

IN THIS ISSUE

- SHAWCO AND EWB AT ZITHULELEpg 1
- A GATHERING PLACE FOR THE COMMUNITYpg 2
- A LIBRARY FOR THE KIDS IN ZITHULELEpg 2
- THE COMINGS AND GOINGS OF PROJECT TRUST VOLUNTEERSpg 3
- JABULANI TO VISIT CAPE TOWNpg 3
- IT'S AYOBA!pg 4

SHAWCO AND EWB AT ZITHULELE

This year, Zithulele was again fortunate enough to have a group from the Students' Health and Welfare Centres Organisation (SHAWCO) visit us accompanied by 10 engineering students from Engineers Without Borders (EWB)!

SHAWCO

The 20 medical students were mainly focussed on health promotion activities, such as conducting PAP smears for women, holding VCT testing and education sessions, conducting breastfeeding education in the Maternity and Paediatrics wards, raising awareness about deworming (while handing out tablets to mothers for their children) and hosting workshops on general ante/post-natal education for mothers needing some advice on various health issues.

The young doctors, as they were aptly named, were divided into four groups: three groups going to outreach clinics (Mpame Clinic, Kotyana Clinic and Nzulwini Clinic) and one bigger group staying at Zithulele Hospital.



EWB

The major difference in SHAWCO's visit this year was the inclusion of a group of engineering students joining the medics. With us having proposed several projects for them to run, they chose two: the setting up of three water tanks and the building of jungle gym.

Sporadically, patients at Zithulele experience water shortages. To combat this problem, rain water tanks were erected on the hospital site (with one being erected alongside each of the three main wards - General Ward, Paediatric Ward and Maternity Ward). Patients can now have access, at any time, to rain water just outside their ward.

The other project was the building of a jungle gym for Zithulele's pre-school. Previously, kids from the pre-school didn't have any real playground outside the class. The jungle gym, from the minute it was completed (and even during construction!), has been used virtually every minute of the day and seems to be greatly appreciated!!



A GATHERING PLACE FOR THE COMMUNITY

As this article is being written, the finishing touches are being put to a R300 million road that has been built from Zithulele Hospital to Kwaaiman on the Coffee Bay road. Rumdel, the construction company that was awarded the tender to build the road, has agreed to spend the CSI component of its contract on a building project at Zithulele. The project, which involves the renovation of a tract of land allocated to Jabulani by the community, has been in the pipeline for some time, but has only evolved from a dream into reality since Rumdel came on board.

The three dilapidated buildings are being renovated into a library, community hall and Jabulani Foundation offices. A rural rehabilitation hut, for use by the therapy department, is also being built. Renovations started at the beginning of August and already the buildings have had their foundations reinforced and interior walls replastered. In just four weeks, the site has changed from this:



to this:



Over the coming weeks, roofs will be added, mezzanine levels built in and the buildings painted, with a view to the entire project being finished at the end of September. Funding pending, October will be spent furnishing and equipping the buildings. Meanwhile, a committee that represents that various stakeholders in the community (such as traditional and political leadership, the hospital, the churches, the youth etc), has been elected and will meet once a month to discuss issues pertaining to the facility, and will ultimately ensure that both the rewards and responsibilities of the structures lie with them.

A LIBRARY FOR THE KIDS IN ZITHULELE



Jabulani has recently opened a library specifically for children that will operate in conjunction with the library next to the community centre. With the help of many kind donors and volunteers, the rondavel situated next to the preschool, after being cleaned, renovated and painted with new windows being added and electricity installed, has been converted into the library.

The library will be open from 10h00 to 15h00 on weekdays and all the children from surrounding schools are welcome to come and do homework and research projects – or just to relax with their favourite Xhosa story book.

With the library, Jabulani hopes to instill a love for books and a culture of reading in the youth, open their minds to new opportunities and teach them that their future can be as bright and hopeful as their dreams allow. The library is looking to acquire more childrens' books, especially in Xhosa as these are very difficult to find.

THE COMINGS AND GOINGS OF PROJECT TRUST VOLUNTEERS

At the beginning of August we had to say goodbye to our first two Project Trust Volunteers at Zithulele. Samantha Greener and Kayleigh Macmillan spent the last eight months working exceptionally hard in their respective jobs and made the very most of their time here; leaving some rather large shoes to be filled.

Whilst Kayleigh became a bona fide pharmacy assistant, working all hours of the day and night to ensure that ARVs arrive correct and on time at the down referral clinics, Samantha's contribution to the Zithulele preschool as arts and crafts coordinator and computer class teacher has made a tremendous impact on the work done by Jabulani Rural Health Foundation.

A big thank you to the girls for all the loving effort they put into their work and we hope that the future holds much success and happiness for them.

As the year rolls on we are now eagerly awaiting the arrival of two new volunteers from Project Trust that will arrive for a 12 months stay volunteering with Jabulani. Both of them will mainly be working in the pharmacy on the ARV down referral program. Welcome to Zithulele Katherine and Gillian!



Gillian Paterson and Katy Fair

JABULANI TO VISIT CAPE TOWN

In October, Jabulani will be hosting an informal fundraiser at Bishops' School in Rondebosch, Cape Town. Despite the fact that a large component of both the hospital and the foundation's staff hail from Cape Town, to date we have not had the opportunity to host a visit the Mother City as an organisation.

The evening will be a relaxed affair with finger food and drinks being served. Videos of both the hospital and the foundation will be screened and there will be a short talk about the exciting things that have happened and plans for the future at the foundation. We are fortunate that both the Le Rouxs and the Gaunts, the four of whom were the "brainchildren" behind the foundation, will be at the event. In addition to appealing to guests to sign up to become "Friends of Zithulele" (thereby making a small monthly donation to the Foundation), we will also be auctioning off beautiful canvas photos taken around this picturesque part of the world.

We would like to encourage anyone who is based in Cape Town (or who will be in Cape Town over this weekend) and interested to find out more about the incredible work both Zithulele Hospital and Jabulani Foundation are doing, to attend this event.

To find out more information or to RSVP, please contact Thomas Withington on thomas@jabulanifoundation.org or 083 962 3011.

IT'S AYOBA!

After an extremely successful hosting of the Jabulani Soccer Tournament (where 165 people were tested for HIV), the winners of the "luck draw" left Zithulele in the early hours on Friday, 18 June, to drive through to Port Elizabeth to watch Germany play Serbia.

Many of the competition winners had not previously visited East London, let alone Port Elizabeth, so the trip was a real eye-opener! With most of the Zithuleleans supporting Germany, the result was a bit of a dampner on what was otherwise an incredible day!

As amazing as the World Cup was for this country, the reality was that the event came and went without it have any real impact on many of the rural parts of South Africa. We feel privileged to have been able to share the event with some of the members of our community.

