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"He turns all things to beauty"

NEWSLETTER

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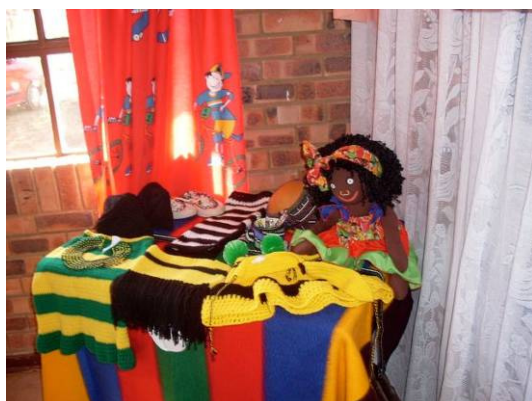


CRAFT PROJECT

We have been privileged to be supported by the Bronkhorstspuit Branch of **Christian Social Services (CSC/CMR)**. They are the registered Welfare Organisation of the Dutch Reformed Church in South Africa.

They support us in the following ways:

1. Weekly visits by their Social Worker (Margaret)
2. Financial support that enabled us to start our Caregivers Craft Income Generation Project.
3. Ongoing support with the Craft Project.
4. Puppet Shows and Workshops
5. Registering of Foster Parents
6. Placing of children in foster care
7. Donations of clothes and toys
8. Donations of food parcels
9. Mentorship and counseling



Their first project of the craft group was to make traditional crocheted outfits for our own pre-school children for "Graduation Day. All the pre-schools in the area have big celebrations on Graduation Days. The plan is to either rent our outfits to them or custom make outfits for them.



Other craft items to be added to the project includes traditional beading and clothing, placemats, traditional handbags and African dolls.

The Craft Team have also been marketing catering services. The ladies are talented cooks and are making tablecloths and decorations to enable them to cater for weddings, funerals and other functions.

Their first catering event for a Social Club in the nearby Zithobeni township will take place at the end of April.

MEET SOME OUR CRAFT & CATERING TEAM MEMBERS:



Testimony of Annah

"I love and admire Ubuhle for the great job they are doing for our kids and wanted to be a part of it. When the manager told us that she wanted to start a womens group to do crafts I did not think twice, because I knew that I am good with making things. I am the mother of three and unemployed. It is a blessing to be part of the craft group because I can earn something to make a living. In February we were able to sell a lot of craft items to German visitors."



Testimony of Linah

"Initially the Ubuhle Project was just about the kids. We were so impressed with what they did for the kids and how it changed their lives. When the manager approached us as caregivers to get involved in a craft project. I was the first one to respond. There was only 2 of us that attended the meetings for a while, but I did not give up. Later more ladies joined me. Now I have something meaningful to do with my life, especially since I was in an accident and am now physically disabled."



Buying craft items

Testimony of Thoko Mahlangu

"I've always wanted to do something with my hands, but I thought because I live on the farm it would not be possible to achieve anything. Because of Ubuhle all of that has changed and now I am doing something I've always loved. My whole family, including my children are benefiting from the Craft Project."



OTHER PLANS INCLUDES:

1. CMR are assisting our Craft Team with a sewing machine as well as training.
2. Naledi Projects are assisting us with a tent, chairs, a stove etc, to rent to the farming community for weddings, funerals and other functions.



THE INTEREST IN THE CRAFT PROJECT IS GROWING - THE TEAM NOW HAS 16 MEMBERS