

June 2011

# NEWS



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## Shine a light into the future...

Legacies are very special and precious to us here at Breadline Africa. They are a way that a loved one's kindness and compassion for the poor can shine on long after they have gone. We treasure those who remember us this way, and the families and friends who work with us to bring relief and hope to poor communities and children in Africa.

We're passionate about all our projects, but there is something extra magical about those that are the result of a

legacy... either a direct bequest, or a gift from someone in memory of a loved one. It's a beautiful way to be remembered.

We thought we'd share a few of our legacy stories with you – they're so inspiring – as well as outlining our plans and hopes for the future.

**These are some of the wonderful memorials we've been honoured to help create:**

## A nursery-school in the small rural town of Riebeeck-West

One of Breadline Africa's most loyal supporters remembered us in his will, an act of great kindness to a small community at the tip of the African continent. He was a great admirer and loyal supporter of our famous container conversion process – in which battered old shipping

containers are given a new lease of life and converted into classrooms, among other things.

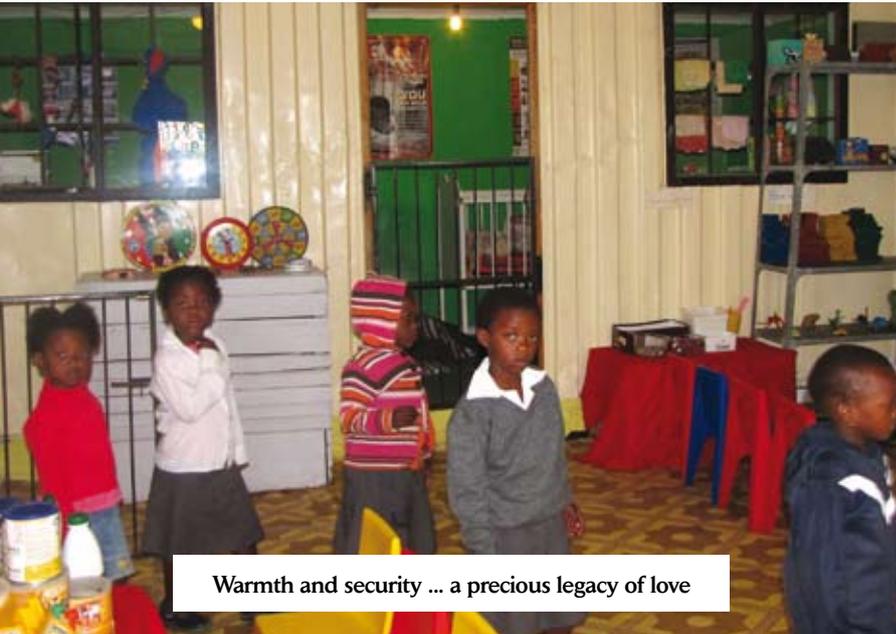
Thanks to his legacy, we were able to provide the children of Riebeeck West, a small community about an hour north of Cape Town, with a safe,

secure environment in which to learn. These children, from scattered farms, have great difficulty getting to school, and have to rely on humble farm schools with almost no resources. But now they have a brand-new double container classroom – thanks to a very special guardian angel.



A bright and safe classroom for these forgotten children -- thanks to a guardian angel.

# Poppy's Niche – Masande Educare Centre, in the township of Khayelitsha



Warmth and security ... a precious legacy of love

In this case, our donor angel is still very much with us, but she wanted to set up a living legacy, which she continues to support on a regular basis. She's an especially big-hearted woman who once worked as a nanny for one of South Africa's wealthier families. They rewarded her for her service with an inheritance, which she decided to use to support something extra-special.

She helped transform a little nursery-school in Khayelitsha from a shack into a safe, secure space to learn and grow. Her only wish was that we would call the new converted space "Poppy's Niche" – a reminder of her mother's affectionate name for her when she was a little girl.

Here you can see the fresh, inspiring new classrooms that grew from this special legacy, and the little children of Makhaza, a particularly poor area in the township, enjoying their beautiful new space.

## A sister's loving gift – Mothers Unite soup kitchen in Lavender Hill

One of our donors had been left a legacy by a much-loved sister. She read about our containers, and how we transform them into vital infrastructure: clinics, nursery schools and soup kitchens where they're most needed. She was so inspired, she contacted us immediately to ask how she could help. It's thanks to her that Mothers Unite – women from one of the most hard-pressed areas on the Cape Flats – got a much-needed soup kitchen, so that they can feed the desperately hungry children in their community.

Today, this project is going from strength to strength as it feeds more and more needy children. So many of our visitors have visited it to meet the strong women who run it, and the little ones they help and nurture – a truly lovely monument to the bond between sisters.



Above: A grateful mother kisses the brand-new soup kitchen. Below: Local children enjoy a party at the kitchen, which doubles up as a community centre.



# A very special need



If it's the plight of children that moves you, you may be interested in a new project that is very close to all our hearts here at Breadline Africa. Khuti's Special Needs Centre, hearing of our record of providing converted containers to the very poor, approached us for help.

This brave project, run by visionary local community workers, provides a safe space and pre-school education for children and orphans with special needs and physical challenges.

We know all about the desperation of poor and jobless parents caring for little ones in this plight – we hear terrible stories of how, to keep their children safe, they have to tie them to their beds while they go out to look for work or food.

As you can imagine, the need is very great – we will be supplying them with four converted containers: one to use as sleeping quarters; one to use as a sickbay and treatment room; an ablution block, and a kitchen and laundry to keep the little ones warm, clean and fed.

This is such a worthwhile project, and we have so many others just like it, so please do get in touch if you feel inspired to help us in any way.

## Considering a legacy, or a gift in memory of a loved one?

If you would like to leave a lasting legacy for the children of Africa by remembering us in your will, we'll be happy to help in any way we can. We understand that this is a delicate matter, and that you might have questions. So we've drawn up a brochure that we hope will answer any questions you might have about the practical, legal and financial details of drawing up a will that involves a bequest.

If you'd like us to send you a copy of this brochure, or if you have any questions, please feel free to write to me or send me an email. Of course, your enquiries will be kept strictly confidential. Or you can visit our website for more details:  
<http://www.breadlineafrica.org/legacy/index.html>.



**Leave a lasting legacy  
of hope**



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Visit our website at [www.breadlineafrica.org](http://www.breadlineafrica.org)

# The road ahead

We regularly assess our projects and our focus here at Breadline Africa. If you're interested in creating a legacy for us sometime in the future, or you're someone who's been involved in one of these special projects, we'd like to share our journey with you.

More and more, given the challenges of supporting the poor in a worldwide recession, we're finding it makes sense to focus on two main goals: **job creation; and supporting very poor, very young children.**

Without access to decent, basic preschool education to start them off in life, poor children are doomed to fall further and further behind, with hope dying before it even has a chance to bloom.

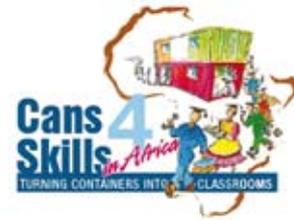
Likewise, without jobs, adults can't support their

families or provide even the basics: a roof and food on the table. Everyone suffers in these cases – the community, the adults who face terrible choices – begging, the temptation of crime – and perhaps worst of all, innocent children bear the brunt of this poverty.

For these reasons, we find that we're shifting our focus – and our famous container conversion projects – more and more towards providing pre-schools for toddlers and small children, and job training/creation projects.

Safe, secure, clean pre-schools and nursery-schools protect children at the same time as giving them a proper foundation for education. They also enable their parents to seek work, or to train for work safe in the knowledge that their children are not roaming the streets.

## A truly lasting legacy: skills development!



We've had such promising results with our Cans4Skills project, that we're determined to expand it. The idea is to provide training for unemployed men and women in two skills that are always in demand – plumbing and bricklaying – and our first courses were such an enormous success that we've been flooded with requests for more. Our upgraded project, which has spread to the rural area of Worcester, is busy rolling out in partnership with the local municipality and the regional technical college.

We're hoping that this is something donors will consider as a kind of living legacy. The results are so

worthwhile – here are some pictures of our current "students", who are busy learning marketable skills. Once they have completed their basic training (including a Life-skills course), they will then be employed as apprentices before taking their trade tests and qualifying as fully-fledged plumbers and bricklayers.

We know firsthand how incredibly rewarding these courses are. To see someone's dignity and self-worth restored, as they realise they are gaining the skills to support their family and contribute to their community... it never fails to move and inspire us. We hope it does the same for you!



Hard at work gaining not only skills, but dignity