



beautifulgate

Together Bringing Hope to Children & Families

Our mission 'We seek to reflect God's image as we care for and protect children, empower and preserve families and mobilize our community'

NUMBER
15

NEWS | July'10



Message from **The Director** **God's heart for children!**

Many of us think that only "grown-ups" can do things of great significance. But we forget the young boy David, slayer of Goliath, and the child Samuel, who heard God's voice or the youngster who gave up his fish and bread so that Jesus could feed 5000 adults. God has a plan for each new born and each young child. Sadly, many of our nation's children are abused or neglected, left without anyone to nurture or protect them. Thoughts of doing "great things" are far from their minds. Yet Psalms says that "You (O lord) have taught the little children to praise you perfectly. May their example shame and silence your enemies." Our children are not only our future, they are our today. As we speak words of encouragement and hope, of love and life into them, I am convinced that ALL children, rich or poor, all around the world, can do great things!

Vaughan Stannard

FATHER'S DAY AT BG **Fathers are so special!**



We had a nice celebration scheduled for Father's Day this year. We asked individuals to speak about their fathers and the importance of fathers in our lives. We thanked the men working for Beautiful Gate and the role they play with our children. We gave each of the men a nice manly gift of biltong, which we hoped they would enjoy. None of these plans seemed very important after the children presented their gifts.

The kids danced and sang and spread their very special kind of joy to each one of us...then came their prayers. Six of the children prayed individually asking the Lord to either send their fathers to visit them at Beautiful Gate or to allow their fathers to take them home. These sweet prayers reminded us of the importance of a father to each and every one of us. The love and care of a father is the desire of every child. Showing us again that our work of reunifying the children with a Dad or Mom is one of the most important things we do.

REUNIFICATION **Giving them warm loving home!**

The team has been networking considerably with a foster organisation, Umtha Welanga this past year. Surprisingly, one of the staff members from Umtha Welanga has decided to foster two of our children! She is presently being trained to be a foster parent and we really thank God for her generous heart.

During the long, Soccer World Cup June holiday, we had some of our "old" children come and visit. It was so wonderful to see the children visiting with their "brothers and sisters" again and having fun together. It is a special joy to see how children who arrived in pain, found true friendship in the cottages here at Beautiful Gate.



SIGN LANGUAGE TRAINING

Learning to communicate better



Sign language training was launched in May 2010 by Lisa Harvey, a volunteer tutor from an organization called Talking Hands. The interest was unbelievable...

This program specifically aims to improve communication between child care workers and our kids who are deaf and have no access to hearing aids. The class consists of over 20 students (mostly child care workers). The kids are of course very happy since most of the staff are now communicating with them using sign!

SEASON FOR SOCCER

It is not just a game..

Ayoba! That was the call of support that SA used during the time of Soccer World Cup 2010! But little known, that at the same time at Beautiful Gate sports field, 12 under 13yrs soccer teams started their own tournament!.



Two Lower Crossroads teams made the final an exciting affair. In the end African Brothers were beaten 1-0 by Eleven Buffalos. The two teams are both recent additions to the league, having been playing until now on the side of the highway and on dirt patches, wherever they could find a space. Many of these players have never played on a proper pitch before.

CHILD PROTECTION WEEK

Let's all preserve children's rights!



Part of Beautiful Gate's mission is to protect children and, in line with this we commemorated July Child Protection Week by conducting an awareness training on child protection.

The Children's Act specifies that all children need protection from emotional and physical abuse including having rights to belonging, education and physical needs. Members have a duty to inform the community and report any incidence of child abuse to a social worker or the police. To increase awareness in the community we designed posters that we displayed in the hall and the street fence. Preservation of children's rights forms the basis of all humanity.

Holiday Clubs!!!

"I feel good, I feel so good, Yeah mama!"



In June and July we had a 5 week school break, so we had 4 holiday clubs in Philippi and Lower Crossroads. We worked with 500 kids in both the communities. It was loads of fun with the kids and two teams that came to help us, young people from Durbanville Baptist Church and YWAM Barbados. The good weather allowed us to play lots of soccer, netball and other games outdoors. The spirit of the world cup was with the kids, they had an AYOKA time!
Feel it. It was here.....

Would you like to help a child? Kindly join our Sponsor A Child programme for a minimum monthly donation of R120/ £15/€20/\$25 or more. Contact us on : +27 (0)21 370 2524. Email sponsorachild@beautifulgate.org

RESOURCE CENTRE LAUNCHED You need information? Come get it here!



Communities from Crossroads, Philippi and surrounding areas are now set to benefit from the launch of the Resource Centre at Beautiful Gate. The centre will see children, youth, families and community groups having access to information and related facilities as well as giving them more opportunities. When the centre is fully running we estimate that over 4000 people will access our services every year. Many community leaders hailed it as a positive development in this area that has tended to lag behind others. The Centre which was launched on 9 June 2010 was a result of community research that was conducted last year which showed that there is a great need for information among youth, families and local organisations.

About 100 people from all walks of life, including beneficiaries, attended the launch; the event was also covered by the local press. People were given a chance to tour the centre that includes an IT centre and a library which has a catalogue of informational resources such as spiritual, vocational, employment and social services.

Beautiful Gate is a non-denominational Christian organisation that demonstrates the love of God by helping all those in need, no matter what their background or faith.

Beautiful Gate South Africa

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