

# GREATER STELLENBOSCH DEVELOPMENT TRUST

## Sithanda Ukufunda Literacy Programme

(We love learning/reading)

Report, September 2011

Sithanda Ukufunda Literacy Programme forms part of the Educational Project. Its main focus is to improve literacy levels through empowering and training the teachers, facilitators, parents, volunteers and children in Kayamandi. The programme also focuses on the establishment of a literacy room at Ikhaya Trust Centre and networking for the Trust. The literacy room functions as a multi-functional room which serves the children, the facilitators, volunteers as well as the parents and any other activities relating to literacy or education.

### 1. Stories and pictures of the month



RASA conference UCT

Creative Writing Workshop

Shine visit

During the past month Shine Learning Centre (Cape Town), experts in the field of Literacy visited the Literacy room and the Trust. Maurita Weissenburg (founder/director of Shine) and Kathryn Torres (director of development) paid a visit on 1 September 2011. We received the following feedback:

“I really want to honour you for the incredible training you are obviously giving your team. Today, I witnessed what education should be. I really want to ask your two wonderful teachers to come and do a parent/Grade R teacher workshop for us.

Imagine if there were 10 000 Ikhaya Trust Centres in South Africa”

Maurita Weissenburg

## GREATER STELLENBOSCH DEVELOPMENT TRUST

“Adele has incredible skills in training, curriculum design and leading both children and teachers towards excellence. Her commitment, passion and warmth are contagious. If you visit her literacy centre the work will speak for itself. In fact, it shouts out at you. Her teachers are highly skilled, confident, professional and obviously love their work. The children have such enthusiasm for learning, their abilities surpass the norm and they are happy and relaxed in their learning environment. I feel as if I would like to shadow Adele for the next year. So much to learn from her.” September 5, 2011

Maurita Weissenburg (Founder/director Shine).

We were happy to welcome Claudia Restis to the Trust and the Literacy room during September.

Mhlobo Jadezweni conducted a Creative Writing Workshop (sponsored by DISTELL) on 15 September 2011, which was attended by staff members of Ikhaya as well as some members of the Readers and Writers Society of Kayamandi.

From 16 to 18 September (Friday to Sunday) 2011 the teachers, facilitators and Adele Botha attended the Reading Association of South Africa (RASA) Conference at the University of Cape Town. This was a unique, first time experience for the facilitators and teachers of Ikhaya Trust. We want to express our heartfelt gratitude to Zenex Foundation for the bursaries and to Ikhaya Trust for making this possible. Everyone had the opportunity to learn more and network with different people and organisations. Some of the networking opportunities included: US embassy, US Aid, UNISA, READ, Schools Development Unit (University of Cape Town), RAVE-O, National Writing Project (USA & SA), CPUT, WCED, Shine Centre, Equal Education, various publishers, Wordworks, ELRU, FUNDZA and Cover2Cover, Nelson Mandela University, Rhodes University and the Centre for Social Development.

(Find attached the feedback from the teachers and facilitators about RASA).

Adele is in the process of completing the training manual for the end of the year. Adele also joined the psychologist, Moses Xakwe in the Griffiths Assessments of the possible six creche children for 2012.

Meetings attended during September included: Irma Albers (DISTELL), Johannie Serdyn and ‘Give them a chance’ function, assessment committee, Luyanda Mdingi (Jazzart Dance Company), Mignon Hardie (FUNDZA), Adele and Nomzamo Ndiki attended the launch of Cover2Cover.

## GREATER STELLENBOSCH DEVELOPMENT TRUST

We had a farewell function for Wina du Plessis, chairperson of the Educational Committee. From the Literacy programme we want to salute her for everything she envisioned, assisted with and contributed to. We will miss her enthusiasm, courage and commitment. She led by example.



### 2. Progress during the month

The evaluation visit of the preschool teacher (Nozphiwo Ndaleni) is ongoing – certain elements were completed but due to time constraints, it could not be finished. The creche teacher (Mabel Rens) requested a later date in October. The Creative Writing Workshop of Mhlobo Jadezweni was organised and attended. The RASA conference was attended with the teachers from Ikhaya and Umnqophiso Pre-primary School.

### 3. Objectives for the next month

- Move of the Literacy room
- Finishing the training manual
- Parent evening of the creche and preschool
- Parent workshops of the Aftercare facilitators

Report compiled by: Adele Botha

(Literacy training and development)