

ACTS

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A Centre That Serves

NEWSLETTER ISSUE I

We are thrilled to announce that ACTS (A Centre That Serves) is off the ground and steam rolling ahead. It is wonderful to see that when God is the head of a project, leading and guiding us, all things come together. His ways are certainly not our ways and of course His ways are so much better.

ACTS is working through two venues, Isolemamba High School and The Free Christian Church.

ISOLEMAMBA HIGH SCHOOL

Isolemamba High School is situated in the Nsibini area approximately 15km from Amanzimtoti. There are 943 students in the school consisting of grade 10, 11 and 12.

There are 23 classrooms, one computer room and a hall. There are approximately 41 pupils per classroom. There are no other facilities eg. Library, laboratory and sports fields.

Four volunteer ladies from the community cook maize meal porridge with sugar every morning before school, from Monday to Friday, which feeds +- 750 students per day. The teachers and principal have commented that it has made a huge difference to the children. (learning on an empty stomach leads to a lack of concentration)

Dumisani is running Life Skills programs, getting to know the students and listening to them talk about their dreams, hopes and needs. Some of the activities they have requested are drama, singing, poetry and art classes. These have all begun during break and after school on Mondays and Wednesdays. ACTS has established a partnership with ArtSPACE and in the near future will be offering art classes to the students.

The launch of ACTS in the Isolemamba High School was held on the 29th April. It started off with all the students been served a plate of curry and rice. Wesley from Life Church led devotions and spoke about the value that God has placed on each person's life. He had the students rapt attention as he demonstrating how money never loses it's value no matter how much it has been used, ubused, dirty and even thrown away. Thandanani, from the Amanzimtoti YMCA, who was in prison for two years gave his testomaony on the fact that no matter what you go through, God has a plan for your life. The principal thanked ACTS for all they have done and expressed how happy he is to have us involved in the school. The day was enjoyed by all.



FREE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

ACTS has developed a partnership with one of the Local Churches situated in the Nsimbini Area. The Church, with very little resources is running a soup kitchen twice a week for the community, looking after the sick and running a vegetable garden. ACTS is supporting these activities by supplying food, training for HBC workers and resources that will enhance the work they are doing.

Feeding Scheme:

- Cooking food for hungry community members (mostly children) twice a week. Tuesdays and Thursdays. +- 500 people per day. All the cooking, dishing up and cleaning is done by voluntary community and church members.

Home Based Care:

- There are eight voluntary community and church members visiting the sick in their homes. They assist with washing clothes, feeding those who cannot feed themselves, bathing them, cleaning their homes and taking them to the hospital. ACTS assists with transporting the patients to the hospital, send voluntary Care Workers for HBC training, supplying HBC kits, uniforms for the Care Workers and so on.



Right: (Tamara, project co-ordinator for the Be More Volunteer Program) with Care Workers on their way to help the sick.

Vegetable Gardens:

- Voluntary community and church members have a vegetable garden which is used partly for the feeding scheme and partly for their own use. The gardens are close to a stream and ACTS is looking to supply them with a pump to enable them to pump water from the stream to the vegetables. They are also in need of fencing to keep the cows and other animals out of the gardens.

Spiritual Meetings:

- ACTS staff run Christian meetings with Community members every second week.

The church has supplied a room for ACTS to use as an office, and four computers were donated by I Care for the use of staff and Care Workers.

FUTURE PLANS

- Form a partnership with Be More volunteer program
- Begin Art classes at Isolemamba High School
- Youth Fun Day on the 30th May
- Fundraising Dinner held on the 19th June. (Anyone interested to attend please phone 031 9034726)

Thank you to all the people that have made this project possible by supporting us in their various ways.
