

ACAT Partnership Report



January to December 2019

ACAT's Partnership Programme seeks to multiply ACAT's reach and impact in promoting an improved physical, mental and spiritual quality of life for the poor, marginalized or disadvantaged people of Africa

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ACAT training team testimony: **PASTOR'S COURSE**

Sibongile Ndlovu attended the pastor's course in Lidgetton where she learned more about the programme in 2016. She is very active in agricultural activities and business. As she has a heart for working with people, she decided to become a Community Volunteer and soon completed the 5 CV courses. This training empowered her to be rooted in the ACAT programme.

Sibongile has a business selling iLala hats and woven bags. This earns her about R500 to R1000 monthly. She also sells clothing and earns up to R 1000 monthly. She also runs a tuck shop for children which earns her an additional R200 monthly.

She uses the money she earns through her business for her family needs. She also saves R50 a month, and banks up to R500 per month. She is also well-known as a community developer and health fitness officer in her groups.



ACAT training team testimony: **YOUTH BASIC LIFE SKILLS**

This is what ACAT trainer Samke Zondi reported ...

This is Vusi Dlamini (20) from Impendle. His parents passed away many years ago and he is looked after by his aunt who is in our ACAT programme.

He attended Youth Basic Life Skills in July 2019 and accepted Jesus as his personal Saviour. I encouraged him to look for a church that speaks about salvation. I referred him to Pastor Mhlongo of the Assemblies of God church in Mpophomeni which has started a branch in Impendle. He continues to be in contact with me, so that I can encourage and mentor him. Yesterday he was baptized in water. I praise God for this young man. In his testimony he said that he just went to ACAT not knowing that it would be a turning point in his life.



ACAT extension team testimony: **IMPACT THROUGH THE CHURCH**

ACAT MINISTERING TO CHILDREN THROUGH SUNDAY SCHOOL REVIVAL

INTRODUCTION :

It is very interesting and encouraging to see how God is using Acat's training and capacitated CVs use their skills to bless children living in risky environments. Some of these CVs are now leading children's worship music in local churches in their areas.

These children are invited to either an after-school or Saturdays activities which include, among other things; music, Bible studies / lessons , dialogues, praying, drama, worshipping, chorus leading, wonderful short stories about Jesus in booklets distributed by Acat, radio programme, etc. This helps to keep them off the streets. Through these activities /programmers, local children are directed away from a life in the drug abuse and criminal activities. The purpose for all of this is for Jesus to be glorified, one CV said. "We want to teach and show them that we are their sisters, that we are Christians and we love them. We want to show them love". Some people use children especially the youth to transport chemicals needed for processing drugs like cocaine. Because of their circumstances (poverty, unemployment, etc.) they use such opportunities to make money and sometimes get caught and jailed. They are taught that they are valued by God who loves them. The CVs put more emphasis on the fact that the Sunday Schools are interdenominational.

SUNDAY SCHOOL INFORMATION : 2019

NQUTHU AND EMONDLO AREAS :

NAME	ZONE	#CHILDREN	TEACHERS	AGES
Ikaheng	(Nkand)	21	2	5 - 16
Sizisizile	(Ngobt)	11	2	5 - 14
Maceba	(Maceb)	23	2	5 - 16
Hlathi-Dm	(HlathiDm)	18	2	5 - 14
Thelezini	(Thelezini)	14	2	5 - 14

ACAT training team testimony:

IMPACT THROUGH SCHOOL

ACAT hosted a group of learners from a private school (Life Changing Academy) in Nqutu at a Youth Basic Life Skills Course. The pupils were accompanied by their teachers. The initiative started as a result of the Principle and his wife having attended the ACAT Leadership Course. They were so impacted by this course, that they decided to request ACAT to arrange a course specifically designated for pupils from their school. This is part of the ACAT's Partnership Programme. The children attended the course, and our extension team visited them 5 months later to see if the learners were still impacted by the course.

Our team reported that the teachers were very welcoming, and said how much they as teachers had learned from the course – spiritually, agriculturally, nutritionally. They said that they had been able to share some of this information with teachers that were not able to attend the course, as well as parents and at church.

The parents were also amazed by the information their children returned home with. They were also delighted with the seed packs – the children planted their seeds in the school garden, and this was a great encouragement and success.

Teachers said the children were also more capable to participate in discussions and engaging in Bible studies using some of the information they learned through ACAT, and parents said they were more disciplined than before!

Mhlengi Magudulela is a 12 year old boy in Grade 6. He says:

"I enjoyed the spiritual, but I like the lessons on Healthy Diet more. I now know which food is good, and which food is junk. And I am already adjusting my eating!"

Amahle Dlamini is a 14 year old girl in Grade 7. She says:

"I was so excited to visit ACAT! I learned a lot. The hospitality was great and I enjoyed the food. The youth teachers were great! The training impacted my life style and my spirituality".



ACAT LILIMA SWAZILAND September – November 2019 Narrative Report

Introduction

This report covers programme activities undertaken by the organisation during the third quarter of the FY 2019/20.

1.0 Finance and Administration

This section continued to provide guidance, coordination, monitoring and administrative support to our core programmes in order to ensure proper implementation of planned programme activities for the period under review.

- ❖ It has responded to numerous requests from field staff as part of the much necessary support from this section to ensure proper and timely implementation of their planned activities.
- ❖ During the period we continued with fundraising activities as expected, in order to sustain the operations of the organisation. Such included the conclusion and submission of two proposals, one to Sahee Foundation and the other to KNH for the extension of children's support, through feeding and food production inputs.
- ❖ We remain positive that the two proposals would be successful.
- ❖ We further continued keeping our current funders informed of our work, at times through emails exchange and telephone calls, which we consider as critical in keeping them happy.
- ❖ During the reporting period a consultant for the comparative evaluation of our two savings models, funded by KNH, was appointed and is expected to start the evaluation process by January 2020 as detailed in the Terms of Reference (TORs) of the this evaluation.
- ❖ Following discussions with KNH, who ,for now, is the main funder for ACAT Lilima, an agreement had been reached to engage the services of our auditors, Kobla Quashie (KQ) to carry our an assessment of our Financial Administration with a view of identifying areas that may require strengthening. This process is also expected to commence early January, 2020 and our FAC has been informed of this proposal for guidance.
- ❖ On another note, we are in discussions with a German based organisation called Christian Services International (CFI) on a possibility of sending a Christian volunteer to ACAT who shall support us in our monitoring and resource mobilisation efforts.
- ❖ This move comes in response to the technical capacity challenges that we have noted within the organisation. Details of this possibility should be much clearer on the second week of December 2019, after a visit by CFI to the country for their assessment of the ACAT and IF conditions required are met by ACAT before the placement is done.

- ❖ We shall continue seeking guidance of the Board through the EXCO so that we make the right decision in this regard.
- ❖ Further, with regards to Buseleni, we are also in discussions with Global Roundtable (GBR) who have shown interest in a partnership with ACAT to support the use of the farm in a profitable way. Again once it is very clear how this partnership will work, approval shall be solicited from the Board of Trustees before any commitment by management..
- ❖ As we reflect on the whole reporting period, once again we see God’s intervention throughout our work and are very grateful to the Lord for His continued protection and provision as we work to bring hope to those in need through our **Food, Faith and Work for Africa** Ministry.

3.0. ENTREPRENUERIAL AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (ESDP)

This programme is working in 8 rural constituencies; these are Hlane, Shiselweni 1, Zombodze Emuva, Ntondozi, Bhekinkhosi, Mhlambanyatsi, Mahlalini and Hosea. In these communities the Programme promotes the savings and Credit Cooperative (SACCO) model of savings. Work in all these communities has been closely monitored by community based extension officers who directly spearheads development activities for the programme.

This section of the report gives key highlights of achievements recorded by the ESDP during the reporting period, which is the third quarter of the financial year 2019/20.

The following are specific achievements for the programme based on set targets for the 3 months under review;

- ❖ **8** Savings and Credit groups were formed to make a total of **31** groups for the programme places the programme at an advantage because this is already above annual target of **22** groups which was set at the beginning of the year.
- ❖ **87** SACCO members were trained on Business Management, against a set target of **50** members for the reporting period.
- ❖ On another note, a total of **346** compared to a set target of **120** people were trained on the spot. This training was mainly on awareness creation on HIV/AIDs using facilitators from the Ministry of Health.
- ❖ While **46** Ventilated Improved Pit (VIP) latrines against a target of **30** was achieved by the programme during the period.
- ❖ **67** new households against a target of **40** were assisted to harvest rainwater for household use and irrigation for their backyard gardens.
- ❖ During the reporting period, the programme recorded **363** extension visits to support and promote SACCO activities in the target communities.

- ❖ On a similar note, **229** homestead visits were conducted by staff to support individual household activities that are supported by the programme.
- ❖ While a total of **345** people were exposed to the reading and sharing of the word by the programme staff during the reporting period, where 4 people were reported to have given their lives to the Lord..

4.0. Performance of the Self Help Group approach

This programme works in 6 communities, these are Gege, Ngudzeni, Sigwe, Ekukhanyeni (Sthobela), Dzakasini and Jericho, where it promotes the Self Help Group (SHG) savings model. The following activities have been recorded as achievement during the reporting period;

- **17** out of **20** groups have been formed during the reporting period.
- Further **one** Cluster Level Association (CLA) out of a target of **6** CLAs was formed during the period
- While **75** out of **40** children's groups have been formed during the period. This performance is already above the set target of 40 for the year.
- **77** backyard gardens have been formed, compared to a target of **87** gardens for the period.
- While **127** out of **135** New Water Harvesters were established through the guidance and support of our extension staff under this programme.

5.0. Performance of the Savings and credit

- In the previous report (August, 2019) it was reported that there was **E1 733 679.00** which could not be accounted for as therefore all programme staff were to make follow up with groups to account for this huge shortfall.
- A detailed report on this shortfall was not complete at the end of the reporting period, all programme staff were working to provide a detailed report on this matter.

6.0 SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE & INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (SAIDP)

This programme, reporting period, continued to work in the five communities under the Lubombo region. These are Maphungwane, Mambane, Sitsatsaweni, KaLanga and Dvokodweni.

During the reporting period, the SAIDP recorded the following achievements against planned activities for the period; while in 6 other communities, which are Mpolonjeni, Hosea, Shiselweni 1, Zombodze Emuva, Shiselweni 2 and Hlane ,the programme implements a three year climate change project. Work in all these communities has also been closely monitored by community based extension officers who directly spearheads development activities for the programme.

This section of the report gives key highlights of achievements recorded by the SAIDP during the reporting period, which is the third quarter of the financial year 2019/20.

The following are specific achievements for the programme based on set targets for the quarter months under review;

- ❖ 5 out of 14 new groups have been formed during the reporting period. It is hoped that by the next quarter, the programme should be able to make up for the variance.
- ❖ On another note, 5 youth groups have been formed against a target of 13 youth groups for the reporting period.
- ❖ While 204 group members attended Centre trainings on SACCO management skills. This was against a target of 260 people to have been trained by the end of the reporting period. Efforts shall be made to ensure that this shortfall is covered in the next quarter of our financial year 2019/20
- ❖ 42 young people attend a five days long training at our Centre, this training covered climate change and business training
- ❖ Following 5 demonstrations done on strategic areas in the communities, 91 new Backyard gardens have been established against a set target of 55 Backyard gardens for the period.
- ❖ With regards to exposure to the Gospel during group meetings, the programme recorded 334 people who have been exposed to the Gospel where 5 people gave their lives to the Lord.

7.0. TRAINING CENTRE AND DEMONSTRATION UNIT (TCDU)

The following highlights present progress made on activities undertaken by the Mbuluzi and Buseleni farms, during the fourth quarter under review:

7.1. Mbuluzi Training and Demonstration Centre

The fourth quarter is normally the quietest time of our financial year in terms of community training activities; however the following activities have been done;

- ❖ The Centre facilitated in the training of 279 people coming from the various ACAT communities and covering different topics as decided by our core programmes (see Table 1.0 below) .
- ❖ In terms of animals around the Mbuluzi farm, at the end of the reporting period they stood at as follows;
 - ✓ 17 Cows where one animal died during the period due to an unknown illness
 - ✓ 34 Goats
 - ✓ All 20 chickens reported about in the previous period were sold to give way to the improvement of their shelter and management in order to improve their productivity.

Table 1: Fourth Quarter trainings planned and conducted by the Training Centre

DATE	TYPE OF TRAINING	Planned	Achieved
09 - 13 Sept	Mid - year staff conference (staff)	31	31
16 - 20 Sept	Sustainable Agriculture (BMZ)	30	25
23 -27 Sept	SACCO Secretaries (BMZ)	30	27
30 Sept - 4 Oct	Area Co-ordinating Committee (BMZ)	30	24
07 - 11 Oct	Leadership Training (BMZ)	30	28
14 - 18 Oct	Leadership Training (BMZ)	30	28
21 - 25 Oct	Youth Climate Change(BMZ)	30	25
28 - 1 Nov	Youth Climate Adaptation (BMZ)	30	15
04 - 08 Nov	SACCO Secretaries Training (BMZ)	30	14
04 - 08 Nov	SACCO Secretaries Training (SAID)	30	11
11 - 15 Nov	Youth Climate Adaptation (BMZ)	30	29
20 - 22 Nov	HIV Volunteers (KNH)	30	13
11 Nov – 12 Dec	Life Skills Training (HFB)	12	9
Totals		379	279

7.2. Buseleni Farm

Like the Mbuluzi centre, the Buseleni farm, during the period under review was involved in the following activities;

- ✓ During the period under review, the Buseleni farm has been able to clean, package and sell OPV maize seed to various farmers in the ACAT communities and around Buseleni community.
- ✓ The selling of the OPV (ZM 521) maize seed was still ongoing by the end of the reporting period, however, already a total of (900 x 10 kg and 30 x 5kg) seed packages had been sold.
- ✓ It should be noted also that the Buseleni seed had been certified by the Seed Quality Control, a department under the Department of Agricultural Research and Specialised Services (DARSS) under the Ministry of agriculture.
- ✓ At the end of the reporting period, the farm planting maize, given the looming drought in this country.

8.0. SUMMARY OF OUR PERFORMANCE DURING THE FIRST HALY OF THE FINANCIAL YEAR

In summary, the overall performance of the organisations in the implementation of key activities against set targets in our strategic plan is summarised as follows:

- 30 Groups have been formed during the period under the period review
- While 17 children's groups formed during the period
- While 333 people trained on SACCO management skills
- While 346 people were trained on the sport, in communities, again on various skills
- A total of 168 new backyard gardens during the period under review
- While on VIP Latrines, 46 VIPs achieved during the period.
- While 168 rain water harvesters were constructed during the period
- Collectively, 679 people were exposed to the sharing of the Gospel where 5 people were reported to have given their lives to the Lord.
- A total of 595 extension visits to support our members have been recorded during the period.

9.0. Conclusion

We are grateful that God has provided this far and look forward to the New Year, 2020

Food Faith and Work for Africa remains our motto!

© December, 2019

Annual Report 2019



INTRODUCTION

As CTM, we experienced the fact that Jesus works in us as written in Ephesians 3:20: "To Him Who by means of His power working in us is able to do so much more than what we can ever ask for, or even think of:"

Through various trainings we conducted this year, 1939 people participated and we received more than 320 commitments to the Lord, We also received feedback from families, individuals and churches of the impact made in their lives by the trainings. Among the 88 Church leaders who attended trainings, we received many encouraging messages from their churches about the result of trainings held by CTM.

We were also encouraged by the influences of the youth trained by CTM in their respective families, who implemented the trainings received. During our evaluation visits, we met parents who were very excited about what their children are contributing in family development.

Because of CTM intervention in Home Food Security, Health and Nutrition, entrepreneurship and the mentoring in the implementation of these, many families are becoming sustainable by removing the real causes of poverty addressed through the Spiritual development which is in the center of all our trainings and practices.

CTM programme has reached a number of people as given earlier in different categories from amongst the target group where we are called to serve. This includes families, churches, and other organizations touching individuals in different age classes with various trainings which were run both at our center and in the areas depending on strategies that can serve more to reach the set objectives in respective communities according to CTM vision.

We have witnessed behavioral changes in lives of group members (e.g. family relationship restored as husbands and wives stopped to abuse one another) through addressing real causes of poverty which is sin, that can only be fixed when the person believes in Jesus centered word. The Jesus centered programme requires the holistic mission which leads CTM to train alongside both Spiritual and skills to help individuals, families and communities to access a sustainable lifestyle.

This report is aimed to provide information on activities conducted during 2019 and the results observed in communities that CTM is serving.

ACTIVITIES

- 108 homesteads have been visited for evaluation purposes
- 875 individuals have been exposed to the causes of poverty in various meetings
- 259 group representatives have been trained in BLS course
- 313 individuals have been trained in basic Business practices
- 48 HFS workshops were conducted and 809 individuals from group members participated
- 19 CVs have been trained in CV1 Course
- 13 CVs have been trained in CV2 course
- 37 CV meetings have been held
- 122 Individuals have been trained in Nutrition and Food technology practices
- 88 pastors from 48 churches have been trained as church leaders
- Women issues were exposed to 105 women and their behavior have changed. e.g. Hygienic conditions are highly changed, relationship in marriages has improved in appositive ways
- A total number of 1939 individuals attended various trainings in 2019.
- 48 churches benefited from various trainings through programme participants from these churches.

RESULTS

- 167 new groups of 7 people have been made making a total of 1179 individuals representing 1179 families
- 320 people committed their lives to Jesus during 2019
- 866 Vegetable gardens have been made by group members
- 563 families from group members have implemented sustainable agriculture principles to improve home food security
- 897 compost heaps have been made by group members
- 150 new businesses have been initiated in this period
- 241 families possess livestock
- 12 SLGs have been initiated
- All the 122 families whose group representatives attended nutrition workshop, reported to be making children nutritious food, 4 individuals and one group made business out of training received in food technology
- Among the 108 families visited in our evaluation visits, 95% have 3 meals per day while they use to have only one meal before joining the programme
- The same families witness that, they don't fall sick as often as it was before: e.g. One of the mothers said that almost a year is complete without taking children to the clinic while she used to have them sick every month; others had malnutrition problems and they are now healthy
- Relationship is now improved in homes of programme participants and children and wives are more secure as behaviors both for husband and wives are changed.

SUCCESS STORIES



Figure 1 :Jesus saved Athasie from Madness Spirit

By addressing the true causes of poverty, people started to stand against sin and decided to leave the old life by embracing the Word of God. Cyriaque and his wife Athanasie are witnesses of a changed life by resisting temptation to go back despite biggest challenge as they testify. This is what Cyriaque says after Jesus delivered his wife:

" It is amazing that by only believing God's word can save a mad person. I now understand that the word of God is the most powerful thing than anything else in the world. My prayer is that God provides to me opportunity to witness his salvation to my family, my community and others in other places. I was in pressure to take my wife to witch-doctors for hilling, but I knew that they will only increase the curse to our family because they have no answer to problems. I knew that Satan will not chase Satan."

The programme was introduced in his area (Mpinga-Kayove) in 2018. This is a remote area with very difficult access because of road conditions and from roads long distance to walk to reach where people stay. Few of the people there go to school, churches are rarely found, and communities are still practicing fetishism, witchcraft and other traditional rites and rituals intended to worship gods and ancestors. We learnt so many things about their practices during our first trainings held in their area, as they received the Gospel and laid down the old life confessing ritual practices and the sad lifestyle they experience.

Cyriaque and Athanasie can serve as example of how dark and miserable are families and communities in the area. She became mad, running, removing clothes, speaking crazy words, very aggressive (biting and throwing things to others). His husband Cyriaque who is a CV in the area, received the word of God and trusted that God can kill her without going to witch doctors. He asked if we can pray for her and we brought them at the center to pray and care for her. The parents wanted to take her to witch doctor saying that they can help her. They threatened him that they will curse him if their daughter dies, and that he will be responsible of anything that can happen to her. He resisted them because he knew the true God does not work in that way. When her mother came to visit them, we discussed on the family history. She said that they used to dedicate children to gods and ancestors and the same problem of madness happened to many of family members from generation to generation. We prayed for her and she is now well, she thanks Jesus for the healing and they are praying for the rest of the family members to know the Lord Jesus Christ.



Figure 2 :Training in Nutrition and food technology

Dutliff Snyman from Rooyal Staple in South Africa is training CVs in Nutrition and food technology at CTM center. After the training Jonathan from Mubuga went back and trained his group members.

17 of the trained team is now helping outpatient children having malnutrition problem in their community with porridge to catchup with weight and stabilize growth using their own means.



Figure 3 :Evariste business

Evariste is one of CPK church elders. He knew CTM work through another pastor from EVA church who shared with him the testimonies of the impact made by trainings in his church. He requested to attend BLS training held in his area which he attended early 2019. He was very inspired to how he can start and develop his own business and influence the church to make groups and start implanting what he learnt from the training.

He started 5 groups of 7 and 8 people among them are doing Business while others are implementing gardens and farming in sustainable way. When we visited him, ha told us how he is generating income for his family and benefiting his community by making opportunity to buy their milk and honey because they can have a play to sell them. He witness to generate monthly more than USD\$100 in addition to what he harvest in his gardens. He also received bibles to help those who cannot afford the price in his church and in the groups. He is very proud of the program because it is helping him to develop his family, his church and his community.



Olivier could not continue his studies because of the poverty the family is in. He is one of the youth who have been trained in youth Basic Life Skills. He was passionate in implementing the training received like gardening and sustainable agriculture. Unfortunately his parent did not want to change their old ways of living and doing things. He begged them to at least give him a small piece of land where he could make a vegetable garden, but they refused. Their neighbor Gertrude who is a CV in their Zone, was doing well with farming and gardens, she was also making good money from them. Looking at Gertrude change, Olivier's mother became convicted to allow her son to follow Gertrude example. He then started doing gardens, and using their land efficiently to increase harvest for food secure, and also make money from his garden and for the family. On this picture, he is standing in his green peas garden, from which he expect money to provide family needs. He has raised hope for the family and he says the following: ***"I feel confidence to face the future because I realize that I can make a living from the land. Since I am allowed to use the land as taught during the training I have no fear that I will prosper; what I have done is serves as evidence that I help myself and my family."***



Figure 3 :Francine testimony of her change

Francine did not have a child after 9 years of marriage and was very hated by the family including her husband. After joining the programme, the word of God changed her deeply and stopped visiting witch doctors because she trusted God and started to pray for the situation. Together with her group members, they implemented the trainings and could live a good example lifestyle in the community until her husband started to trust her.

For three years now, she started a business of selling Bananas and she makes enough profit to help her family. She then wisely and prayerfully requested her husband to visit clinic to know where the problem is (many think that birth problem is only for women) and her husband accepted; after health test, it was found that the husband was the one having the problem. He was treated and now they have their baby boy.

Sylvain is a military that joined the programme in 2012. In first time, he came to request for assistance because he was in dept and could not payback with his very little salary. He was very sad to not being able help his family with required food, clothing and school for children.

The programme was introduced to him in response for him to get capacity required to overcome all his challenges.

He attended BLS course as well as various field workshops.

After training he started gardens himself. He then sold vegies from the garden and from the money he got from vegies he brought a land with stones which he started to exploit using 6 workers that he paid the wage. From the stones he begun to buy and resell the lands. He has now built a decent house to stay with the family.



Figure 5 :Sylvain from 2012

Since he started implementing what he learnt, Sylvain has inspired so many people including his colleagues. He is passionate to see others accessing to the blessings like him.

He went in Central African Republic in UN mission, and once there, he started to teach people there about gardening because he found they are dependent to imported products while they have very big lands for planting. He cameback to Burundi after he had made groups that were dynamic with planting. Sylvain is eager to help them further if he ever get a chance to go back to Central African Republic





Figure 6 :Jeanine and Jovanie

Jovanie joined programme later 2018 and attended HFS workshops together with other group members. She quickly understood that change is possible as it is said in CTM groups. She started implementing HFS at homestead level and could plant vegetables near her house to feed the entire family throughout the year.

She testified about the increase of bean harvest that she planted in last season. Like many other programme participants, she has never seen the yield of land before. Jovanie is now full of hope, she confident of overcoming the lack in her house.

When she realized the increase and the success, her group reached out and influenced others to mae groups and learn the same skills as them. She even took us to these groups initiated through their influence.

Isaie graduated in secondary school and could not afford university because his parents were very poor. He was very sad to not carry on his studies and could neither get a job that provide him an income. He met Jeremie, one of the CVs who also graduated at secondary school and could not access university because of poverty.

When he heard his testimony, he was motivated because Jeremie is no longer poor since he implemented HFS and Entrepreneurship trainings and generate income without waiting employment as he can innovate business through plating and selling. Isaie joined the programme and started to use a piece of land to plant vegetables.



Figure 7: Isaie

Through selling these vegies, he made the following statement: ***"I am content with the income I get from the work I am currently doing. I am not sure if I could get employment that could pay a wage equal to what I get from selling my vegies. I am happy to develop my life and I getting lots of experience because I am my own boss."***

Aloys joined the programme in 2016. His community is located in high mountains with rocks making the access very difficult. There no roads to link his area and others. He travelled long distance to get to the first meeting when first group were being made in his closest area. He was pleased with the programme and since then he attended various trainings which quickly implemented. He is happy to have crop production increased, and he is generating income from selling products that his community need.

He lived a very good example to his neighbors because they realize big difference between his life before the programme and the life he is now living.



Figure 8: Aloys progress

Here is his testimony: ***“My new way of planting made my crops different, and everyone could see. My neighbors saw the difference from the way I started and continued to do things at my homestead, and wanted to do the same in their families. I was happy to help them with my experience although some of them could not implement it. With them we started to implement and learn how we can transform our area. We start to make the road that can connect us with other areas. When the rest of the community saw our initiatives, they joined and asked me to be the leader of this area in helping them to organize the community. I now feel to have authority to help even wider areas because of the trust they have in me. I thank CTM for helping me to become so beneficial to others including my church.”***



Figure 9: Pascal testimony

Pascal is in the programme since 2016. He is one of the first people who joined the programme when we started in his area. He liked the approach of development through capacity building because it could help him become capable to change himself. He put much attention in all the training and read through books that were given after training to make sure he implements training correctly.

He explained how he carefully followed instruction to plant vegies, to water them and to make composts. He was very poor before because he didn't know how to use his land. After joining the programme he started to use his land efficiently and could harvest enough for the family. He is currently making much money from vegetables. He bought a cow and he is happy that he can have good quality organic compost to improve more his soil fertility.

Ending hunger starts with me!

(Kumaliza njaa ina anza na mimi)

As we did in June 2019, we continue to confirm that We have titled our report: Ending hunger starts with me! For the following reasons:

In the D R Congo, there is no national plan to fight hunger. No plan for employment. Individuals are responsible of their survival in any circumstances.

International NGOs are multiplying but no positive impact on the population; instead, people are transformed into more poor and dependent for everything, even for daily food.

The population is more than 60% young. That's why we decided to walk alongside our communities to fight hunger. Everyone is hungry but everyone is waiting for politician leaders to provide salaries and good conditions for a better life. Unfortunately, it's now 60 years that the country is independent but nothing special happened. People continue to suffer of poverty and hunger before disappearing in front of poor children and relatives.

We have decided to do something to end hunger in our community. It's possible!

That's why our motto is: Ending hunger starts with me! (Kumaliza njaa ina anza na mimi)

Major goals of this campaign

- Produce food and contribute to the economic growth
- Contribute to the reduction of poverty
- Create employment for the youth
- Feed a child to stay in school

With our last year experience and under the guidance of our coach Lambert NKURUNZIZA, here is the summary of what we have done the last 6 months.

1. Leadership and trainings.

We were forced to reduce our leadership trainings to a small amount of people for the following reasons:

- a) Over-ambitious people who claim more than they can possibly achieve in the time specified and for the funds requested
- b) People who wanted an infrastructure, payment and capital investment, instead of volunteering and bringing in ideas and initiatives to become self-sustained.
- c) People who wanted Travel (air fares, rail fares, renting vehicles, running vehicles, taking taxis), Per diem (for travel for project staff, for trainees etc.), Training, workshops, conferences, Publications, Office supplies and services (electricity, phones, fax, paper etc.), Office equipment (computers, printers, copiers), Office space, Farm equipment etc.

Because of these issues, without abandoning the rest of our 69 churches scattered in 35 villages, we focused on 5 villages only. They are: WALUNGU, NSHESHA, CHIBANDA, KAZIMU and CAGALA.

Why the 5 villages?

To be effective and have a positive effect, we choose to focus on these villages where we have Poor people many are displaced from neighboring war-torn villages with many AIDS orphans, Pregnant or nursing mothers, Unemployed youth, Landless laborers and smallholder farmers.

Making Impact

It was hard but here is the main achievement:

- 30CVs have been trained in CV1(6CV per village)
- 30 CVs have been retrained in CV2(6 CV per village)
- 40 CV meetings (8 in each village) have been held to encourage, monitor, evaluate, and build leadership capacity of CVs.
- 20 new groups have been initiated making a total of 162 individuals (an average of 15 per group) (2groups per village)
- **25**workshops in sustainable agriculture have been conducted with the 20 groups representatives attending(3workshops per village) , we missed 5 workshops training.
- 19 workshops in food security for 162(2workshops per village), we missed 1 workshop
- 57 visits for evaluation, follow-ups and monitoring have been made to homestead(11 visits per village) we missed 3 visits
- 30 one day trainings on causes of poverty have been conducted (6 trainings per village)
- 18 one day capacity building meetings have been conducted for leadership team(4 meetings per village) we missed 2 meetings.
- 212 gardens were established
- 6 businesses were started(food for children to fight malnutrition)
- 38 new families can keep animals for home food security (rabbits).

- 303 people committed their life to Jesus
- 23 children got food to keep them at school.

How to be thankful when life is hard, but made easier for us?

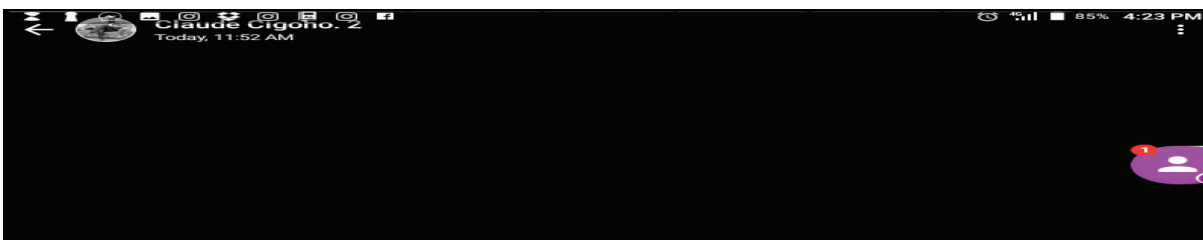
Everything seemed hard but through ACAT we saw God's Hands upon us. We received funds and 410 bibles were distributed. THANK YOU SO MUCH. We had 2 important mentoring meetings with Lambert NKURUNZIZA



- 19 August to 20 August great lakes community nutrition training in KAMEMBE



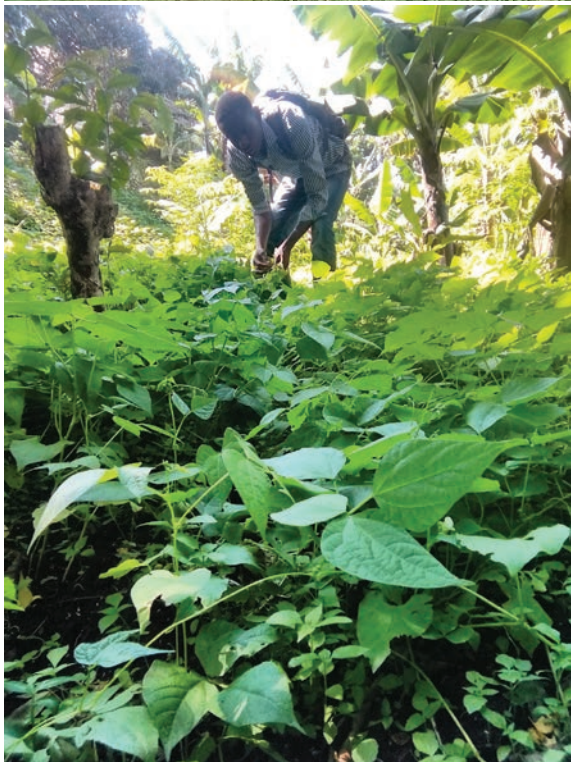
- Furaha in a local leaders' meeting for nutrition issues in the Bagira community
- 8 Sept to 11 Sept MCM youth general assembly under Bienvenu et Martin. Christopher in the center received a certicat for having started many gardens and helping many others to get involved.



- 16 Sept to 17 Sept mentoring meeting in Gitega(Lambert and Herman).
- 38 new families can keep animals for home food security (rabbits).



- 212 gardens were established





- Feeding children to keep them at school.



- Small business started



- Follow up meetings and encouraging local leaders





- After baptism and handing over bibles to new believers

What was next after June 2019?

Because it's easy to walk in different places and the church or local leaders were attracted with the ending hunger campaign, we will be going to launch the campaign to fight hunger in the 35 villages where we have churches during this dry season, but our focus will remain on the chosen 5 villages.

We planned for these activities but we realized that it was not wise to continue to stretch our efforts while we are limited.

What Special role of the Youth!

What stood out for this period is the engagement of the youth. We thank God because the role of young people in agriculture and the ending hunger campaign is effective and we hope that it will continue to make impact as long as all the new Cvs trained this period, the new 6 business started and most of the group members are young adults.

We were able to feed 23 children to maintain them at school.

Three more interesting engagements of the youth:

- Motivate people in the church
- Willingness to learn and develop new skills
- Heart to positively impact our own community

Hindrance to our activities.

From May 2019, The Goma and Bukavu, are classified dangerous zones for Ebola virus expansion. Selling, buying and moving became an issue and MCM activities are affected.

On the 19th August, some of our staff invited to be train in nutrition in KAMEMBE were denied to get on the Rwandan soil. Rain is a blessing, local saying in BUKAVU, but rain has been a hindrance for us to move and travel to some places. When, it rains, there is not public transport to some villages.
May God bless you.

Global Women Leadership Network – Uganda

27.1.2020

Good Afternoon Mrs Dedekind,

I have not yet gotten back to you cause of studies i had to submit an exegesis paper (this course is not easy),but God willing i will i still have a lot of questions on dynamics on the contact .So am taking my time to understand it well. Am currently enrolled for Under Graduate Biblical Studies course by God's grace am due to completion then i embark on Bachelors in Biblical Studies.And eventually Maters in Divinity.

Once again i want to thank ACAT forthe strong Christian foundation imparted on me.

My church is rolling out neighborhood program in my district where i will be volunteering to teach valuable women :trauma related issues,basic life skills and spirituality.And do follow up on the women that i will be training both spiritually,mentally ,economically further empowering them to stand on their two feet.

The aim is to restore back their dignity and win souls to Christ!

Am grateful for the training in ACAT I had no idea i was preparing myself for this!,i gave the facilitators my ACAT books so taht they can include several materials,am asking for permission to re print in our languages and reprint still in English so that we may reach Northern Uganda where farming is their main focus.(i can retain a copy of each translated back to ACAT)

I cannot wait to come back with another person and further perfect what i had learnt and see how we can best use in our own concept here.

ACAT Uganda is in the making! to God i give all the glory!!

Regards,

AFM REPORT: **LESOTHO TRAINING**

As a testimony, we had certificate awards yesterday (Sunday 1st December 2019) at which we invited some Members of parliament, and minister. Though Minister didn't show up but member of city council came and accepted Jesus. From this trainees they accepted Jesus. Furthermore that Member of parliament has taken MEMBERSHIP yesterday though I witnessed to her few weeks back.

This week please pray with me I have appointment with minister of sports and recreation I am going to witness to her as well!

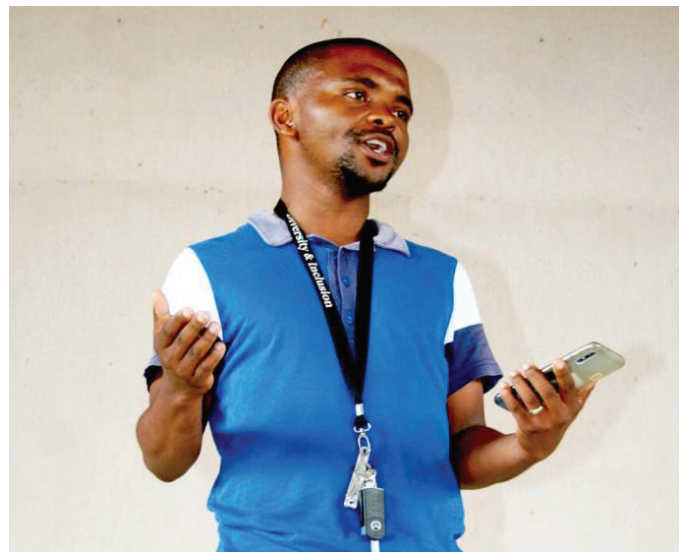
You because so instrumental to us.



LESOTHO (DAVID MPOLO)

Different wellness clubs met together with head of city council. We were invitewd and God increased our sphere of influence to government office.

First membership class with the bibles you gave us. Bibles helped us because the day we prespare for this all seats were occupied by visitors. And as a result had this for follow up. (pile of forms)



Dunamis Transport t/a **DUNAMIS SHEKINAH CENTRE**

Report for the period of

April 2019 – January 2020

Compliments of the New Year. How I have longed to be writing to you again. Yes, indeed it has been a long time. A lot of challenges experienced and success stories during this period will be shared. I give praise to God Almighty that finally I am able to sit down and prepare this brief report on the work of Dunamis Shekinah Centre in the West side of East London. Now I am sitting at our local KFC store so that I can access their internet#.

Programme Implementation Progress

As from April to October, we worked in one area, Pumlani Area 1, where Unathi Merile stays (one of the CVs who attended the ACAT BLS training in March 2019). We worked together establishing groups within the vicinity, 3 groups of 5 were formed totaling to 15 households. The groups are a mix of young unemployed married women and women senior citizens. One of the households in the group had big rocks making it difficult to grow vegetables, was advised to use any unused big basin or bathtub. Two ladies started a spazza takeaway, selling vetkoeks', chicken heads and feet, 13 bibles were donated and handful of seedlings for the needy to start. Out of the 15 people only 9 are currently active. The training done with this group is BLS module 3, lesson 1 to lesson 4. No savings club started yet. The last meeting with the 2 existing groups was December 2019.

Challenges in Pumlani Area 1:

The period between May to July 2019 I was not available in the community, that might be the cause for other people to drop out. This was period was tuff for me personally. There were family issues I felt the Holy Spirit needed me to attend –

- Personal/ Family matters. I thank God He carried us through and came out victorious. He gave us strength on a daily basis to completely heal and restored.
- I had to attend to the matter of nephews intending to sell a property without family consent and a very bad decision without considering risks and negative implications that can affect them. It was not easy, draining, a strong burden on my shoulders, it was a spiritual warfare that literally took my time as I had to stand in the gap and intercede for the matter, the journey was not easy as I was also carrying my burdens ... but, Praise be to God we came out victorious, the home is restored and children occupying the property. I really thank God for the Holy Spirit who prompted and burdened me with the matter and walked with me to the final resolution. I am still trusting him to restore the elder brother with his siblings.
- During this period, I had to travel to and from East London and Mthatha, my laptop bag with all my work and back up hard drive, the ACAT presentations and videos that were provided to me during the leadership training, and other personal belongings were stolen from the boot of my car. This affected me and costed me a lot. It was just not easy to continue with operations.
- Lack of resources, this has been a great challenge since there is no funding yet received from donors or any donations in fact, I have not yet approached the people or local organizations / institutions to help though it is something I always think I have to do. There has been a lot of procrastinating and doubt. I am currently using personal or family resources.
- Due to my absence in the community, Unathi also had to find a job and was working away from the community only coming back during weekends and it was not possible for her to organize meetings or visit households as she has to attend to her family after a week of being away.
- I also on adhoc basis found myself a job of working as debt collector, yes it did help when I was able to sign up people, at least fuel costs were covered

now and again. It was not a fulfilling job yet it exposed me to know or realize how people are in bondage and indebted and the poverty levels of people whether they are holding high positions in government or private sector. I am also trying to market Forever Living Products (a multilevel marketing business) to generate income.

September 2019 to January 2020

I then went back to the community, I gathered the active members and we continued with programme, some were already selling their Spinach to community members. I have always found joy and fulfilment when going to these communities, sharing the Word of God in our meetings and see hope in their eyes. They are so receptive of God's Word another senior citizen was telling us that even children are loving the new bible and every night they read the bible when they pray #family alters are raised with these new bibles.

I then visited the upper section of Pumlani, I met with the chairperson of the community, Mr. Nomjila, he tried to organize community meetings for me which never materialized and I asked him to allow me get into each house and share the ACAT programme. I visited homes, they showed interest but couldn't come to a point of meeting and form groups, for some time we would have 3 members attending. I then engaged into prayer and fasting and I finally found a breakthrough, 25 households have started gardens in their households, G5s established, bibles and handful of seedlings donated. Two people were selected to attend CV training in ACAT KZN. Due to high levels of unemployment, people are solely depending on social grants, they have no money, I intend to sponsor their transport costs to KZN and request ACAT KZN to sponsor their accommodation and course. The G5s contributed transport costs of the 2 people from the village to the bus station in town.

Neighboring villages of the Upper Section of Pumlani heard about the programme and came to one of our meetings as we meet every Wednesday at 2pm, they invited

me to go to their villages as they are also interested in the programme. Due to financial constraints I agreed to visit them next month, beginning of February.

Challenges in Upper Section of Pumlani and new:

- Most community members are living in shacks, few that they have built brick houses, they have huge sites with enough piece of land for farming, vegetable crops, poultry, piggery and small-scale livestock as they can divide the land to have a kraal within. The community members are dependent on social grants and informal jobs. The Upper Section is known as a place with criminals and drug addicts, the African foreigners with their Spazza shops are accused of selling drugs to youth. Youth is unemployed, those that finished Matric are unable to further their studies. Some Pastors ministering in Pumlani mentioned the area has stubborn strongholds of witchcraft and drugs. The community members tried to start a community garden project but failed because people were not committed and only two would work so they dissolved the project. There are other organizations working in the community focusing on youth and teenagers.

The ACAT programme is an advantage and has potential to succeed in this community because the programme is encouraging them to work in their own gardens, they have been so receptive of the programme, it is not a struggle for the G5s to attend meetings. They help and support each other. In one of our meeting here in January 2020 we read Proverbs 11:11 **A city becomes great when righteous men give it their blessings...** so we referred a 'city' to a 'village' Pumlani and we realized also that the name Pumlani means ...**REST**. We then read Mathew 11:28, **Come to me, all of you who are (tired of carrying...) weary and carry heavy burden, and I will give you rest**. We declared the 2 scriptures will be our main theme verses for the next six months as we learn to apply Gods Word in our daily lives.

- The community is big with other extra 2 villages – I don't have a capacity. There is a need to get minimum of 2 CVs in each village, so that when one drops there is still another one to help.

- There is a need for CVs to help with household Survey with a minimum of stipend... for their time.
- Working alone currently is affecting the administrative part of the programme, with the help of CV's they can gather community reports and photos so I can prepare reports on time, till I get my own office administrator when funds are available. I also intend to approach WSU and apply to be in their data base as a service provider that hires their interns... Seta pays their wage and the service provider contributes a minimum if possible.

Conclusion

The programme is running in a very small scale but very promising with great potential and is well received by communities already touched. I am everyday enjoying this community work, it so precious to give hope to an individual who have lost hope. I am passionate about community development. Precious Holy Spirit is putting more love and burden in me about the people in the communities, transforming their lives and communities for His own glory. I am in discussion with the department of Agriculture and the Department of Rural Development and Land Reform to see how they can support the programme.

I have put on hold all other programmes and focusing on SAP for now till we get a foot print and will slowly introduce the Loan and Savings Club.

I have been approached by the Director of the Department of Rural Development and Land Reform on a personal capacity, enquiring about the ACAT programme how it can benefit the community they intend to support as the church. He invited me to attend and present the ACAT model in the Social Justice workshop. I would really appreciate to get pointers and advice from you on how I can approach it, I will forward you with the invitation letter. Should they approve the programme they will contract us to implement the programme and they will finance the implementation of the programme. This would be a financial breakthrough to Dunamis and the programme extending to other parts of East London. There will be a need to present a breakdown of financial / costing required and all other resources required to ensure

the success of the programme. Please advise and assist. I will be sending the invitation to you.

Photos of all work done will be submitted, all photos were taken with a no smart phone still battling to transfer to a computer. I will try and send some few to Philippa's WhatsApp if permitted to do so.

This is to confirm that this brief/ informal report is correct and true reflection of what is happening in West side of East London by Dunamis/ Nomngqibelo Ludidi- Nxoyi.

Tuesday, 08 October 2019 at 16:05:02 South Africa Standard Time

Subject: Fwd: ATTENTION MRS NGEMA

Date: Tuesday, 08 October 2019 at 12:06:02 South Africa Standard Time

From: life changing christian school

To: acat@iafrica.com

Subject: ATTENTION MRS NGEMA

Apostle TG Nala hosted a Revival at Ndindindi area Nquthu. Ndindindi is one of the rural areas under Nquthu Village. The Revival took place in a community hall.

The Revival started on the 9th of September 2019 and it was meant to end on the 13th of September 2019. But due to the high attendance and seeing that people are hungry and thirsty for God there was a need to extend the Revival. It was then extended to the 19th of September 2019.

The Revival was starting from 18h00-20h00 pm.

People came in numbers from day one till the end. God worked wonders in this area. People were attended as one on one on a Tuesday and Wednesday of the following week between 10h00-14h00 on the Tuesday and 14h00-18h00 on Wednesday as there were also home visits done on that day.

People managed to table their problems and they were linked with the relevant stakeholders like Department of Social Development, Department of Health, Local traditional leadership and so on to ensure that their matters are attended to.

Through the intervention of Apostle TG Nala, some people managed to receive an instant help and intervention. Some matters are still in a process of intervention as the Apostle is also doing some follow up with the relevant stakeholders.

The total number of 71 people gave their lives to God. Those people were also given bibles.

On Sundays people who are willing to fellowship with us in our church, they were given an opportunity to do so. Our transport picks them up from their bus stations on Sunday morning.

The attendance is still quite good.

During the Revival a message of changing lives as part of the church vision was shared. Evangelism was done, teachings were done, Testimonies were shared by those who gave their lives to God as well as by the members of Life Changing Ministries. A balance was also brought in where by Health and Wellness related matters were also highlighted to benefit people on how to handle physical, social, spiritual, environmental, financial, mental, emotional and intellectual related matters.

Some people stopped smoking the 1st day of the Revival after they have attended the service. Some they stopped drinking the second day of the Revival started. These people were not prayed for to stop those things and they were unknown to us, but they voluntarily gave those testimonies.

During the revival, it was announced that we will have home cell group on the same venue every Wednesday from 17h00-19h00. On the 25th of September 2019, it was the first Wednesday of the home cell. Again people came in numbers as if it was still a Revival. Pictures are attached for the home cell as well as for the entire Revival.

Surely we have seen the hand of God in this area.

Regards
Apostle T.G Nala

Life Changing Christian Academy



AGM 2020

The CfC AGM will take place on Tuesday the 3rd of March 2020 starting at 10H00 at Silver Oaks Retreat & Conference Centre. Should you wish to attend, please contact me at director@cfcm.co.za so that I can send you the Agenda, Reports and the Annual Financial Statement. CfC is committed to good governance and financial accountability. Our Annual Financial Statements will be published on our website for your perusal.

Financially Speaking

We do not often speak about money but we do feel that it is important for you to know what we are budgeting for in 2020. Please note that the Skills4Life Project is now an entity on its own, although it is still a ministry of CfC. This has to do with tax incentives.

CfC needs to embark on some accommodation development projects in order to grow our Bible School as well as ministry to married couples. Please won't you trust the Lord with us for His gracious provision? These are the budgets approved by the CfC Council in December:

CfC Operational Budget	R1 400 000-00	(US\$93 334)
CfC Development Budget	R1 100 000-00	(US\$73 334)
Amakhono Okuphila – Skills4Life	R 190 000-00	(US\$12 667)

(If you need a detailed budget please contact me.)

With Gratitude

On behalf of the CfC Council, staff, as well as those who benefited from the ministry of CfC, **THANK YOU!** We do not have the words to express how much you mean to us.

Thank you for **PRAYING** so faithfully for this work. Thank you to those who **GIVE** generously to make this work possible. We know that you are doing this sacrificially. May the Lord reward you in His own special way.

Our prayer is that the Lord will grant you His peace, rest and favour this Christmas season. We pray that He will bless and encourage you with renewed hope for 2020. May His Peace be your guide as you face the uncertainties of a New Year. May you never waiver to trust Him with all your needs. May He be your portion and strength! In Christ alone, we stand!

Christ-focussed greetings from:

George and the CfC Team, Council and Ron & Sally Wesson.

Banking Details:

Name of Acc: **Crusade for Christ First National Bank**, Margate, RSA
 Swift code: **FIRNZAJJ**
 Branch/SortCode: **22-01-28**
 Account No – **52960247016**

OR
VISA or MASTERCARD via
 PayPal or PayPal:

Go to:
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 and press the
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CfC Ministries

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 Web: www.cfcm.co.za
 NPO: 058-158 / PBO: 930017316

- * Multi-level Bible Training
- * Skills4Life Training
- * Conference & Retreat Centre
- * Place of Rest for God's People
- * Outreach

December 2019

Issue no. 236

"The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send workers into His harvest field." Matthew 9:37 - 38

What is the greatest gift we can give Jesus this Christmas? It is to be involved in fulfilling the vision of John in Revelation 7:9-10: **"After this I looked, and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and before the Lamb. They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands. And they cried out in a loud voice: 'Salvation belongs to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb.'**"



How can this be done? Jesus gives us the answer:

ASK! The fulfilment of the Great Commission depends on the gift of obedience to Jesus this Christmas season. As we obey the Lord through prayer, His mighty hand will move obedient disciples to fulfil the call to go into His harvest-field in order to bring in the harvest which is ripe. Let's resolve to celebrate Jesus this Christmas by obeying His call to ASK. As we ask, let us then be obedient to

respond; which could include going, giving or more praying! May you experience the reality of the Lord of the harvest this Christmas season and may it motivate you to greater obedience in 2020.

Friendraising in the USA

Cecile and I had a blessed two months in the USA visiting and sharing about the work done through CfC. We are so grateful for every opportunity we had to meet people, share in churches and small groups, make new friends, renew friendships, and just enjoying the beauty and hospitality of the American people.



Were there any highlights? Honestly, we cannot choose just one. The whole experience was special. We met so many wonderful and generous people of God. We want to extend a special thanks to those who hosted us and helped us to coordinate the trip. Thank you to every church and individual who contributed financially to make this visit possible. Was the trip successful? I believe it was! CfC is now more widely known than before. A number of churches and individuals have indicated ongoing or new support, and a number expressed the desire to visit and assist in ministry. We are really looking forward to these visits as these partnerships will greatly assist in our task of mobilising Christ's Church for His return.



South Coast Bible School Graduation 2019

Graduation is always a buzz of activity as well as a time of great excitement. This year we had seven graduates that faithfully completed their 36 courses to obtain a Certificate in Pastoral Ministry. The one person was 78 years old, proving that we are never too old to learn!

Graduation is also an encouraging time for the lecturers. The students testified not only of knowledge gained but of lives that were changed as the life-giving Word of God brought transformation and renewal to their lives. We give God all the glory as He gives strength and wisdom to teach His unchanging Word.

Please do pray for us as we seek to grow this ministry. Also pray for the meeting with sister Training Schools that meet from 20 – 22 January 2020 to discuss ways to be more effective in the training and support of our students.



Amakhono Okuphila – Skills4Life



This term only two classes were in session - Sewing & Computer Skills.

Although it was a small group, the Lord worked in a wonderful way as the students testified to being spiritually enriched.

One of the Bible School students, Nosipho Ndlovo, has been attending the S4L training and wrote the following to George: **"I would like to take this opportunity to thank you and your team for the skills that you gave me. Really, they have helped me a lot because this year I didn't struggle too much for payment of fees, especially with baking because I do make income out of baking and to survive with my family. May God bless you."**



These testimonies humble and motivate us to continue. We thank the Lord for each student that attends and pray that



Nelisiwe with her own creation!

each one of them will meet the living Christ as Saviour and Lord. We once again want to express our gratitude to those who teach courses as well as those who have given financially to assist us in making this program possible.

We are looking forward to a new era in the S4L program with the arrival of Greg and Sarah Akers. As mentioned previously, Greg will take over the leadership of the S4L program with the assistance of Sarah. They will be arriving on the 17th of December and we would like to ask you to pray for them as they settle into a new house (with baby Rayah) as well as starting a new exciting ministry with S4L.

Sweetwaters Praise Centre Partnership Report (July –Dec 2019)

Introduction

This has been a period of consolidating and growing what we have started. It has been interesting to see the church really adapting to the development mode.

Growth of interest in the whole movement

- After sending our June report to the ministry leaders, there was so much interest to take this to all our churches.
- The critical key for me was how to maintain the quality of what ACAT teaches, so it was suggested that three of our pastors attend the Pastor's course so that we can all have one mind
- Implementation will promptly begin within these churches
- According to the pastors that attended, we will start with the SLGs since most of our people are struggling financially

Growth within the local church

- The SLG has been very helpful. People have been constantly and consistently saving and borrowing money.
- What I really love is to see even the parents who are not a part of our church helping their children. One of them borrowed a thousand rand for the 'Back to school'. Usually this is the time when most parents would be going to loansharks. And to think that all the interest she makes will be hers is amazing indeed
- It was particularly interesting to see the church itself opening its own savings book. This will particularly help us generate enough money for building and buying chairs and things like that, instead of always relying on the same individuals to 'carry the church'. We have started home gardens with 5 people who are not part of our church. We are doing this as a pilot project just to see if we are able to manage it well and see if our quality can match ACAT. We do not want to do gardens for the sake of doing gardens. It has to be a tool of growing people even financially.

1.

The Kid's Clubs

- Our Kid's Clubs have been stable although we did not see much numerical growth (still averaging 121 kids). But the level of support from the church has been amazing, in terms of the food, the toys, clothes and bible teachings. So much so that one of the parents sent a message saying: "I am so thankful that my son attends the kid's club. Since he started he has been so respectful and now even washes the dishes without me reminding him to do this". For me this is a true success story because we are doing this to positively influence the community.
- We have also seen a level of improvement on the children's grades in school as we help them with their study methods. We help create study time tables based on their schedules and needs. One such kid (Dumiswa) got level 7 on all her subjects. As a result, her mom has insisted that her brother also joins the kid's club.
- We have been able to help a few kids who did not have Birth Certificates and those who were neglected by their parents. Two kids were in need of school uniforms and they were assisted. Last year they could not even attend school because the basic needs were not met.
- We also address health issues, medically and prayerfully. One child used to sleepwalk and faint in school. But ever since we started praying for her she has been well
- There has been such a growth in terms of healthy eating, based on the teachings that we have been doing. People are now striving to plant their own veggies so they can eat organically. Even to see some ditching sea salt for Himalayan Salt has been interesting. People are now listening to their bodies and then they eat accordingly.

Personal Notes

- This has been a year of learning. How to keep proper records. How to report back. Preaching for total (holistic) growth and trusting other people with critical information (like handling people's money etc.)
- People are just waiting for their pastors to kick-start them in the right direction, and they definitely will grow.

