



December 2011 Newsletter

www.ikhayailethemba.com

facebook name: ikhayailethemba

What an Amazing Year!!!

What an amazing year we have had at iKhaya. As an organisation, we have survived the rough financial climate that has seen many similar charities go under. We can only attribute this to the ongoing random, love motivated donations that come from individuals and small companies. Truly, you have kept us afloat with an abundance that has blessed us and our community.



In this picture – Our month long Australian Volunteers with Staff members Mhinti and Sytske.

Then there have been wonderful opportunities brought to us by too many volunteers to mention by name. We have had soccer, cooking, gymnastics, choir, ballroom dancing, majorettes, drumming and swimming. Our children have learned the ins and outs of newspaper production with Ulla Schmitz whilst working on their writing and self expression skills. A highlight has been reading “Themba” by Lutz van Dijk, watching the film and meeting the author. All this was arranged by our lovely volunteers.

Top Reasons for Coming to iKhaya:



We asked the children for their top reasons for coming to iKhaya. The options on the list included good food, friends, sport, lifeskills programs, talking to adults and play and their reasons were

1. Learning to read and write in English
2. Learning about Jesus

In this picture children receive school stationery packs as part of our end of year concert and presentation evening.

Did we get Results?

This is a question we are often asked in the NGO world especially as the competition for limited funding increases. So iKhaya, what did you DO this year that you can count?

1. Did we support families to care for orphans and vulnerable children so that no children are sent away from their community to be cared for? YES. Out of our 92 children, only one child is leaving our program this year. He is going with his Mum to the Eastern Cape. Goodbye Azola, we will miss you!

2. Did we create a safe learning environment for children where they were encouraged to try, ask questions, make mistakes, develop strategies and become curious and engaged with their world? YES. 100% of our children said that they like to learn new things and 83% said that they expect to finish school. In addition, 87% of all our children have progressed to the next reading level over the past 6 months. (We expect children to progress a minimum of one level per year).



World AIDS Day

iKhaya has formed some great partnerships in our local community through a local forum that we co-founded with All OUT Africa. Together we decided to hold an inaugural World AIDS Day family festival in our community. Over 300 people attended the day. Fantastic food was prepared by some of the moms who cooked *overnight* to have everything ready for the day. My absolute highlight of the day was seeing our 12-14 year olds sitting at the Tutu mobile testing clinic, voluntarily waiting to have their HIV status tested. I was so proud of them and so proud of iKhaya. *In that moment I knew we had done our job well!*



The South African iKhaya 2012 calendar is now on sale for R90

(Local postage R10, International postage R40)

Our calendar features our gorgeous iKhaya children and some of their thoughts and prayers for their lives. Local orders to Katherine: ikhayaalthemba@gmail.com

International orders – Aussies should contact Marijke Morse at mcmorse@bigpond.com Calendars are \$15 and postage within Australia free.

If you would like to sponsor a child, make a donation, or if you have an idea for a fundraising event, please contact Katherine by e-mail at ikhayaalthemba@gmail.com or go to www.ikhayaalthemba.com e-pay and banking details.

