



Sponsored Events

Are you taking part in a sporting event or challenge next year? Why not get sponsored to raise money for Changing Futures? We can provide support with promotion, sponsorship forms and a BT MyDonate page.

Did you know?

We collect Foreign currency and any British small change.

Regular Donations

If you do feel you are able to contribute a regular amount on a standing order please let

It is a while since we last updated you on our projects in Swaziland. Since our last newsletter we have planned a visit to Swaziland from September 20th – 28th. We aim to take over supplies of pens, pencils, paper and clothes. If you are able to help us collect these items please email me at originsteve@hotmail.com.

Latest Statistics on Swaziland

The following are extracts from a recent report on Swaziland. It highlights the extreme poverty that still exists there and also the continued high incidence of HIV and AIDs.

- Swaziland is ranked 142nd out of 182 countries by the UN Development Program Index with 69% of the population living in poverty and 43% living in extreme poverty.
- 70% of the population live in rural areas and are dependent on subsistence farming and agriculture. Due to a number of natural disasters in recent years (including a current drought), 20-25% of the population totally rely on food aid.
- Swaziland continues to have the highest HIV infection rates in the World with 39.2% of the adult population HIV positive. The rate is even higher in the 20-39 year old age group.

us know. £5/month goes a long way in Swaziland.

Receiving this Newsletter

If you do not want to receive this newsletter and other updates on Changing Futures and want to be removed from our email distribution list please email us at: info@changingfutures.org.uk

If you know someone who would like to be receive the updates please let us know. Please feel free to forward it.

Contact Us

www.changingfutures.org.uk

info@changingfutures.org.uk

Pre-school Teacher Training

Over the past 12 months we have teamed up with Bantwana to deliver workshops for pre-school teachers. Bantwana has worked in Swaziland since 2008 to bring holistic care and support to orphans and vulnerable children (OVCs) in Swaziland. As part of this mission Bantwana initiated its first programme in Early Child Development (ECD) in 2011 amidst rising poverty levels and a growing increase in child abuse in the country. In particular, the ECD programme strives to improve the quality of care, nurturing and education of children aged 3-6 years in community pre-schools and neighbourhood care points (NCPs). Key programme initiatives include:

- Training and support for community-based ECD teachers on early learning practices to address low level qualifications and lack of teaching experience common among volunteer teachers
- Development of user-friendly teaching materials to address community teachers' lack of access to appropriate ECD information, resources and basic learning materials



These are hands-on, action-orientated workshops that provide participants with specific information, direct activities, and effective resources so they are empowered to help children acquire skills to become a proficient learner. The training also provides a forum for the teachers to share their own ideas and experiences with each other.

Vocational Skills Training

As we mentioned in the last newsletter there is a big shortage of suitably trained builders, plumbers, electricians etc in Swaziland and young people leaving school have very few options in terms of learning a trade. We have now signed the agreement with Young Heroes in Swaziland (www.youngheroes.org.sz) to train 20 young people under their Skills Training Empowerment Programme (STEP). Below is a picture of the first group of trainees.

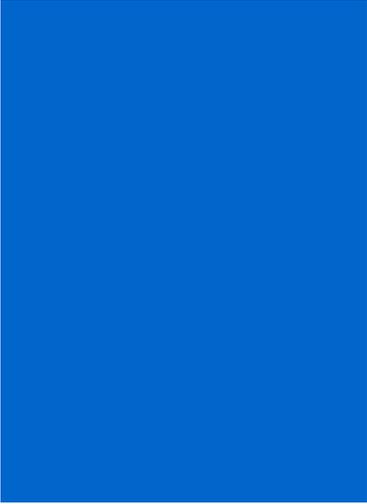


The training will last 12 months and trainees can choose from agriculture, carpentry and joinery, electrical installation, metal work, motor mechanics, plumbing and upholstery.

New Project – Mynokane Primary School

Myonkane Primary School has been identified as a school with significant infrastructure needs. The school, as with many primary schools in Swaziland, is in desperate need for financial support to help them deliver education, food and a safe environment in which to learn. Over 75% of the children are OVCs at this school. The main immediate needs identified were:

- The need for two new classrooms – currently Grade 1 and Grade 7 are very overcrowded with 51 and 46 children in each classroom, respectively.

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- The need for repairs to existing classrooms – currently the roofs of some classrooms are leaking and are at risk of being blown away. Cement blocks are being put on the roofs to stop them blowing away.
 - The need for repairs to the teacher’s accommodation – roofs are leaking and some of the walls are in need of repair to prevent them collapsing.

The total budget for the work is in the region of £18,000. We do have some of these funds in place but are working hard on grant applications and other fundraising projects to deliver this project.