



**Khulanathi Educare Centre, Wallacedene, Western Cape
Pre-school Handover,
10 July 2017**

Breadline Africa joined forces with the 2017 Old Mutual Two Oceans Marathon - through its charitable arm, the Two Oceans Marathon Initiative (TOMI)- and the Centre for Early Childhood Development (CECD) to provide a complete early childhood development / pre-school centre for the children of Khulanathi, who showed their gratitude and appreciation at the formal opening event that took place on 10 July 2017.

Wallacedene is an informal settlement located 33 kilometres outside of the city of Cape Town. There are few trees and patchy grass grows on dusty pieces of open land. But there is a bright corner, filled with newly refurbished shipping containers – two classrooms, a kitchen and a toilet block, with a roof covering the structures and forming a veranda over a neat paved area – ideal for playtime when the weather is inclement. This is Khulanathi Educare Centre, a pre-school supported by Breadline Africa’s partner, the Centre for Early Childhood Development who also donated two large pre-fabricated classrooms to accommodate the ever increasing waiting list of children.

Breadline Africa received an appeal from the principal, Ms Edith Mekhuto-Lekhetha, who had been granted space to relocate her ECD centre, but did not have the resources to build. She had been running the centre for 17 years and has 70-80 children with more waiting to join. In turn, Breadline Africa approached the Old Mutual Two Oceans Marathon to consider the project as one of the official beneficiaries of the event – and were thrilled when this was confirmed!

The winter sun shone brightly on the opening event. Ms Stefanie Schultzen, Marketing and Sponsorship Manager of the Old Mutual Two Oceans Marathon, reiterated the Two Oceans Marathon NPC’s commitment to uplifting the community through supporting programmes like Breadline Africa. “Through TOMI we are able to partner with programmes that fall within our support pillars of education, healthcare, the environment and athletics development in Cape Town. Breadline Africa’s efforts to launch the Khulanathi Educare Centre underpin our own belief in sustainable change. Please keep up the amazing work you are doing, and don’t ever stop changing the world!”

The centre’s principal, Ms Mekhuto-Lekhetha expressed her gratitude to all the partners involved in supporting her and the centre. She thanked her staff, the children, the parents, the Wallacedene ECD Forum, and most importantly, all the donors. In turn the children recited nursery rhymes and sang with great enthusiasm.

Breadline Africa’s director, Ms Marion Wagner thanked CECD and the Two Oceans Marathon Initiative for believing in Breadline Africa and for continuing to support community development.

