

Abounding Hope 2017, 3rd Quarter Report

Dear Stakeholders,

We are happy to present you with our 3rd Report regarding our efforts in Masinenge. We have quite a bit to report this time and hope you enjoy reading up on our progress and successes.

Something New: Sports

One of the challenges of working among the impoverished in Masinegne is maintaining a positive attitude. Sometimes it is so refreshing when you encounter something good in the face of these continual challenges such as, theft, infighting, bureaucracy, delays and breakdown in communication. This week we met someone who really encouraged us.

Meet Samual Majola, a 19 year old young man, who is currently studying law. He has lived in Masinenge with his grandmother, who recently passed away, since he was 4 years old. A native of Mpumalanga, where he was born, he has passion for the young people in Masinenge. It breaks his heart to see how they turn to drugs to escape their dismal existence.

Of his own accord, and financing it from his own pocket, he has started sports teams among the youth. He has over 70 youths and children under the ages of 17, an even split of girls and boys, who he has encouraged to form netball, girls and guys soccer, and volley ball teams.

His goal is to instill a sense of self-worth and respect amongst the young people he deals with. He desires for them to have an amazing and fulfilling life, in spite of the humble circumstances they grow up in. He sees incredible potential in every individual and really tries to inspire them to become more than what the depression in their local community dictates, where alcohol and drugs and teenage pregnancies start affecting people as young as 13.



Upon asking him how he came to be interested in this ministry of his, he talks of how his late grandmother was an inspiration to him who was very active in the community and also in collaboration with Shirley in the very beginning stages of Abounding Hope. Indeed it is an incredible achievement for a 19 year old to have set this up on his own, with no financing other than those a student relies upon. His only wish is for sponsorship so that he can purchase sports kits for the teams. They are unable to effectively play and compete with other teams because of this. A kit costs round R1800 per person, which includes appropriate sports and



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This young man has inspired us, and we share his vision of improving the lives of the youth in the community. Of his own volition and without our prior knowledge, he has continued the legacy of his grandmother who worked together with Abounding Hope in its birthing stages and it is a privilege for us to help him in any way we can.





<u>Crèche</u>

Nombalelo a Biokineticist in Port Shepstone has volunteered to do exercise through play with the children once a week. They absolutely adore her and it is so adorable to watch them jump around and follow her movements as she leads them through physical exercises. She is truly gifted in handling these small children.

We are also trusting for a volunteer assistant teacher and looking for a stipend to fund her training. If anyone feels led to help out in this regard please let us know.



Soup Kitchen

Progress on the soup kitchen is proceeding as desired. We have recently kindly received donations to lay the foundation by Kencrete, and have received building materials kindly donated by both Build It in Port Shepstone, and Build It in Margate, and builders from Hillside Facility Management for the labour.









At this point in time the floor has been laid for the new soup kitchen as well as repairing the floor of the old Soup Kitchen. We will proceed as planned where the old soup kitchen will be used as a skills training and counselling center as well as a venue for a Gates of Praise church home group.

Garden

Our garden as you can see is doing extremely well under the care of our gardener, Thozama Sifiki. Considering it is our dry season we are grateful to see that it is not affecting our small garden, thanks to the training she received a few months ago.



Disaster Relief

In the last month there have been 2 disasters that we have sent relief to.

The first was a fire outbreak in Knysna. Between June 6 and June 10, fires destroyed more than 600 structures in Knysna and Plettenberg Bay when gale force winds exceeding 90 km/h made firefighting extremely difficult.



It led to the greatest deployment of firefighting forces in the history of South Africa.

Abounding Hope assisted in a small way by adding to the donations of the people of the South Coast by purchasing blankets, clothing and other basic resources, which were transported to those in need.

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The other disaster was in Masinenge. At the end of May we had unseasonal torrential rains, which totally flooded many shacks. The average rainfall in May is round 34mm. Upon the weekend of the flooding it was over 280mm!!

Abounding Hope coordinated the donation of clothes, food blankets, baby clothes and financial aid where needed. Bags were also donated to fill with sand and create a barrier against the flood waters.





Pledges

To all our donors, thank you so much for your fund raising efforts and continued support. For those of you who feel led to assist and partner with us, we still require implements for the garden, equipment for the crèche including their own gas stove, and further support to expand our soup kitchen facility, into doubling as a skills training center in the future.

That is it for now. Please be sure to follow us on facebook under https://www.facebook.com/aboundinghopecd/ for more information and pictures. Again, thank you for your continued support, it is really exciting to see God's plans for this community come to life before our eyes.



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