

St Francis Centre
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If you would like to help please note

Cheques should be made out to:
 'St Francis Care Centre'

Or direct transfer into the
 'Standard Bank of SA.'

Account no : 220938245

Branch : 011- 842 Boksburg

Please send us your address and
 phone number so we can thank you.



STATS : OCT-NOV

RAINBOW COTTAGE:

Admissions	6
Transfers	7
Discharge	1
Number of children	28
External placements	2
<u>ADULT HOSPICE</u>	
Admissions	44
Discharges	19
Deaths	26
Transfers	4

A special Christmas wish

We know that these years are tough financially, more people without work, less money to spare. It humbles us to know that many organisations and individuals trust us to use their donations wisely and to help as many people as possible. We are truly blessed to find such people. **YOU HAVE MADE A DIFFERENCE .**

May God watch over you and your families, bringing you love, joy and peace.

ABERDARE CABLES	INVESTEC PROVATE TRUST	S.K.F.
ABSA	JOHNSON MATTHEY	St. Benedics College
AIRPORTS COMPANY S.A.	KLM – AIR FRANCE	St. Dominics School for Girls
ATLAS COPCO	KNIGHTS FRUIT & VEG.	SOLO FOUNDATION
BARMHERZIHEIT	LOTTERY (NB. The Logo)	THE KNIGHTS OF DA GAMA, BOKSBURG
BKS	LIVING WATERS	TOGA LABORATORIES
CLOVER	METSON MINERALS S.A	TRIDENT EXPRESS
DHL	MINING PRESSURE SYSTEMS PTY LTD	WILLOW PARK CONFERENCE CENTRE
DISCOVERY	MTN	WOOLWORTHS – Carnival + Sunward Park
DORCAS AID	RAND WATER	
GROUP5	REVLON	
HIGHWAY TRADERS	ROTARY & LIONS CLUBS	
HOLY ROSARY CONVENT, EVEN- VALE	S.A. DRIED FRUIT	
IMAGINE AFRICA SAFARI .	S.A.C.B.C.	
IMPROCHEM	SAPS	
INTERFRUIT	SIEMENS	



ST FRANCIS CARE CENTRE

St Francis' Notes



Volume 3 Issue 4

December 2009



*Wishing all our kind friends and
 supporters a very Happy and
 Blessed Christmas .*

*Please spare a special thought for all those less fortunate
 than ourselves, the lonely and the poor, the desperately sick
 – often forgotten in the materialistic and commercialised
 Christmas all around us .*

*May God Bless you and pour the light of Christ-
 mas into your heart and soul.*

Fr Stan



Happy Acres' - Excitement for some !



St Francis Care Centre ,
 with financial support
 from sponsors **DORCAS AID**,
 are now assisting many
 orphaned and vulnerable chil-
 dren affected or infected by
 HIV. We have a drop-in cen-
 tre where they are taught
 lifeskills, receive food and
 clothes and are encouraged
 with homework, etc. This year

15 of the best performers were chosen to attend "Happy Acres" for a week What a Christmas to remember ! Great excitement from this group from Joe Slovo and Ramaphosa - all packed and ready to go on their way to Happy Acres, soon to return with wonderful memories and encouraged to try hard next year too .

Important Celebration at St Francis'

This year on the 1st December Fr. Stan celebrated his 80th Birthday. What a wonderful day! Though he is now an "Octogenarian" he is still the focal point for the Centre where the strength of his faith and his conviction is an example to us all. Sometimes when we are a little disheartened or anxious it is Father who reminds us that it is through prayer that we are here today and instills us all with fresh hope and optimism.

Of course the 1st December is also World Aids Day, so the celebrations began with Mass being offered up in the Hall. A Piper, Khotso // from CBC Boksburg, then led a Candle-lighting procession through the grounds to the St. Francis' Grotto. Afterward Fr Stan was joined by 100 of his oldest and closest friends for birthday cake and snacks in the dining room –he enjoyed seeing so many people who have supported his vision and his work through so many years. Later in the afternoon he had another birthday surprise when Irish Dancers performed specially for him. **May you be with us for many many more years Father!**

ST. BENEDICT'S COLLEGE, Bedfordview – We are very fortunate to have been accepted as an out-reach project for the R.E. students of St. Benedicts. Michael Moses heads this project and some of the boys have visited our centre to entertain the children and visit the Adult patients.

They also organised a 'Civvies' day on St. Francis Day in October, and we are most grateful for the generous donation received. As the school year drew to a close, the St. Benedict's Bus arrived once again, this time with wrapped Christmas gifts for all our children, as well as items of clothing purchased by a group of supportive Teachers. It makes such a difference to everyone to receive such support and particularly from young people - indeed it is a blessing that they are growing up into thoughtful and caring adults. and will truly be a credit to their school



This month in our Bio corner



Nomazizi Hahlamohlaka is one of our assistant social workers and does great work with our patients, always with a cheerful smile. She joined St. Francis Care Centre in August 2008. Zizi is the second of four children and has one older brother and two younger sisters. She was born and raised in Vosloorus and still lives there. Educated at Khanya College, in Randburg Zizi is a single mom, with one little girl Thando who is three years old and who is very excited about Christmas! Zizi enjoys cooking, baking and reading, socializing with friends and going to the movies. She also really enjoys swimming to keep fit.

AROUND ST FRANCIS'

ATLAS COPCO TRUST FOUNDATION -The money they so kindly granted to us for maintenance work is currently being put to good use -painting is going on all over the place and the fitting of new gutters is in progress. The whole place will soon be shipshape and waterproofed, raindrops will not be falling on our heads! Our sincere gratitude to



ATLAS COPCO TRUST FOUNDATION

IMPROCHEM We are most grateful for the ongoing support we receive from everyone at **IMPROCHEM**. Delene Wright and Lynda Macardo run the Beading Workshops and have also been instrumental in getting St. Francis' appointed as the beneficiary from recycled paper projects, both at the company as well as at the complex where Lynda resides. Thank you so much for your interest and constant input to our work.

RAINBOW COTTAGE

As you can imagine Rainbow Cottage has been the scene of lots of excitement as Christmas draws near. THE CHRISTMAS STORY is a great favourite with all of the children and when they look at the nativity scene in the chapel they relate very closely with the tiny baby Jesus. Our little ones have been blessed at this time and are so very lucky, they have received lots of visits and Christmas presents already and some companies have given them wonderful parties or even taken them out on external outings. We can never thank everyone enough for all the trouble that they have taken to make our children happy.

TALK WITH TILLY

The end of the year is upon us already! 2009 seems to have flown past and upon reflection it was, indeed, a very busy and productive year. It began with a lot of uncertainty as the media reported on the global recession, and South Africa had also officially entered the recession. Many corporates had to retrench staff or work short time and unfortunately their charitable donations had to be either cut back significantly or frozen. As you know we are extremely dependant upon donations in order to service the poor, sick and vulnerable of our community so it was an extremely worrying time for us. Fortunately a very welcome grant allocation was received from the **NATIONAL LOTTERY BOARD** which was certainly our saving grace for 2009. A sincere THANK YOU to the **NATIONAL LOTTERY BOARD!**

As always as we near the end of another year we look forward and wonder about the next twelve months. Who knows what 2010 is going to bring and how we will fair as host to the Fifa World Soccer tournament?

Members of the Board and senior staff members attended a 2 day strategic planning session during October which resulted in a strategic plan for the Centre. Armed with this the Board and staff of the Centre enthusiastically look forward to 2010! Our sincere thanks go to all our donors, volunteers and individuals who supported us during 2009 – without you the Centre would have struggled very badly. I would like to wish you all a safe, happy, blessed and relaxing festive season, and may 2010 fulfill all our wildest expectations!