

The Family Africa

“Real Hope for The Future”



This issue of our newsletter focuses on HIV/AIDS education.



Trip to Phalaborwa

Recently one of our HIV/AIDS roadshow teams travelled to Phalaborwa Limpopo, to conduct programmes for rural schools, where they were very well received. The programme not only teaches the basics of HIV awareness in an interactive and dramatic way but also Stranger/ Danger and “good touch/bad touch” using an age-appropriate puppet presentation. After each programme we distribute our story and activity book to each class so that the teachers can do follow up with the children. This book, called “My friend with AIDS is still my friend” was especially written for primary age school children by members of The Family Africa.

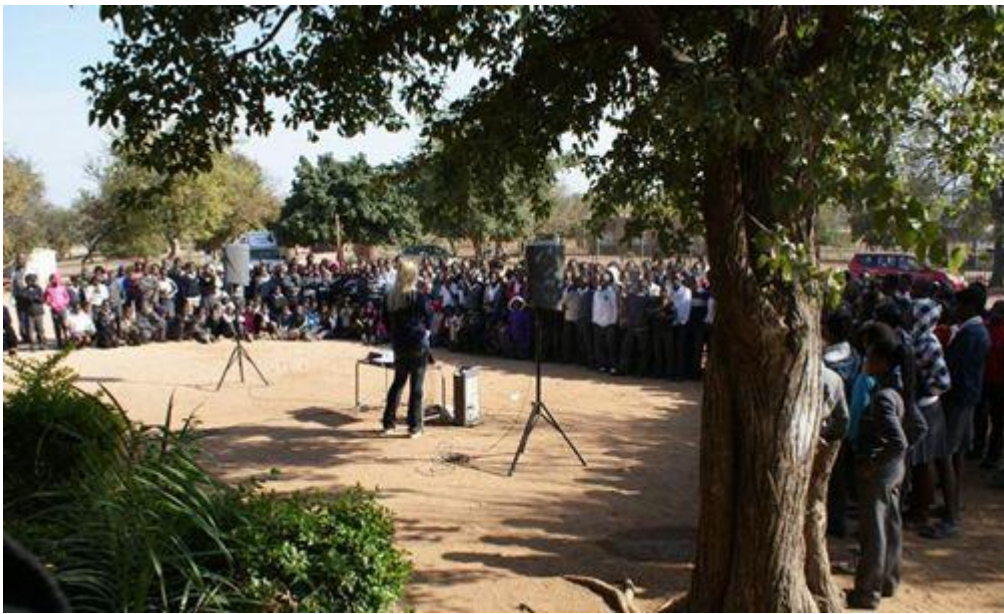


Here are extracts from two teachers' letters:

“Our learners have received several workshops and lectures on the HIV/AIDS pandemic. Although one can never have enough information it was felt that learners would see your visit as just another lecture. The Grade 6 and 7 learners and educators were pleasantly surprised when they were treated to vibrant and energetic display . Learners of this age group need to be made aware of the dangers of life today and the way in which you did so was certainly a worthwhile experience . You put across the message that there is, in fact, “real hope for the future” very well.”

“The actors explained the HIV/AIDS phenomenon through dramatisation and puppet shows. The learners and educators showed great interest in the presentation. All 438 learners and 53 educators were so thrilled with the show that they wanted it go on forever. I wholeheartedly was impressed with this educative presentation and wish the group all the best in their attempt to stop the HIV/AIDS pandemic.”





Mozambique

A very exciting development for us has been the translation of the HIV/AIDS programmes into Portuguese so that teams can reach out into Mozambique. Earlier in the year we had sent out a task force to engage with teachers in rural schools to learn more about the particular cultural issues in Mozambique regarding HIV/AIDS. Recently we sent a team to conduct 6 programmes in Mozambique and they received a wonderful warm response and excellent feedback.



This month we have had the exciting opportunity to begin a year long government accredited counselling course for all our full time volunteers and community workers. We have been trained in pre and post HIV test counselling, trauma and bereavement, and will later cover sexual and child abuse and many other issues. We believe this is going to help further professionalise all our volunteers, will result in a greater quality of service for our clients and expand the number of seminars we can offer to the public.

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