



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

2016 / 2017



From the Management

This year was a challenging year. As a result of health difficulties, the human capacity of the Philadelphia Foundation decreased. However, by the Grace of the Almighty God, the project components continued and most of the activities of the Foundation could continue as normal. We are tremendously grateful for that. We want to thank everyone who carried us in their prayers, financially and by any means of support throughout this year.

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

This year, it came to our attention that there were quite some children at the Omulunga Primary school who struggled with reading. Therefore we decided to start with small **reading groups** with children from grade 6 and 7 as to prepare them for secondary education. Every week we met in groups of about 8 children and we practiced the sounds, did word games and read easy stories together to help them improve on their reading skills.



At the beginning of the 2017 school year we provided the children of the youthclub the



basic **stationery**. We also had them draw up a list of the things they needed most for school. An amount per child was allocated and we could buy for each child what he/she needed most. This could for example be a school bag, a shirt or a calculator. A lot of happy faces was the result. Thanks to all our sponsors!

WE CARE

Every year just before winter starts Philadelphia has a **blanket action**: we hand out blankets to a certain group of children, to make sure that they can sleep warm. This year the blankets were given to almost 400 children of grade 1, 2 and 7 of the Omulunga Primary School.



The last couple of years we had **soup kitchens** at two preschools we work with. This year one soup kitchen was added, also at a preschool. We learned about this preschool, because the principal worked with us at the Omulunga Primary school. She told us about a family nearby her school that was really suffering. After visiting this family at home it came to light that a number of children from that family attended this preschool and were really in need of food supplementation. When visiting the pre-school there were more children in need of food and we suggested to start with a soup kitchen at this school. In this way we could help this specific family and many others at the same time. This pre-school has about 40 children. Our three soup kitchens provide a meal for about 160 children on a daily basis.



The distribution of **bones** received twice weekly from the local abattoir continued this year. Needy people and our soup kitchens benefit from this extra nutrition. The drought



has caused hunger among many people, so the bones were always highly appreciated by the people we brought them to.

The family mentioned before at the soup kitchen section was added to our **family support program**. We went for a home visit to assess the needs of this large extended family. We learned that there were 8 adults and 14 children (including 2 babies) living in this small house. Only one of the adults had a job and grandma received her pension once a month, which is just enough for one person to barely survive in a squatter camp. A 12 year old girl in this family committed suicide, so trauma also struck this family. We were able to assist them with necessary clothes for all the children and on a regular basis we provided some food and bones.



SKILLS DEVELOPMENT

The **preschools** we worked with over the years needed less attention, as they received adequate training to use the program in their schools. Unfortunately one teacher dropped out of the program. There was an enrichment training organized by AMOS Meerkat Schools in Grootfontein. Some extra material was introduced: character training and they learned how to deal with trauma.



The pre-school teachers from Bushmanland came to Grootfontein again in April, August and November for the training weeks to prepare for every school term.

EVANGELISM

The “**kidsclubs**” for child evangelism continued this year with groups for children and teenagers. There was a group for young children from grade 2 and younger. The second group was the youth club we started last year. In the youth club we focused this year more and more on who God is. All year we had lessons about God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit. When a child attended ten lessons he received a bible.



Twenty teenagers of the youth club had the opportunity to go to the **Child Evangelism camp** this year. During this week children are involved in fun activities, learn new skills and can make new friends, all with the focus on learning more about God. It was a privilege to be able to give each of these children a pair of clothes and toiletries to bring to camp.

In the beginning of the year 2017 we started a new **outreach club** for the teenagers who attended most of the lessons in 2016. The goal of that group was to teach them to live out their faith in a practical way.

Every Thursday we visited the **state hospital** of Grootfontein. We prayed for the children and their parents at the children's ward. We sang songs with them, gave them something to eat and read them a bible story. This year one little boy was admitted for a long period of time due to tuberculosis. When a child stays this long, we are able to build a relationship with the child and take him on outings like the yearly agricultural show. It is a day to remember for a child like this to get away from the hospital and receive special one on one attention.



PERMACULTURE

In order to provide families with a supply of fresh vegetables to add to their meals, we are running a permaculture project. This year we were not able to follow up on the tyre gardens, due to internal difficulties. We are planning on taking this up again next year. A number of children who received the training in planting seeds continued with their little garden and proudly told us about the things growing in their tyres.

Contact details

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

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