



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

2019/2020



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

At the start of each school year the schools hand out lists per grade of what is necessary for children to buy. Materials like books, school uniforms, and stationery make all together quite an amount. That is why Philadelphia tries to support them where possible, so they will have a chance at good education. For the year 2019 we gave school materials to the youth club in the second term of the school year. We asked them to make a list of 5 things that they still needed for that school year. Philadelphia made a selection of what they could buy of those lists for a certain amount. In the beginning of 2020 we supported them again by giving each teenager some books and stationery.



We care

Blankets

In the winter it gets quite cold in Namibia, especially during the nights. That is why Philadelphia has an annual blanket action, just before winter starts. This year we gave blankets to the teenagers of the youthclub and to the streetkids.

Soup kitchens

This year we still continued with the three soup kitchens that we support at the preschools. And later in the year we added one new soup kitchen. At one of the preschools we already worked with, the teacher invited ten children from vulnerable families that could come to her school for free. Philadelphia supported her in this by supplying food for a soup kitchen, so that those children could also have one meal

during school. We provided all the four schools with maize meal, soup, milk powder, sugar, and sometimes pasta while they took care of the cooking.



Bones

During this year we also received bones of the local abattoir. Not as regular as usual, but still much appreciated by the families and soup kitchens.

Family support

Just before winter started, we did several rounds of handing out clothes. We received clothes from the Netherlands again as well as from Namibia. We asked all the preschool teachers to make a list of children that were in need of an extra set of clothes, and also other people who live in the community made lists for us. In this way, we could hand out clothes to a large group of children this year.



Skills development

Preschools

Every three weeks a meeting was held with the teachers of the preschools we are involved with, to prepare for the next theme. During those meetings we not only prepare, but also take time to talk about how it is going at the schools and in the personal lives of the teachers. We encourage and pray for each other.

The teachers from Bushmanland came to Grootfontein only once this year, due to circumstances at the organization that arranges these meetings. We had a good time in which the teachers could practice a lot and in that way learn from each other.



Street kids

We continued with our group of boys that roam the streets, meeting with them twice a week. Every Tuesday we focused on reading abilities. Some of them could not read at all, others had some knowledge of letters. But slowly but surely, we could see them making progress. For a couple of weeks there was a volunteer from Germany, who did some nice games with the boys. They enjoyed that very much. On Thursday's we did needlework, to teach them a skill that doesn't necessarily require much equipment.

We started with simple projects as making a key holder from felt, and later on they made a pencil case with lining. After that we introduced the sewing machines, so they could also learn to work on machines.



Evangelism

Youth club

The youth club continued with weekly meetings with a group of about 35 teenagers. This year we tried to focus more on doing outreaches and a good way to practice that is presenting the kids club, with the little kids. So a couple of times during youth club we together prepared a lesson for the kids club. Some of the teenagers would lead the singing, some would do the bible story with a short play, and some would do the praying and memory verse. It was great to see how they grew into this, first being shy and not knowing what to do, but later on they became more confident.



Our Christmas celebration fitted in this theme of doing outreaches. We prepared a Christmas play with songs and went to perform this at three different places in town. After the play the youth would share the gospel with all the spectators individually by handing them a bracelet with the colors representing the gospel, explaining this to them, and praying with them. It was wonderful!

As in previous years, a group of the youth club went to camp Good News from CEF in the August holiday. Philadelphia could support them again by paying part of the camp fees, giving toiletries and assisting them with the transport to the camp location. They had a wonderful time, learning more about God and how to share the gospel.

Hostel

We continued this year with our bible study at the hostel. We went through the lessons of the Alpha Course, covering topics as: who is Jesus, why did He die on a cross, who is the Holy Spirit, prayer and reading the Bible.