

Half Yearly Report

We at Mount Olive Outreach would like to take time to thank the Hartman family and Board Members of Stitching Opstap for their continued support and commitment to our community. We wanted to provide updated feedback on the last six months from our organisation.

We are happy to report all the good work we have been able to do with your support and chose to share some of the most touching stories with you. With the support we receive in our Victim Empowerment Programme as well as the Young Leaders we are able to make a real difference, so rest assured that the seeds you have sown will continue to grow for many years. Thank you Opstap.

Project outcomes:

The Victim Empowerment Programme

Primary project objectives:

The VEP objective remains to provide a place for receiving and assisting those who have become victims of violence or abuse.

Deliverables:

- The VEP assists many women and children, and create a safe environment for them to heal, get the necessary aid and receive counselling where it is needed.
- The VEP assists the community where they do not have South African documents to acquire them and live an empowered life.
- The VEP also provides transport to and from health services and emotional support to those clients that are involved in the legal processes. Clients are supported with food parcels, should this be necessary while they are in the programme, and clients are introduced to a support group to aid the healing process.

Activities completed using this funding:

- The centre has provided assistance to and from court for victims
- Transportation for those that needed to obtain Identity Documents, Letters of Guardianship and those who needed to travel to the clinic or hospital.
- Individual cases of abuse and/or victimization have been followed up on and home visits were done.

- The VEP team and the HIV Support Group continue to conduct home visits to monitor client's adherence to medication and therapy sessions.
- The onsite Nurse has taken over completing talks with the members of the HIV support group, and continues to teach the Young Life as well about HIV/Aids and other chronic illnesses.
- During the month of February the Centre had the **Know Your Status Campaign**. The main aim of this campaign was to make the youth and the community more aware of the importance of knowing their HIV status. The Mount Olive staff partnered with HIVSA to accomplish this and transport was provided for the learners from surrounding schools in Soweto, Valfontein, Thembelihle, Freedom Park and Orange Farm. 150 teenagers and youth were tested on the 15th and 16th of February 2017. Four reactive participants were found and they have all been successfully given support and counselling and they have also been referred for treatment at the local clinic. All the referrals have proven successful. .

The Young Life Youth Programme Primary project objectives

The Young Life Youth Programme (YLYP) continues to assist teenagers and youth who are faced challenges. The programme currently has 67 young people from disadvantage backgrounds who come to the centre daily, while a further 22 youth are being assisted through the schools programme.

Deliverables:

- YLYP provides psychosocial support for youth between the ages of 14 to 18 years.
- YLYP provides a range of skills to guide and mentor the youth into young leaders.
- The age group of 20-24 years has also been included to work with young mothers whose children are ECD programme.
- Working with school children at their schools to improve their lives

Activities completed using this funding

- The Young Life daily activities which include the running of the YL Programme for 67 youth.
- The daily feed of 119 Young Leaders is ongoing. The centre supplies three meals per day for the Young Leaders.

- The Young Life Programme has also grown to accommodate the 30 ECD mothers, a group aged 20-24, for sessions daily at the Khaya centre. These sessions are from 9 am -12 pm.
- Each class takes a daily attendance register for YL youth to ensure attendance.
- Conducting of the home visits
- Young Life brainstorming sessions to improve the level of service to the young leaders.
- Implementation of the schools project at Moses Maren Technical Secondary School with 46 girls aged 14-19.
Some of the topics that will be discussed are as follows:
 - Me and my Assets
 - Stages of Adolescence
 - Building Self-confidence
 - Choosing Positive Values
 - Understanding Mental Models
 - Stress and Emotions
 - Surviving Tough Times
- Orientation and training of facilitators who work within the schools programme was successfully completed, allowing facilitators to have access to and build relationships with more young adults outside of the centre itself. This has also lead to the successful recruitment of participants at schools and in the community.
- Distribution of 42sanitary packs a month is now one of the benefits the girls have due to the funding of Opstap

What were the highlights of the project during the reporting period?

- On the 15th -16th March 2017, the **Know Your Status** campaign was held courtesy of Mount Olive's Health Screening Team and HIVSA. The event was was great sucess and 150 participants from surrounding schools were screened.
- Prior to the **Know Your Status** campaign sessions **10-11** introduced the topic of HIV/AIDS and STIs to prepare the young leaders.
- Every Wednesday there is a health and fitness session conducted with the youth to ensure they live healthy and ballanced

The following services continue to be offered on site :

- Health screening
- HIV Testing & Counselling

- Pregnancy testing & family planning
- Transportation of patients to clinics and hospitals
- Computer classes for the youth

Volunteers Assisted

MOO has now successfully hired 7 volunteers from the community. There are three females and four males. The group consists of four boys who were participants from YLLP; two completed their final school year and were not able to study during 2017 due to lack of funding and will work at the centre and save towards their fees for next year. The three mothers who have children in the ECD, OVC and YL programmes are single parents who are trying to support their families as there is no income their homes.

MOO is currently assisting the group with the following services, psychosocial support, we also do one-on-one counselling. The centre provides food parcels, toiletries, uniform and stationery for their children; they also receive a small amount of R70 per day to help with them to provide for their families.

The volunteers assist with operations in the centre; some work in the garden, others clean and others monitor the small children as they come in the centre.

All the volunteers are hard-working and are dedicated and committed to their work. And the time they have now spent here at the centre made them realise their strength abilities to made change in their families.

Educational Funding given to Rebeccah

NAME : Rebeccah
SURNAME : Ledwaba
DATE OF BIRTH : 20-04-1987
CELLPHONE NO. : 063 344 1074
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Rebeccah is a single mother and a Social Auxiliary worker at MOO, she started volunteering in 2010 and in 2011 she was hired as an OVC Caregiver. In 2012 she was promoted to OVC Coordinator where her position was to supervise all the other OVC Caregivers. She performed very well in all her tasks because of her commitment and hard work.

In 2013-2014 Rebeccah received a one year learnership opportunity to study Community Development Practice, and in 2014- 2015 she received another one year learnership in Social Auxiliary work. She went on to complete both of these learnerships successfully.



From 2014 until now she's giving back to the Organisation and to the community as a Social Auxiliary worker and she now works with the youth. Rebeccah does life skills, financial capabilities and counselling sessions on a daily basis with the Lehae youth. Rebeccah's dream has been to study further in the Social working field and through the funding she received from Opstap, she will now be able to pursue her dream. The reason Rebeccah chose Social Work as a career is because she saw a need within the community. Social workers are so scarce in the community and most of the social issues faced by the youth are reported not properly resolved.

Rebeccah would like to thank OPSTAP and the entire team for giving her an opportunity to go study and further her education. Rebeccah has now registered at the University of South Africa in Johannesburg for a bridging course called Archives Records and Management which will add points to her Social Work qualification once the course is available. The course will start from July 2017 to July 2018.

2 Day Care Centres Assisted

MOO has also used the Opstap funding to assist two day care centres, like our ECD at Khaya Centre, in the area. The first centre is Roots Community Centre in Lehae Phase 3. The Centre serves children where there is little to no income, and therefore offer their services for free. There are 28 children at the centre, and they receive 3 daily meals, they also received blankets was part of the MOO excursions – like the trip to the zoo. We were able to paint the centre and paved the playground and also purchased some toys and stationery.

As a result of the received funding, now the children are in a warmer and safer environment as the winter season approaches.



Roots Community Centre

The other Day Care which Opstap funding has been able to assist is the House of Prayer Ministries Crèche. It is in Patsing area, in Thembelihle a nearby informal settlement. The Crèche serves children that are orphaned and vulnerable, as well as families which don't have any source of income. The Crèche serves 30 children and

through Opstap funding they receive groceries to cook meals for their children three times a day and the children join in on excursions and trips happening at MOO.



House of Prayer Ministry Crèche