



# Philadelphia

Foundation for Orphans in Distress

*“...See, I have placed before you an open door that no one can shut...”  
(Rev. 3:7-8)*

## ANNUAL REPORT

2013 / 2014



## From the Management

*How wonderful it is to report on a year that was blessed and in which we grew from strength to strength! Each year is having its ups and downs, but we can say: this was a good year and we thank our Heavenly Father for His guidance, care and provision.*

*The Lord blessed us with a new colleague, Lisette van Steijn, one of our previous volunteers from the Netherlands and that means that our capacity increased and we could be more efficient.*

*Our relationships with community members strengthened and we are fully accepted in the communities we work with, which also created more opportunities.*

*As always we wish to humbly pay our gratitude to our donors, sponsors and volunteers, who again played a very important role in the continuation of our work. A special thanks once again goes to our main sponsor, "Philadelphia Namibië, stichting voor weeskinderen in nood" from the Netherlands, where they worked tirelessly for us. On behalf of all our orphaned children, their families and communities, thank you!!*

***Ellen van den Berg***  
***Program Manager***



## PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES

The Philadelphia Foundation for Orphans was established in 2004 and is working with orphans and vulnerable children. Our main aim is to improve the quality of life of orphans and vulnerable children within their communities. The aim and objectives are practically implemented by providing material support as well as training and income-generating projects through which capacity is increased and poverty reduced. Through child evangelism clubs the gospel of our Lord, Jesus Christ is shared with the children, as to offer them an eternal future.

Several projects are running to implement the objectives that were set to reach this aim. This report will highlight the main activities.

### EDUCATION SUPPORT



With the coming of our new college, this project took a new turn towards pre-school support.

In Grootfontein are many small pre-schools, of which a significant number in our working area, Omulunga (Blikkiesdorp). Because the Namibian Government decided after independence, that pre-schools are not necessary, kids under school going age just roamed the streets, especially in the informal settlement. People were concerned about

these little ones and started “pre-schools”, just to get these kids from the street.

The majority of these people never received any training or support. Many of these pre-schools are situated in small structures of corrugated iron in backyards of people, having no equipment, water, electricity and educational materials.

The request for assistance in training came from a few of these pre-schools. We started searching for training opportunities and found some. An organisation called Perivoli Schools Trust offered a training of 11 modules, where teachers learn to use waste materials in school.

Our colleague Lisette was trained to be a trainer and once a month 25 teachers from pre-schools have the opportunity to attend this training, free of charge. This training



increases the capacity of teachers hugely and they can use materials in teaching that are freely available without high financial consequences.

Philadelphia was also instrumental in organising training for teachers presented by an organisation called Amos Meerkat Schools. This organisation focusses on giving teachers a curriculum to work with, and provides a lot of material to the teachers. Six teachers from different pre-schools were given the opportunity to do this training. They went for two trainings of a week each, and afterwards Philadelphia oversees the implementation and progress of these schools. It is wonderful to see how good these teachers implement the curriculum and what a benefit it is for the children.



From the San group we work with came the request to help them set up a pre-school for their children. During the year we build a shelter for the weekly kids-club, and the San group decided that they would like to use the shelter in the mornings as a pre-school. They had two young people who were interested in being trained as pre-school teachers. Both of the teachers had the opportunity to follow the Perivoli training and one followed the Amos training. Philadelphia

assisted the pre-school with materials and it is wonderful to see that these young people are so motivated to teach these young children.

## **WE CARE**



As every year we had a blanket action this year as well. This year all the children from the Evangelism Kidsclub received a blanket, as well as all the toddlers of the Merciful Kindergarten where we have our soup kitchen.

A second soup kitchen was started at the new San pre-school, and these children also receive a nutritious meal, every school-day.



A big happening this year was the arrival of a six meter long container from the Netherlands full of materials to assist needy people. The contents of the container made our work so much better, as there were items such as very good second hand clothing, toys, wheelchairs, tables and chairs for schools, beds and mattresses, bedding, educational materials and much more.



This is also where a new project component started, named: *Family Care*.

The Family Care project aims at material and moral support to families in dire need. One of the families that came under our attention was the family of Bonifatius and his wife. Bonifatius is disabled as a result of Tuberculosis and a car accident and can only lay on his back. He is staying with his wife and children and his wife's sister and children as well as some other family members.

Altogether 13 people living in a six by three meter shack. The content of the container enabled us to provide him with a bed and good mattress, as he was laying on the ground on a blanket.

The family care program is currently assisting three very needy families with food, clothes and moral support.

Many other people were assisted with items from the container. For example, Laimé, a lady whose little shack burned to the ground was assisted with kitchenware, blankets, mattresses and clothes.





Last year a project was started where bones that we received from a local abattoir were distributed to needy people and our soup kitchen. This projects still continues and is truly appreciated by the beneficiaries.

Mercia, a little 9 year old girl in Omulunga, came under our attention. She has a disability and is not able to walk. She pulls herself forward which causes lots of wounds on her legs. We were able to assist her with a wheelchair, which makes life a lot better for little Mercia.

Another very nice action was held when Lisette's father, a retired optometrist, came to visit. Some years ago we received a box full of second hand glasses. We could never fit these as none of us had the knowledge to do so. However, now we had the opportunity to see "blind eyes open". The astonishment on the faces of people who had been half blind for years, and could suddenly see was priceless. It was pure joy to see children who could not progress in school because of very bad eyesight suddenly reading the smallest letters!



## **SKILLS DEVELOPMENT**

Our Kukuyuva fabric painting project started in Grootfontein during the previous reporting year. The project was using one of class rooms of the Omulunga Primary School. However, during the year this location was no longer an option. Another location was found but also did not work out, and unfortunately we had to put the project on hold until a new location is found.



In terms of skills development the Foundation facilitated the different training opportunities for pre-school teachers as reported on under "Education Support".

## **EVANGELISM**

The Evangelism Kids Club is held every week at the same location it was started. In the previous reporting year we started off with 40 children but the group grew rapidly. The kids club was always held in the little shade of some shacks and a very small tree, but that became a challenge when the group grew. The San leadership asked us to put up a shelter under which a pre-school could be started and that we could then use for the kids club as well.



We build a shelter which was a major improvement and the kids club kept growing.

During the year we decided to divide the group in two, as the number of kids was far over a hundred. One of the moms together one of the Philadelphia team members works with the pre-school and grade 1 and 2 kids, ages 2-8 and by the end of the reporting year the number of children in the pre-school group was around 60 and the other two

team members works with the group aged 9 and older, which has the same amount of children. We are very grateful for all these kids coming to listen to the good news of the Gospel.

The hospital outreach project is still running. Every week we visit the sick children in the children's ward of the local State Hospital. We pray for them and give them a soft toy. This was made possible after we received the container from the Netherlands, which contained boxes full of soft toys.



## PERMACULTURE



The Permaculture project was extended to children of the Evangelism kids club, who are coming from all over Omulunga. At least 40 children received their own tyre in which we made a little vegetable garden with them. This project teaches the children self-sufficiency through the skill of food gardening on a small and manageable scale at home.

A bigger tyre garden was made at the newly started San pre-school. Philadelphia provided fencing materials, tyres, soil and seeds and the San people made a beautiful fenced vegetable garden. We assisted them with training and practical assistance and a few months later they could provide vegetables to the soup kitchen which we started for the pre-school children.





## Contact details

If you would like to have more information after reading this report, please contact us:

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