

Feeding children – helping them learn and grow...



with our practical renovated container kitchens

South Africa's National School Nutrition Programme was extended by the late President Nelson Mandela as a Presidential Lead Project in 1994. This important intervention came into being to look after the welfare of the many children across the country who came to school hungry. Alarming, studies showed that many of the children had not eaten a meal the night before, let alone breakfast the following morning, resulting in hunger, and in some cases, malnutrition.

So often, we hear that one cannot teach a hungry child - and this was the experience of the teachers, who struggled to make a developmental difference in the lives of the youngsters they were charged with educating. That is, until the introduction of the school feeding programme.

Over the years, this programme has had an enormous impact, but many of the schools do not have proper infrastructure where they can cook and prepare meals for the learners.

Through word of mouth, more than 100 schools have applied for Breadline Africa's container kitchens and with your help,

clean, hygienic kitchens were donated to meet these needs. To date, 76 container kitchens have been placed in primary schools throughout the country, but there are many more in need of a kitchen. Cooks at the schools battle with space to prepare and cook meals – often using much-needed classroom space or a first aid room, or nearby houses, resulting in having to transport the meals back to the school.

Fighting childhood poverty through interventions like school feeding programmes has meant this vicious cycle can be broken, as the children who benefit from this feeding scheme have more options as adults. A basic meal in school is the gateway to a better, brighter future. It improves children's nutrition so that they are better able to concentrate, understand, and to perform academically. Today more than nine million children in South Africa are benefiting from school feeding programme.

Breadline Africa has a series of, as yet, unfulfilled applications for container kitchens. With your help, I am confident that we will be able to meet these needs.

REPORT BACKS

Thank you for our magical day at the seaside

The children had a fabulous day at the seaside – a wave of happiness went around as they splashed in the water, collected seashells and built sandcastles. The journey began with a bus ride, as children were collected from their various pre-schools. For many of them, this was the first bus ride of their lives and they arrived full of excitement, and eager for the next chapter in their adventure.

The amazement on the children's faces when they saw the big ocean was

incredible. They could not believe the size of the sea – and with so much water! The unfamiliar sensation of the sand between their toes was initially not a very happy one for some and a few tears were shed, but these were soon replaced with shrieks of joy as they ran about in the shallow water.

Each year, with your support, Breadline Africa has helped a new group of children to experience something completely new – and learn a bit more about the world

around them in the process. There are few opportunities for fun for the children from the communities that Breadline Africa serves, and the chance to broaden their horizons is invaluable.

Thank you for helping us to transform the children's lives by opening their imagination and providing memories to last a lifetime.



Sithembele Kuwe Educare Centre received a container toilet on World Toilet Day



On 19 November 2016, the world commemorated World Toilet Day and with your help, we observed the occasion by providing a container toilet to Sithembele Kuwe Educare Centre.

Access to proper toilet facilities makes a huge difference for children – diseases are minimised and they have the opportunity to learn about the importance of good hygiene practices. A flushing toilet is something we may take for granted, but in communities like Lower Crossroads in Cape Town, the opportunity to make use of a clean, private ablution facility is a privilege afforded to few.

The principal, Ndileka Kamte was excited when she received the six-metre container toilet consisting of five toilets and one hand-basin. The teachers can now teach the children how to use the flushing toilets and how to wash and dry their hands properly.

From your family to a family in Africa



It has become an annual tradition to share Christmas food hampers from our donors' families with South African families in need. We had the opportunity to share this generosity with the families who live in a small town called Overhills in Kleinmond, outside Cape Town.

Most of the people in this community have moved from remote rural villages in the Eastern Cape, in search of employment and a better life. These gifts were received by all with gratitude, knowing that the festive season would be a little brighter.

School stationery packs

“Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world”

– Nelson Mandela



Thank you for helping us to supply the learners of Entshona Primary School in Philippi, Cape Town with well-provisioned stationery packs. The principal and teachers were heartened by your kindness and generosity. The teaching staff know that the key to a better future lies in a good education and they are determined to help the children to do their level best to reach their goals.



CC Scheepers Early Childhood Development Centre

“While the difficult takes time, the impossible just takes a little longer.”

– Art E. Berg, *The Impossible Just Takes a Little Longer*



The principal has been working around the clock to get all the relevant paperwork and approvals completed. She has also been working closely with members of the Lions Club, who have sponsored a Wendy house that now serves as the security guard's house to secure the designated premises in preparation for delivery of the classrooms, and later, the toilet and kitchen.

The local municipality has taken their time in ensuring that water and sewer connections are brought on the site, but this finally materialised in February 2017. The project is well under way and we will bring you good news in the next edition of our newsletter.

Waves for Change



Waves for Change were delighted to showcase their newly developed Monwa Centre near Khayelitsha, Cape Town.

It has recently been re-designed and improved, with newly converted six- and 12-metre containers placed on top of the existing structures and painted throughout to give it a fresh and rejuvenated look for the young surfers to enjoy.

The expansion will provide dedicated space for counselling, as well as additional storage

and cooking facilities for the 250 children. The founder, Tim Conibear, said “Monwa is the largest of our sites and thanks to Breadline Africa donors, we can now operate to scale and it is fantastic!

“Not only will we be able to run multiple sessions simultaneously, we have storage space that will keep equipment intact for much longer and, most importantly, it gives us the opportunity to accommodate more children in the programme. It is our goal to keep building more sites where

we can reach communities where mental health services are under-resourced or stigmatised. The success of the programme is proving that surfing is a legitimate form of therapy and we want to try and make it available to as many children as possible.”

In February, Waves for Change won the Sport for Good category at the 2017 Laureus awards. We are proud to partner with a like-minded organisation striving to change the lives of young children.



Breadline Africa welcomes new Director

We are pleased to announce that Marion Wagner has taken over from Tim Smith as the Director of Breadline Africa, effective 01 March 2017. She has led the organisation's marketing and fundraising since 2014, making her the ideal person to take Breadline Africa forward.

Marion has extensive experience in the corporate world and headed major global projects in her 20-year career with Shell International. She studied in the UK and

Germany, and received an MBA from Heriot Watt University. Her compassion has led her to roles in the charity sector including Chief Operating Officer at Umthombo Wesizwe, followed by a Deputy Director position at African Solutions to African problems, in Cape Town.

Marion is deeply committed to playing numerous civil society roles: she is currently the chairman of the Muizenberg Improvement District; was a director on

the board for three years prior to this and a volunteer with the Homestead Street Children's Project; is a Neighborhood Watch committee member; and an active volunteer wildfire fighter with the Volunteer Wildfire Services.

We wish her well in her new role, and take this opportunity to congratulate outgoing Director, Tim in his new position as Regional Director of Jesuit Refugee Services.



OUR FEEL-GOOD STORY COLUMN

Thank you – Nimble Knitters

“Having seen the pervasive poverty and poor housing conditions in the shanty towns on the outskirts of cities in South Africa, I am in great admiration of the efforts being made by the Breadline Africa team in doing all that is possible to alleviate the situation and help to improve the quality of life for the families and extended families who live in these surroundings.

We hope to make a small contribution each year to the comfort of these families by making as many blankets, cardigans, jumpers, vests, hats, scarves, little bags and purses as

our clicking needles can create. The age range of our knitters runs from the early teens through to the nineties. For all Nimble Knitters, there is a love of creating a colourful piece of knitting that will give warmth and pleasure to the recipients and for the Nimble Knitters it, in turn, helps to fulfil a need to create a beautiful article.

It brings relief on lonely days, helps sleepless nights and for those who are fortunate to belong to a knitting group, it brings camaraderie through the fun, friendship and fellowship that ensues.” *Eileen Saunders*



Baroness van Dedem



In December 2016, Baroness Ronny van Dedem, along with her son and daughter-in-law (Michiel and Susanne Lap), visited South Africa to hand over a portrait drawn by the Baroness of Frances Greathead – Breadline Africa's first chairperson.

They also had the opportunity to visit some of the projects funded by the van Dedem Foundation.

The family visited Khanyisa Day Care Centre in Paarl and Ubukhobakhe Day Care Centre in Khayelitsha.

The Baroness thanked the beneficiaries for their extensive and candid discussions. Other projects that the Baroness and the Willem van Dedem Foundation have supported include Rawsonville Primary School, Haas Das Care Centre in Worcester, Tiangmaatla Drop-in-Centre in Limpopo, and Lukhanyiso and Khulanathi Educare Centres in Philippi.

"We send special thanks to the family and the Foundation for their commitment and dedication to the work that Breadline Africa undertakes."

Wendy Hill from our UK office visits our SA office



"Hi, my name is Wendy Hill and I am the UK Administrator for Breadline Africa. I have worked in the UK office in Ipswich for many years and until this year, contact with my colleagues in Cape Town, South Africa has mostly been by telephone or email.

However, in February 2017, I had the privilege of travelling to South Africa to work in the Cape Town office for 10 days and met my colleagues face to face, many of them for the first time.

I had the opportunity to see the good work that is happening on the ground in the projects that Breadline Africa supports and also experience the office life of a very busy and vibrant charity. I visited Kuyasa Educare Centre in Khayelitsha, headed up by Mrs Sizwekazi Gushmen, who showed us around the centre. It was so wonderful to see first-hand the containers our charity had provided for the project and the young children sitting at their desks and learning in a safe environment.

I also visited Waves for Change, a project where we have provided two containers. Waves for Change provides a much-needed safe environment for very vulnerable young people from the township of Khayelitsha. They use surfing as a form of therapy to steer children away from violence in their impoverished communities and to cope with stress in their lives. Lavender Hill, near Muizenburg, is home to Village Care, a skills project that Breadline Africa has supported for the past six years. Along with providing a feeding scheme for the most vulnerable of the community, it provides vocational skills training, such as upholstery and gardening.

Seeing the work being undertaken in South Africa as a result of our donors' wonderful generosity is so heartwarming and encouraging and I would like to take this opportunity to say to all our donors: *Thank you so very, very much for helping Breadline Africa make a difference!*"

Donor Gallery



Harry Schiller, East Sheen, London, second from left, with Maureen Adriaanse and Sybil Jacobs from, Grassy Park, Cape Town South Africa



Sarah Healy and her sons with Marion and Liezl

We love receiving visitors and have not had any visitors in a while. If you are in Cape Town, do let us know and pop in for a cup of tea.



Kathy Gogarty with staff



Susan and Peter Haisman, London



Birthday Calendar - Special Mention

Thank you for raising funds for us in your own special way. Karen Krick from the USA celebrated her 70th birthday and asked her friends for donations to be made to provide for toilet facilities in South Africa. Karen said, "My friends at the party (and one who could not be there) and three people living out of state donated US \$585." The funds will be put to good use during the 2017 World Toilet Day campaign.



Edna's Corner

Dear Friend

I love to share with you the completion and implementation of the projects that you continue to support.

Our feature story tells you about the impact our container kitchens are making in our schools where feeding schemes are in place. It is hard to believe that more than nine million children rely on these meals – and that this is often the only meal these children receive in a day.

As always, we love sharing the excitement of our magical day at the seaside. How I wish you were here to see the sheer joy the children experience when their toes dip into the cold Atlantic Ocean for the first time!

Thank you so much for taking the time to write to me. While you may not realise it, you are performing many acts of kindness each day this kindness makes a huge difference in enabling children to choose a path out of poverty. I have been moved by your lovely

letters – sharing how a birthday card from Breadline Africa has brought delight in a moment of loneliness.

Please keep writing to me, as I love to receive your letters. As always, special thanks come your way for your continued support of our work.

Sincerely

Edna



Opening imagination • Enabling futures

Breadline Africa United Kingdom Advisory Committee

Tony Smyth (Chairman), Peter Attard Montalto, Alex Chisholm, Sir Robert Dunbar, Ben Elwes, Lord Clifford of Chudleigh (Patron), Louise Seligman, Pippa Smyth
UK Charity Nr. 1075525 & GAYE Reg. Nr. 000185302 & Company No. 3524187

Breadline Africa International Board

Henk Kleizen (Chairperson), Peter Attard Montalto, Prof. Eric Atmore, Alex Chisholm, Sir Robert Dunbar, Stephen Lalor, Ben Elwes, Renée Hopster, Mariella Norman, Marijke Schep, Louise Seligman, Pippa Smyth, Tony Smyth, Noo Wallis

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

Visit our website at www.breadlineafrica.org

N530/NL/UK