



2 Somerset Road • Green Point • Cape Town • 8005 • South Africa
PO Box 6 • Green Point • Cape Town • 8051 • South Africa
Tel +27 21 418 0322 Fax +27 21 418 6406 Email info@breadlineafrica.org.za
Visit our website www.breadlineafrica.org

Suikerbekkies Day Care Container Handover Delniet Estate, Ceres

At the official opening and hand over of the Suikerbekkies Day Care containers this Friday 28th August in Ceres, Western Cape, parents, learners and early childhood development support organisations gathered with mutual pride.

Partners and organisations that were present included the Department of Social Development, Grassroots Educare Trust, Witzenberg Rural Development Centre, the Dutch Reformed Church and Breadline Africa. These partners have, in various and immeasurable ways played a hand in ensuring the growth and success of Suikerbekkies Day Care Centre that it is today. The morning served as an opportune time to celebrate in honour of the deserving children.

Witzenberg Rural Development Centre, who have been instrumental in initiating an ECD centre in the Delniet Estate, even if it meant hosting lessons under a tree, despite the elements, were most proud and could not hide their joy in having saved a situation where a considerable number of children from the marginalised, farming community, did not stay in a crèche, and were lacking the necessary quality support in preparation for entry into primary school.

Mr Pedro George from the Department of Social Development shared their policy regulation, which states that *no child should be taught in an un-registered educare facility*. He pointed out that as much as he was aware that Suikerbekkies Day Care was not yet fully registered, he would ensure that the process was accomplished accordingly, for the mere reason that he believed in the work of the partners involved in this particular centre.

Breadline Africa was impressed by the cohesion of the partnerships and felt confident that the containers had been placed at the right venue and would be left in the capable hands of individuals who would see to the sustainability of the centre and to ensuring that the centre serves to protect the children's rights to develop to their full cognitive, emotional, social and physical potential.

The celebrations would not have been complete without nursery rhymes by the recipient 20-odd children. Snacks and refreshments completed the event.

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