



August 2011 Newsletter

www.ikhayalethemba.com

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Dear Friends,

Our bi-monthly newsletter is a little late this time. We have been very busy at iKhaya with the completion of our new buildings. The extra space spurred us to consult with the community about their needs and ideas for using the buildings. We have been able to open our program every day to all 90 of our children and they are loving it! Of course I was also away for a few weeks meeting with old and new iKhaya friends in Norway, Sweden, Germany and the UK. I am really excited that our UK contacts are launching the Friends of iKhaya le themba charity in the UK giving great tax benefits to donors and to us.

This month we really want to encourage you to take up a child sponsorship. Child sponsorships are such an important way to support the placements of vulnerable children at our programs and also provide for extra financial needs that their families might have. The real cost of a child for our program each month is around R1500. Child sponsorships cover R500 of this, the rest we raise from charitable funds and trusts. In exchange for your sponsorship we send you a photo and report each term updating you on your child's progress. We have 15 children who are currently looking for sponsors.

Tell your friends!

Katherine.



Mmeli, 12 years, tells a good news story!

This is the story of stolen bikes at iKhaya le themba. Our 11 bikes were stolen on the 28th of April. This is how it happened.

Mendu, our Caretaker, saw some of our belongings lying all over the place. He went to see what had happened and then realised that the bicycles were missing. He went to ask Miss Mhinti if they were packed away somewhere else. Miss Mhinti said "No". Mendu started to get worried and then told her that he thought the bikes were stolen.

The following day one of the iKhaya boys, named Amos, saw one of the bicycles and he told the iKhaya staff. A man was trying to sell the iKhaya bike to him and that is how the first bike was found! Amos reported the man to the iKhaya staff. The staff went to the police station and opened a case.



The same day some other iKhaya boys came with bikes they had recovered. Their names were Sivuyile, Ayanbonga, Pix, Yolisa and Gabriel. Then we had six bikes back. We gave these boys certificates of bravery for putting themselves in danger.

The police kept investigating and more and more bicycles kept coming one by one. Two of the thugs were found and the police had to keep the bikes as evidence. We only just got them back today!

So the good news is that all of the bikes have been found and the iKhaya kids can play again. YAY! In this photo: Sytske and Mendu with some of our proud boys and the recovered bikes!

Mmeli is looking for a sponsor to cover his high school fees beginning next year. His fees for 2012 with uniform, book and transport costs to attend Cape Town High School are R8000.

Community Conversations

What did our community have to say at the May consultation?

Some good things about our community:

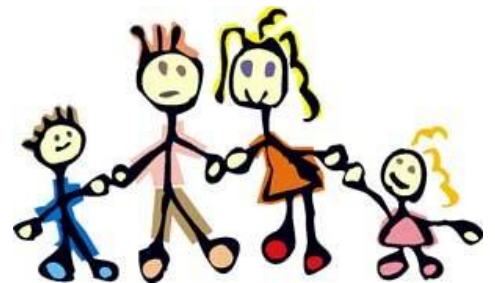
- Dedication of clinic staff and other NGO services
- Openness to visitors and outside interest and investment
- Strength of women motivated by love for children in their care

Some problems in our community:

- Violence and fighting, including domestic violence
- Rape of children and the fear of rape
- Alcohol use and underage drinking
- Nothing to do on Friday night and Saturdays, no safe places to play

Some things the community would like iKhaya to do:

- More parenting education and adult skills education to better support the family unit
- Child inclusive, family friendly church (Kenilworth Vineyard Church are working on this)
- More HIV education in the community and for parents also



If you would like to sponsor a child, make a donation, sponsor Mmeli's school fees or if you have an idea for a fundraising event, please contact Katherine by e-mail at ikhayalethemba@gmail.com or go to our website for your local banking details and e-pay options at www.ikhayalethemba.com

