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A new kitchen for Emfundweni Educare Centre

Makhaza, Khayelitsha, Western Cape

30 September 2016

On Friday, 30 September 2016, Breadline Africa handed over a second converted shipping container to Emfundweni Educare Centre, in Makhaza, Khayelitsha.

The principal, Mrs Agatha Moss, saw that the children in her community were left untended during the day, while their parents were at work, leaving them vulnerable to harm. In 1995, she opened her day care centre to the children of Makhaza, keeping them safe and laying the first building blocks of their education.

Emfundweni (which means 'a place for learning') is home to 56 children between the ages of eighteen months and five years. Mrs Moss started the centre in a makeshift shack, but she had big ideas for the children. Within a short time, she employed early childhood development practitioners /teachers, who would help the children to learn the basic skills that they would need for 'big school' and in 2011, Breadline Africa supplied a container classroom.

As the educare grew, Mrs Moss and her dedicated team knew that hungry children are not able to learn and set about ensuring that each child had a good breakfast and a nutritious lunch. But the food was prepared in less than ideal surroundings and she was deeply concerned about the dangers of cooking with gas and the children being in close proximity to the stoves. Mrs Moss sent a request to Breadline Africa for a container kitchen.

Acting Director of Breadline Africa, Marion Wagner explains: "It was a huge problem, as the food was being prepared in an inadequate kitchen space located in a shack. The new container kitchen will allow for healthier meals in a much safer environment."

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Mrs Moss, the principal of the centre, expressed her gratitude to Breadline Africa and its dedicated donors for once again supporting her appeal to support the children in her community.

The principals of nearby Thubalethu Educare Centre and Seven Little Stars Educare Centre, who were representing the Khayelitsha Educare Forum, attended the opening ceremony. They conveyed their thanks and appreciation to Breadline Africa's donors for giving the school a much-needed safe and hygienic kitchen.

The forum congratulated Mrs Moss on her work with the children of the Makhaza community, as they all shared the vision of the betterment of the children in their care.

The handover was a joyful one, with the children singing a special thank you song to the assembled guests. The event culminated in an official opening ceremony and a tour of the new container kitchen.