



Opening of NORSA COMMUNITY CARE



Dear family and friends,

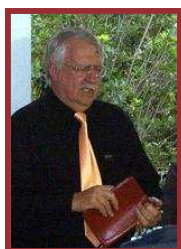
I am not only writing this letter with great humbleness, but also with deep thankfulness in my heart as this past weekend was one of the most memorable of my life.

Changing the destiny of children



We had the official opening ceremony of the NorSA office in Wellington on the 30th of September and visited the first cluster care projects in Carterville and De Doorns the following day. The two mayors of the two different areas where we are developing our projects joined us and we also had several guests from all over the world. In total 106 guests joined us for the celebration of this event.

Awaiting the acceptance of the different Boards of the potential members, Norsa will consist of 4 members namely: ATKV, SA Cares for Life, ProCare and Children of the World Norway, who will each appoint two directors on the board of NorSA.



*From left to right:
Johan van Schoor for the ATKV, Marietjie Bezuidenhout
for ProCare, Riekie van der Berg for SA Cares for Life
and Young Kuk Kim for Children of the World Norway.*

Johan Van Schoor did the inauguration of the office with an amazing Word from John 13:35 and Galatians 5:13 and reminded us of God's promise of blessing, if we would keep His commandment to love one another and to keep on doing our work in serving each other in love.



After the official opening of the office we had a celebration dinner, and the two mayors as our main speakers. It was an evening full of laughter and surprises. The wonderful news is that we received a piece of ground in each area where we can develop our projects. The ground in Carterville was offered to us for a small amount of R9000 and during the opening function, Mr Herman Bailey announced that the Wellington Community Chest would donate the funds to NorSA for purchasing the ground. We were overwhelmed and could just thank God for His faithfulness and provision.

On Sunday 01st October 2006, we visited Carterville and De Doorns together with about 60 of our guests. Everybody was touched by the extreme needs of the children and families we are involved with. Our vision for both areas is to sustain and develop our cluster care programmes to ensure maximum impact to the families involved in the programme, to establish HIV counseling and information centres, as well as day care centers for the preschool children from our families who are registered in the cluster care programmes.

Marietjie wrote the rest of this newsletter and in future you will receive regular feedback from both of us, as Marietjie will keep us up to date with the development in the Western Cape.

DE DOORNS

In De Doorns we are going to run the different projects from Wendy houses and our first Wendy house was completed on the day of our opening! The Department of Health, Overberg Region made this possible and we are very thankful to them for sharing our vision and taking our hands.



This venue will function as a counseling and information center as there is a very big need for counseling and support for HIV infected and affected families. We will also present support groups from this venue.



We visited the center again on the 4th of October to start our planning. To our astonishment, a group of people was already waiting for us. This “welcoming committee” made us realise that this initiative could not have come at a better time.

Amongst these people waiting for us, was a grandmother with her grandchild. The grandmother asked our help, because Andiswa is already 2 years old and cannot walk. Andiswa’s mother didn’t want her and left her with the grandmother. We evaluated Andiswa as being mentally challenged with cerebral palsy. According to the clinic card, she was scheduled to be at the hospital in 2005, but was never taken. Andiswa is now registered as one of our intake children in the programme, and is allocated to a child care worker who has taken the first steps to get her the necessary medical attention.



Our vision is to further establish a day care center for the pre school children from the families registered in our cluster care programme. Currently we have 3 clusters (45 families) and 3 care workers who are “caring” for them. Amongst these 45 families are 49 children who need to be accommodated in a day care center **immediately**. These children are just strolling around and need immediate stimulation. We envision putting up 2 Wendy houses from where the day care center can operate. We have the necessary funding to establish the day care center and to run it until December 2006. We just trust God that He will provide the necessary funds to enable us to go on with the day care from January 2007.



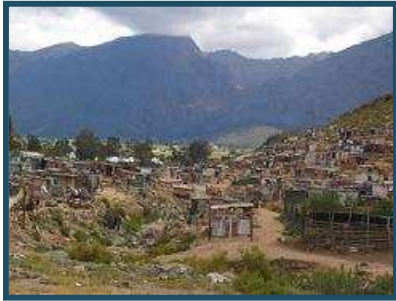
We realised with a shock that the people of De Doorns are really hungry and our care workers started preparing soup from Monday, 02 October 2006. Since we have started providing soup, the care workers have fed about 176 children per day.

We were overwhelmed to see how the children rush to the center to get soup. This made me realise that the next urgent step to take is to establish a soup kitchen on the premises.



We have the necessary equipment (pots, gas stoves), we have a huge piece of ground, but urgently need a Wendy house from where we can prepare and distribute the soup.

Photos of De Doorns..



CARTERVILLE

Because we own the piece of ground in Carterville, we can build on it and the first step would be to erect a steel construction and start building from where we can run the different projects.

Until we have the necessary funds for this building, we will utilise a Wendy house from where we will operate the counseling and day care center.

A soup kitchen for the community is being planned, as hunger is currently one of the biggest needs. A lot of individuals are infected with HIV/AIDS and TB and needs at least on nutritional meal per day which we want to provide them with. Our family co-coordinator visited a family in Carterville with some food and was touched by the reaction of the father who had tears running down his cheeks telling her that they didn't have any food in the house and the child asking if the food was for them, as they had nothing.



We currently have one cluster of 16 families, with one care worker, registered in our cluster care programme. We want to establish the day care center immediately for the 16 pre school children from these registered families as they are in urgent need of the stimulation.

We are so privileged to be able to give our hands to these needy people, but we cannot do it without your prayers and support. We trust God that He will guide us in the right direction and that He will provide with the necessary funds and support to obtain our dreams.

God Bless

**Marietjie
NorSa Commnity Care**

