



# Philadelphia

Foundation for Orphans in Distress

*“...See, I have placed before you an open door that no one can shut...”  
(Rev. 3:7-8)*

## ANNUAL REPORT

2014 / 2015



## **From the Management**

*The Philadelphia Foundation has been working in Grootfontein for 3 years now. This year was a good year in which programs were established solidly, relationship could be built stronger and our capacity increased with Lisette van Steijn being added to our team.*

*We are grateful to our Heavenly Father for providing us with the necessary funds and capacity to serve the community in and around Grootfontein.*

*A warm thank you to our loyal sponsors as well as to our sister organization in the Netherlands who tirelessly works on generating funds so that we can continue our God given projects.*

***Ellen van den Berg***  
***Program Manager***



## PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES

The Philadelphia Foundation for Orphans was established in 2004 and is working with orphans and vulnerable children. Our main aim is to improve the quality of life of orphans and vulnerable children within their communities. The aim and objectives are practically implemented by providing material support as well as training and income-generating projects through which capacity is increased and poverty reduced. Through child evangelism clubs the gospel of our Lord, Jesus Christ is shared with the children, as to offer them an eternal future.

Several projects are running to implement the objectives that were set to reach this aim. This report will highlight the main activities.

### EDUCATION SUPPORT



In the beginning of each school year children receive a list from their schools with **stationery** and school supplies they need to bring. If a child does not bring this, he won't be able to keep up with the others because he can't join in with all the activities. That is why Philadelphia assisted children from the

"Philadelphia kidsclub" with school materials this year. The grade 1 to 3 classes of Omulunga Primary school also received materials which were distributed to the teachers of those classes. The different preschools we work with were also assisted with the necessary materials for the year to come. In 2013 Philadelphia received a container from the Netherlands and a lot of toys and other useful materials that were still in the container were given to preschools as well. In this way every preschool received a full box of materials to use in their schools.



In July of this year Philadelphia organized an **activity week** at the Omulunga Primary School. There are 1036 pupils in this school, and most of those children live in the Omulunga squatter camp called “Blikkiesdorp”. That specific week we had help of a group of volunteers, mostly coming from the Netherlands. In every class we shared the gospel, did a craft project and played games. It was a week of fun and laughter for all the children and for us as well.



We also made a start with several **support groups** at the Omulunga Primary school. These groups started at the beginning of the new school year – January 2015. One group consisted of children that are orphans. The aim of this group was to give the children positive attention and the opportunity to discuss their situation at home. Where necessary Philadelphia also supported them with material assistance.

The other groups were children showing behavioral difficulties in the classroom. The aim with these groups was to work at emotion regulation, discuss their situation at home and developing their identity.



## WE CARE

In winter the nights can become quite cold in Namibia, especially when you have to sleep on the floor in a shack. That is why Philadelphia organizes a **blanket action** every year. Just before winter starts we select a group of children that will receive a blanket. This year we handed out blankets to all the pre-primary and grade 1 classes of the Omulunga Primary school. Over 270 children got a warm blanket and were able to sleep warm this winter.



This year we continued the **soup kitchen project** at the two primary schools we work with: Merciful Kindergarten and San Pre-school. This means that a total of about 120 children received a nutritious meal every school day. We provided them with maize meal, soup, milk, sugar, oil, and sometimes supplemented with pasta and beans.

The local abattoir still provides the bones that Philadelphia can distribute to the needy people and our soup kitchens. It is still highly valued by all who are receiving them and gives them the opportunity to have a bit more variety in their meals.





In our **Family Care program** we have been supporting several families in need. One of these families, a father named Bonifasius about which we spoke in previous reports, and his family received a new roof on their home of corrugated iron. The old roof was leaking and in a very bad state. With the help of supporters we could provide them with new corrugated iron sheets and planks just before the rain season started.

Because we had a lot of clothes available from the container we received last year we could hand out clothes to several children we either met in Blikkiesdorp, or in the hospital. And this year Philadelphia did an outreach to Bushmanland, to give clothes to children living in Mangetti Duin and surrounding villages, as these families are living in very poor conditions and have no funds or shops to buy clothes for the children.

In May of this year Lisette's father, a retired optometrist, visited Namibia again. As we received a good amount of second hand spectacles we could do another **spectacle-action** where we tested and fitted several people who were struggling to see properly with second-hand glasses. How wonderful it was to see the excitement on the faces of people who could all of the sudden see clearly.



## **SKILLS DEVELOPMENT**

This year we started with our **bottle project**. The shacks in Blikkiesdorp often don't have windows, which makes them very dark on the inside. Someone in middle Africa came up with the idea to place a 2L bottle filled with water and bleach inside the roof. This lights up those dark houses. We found this method on the internet and decided to train a local person to make and install these bottle lights, so that he can make a living for himself out of this. With the help of a volunteer from the Netherlands the project was started. Some bottles were installed and the person that was trained, was provided with all the materials and tools he needed. Unfortunately he decided not to continue doing this.

We continued working with the six **preschool** teachers. We went to another training with them in Okahandja from AMOS Meerkat Schools, which also provided them with all the teaching materials they need to teach for an entire year. By doing class visits, observing them, and checking with them how they are doing, we helped them to implement the program they have been taught.



The **Perivoli training** that was initiated last year was almost brought to completion in this year. Due to some cancellations because of heavy rainfall on training days, the training took a little longer than planned. Twice a month the group met. One time to teach them a new module, the other time in a support meeting to discuss how they implemented that module into their classrooms and to learn from each other's experiences.



## **EVANGELISM**

Through child evangelism clubs the gospel of our Lord, Jesus Christ is shared with children. Last year we were able to split the **kidsclub** in two groups, because of the growing amount of children that attended the group. One group consists of children from grade 3 and up, and the other group for all the younger children. Every week we had kidsclub with a total of more than 120 children.

As the kidsclubs kept on growing we moved to another space. The youngest children moved to the shelter of the San pre-school and with the older children we moved to a church in Omulunga. This was a wonderful change as being in a building helps the children to focus more and because we had electricity available, it gave us new opportunities to use in our teaching methods.

We also started with a **discipleship group** with nine teenagers who attended the kidsclubs for a number of years and were ready for more in depth training. This gave us the opportunity to help them grow into a closer relationship with Jesus Christ.



The **hospital program** continued this year where we visited the children's ward every Thursday. We prayed for the children and their parents, gave them a soft toy, something to eat and some clothes when necessary.



In November we had a **Christmas celebration** at an old run-down house near the rail track. There are people living there who have no other place to go. Some stay for a long time, others just pass through. The living conditions are horrible. There is no water, the windows are out and the walls are black from all the indoor fires made there. At the time we came there, there were about 10 adults and 12 children. We told them the

story of Christmas, prayed with them, provided them food, clothes and presents. And as the most of them were San people, we had the opportunity to give them an MP3 player we received from another project with the bible in their own language on it. Wonderful to see the amazement on their faces when they listened to this!

## **PERMACULTURE**

In order to provide families with a supply of fresh vegetables to add to their meals, we are running a permaculture project. Last year we made tyre gardens at the homes of our kidsclub children. This year we let them clean the tyres and then went to their houses to check if the tyres were still containing enough soil. We topped them up with manure and compost and assisted them in sowing seed for beans, tomatoes and spinach before the start of the rainy season.



We also assisted the San group that received a large tyre garden last year at one of the preschools, so they could use the vegetables for the soup kitchen.



## Contact details

If you would like to have more information after reading this report, please contact us:

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