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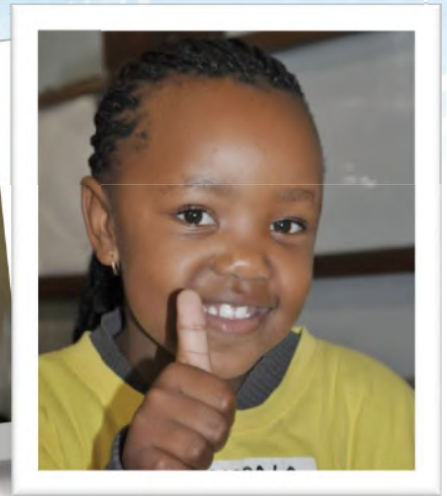
The Quarterly
Teboho Trust

NEWSLETTER

The Winters are Getting Colder and Coming Sooner

This winter came earlier this year and the rains made it challenging to host outdoor sports and recreational activities for the children. In spite of the weather, Teboho Trust continues to empower our children and inspire them to reach for the stars. The children continue to show up and cheerful faces and eager eyes to learn more, have fun and feast on a hot meal.

If you have extra blankets, winter wear for children and teens, please contact us to organize providing them to the children and teens. Let's keep them warm this winter!



Project To Keep Children Warm this Winter

Many families bear the winter cold each year. It seems that our winters are getting much colder. Notabene contacted Teboho Trust to participate in a winter scarf drive to keep 10,000 disadvantages children across the country warm this winter. The project was a “win/win” as the company provided the knitting materials to community groups and paid them to produce the scarves.

Come Celebrate 10 Years of Teboho Trust

Teboho Trust turned 10 years old this year. The community is organising a formal dinner to celebrate the achievements of the children and organization in November. Many from the community are grateful to Teboho Trust. Hope has been restored by the achievements of the many young people that have come through the Teboho Trust doors. Be a part of it!



Keeping our Children Warm... cont.

In winter, most of us don't have to fight the icy cold against your skin and battle the pain of hunger that goes through the entire body. Most of us will not be faced with these challenges but many others will once again have to face the harsh weather without a solid roof over their heads, without a snug coat against the frosty wind and with no food to provide nourishment and warmth.

The team of 60 people from the community, mostly grannies, proved to be angels. On the 13th of April 2011 Teboho Trust was approached by Notabene to knit handmade scarves for disadvantaged children in poor communities across South Africa this winter. The Teboho Trust team knitted over 750 red and yellow scarves. The Teboho Trust with its unique model managed to engage other community groups around Soweto to make the project a successful one. Teboho Trust has a good relationship with community enterprises, local government and community leaders around Soweto. The people who participated in the project were mostly our parents, guardians and caregivers of our children. We are grateful to the dedication and hard work of our staff to ensure that the project ran smoothly and that our community was empowered economically. Specifically we want to thank Ms. Zenzi Buhale and Ms. Thulisile Rampeba for their hard work and commitment to uplifting our parents, guardians and caregivers.

Granny Thembi Mjiakho said, "sharing one's knowledge and skills develops mutual respect and understanding of various peoples. These pioneering women were amazed at their talents. They did not believe in themselves, or expect much from life. Through their endeavours, they realized that they could make a difference in their lives and the lives of disadvantaged children across South Africa. They are now more empowered and are looking for other projects to work on. Thank you Mr. Bright for making this opportunity possible for us to help ourselves with hard work, dedication and beautiful results from our efforts.

Oros Visits Our Saturday Academy

A fun day was held at Teboho Trust Saturday Academy on the 21 May 2011. The learners celebrated the day in township style as they gathered at the playground for an entertaining break. It was cold but the weather did not stop our children from having lots of fun. It was organised by our partner – University of Johannesburg and the Brooks Company of Oros. It was a time for our children and young teens to socialize a bit. Dancing was one of the activities that was highly contagious as our visitors showcased their talents in different styles of dancing (e.g., hip hop dance, crumping, break dancing and township dance - routine, kwasa-kwasa and pantsula). The grade 1 – 4 learners had lots of fun because they have seen the Oros mascot and they received balloons. They had a chance to drink different fizzy drinks and other new flavoured Oros drinks (e.g., fruit cocktails, cream soda).



The DJ hot things up with rhythmic sounds and all were moving to the beat. Shortly there after, a dance competition started. Later our children screamed for Mr. Bright to share his old school moves on the dance floor. All enjoyed the break and it was hard for them to return back to the classes. This was a fulfilling and educational break. Thank you very much to Ms. Zama from Oros for making this day memorable and special to the learners of Teboho Trust, they won't forget this experience.

Take a Girl Child to Work – the Cell C Campaign

On 26 May, four Teboho Trust teenage girls were selected to participate in the Cell C Take a Girl Child to Work Day. The aim of this project is to introduce teenage girls to the diverse area of careers and career paths out there. The four teenaged girls participated by following professionals at Cummins Company, an engineering company based in the Woodmead area.

This day was filled with smiles, laughter and tears. Every teen had an interesting background to tell and every mentor had laughter to share. These eighteen (18) teens had to be divided into different groups depending on what career they want to pursue, namely - Law, H.R, Business Management and I.T. Each and every girl had to participate in each and every activity that was given. Gifts, certificates and other things were given to make the girls feel more than welcome. We thank the Cummins staff for having Teboho Trust teens and giving them a warm welcome. Specifically want to thank Schuylla Goodson-Bell for making it all happen. We also like to extend our gratitude to Ms. Nombulelo Mondlane who organized such an amazing day that our teenage girls will not forget!

Lesedi Mothlabya, one of the teenagers who participated in the project shares her experiences:



“The experience was fascinating and self-building! The aim was to educate us girls about the workplace, how one should behave when on duty, the dress code and differentiating between personal and professional realities. However, the day was not only about work, it was also about obtaining life skills from the young and beautiful professional women. These empowered young women spoke of troublesome things that usually happen to our everyday lives and therefore, gave us strategies, techniques and tools in avoiding such pitfalls. The Cummin’s ladies were thrilled to tell us that the science sector is no longer 90% male dominated.

I felt the feeling of satisfaction in being part of the programme. I am more than proud to say that on that day, I was not only shown the workplace and it’s people, but was truly inspired.

Thank you Teboho Trust for yet another amazing experience!”

Soccer Tournament Rained Out

On the 16th of April 2011 the Cub Scouts from the American International School in Johannesburg (AISJ) planned a soccer tournament with the Teboho Trust boys. All were looking forward to this day because parents, guardians and caregivers were invited to be part of the event. Unfortunately, the rainy weather disappointed us and we had to come up with plan B. We quickly organized an indoor fun day where the children played games and held competitions inside the hall. The parents and teachers from AISJ brought cold drinks, snacks, sweets and fruits. Teboho Trust staff brought hotdogs and burgers. Over 250 participated in the day's fun. In the morning, the children had the visitors read short stories to them. The children also shared songs and dances from their respective communities. The AISJ Cub Scouts briefed the Teboho Trust learners about their organisation. Games that were played were egg relay, three-legged race, and indoor soccer. AISJ and Cub Scouts donated to Teboho Trust soccer uniform and soccer poles. We thank the AISJ family for the love they have shown to our children. A big thanks to the Manager of the Maponya Mall McDonalds for donating juice. The sad part came when the children all had to part ways- 'Goodbyes are never easy'. Our parents and caregivers also enjoyed themselves and interacted with their children, educationally. We thank all the parents, guardian and caregivers that participated in this event and making this day a successful one. We also like to thank the AISJ learners for spending the day with the learners of Teboho Trust and making it a fruitful one. Thank you Tiffany for organising the fun activities!



Fundraising for Teboho Trust Home

The Parent Guardian Advisory



Board (PGAB) of Teboho Trust initiated a novel way of raising funds for a permanent home for Teboho Trust. They held a lunch at the fun day for the children on 16 April at Power Park, Orlando East - Soweto. Tickets were sold in order for the parents, guardians, caregivers and supporters to receive a home cooked lunch and support the children in their fun activities. The programme started at 10h00 and ended at 16h00. The parents, guardians and caregivers had their special seating area that was beautifully decorated. They raised the first funds to go into the capital campaign fund account to build a home in the community to house Teboho Trust. We could not have done this without the hard work and support of our PGAB

and community. It is true, it take a village to raise a child. We are happy at Teboho Trust to know that our village has initiated this important milestone in the 10-year history of the organization.

Elders Execute Wills

On the 5th of April 2011, Teboho Trust and ProBono.Org held the second imbizo (workshop) at Meadowlands – Soweto. It was the finalisation, printing and signing of wills. The lawyers reviewed the draft wills and some amendments were made by our elders. A representative from the Courts attended and provided an informative talk on what happens in court when someone dies with and without a will. Our elders were able to ask questions to ensure that they understood what would happen after their death. Many were relieved that their grand and great grandchildren would be provided for after their death. We in the community have witnessed upon the death of a granny, guardian or caregiver our children would become orphan and homeless. Thank you ProBono.Org and the many attorneys that volunteered to draft the wills for making this all possible. We look forward to jointly hosting another workshop to assist more of our elders in executing wills. Many of our elders expressed gratitude and relief that their small ones would be taken care of after their death.

Teboho Trust Netball Team Participates in Funky Cup In Polokwane, Limpopo



From the 28th of April to the 1st of May April 2011 marked a time of discovery and fun for ten young Teboho Trust girls and the organisation itself. These young girls were chosen to attend the Funky Cup and participate in the netball tournament. It took five hours to arrive at the tournament. Yet, the road trip was filled with triumphant screaming, songs and excitement to get to the destination. When the girls got there they had to focus and remember their purpose for the trip – to compete and have fun. At the same time, they saw that the rural areas were more challenging for their peers in that they walked great distances, had to fetch water and lacked social and recreational activities there. The girls met the local leadership including the Ward Councilor and the Mayor.

On the Second day-they received their blue and yellow netball kit and followed the rest of the crowd around the community. They next played their first game against the under 19s and were told that in order for them to qualify for the next round, they would have to place in the top two of their respective log. Games begin, whistle started blowing and all the girls were nervous. Yet they were overwhelmed when their first score was a lucky draw of (9-9). The 2nd and 3rd games blew everyone by surprise when they victoriously won both their games with 12-2 and 10-0 making them Number one on their log. On the third day, although they lost 16-10 and 9-8, they won in spirit as they were the only under 13s in the tournament and came fourth over all. They played with all their hearts and carried themselves like

Scientist Conducts Workshops at Teboho Trust



Dr. Nocoleta Dragomir from the School of Biomedical & Health Sciences at Victoria University in Australia held several workshops to inspire our teens to consider careers in science. Specifically, she focused on optics and light in technology. Our teens were truly inspired and grateful for the experiences! Thank



Morehouse Men Empower Teboho Trust Community

Mud and Straw Saves Lives



The Morehouse men came to visit Teboho Trust to empower our community on the need for a safe and eco-friendly alternative-cooking tool. Dr. Hassan Crockett and several students were trained on making fuel efficient and smokeless cooking stoves from mud and straw. They passed this technology on to our caregivers, learners and community. We learned that open-flame cooking contributes to deforestation, severe injuries, air pollution and family resource depletion. When our girls go to collect wood, they are subjected to snake bites, rape and other atrocities. Also, the current open flame cooking tools lead to respiratory related diseases. Stoves that use paraffin are also harmful to the health of our families. We were taught to make these cooking stoves ourselves. All you need is lubricator, 20 liter bucket; 900g size can is empty, PVC sewage pipe for measurements and a metal sheet cut to a T shape to start the fire on, to name a few. Thank you Jonathan Moore and team!

Educating Our Children



The Morehouse Students from the Leadership Academy at the university came to volunteer and empower our children and adolescents at the Saturday Academy. They tutored our children in academic subjects, facilitated life skills sessions with our teens and participated in recreational activities. The Morehouse men were impressed that our children and teens would give up their Saturdays to attend extra classes. Our children were happy to see young men that are realizing their dreams and freely gave their time and talents to us.

Our teen boys in particular were impressed and inspired.

We look forward to more interaction with the Morehouse Men. Professors from Spelman were also part of the visit. They too were impressed and we're hopeful to develop a relationship with them too.

Career Guidance

Over the month of May, Dr. Karina de Bruin from the Faculty of Psychology at the University of Johannesburg conducted workshops on career choices for 33 of our grade 9 learners. The aim of the workshops was to help our teens choose the subjects they will want to do when they reach grade 10, as they will have to make those choices soon.

All Grade 9 learners in public schools across South Africa will have to choose Grade 10 subjects that will determine their choices for tertiary studies. Specifically, they must choose between the following tracks: Maths and Science; Commerce; or General Studies.

If they choose maths and science, they can study anything at university. If they choose commerce, they are limited to tertiary studies that will lead to career paths in commerce. Finally, if they choose general studies, they can be limited to tertiary studies in the humanities. What compounds this life changing choice is that many Grade 9 learners lack an awareness of their aptitude toward certain career paths as well as awareness of such diverse career paths available today. The workshops were a wake up call to our young people that they needed to focus on such big issues as career paths and subject choices. They all realized that they needed to find career paths that are of interest to them and where they also have the skills to do rather than just focusing on those they think will bring in large salaries.

The workshops provided our Grade 9 learners with self-knowledge and an overview of different career paths. They also focused on tertiary studies required for the diverse professions. The workshops also focused our Grade 9 learners to take responsibility for their choices in subjects that will lead to career paths they desire. Our learners were very interested in the workshops and asked many serious questions. Dr. Karina left them with the following: “Choose your path to walk and choose it well. Take responsibility for your own actions. Learn that your quality of life depends on your choices. Believe in yourself and follow your dreams with fierce determination.

Singer Larry Joe Speaks to Teboho Trust

Larry Joe was incarcerated for five years in the Western Cape for house robbery. During his life before prison, he made many wrong choices; a gangster, drug addict and fugitive. While in prison, he played the guitar and would create music. In prison his music became popular with the inmates. A producer discovered him and upon his recent discharge from prison he released a CD that he recorded behind bars. During a trip to Johannesburg, we got a chance to meet him and his team during the filming of his own music video project. Larry is a very down to earth person who is very wise and full of energy. He came and spoke to the learners about making right and wrong choices in life and how music saved him from a very destructive path. His music is based on his emotions and personal experiences. He told our children and teens that, “with self belief and perseverance you can reach your full potential”. He truly inspired us all and we could relate to the lyrics of his music.



Teboho Trust Commemorates 16 June 1976

Teboho Trust celebrated National Youth Day (16 June 2011) on Saturday afternoon on the 18 June 2011. Our children, staff and volunteers were requested to wear a school uniform to commemorate what happened on 16 June 1976 here in Soweto.

As our day started, the children assembled at the hall where they prayed, sang their anthem and said their pledge of allegiance. They went to their academic tutorials. In the afternoon, they held a short performance where they re-enacted what happened on 16 June 35 years ago. They chanted, toyed, sang liberation songs and gave speeches. It was chilling to see our children do this as many of the parents, caregivers and elders remember that day vividly. We all joined in on the singing. The

cold blooded shooting of innocent people fighting against Afrikaans being the medium of instruction in schools was re-enacted by our children in a skit they performed. Our learner governing body did their research and motivated many of our children to participate in the performances with a goal of educating our children and reminding them of their responsibility to get a good education. At the same time, it was to say thank you to the parents/caregivers/adults that were students 35 years ago in our community for being brave enough to fight for our freedom from oppression. Mom Sellina, Mom Zenzi and other parents enjoyed remembering that day there were students who were there and shared their experiences. It was very emotional. Thank you to everyone who made the day special.

Parent/Guardian Meeting



On the 18th of June 2011, a Parents/Guardian meeting was at 12noon and ended at 2 pm. Over 200 were in attendance. Ma Zenzi Buhale chaired the meeting and welcomed all parents, guardians, and caregivers (grannies). The main objective of the meeting was to report back on the progress on getting a permanent home for Teboho Trust. The following issues were addressed during the meeting, fundraising for Teboho Trust 10th year anniversary and raising funds to build the home for Teboho Trust. Our adults committed themselves to volunteer more at Teboho Trust. Many were anxious to see Teboho Trust find a permanent home.

Wits Volunteer Facilitator Shares Insights

In order for one to be fully geared and prepared to face the world and even become a good future leader, it is pivotal that he/she, at all times, is in touch with reality and not alienate self with the harshness that reality often presents. I say this because often we overlook the fine distinction between a *leader* and a *ruler*. In my view a *ruler* is a one who always strives to further his own ambitions of power, disregarding people's views. While a *leader*, I believe, is one who rises with the people, always ready to give a hand, an ear, interacts and allows criticism from others.

I am a maths tutor in the Trust where I teach grades 11 and 12; it was only recently that I also got an opportunity to take students for life skills too. Believe it or not the latter is much more difficult compared with maths or any other learning areas, predominantly because the teacher and students are on equal footing. There is no dominant over the other. In the three weeks that I spent with the students in the life skills sessions, we discussed the anxieties affiliated with life which tend to overwhelm a person thus degrading their pride and culminating in one having a very low self esteem. How to overcome such anxieties and maintain your pride, but most importantly the reciprocal nature of respect i.e. you receive the same respect you give to other people.

Motivated by the spirit of developing future leaders and the age group of the students, together with the Miriam Guichard, a colleague of mine from the US, we saw it proper to tackle those issues as far as they are connected with the stage of puberty. Indeed everyone related to the topic and thus we discussed issues related with approaching a girl in a respectful manner and a reciprocal respectful response from the girl. At first most students carried this myopic and untrue perception that courage is something instilled on a few individuals, but through interaction with them it became

apparent to me that courage is just a well concealed fear. 'Think about it, if everyone has a weakness somehow then why is it difficult to see that weakness in some people? It is because they have concealed it very well, exposing to the world only their pride?.'

The reason why I affiliate this programme with the importance of leadership is because I am of the view that leadership, at one stage, has little to do with an individual but rather an integrated atmosphere of tolerance, respect and love of people. Which is chiefly what I understand life skills to entail. Imagine if everyone were to grow up with such a mentality, all the negatives of life such as teenage pregnancy, diseases, school dropouts etc. could be avoided and children would learn to firstly perceive themselves as leaders of their own destiny before looking up to any other role model that will inevitably make mistakes thus adding an even greater confusion to their (children) lives. I have no doubt in my mind that through these sessions adolescents thus possess a different perspective of life and will definitely become good future leaders and inspirational individuals in life. I can thus not extend enough gratitude to the opportunity Teboho Trust as availed us university students and I hope it continues even in the years to come.

Nkosinathi Sithole, Wits University Student

From our Parent/Guardian Advisory Board

Pearls of Wisdom by Ms. Zenzi Buhale



Everybody needs somebody! Even though baboons are fierce fighters, they still live in troops because they understand that they need the support of other baboons in order to survive and thrive. There is an old African proverb that says “Motho Ke Motho, ka batho”, this piece of wisdom means that you are only a person through other people. We sometimes forget this, and from time to time we think that we can do it all alone, that we are self-reliant, but we are not. Bear in mind where you come from and remember those nearest to you who made sacrifices to make today possible. Share your troubles with someone else and they will be halved. Share your blessing with another, and they will be doubled. When you are alone you become like a stone. Learners, parents, friends and family of Teboho Trust let us work together to take the Trust to another level. To leave a footprint in the sand of time, you have to keep moving forward. Our challenges are many, but together we can overcome them all. We need you all to work hard with us to achieve this huge thing we have been called to do. Love to you all. Thank you.

Special Acknowledgement to Lawrence Cole-Morgan



We are always grateful to the many volunteers that come to empower our children and adults as well as build our organization and community. Their spirit of volunteerism ignites us all. Some are very humble and give so much to us all behind the scenes. Though many don't seek recognition for their good deeds, we feel remiss if we don't just share how special some people are in giving selflessly to building our children, caregivers, organization and community. Thus, we want to thank Lawrence Cole-Morgan from Standard Bank; Corporate & Investment Banking. He has galvanized 20 volunteers from Standard Bank to facilitate our English, maths other academic classes on Saturdays. Most work with our grades 4-12 and bring so much encouragement to our children. Our children are showing better academic performance in their subjects in their respective schools and we know that the sacrifices made by the volunteers is not in vain. Thank you Lawrence!

From the Executive Director



This quarter continues to bring such challenge, but more joy when we witness the progress of our children and the number of volunteers as well as supporters that continue to increase to experience the eagerness of the children to better their lives through education.

I'm often asked why for the last ten years, I commit my Saturdays to be at the Teboho Trust Saturday Academy, even though the staff tells me that I really don't have to as we have sufficient support.

I look forward to Saturdays. Saturdays are committed to the Teboho Trust children. I've been going for the last 10 years and will continue to make it a priority in my life. My Saturdays have more value when I give and experience the empowerment that takes place in the lives of the children. If you have never experienced our Saturday academy, you are truly missing out! The enabling environment is filled with ubuntu (humility) and there is a culture of teaching and learning.

The grannies, aunts, caregivers, single mums and guardians tell me that the younger children wake them up early each Saturday morning as they are excited to come to the Academy in Orlando East. They get ready for the Academy

Without being asked to wake up. They complain that they wish they could come every day to Teboho Trust as they have so much fun and learn more there than at their township public schools.

When they arrive early on Saturday morning, they are eager to get the day started. When they see me pull into the parking lot, the 4-6 years olds especially come running with open arms seeking hugs and telling me how they are doing.

After unloading the car, I go into the office where we use it to prepare the snack and hot lunch. The grannies are happy and take a look at the food donated by Woolworths and food purchased to augment the menu by the Trust. They also look forward to coming as they enjoy the company of their peers and feel great that they are making a difference in the lives of the children.

The children's leadership starts the assembly with a hymn, prayer, signing the Teboho Trust Anthem and reciting their Pledge of Allegiance. The children's leadership then makes announcements and then the staff is asked to greet the children and give additional announcements. Next, the children are disbursed for the academic classes (English and Maths). The volunteers – mostly from Wits University and Standard Bank – eagerly come to work with the children. The volunteers often share their joy of the children's hunger for their lessons.

Later our children are fed, they have recreational activities and go for life skills. When the day comes to an end, they are not so happy to leave and wish to stay longer.

The success of the Academy is in the proof of the term reports of the children and our matric pass rate. I hope one day to have a home for Teboho Trust where our children can come daily to be empowered alongside their caregivers. I'd also like to see Teboho Trust in more communities across Soweto and beyond.

Let Us Hear From You

As we continue to grow and more demands for resources become more scarce, we continue to focus on the needs of our children and community. Many come to visit us, volunteer, empower and just give of their time and talents.

We are always grateful. While with us, there is seldom time to share one's feelings and experiences with us. Given the time spent in the experience, we seldom hear a retrospective of your experiences from your visits. We certainly would like to hear of your thoughts, feelings and experiences. Even if you have not had such an opportunity to spend with us yet, we certainly welcome your comments and inputs too. Your words of encouragement can certainly boost our efforts to prepare our children and community for greatness.

Contact us and get involved in a model that is making a substantial impact into the lives of our children and community. Come volunteer, make an in-kind contribution or make a financial donation to the organization.

Banking Details:

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Teboho Trust
Name of Bank:
Nedbank
Account Number:
1970 841 737
Branch Code: 197 005

For Electronic Wire

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