



beautifulgate

Together Bringing Hope to Children & Families

Our mission 'We seek to care for and protect children, empower and preserve families and mobilize our community'

NUMBER

14

NEWS | April'10



Message from **The Director** **Past volunteers keep on giving!**

Over the years Beautiful Gate has had numerous dedicated volunteers serving the children of Crossroads. Looking back, each one had a special role to play – in the lives of the children, mamas and in my own life. Some stayed a few months, others for years. Some are even still with us! But all have shown me that no matter how long they stayed, they continue to love the children of Crossroads. Recently a number of past volunteers have even hosted benefit events back home to keep on giving to Beautiful Gate! To all our volunteers, past and present – South Africa, Netherlands, Brazil, USA, Namibia, Congo, Canada, Rwanda, UK, Norway and more – we thank you! We are always open to volunteers who wish to assist with specific tasks – from one week to 3 months or more! Presently we need nurses and child minders. If you'd like to be a volunteer – email support@beautifulgate.org

Vaughan Stannard

YOUTH WORKSHOP Learning the ropes through audio drama



On the 13th of March we had an Audio Drama workshop lead by a group called Cape Codes Modern Audio Drama. The purpose of the workshop was to help the teenagers and the youth to be able to create their own Soap Opera and for them to be able to write and create an on – going Audio Drama Soap Opera. They would write at least 12 – six to seven minute episodes to begin with. I encouraged them to carry on with this art form of Live Modern Audio Drama, so that the Cape Codes facilitators can help them to continue with their creativity.

We are planning to have a committed group that Anthony (Cape Codes) will facilitate from the beginning of the soap opera process, teaching the group how to create the plot and characters of their own original series. This would, in turn bring out a creativity that could serve as a job creation mechanism for the participants. They would know how to create and execute original soap opera scripts.

REUNIFICATION All about restoring broken lives

Recently we received 3 children brought by Child Welfare social workers. Fortunately, in February a couple who stays near by us at Better Life township wanted to foster one of those children. We organized them to visit him and they are now coming on Sundays to visit. God is wonderful for our kids; one of the children re-united in December was blessed because one of our old friends, a volunteer from USA helped him with school needs. The child was very happy about that because his mother is not working. We really appreciate our ex-staff and volunteers for their continued support even though they are no longer with us.



BG STADIUM FOR 2010

Woza world cup!



During the first term Kwa-Faku Primary school used our sports field for athletics training for their children. It is great to share this wonderful resource with the local schools!

Every weekend 14 community soccer teams play in a league against each other at Beautiful Gate. At the end of March the top four teams will be selected and play against each other in a special tournament! The tournament will be from the 6th to the 8th of April with the final on Saturday the 10th.

THIEVES SCARE ON OUR SITE

An appeal for financial and moral support

For the first time in 5 years thieves broke into our site three times in the month of February. The first time they ran away once the children discovered them before they stole anything. Later they broke into two cottages and admin block stealing some household goods, car keys and a laptop.

We reported all cases to the police who are still investigating. That same week we called for a neighborhood meeting and met the local councilor where we highlighted this problem and discussed how we can work together with community to combat crime. We aim to put extra security measures like burglar bars in all windows to prevent further thefts. ***We need R500 per window – if you are able to sponsor a window please get in touch!***

PARTY TIME!

“We like jumping castles for sure”....



On the last day of the school term, we hosted a Clinic party for kids in the crisis centre and those who are receiving HIV treatment via our partnership with the Crossroads 2 Clinic.

We estimated that about 400 kids would attend the party although not all of them came. They were treated to various games, jumping castles and given a party pack consisting of juice, sweets, and of course – toothpaste and toothbrushes! One boy Vuyo was so excited about the party and had this to say” *I came very early met lots of friends and played games....we wish we can have this party every school holiday’*

FAMILY SUPPORT PROGRAMME

Successful applications for grants.....

Every week we are assisting families to get grants and ID’s. We encourage them to look ahead, start small businesses like selling sweets or chips and try to keep their families together.



It helps to be connected to other organizations, where we can refer clients if we cannot assist them. Most of them come and thank us for helping them to get their support grants after trying for a long time. In some cases they come from as far as their villages in the Eastern Cape. One of the challenges that we have is in the Philippi area where a number of shacks were burnt down by fire. It adds more work for us but we are grateful that we can help where we can.

Would you like to help a child? Kindly join our Sponsor A Child programme for a minimum monthly donation of R120/ £15/€20/\$25 or more. Contact us on : +27 (0)21 370 2524. Email sponsorachild@beautifulgate.org

TEAM BEAUTIFUL GATE IN CIRCLE TOUR The biggest cycling event on the continent



They did it! Riding 110km with over 30,000 riders, Vaughan (our director) and Lizo (our driver) rode in Africa's biggest mass participation cycling event - the Pick n Pay Cape Argus Cycle Tour on 14 March 2010. They rubbed shoulders with great cyclists like Lance Armstrong and Malcolm Lange (albeit from afar!) participating in this Cape Town event to raise funds for needy children in our community. They were joined by 4 Tullow Oil riders and raised over R20,000 to support vulnerable children in Philippi and Crossroads through Beautiful Gate.

Lizo recalled ` *I was so tired with 30km to go that I almost gave up but when I saw a big sign – saying WELL DONE, I hung on to my dear bike and treaded on to the finish line’* Vaughan was ecstatic and said that although the race was difficult they had fun. We surely salute all the cyclists - old and young who sweated for a worthy cause! If you’d like to be a Beautiful Gate Rider next year, please email vaughans@beautifulgate.org

Beautiful Gate is a non-denominational Christian organisation that demonstrates the love of God by helping all those in need, no matter what their background or faith.

Beautiful Gate South Africa

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