancing. Both the community gardens and sports programmes have also seen a reinvigoration with boys participating with renewed interest and enthusiasm. A new library/activities room is soon to be available at Enjabulweni, where boys will be able to play board games and cards, read books or study, under the supervision of volunteers. We are also hoping to turn one of the rooms

there in to a music room. We hope that by offering more of these kind of activities to the boys we can reintroduce them to a more regular and normal kind of childhood, thereby making it easier for them to reintegrate into Swazi society as they grow up.

Funding Update

We have had a lot of good news on the Project Funding front recently, with two major new project receiving funding approval...

Youth Enterprise Services (YES) Skills Training and Sheltered Workshop Estate Programme

We have been successful in applying for a 5-year grant from the European Union to improve the quality of training offered at our skills centres, and to build up a Sheltered Workshop Programme to encourage



The Likusasa Life Skills Complex, with the Sheltered Workshops on the right, and the handcrafts training workshop on the left

the development of an entrepreneurial sector in Swaziland. The objective of improving the training will be to make our graduates' skills more relevant to the formal sector, thereby increasing their employment options. Some of the most promising graduates of the centre will then be selected to join the Sheltered Workshop Programme, where they will join 3-4 other graduates of the same trade/skill and have the opportunity to start small businesses/cooperatives. They will be able to apply for micro-finance to purchase basic tools and equipment, and will be supported with extensive and ongoing business start-up training. This is a great opportunity to begin to transform the economic climate of Swaziland by stimulating the development of an entrepreneurial sector.

Margarita Handcrafts Project

Plans are afoot to develop a new handcrafts project, focussing on sisal weaving and pottery. This project is named after the mother of Don Bosco, who was a single parent. This project will see us work with single women from the peri-urban communities around Manzini, many of whom have children supported through our Bursary scheme. These women will receive training in handcrafts production, learning to make woven sisal baskets and gift packaging for Eswatini Swazi Kitchen products amongst other things. We will provide them with the raw materials, which they will take home to weave into the finished products. They will then sell their wares to the project, and we will market them to fair trade buyers overseas. This will provide them with the means of earning a desperately needed income, enabling them to support themselves and their families, whilst working from home. The project will initially be funded by the Canadian Embassy in Pretoria and the Irish Missionary Resource Service, and we hope that it will be self-sustaining in future.

McCorkindale's Orphanage and Farm

Manzini Youth Care have offered financial and pastoral support to McCorkindale's Orphanage in an informal capacity for some years now, but have recently taken on full financial management of both the orphanage and farm. This is a big extra financial commitment for us, and we are hoping to take further steps to improve the productivity of the farm in the hope that it will one day produce enough income to fully support the orphanage.



A Friend in Need...

Many of you will know the wonderful Matsebula family, Cedric, Ncamsile and Menzi. Cedric has been the housefather at Enjabulweni for many years and is a great champion of the boys. The family have endured a lot of pain over the past year, with the loss of their eldest son, Ayanda, last year and then their youngest, Ncedo, early this year. They have recently found out that Menzi has an inherited bleeding disorder called Von Willebrand's Disease, which affects his blood's ability to clot. Whilst not considered



life threatening in the West, in Swaziland, with no Von Willebrand's specialists in country, the threat to Menzi's life is very real. Luckily, and thanks to the generosity of two former volunteers, the family have been able to visit a specialist in South Africa and have established that treatment, in the form of an injection which temporarily helps the blood to clot, is available. As an active 5 year old, Menzi frequently gets cuts and bruises, so we anticipate that he will need approximately 2 injections per month. Each injection costs around 120 Rand, bringing the treatment bill to around 2800 Rand (£200) a year. For the Matsebula family this is a huge amount of money, so we are appealing to former volunteers and friends of the family to please help us to get Menzi the treatment that he needs. The disorder is most dangerous to him while he is young, both because the blood's ability to clot improves

as one gets older, and because he is at most risk of cutting or bruising himself while playing. By donating just £10 or £20 a year, you can help to save Menzi's life. Joyce and Sandra of the UK fundraising branch of Manzini Youth Care have offered to accept donations through the Manzini Youth Care account held in the UK. We will pay for Menzi's treatment throughout the year, and they will transfer the monies raised to MYC annually, thus minimising bank charges. The bank account details are as follows:

Account Name & Number: Manzini Youth Care 89018826

Sort Code : 55-81-35 (NatWest, Woodstock)

If you do decide to set up a standing order to their account, please contact Joyce and Sandra at manziniyouthcare@googlemail.com to let them know, so that we can keep track of how much of the money going into the account is for Menzi. The Matsebula family has given so much to Manzini Youth Care, this is our chance to give something back!

Thank you for your continual support, interest and prayer. We always look forward to hearing your news, advice and well wishes. God Bless.

Fr Larry