



The Butterfly foundation has been involved in the De Doorns valley for two years now. Our first contact with the community was at the end of 2009 when the community was strongly divided and hundreds of people were driven from their homes through violent xenophobic attacks. We got involved in a food program in order to feed people living in tents provided by the United Nations.

After that our journey with the Sandhills primary school in De Doorns began. We decided that we wanted to become a sustainable partner in the development of this community applying a holistic person centered approach to community development.

Multiple projects followed which included:

- For the past two years we had a school bag program. This entails that every grade one learner receives a school bag with the necessary writing utensils in it. It was startling to see that children can go to school, not having money for something as basic as a pencil.
- Volunteer dentists and optometrists provided basic services and sponsored glasses for children and adults from the community.
- The school's infrastructure was in an appalling state and a significant amount of money was spend to refurbish the school buildings. Sponsors of building supplies and labor made this possible.
- One of our most exiting projects was in collaboration with the Bob's for Good foundation providing 500 pairs of shoes, one for every pair of feet in the school.

More about Sandhills Primary:

The Sandhills Primary School is a rural school, nestled in between the Matroosberg and Hexrivier mountains. It is situated 13 km from De-Doorns and 18 km from Worcester.

Some numbers:

473

The number of learners

10

The number of teachers.

72%

Parents dependant on social grants for survival.

80%

Children living in nearby informal settlement with little to no access to water and electricity.

100%

Children dependant on the school food program.

Our current project:

Our current project is definitely our most ambitious as of yet. We hold the believe that the most important key to fighting poverty is education. In modern times a child who can't read is bound to fail. In these times computers makes the world go round and a child unable to access and operate in the virtual world have a huge disadvantage.

Therefore the current project will strive to meet these needs in a community with no library and computer facilities. As we emphasize sustainability, we dream about appointing teachers who are experts in these fields to assure that the infrastructure is fully utilized.

This project comprises of a Library hosting 3000 books, and a computer room hosting 30 computers.

The Library will look similar to the photo's beneath:



The project is currently playing out as follow:

**TOTAL COST OF
PROJECT
R1, 100, 000.**

Phase 1

- Structural changes to classroom
- R40 000
- Status: Money available - Construction Finished

Phase 2

- Refurbishing of classroom, instalation of computers system
- R398 000
- Status: Money available - Construction in progress

Phase 3

- Laying of foundations before erection of library
- R19 000
- Status: Money available - Construction Finished

Phase 4

- Building of library
- R179 000
- Status: R100 000 available - waiting for funds to become available

Phase 5

- Refurbishing of inside of library building
- R50 000
- Status: Money not available

Phase 6

- Stocking of library
- R240 000
- Status: Money pledged by SAB

The bottom line

We have been very fortunate to partner with The Khanya Project (Phase 2) and South Africa Breweries (Phase 6) who together have already pledged R640 000 towards the project. Our members have also contributed R160 000 out of their own pockets – these are normal people with normal day-jobs, friends and family who want to make a difference in the lives of the less fortunate.

In total we have managed to raise **R800 000 out of the required R1000 000**, therefore we only need another R200 000 to be able to give almost 500 underprivileged children access to books and computer facilities, thereby setting them up for a better education and a chance to succeed in life!

How to get involved

Please also do not hesitate to call Johan Smith on 082 772 1814 if you have any questions or [click here](#) to find details on how to contribute.

Butterfly Regards



Johan Smith