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Official Handover of the Toy Library Container Nquthu, Kwazulu Natal Thursday, 10 March 2016

Play and learn, learn and play

The opening of a Toy Library in the rural community of Nquthu, KwaZulu Natal was blessed by much-needed rain on Thursday 10 March 2016.

Despite the heavy downpour, a special ceremony took place, officially opening this long-awaited resource. Co-sponsored by the UK-based Helwel Trust, Training and Resource in Early Educational (TREE), and Breadline Africa, the six-metre toy library will be opened from Monday to Friday, opening at 9am and closing at 3pm, and will be overseen by an enthusiastic



young lady, Ms Sanelisiwe Kunene, who recently graduated from high school. Sanelisiwe is unemployed and volunteering at the Toy Library will garner her valuable work experience, while serving her community.

In his speech, Chief Molefe, lifted Sanelisiwe's spirits by explaining that she should not be disappointed at not having secured employment yet; through volunteer work, she will gain experience and learn skills that will serve her well through her working life.

Conveniently placed next to Mphondi Primary School and immediately next to a *Sukuma Sakhe* 'war room', accessibility will not be an issue for this toy library. In the KwaZulu Natal province, the war rooms seek to fight social ills such as poverty, disease, crime, unemployment, substance abuse and to pursue ways to bring basic services to the people. Community meetings and training sessions are also held here, further promoting the toy library.

Mayor Emily Molefe spoke passionately about early childhood development. The sentiment came from a special place, as she spent 17 years of her life as an early childhood development teacher before joining the world of politics. She is a proud product of TREE's training. The mayor made reference to Women's Day and the special focus on women at community level, which is where women make their contribution to the economy, and as such she highly supports the toy library and urged all to look after it.

With more than 45 staff in the province, of which some are field coordinators, TREE will ensure that access to the Toy Library is maximised and will continue to support and mentor the project.

Opening Imagination • Enabling Futures

Henk Kleizen (Chairperson), Prof. Eric Atmore, Farzeen Bhana, Nicola Bosworth, Sally Burt, Chance Chagunda, Frances Greathead (Patron), Nthabi Mohlakoana, Karen Morris, Andrew Warner Non Profit Company (NPC): 2006/015075/08 · PBO No. 930021936 · TEU Reference No. EVZ0037/10/06 · NPO Registration No. 053-406-NPO · VAT No. 4480251596



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The Helwel Trust could not be present at this event, but have promised to visit mid-2016.





Ms Sanelisiwe Kunene - Toy Library Librarian (volunteer)



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Councillor Mthandeni Shabangu and Mayor Emily Molefe

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Breadline Africa (RSA) Advisory Committee

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Mphondi Primary School Grade R Learners

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