

A close-up photograph of a young child with dark skin, wearing a red sweater with white stars. The child is focused on playing with a string of yellow beads. The background is blurred, showing other people in a classroom or community setting. The image is set against a solid orange background with white lines forming a grid.

Transcape Education Projects Report Jan-June 2020

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Mdumbi Preschool

Mdumbi Preschool is part of the Early Childhood Development program of Transcape NPO. This year, we have 51 children in grade 0 and grade R. The first term started on the 15th of January and ended on the 18th of March. We had to close early because of the Coronavirus outbreak.

As always at the beginning of a new year, the new children struggle a bit to adjust to the new circumstances. Some cry when they get dropped off at school but they get used to it quickly and everything is normal again.

Nokubonga, our Grade 0 teacher was pregnant and went on maternity leave on the 21st of February. She gave birth on the 17th of March to a healthy boy. She will be back at school on the 21st of May. Meanwhile, we employed a substitute teacher from Nonkubela school to relieve her.

We were able to buy some new educational materials for our classrooms. Puzzles, games and threading materials, posters about our body and animals, and numbers. The teachers were very happy about the new equipment, and the kids can develop their fine motor skills, number sense, and language skills while playing.



Nonkqubela preschool:

Nonkqubela preschool is a satellite school supported by TransCape. They have 2 teachers, Ntombovuyo and Sinothando are teaching 26 children this year. The teachers asked TransCape to help with extending the school. They need a second classroom and inside toilets. We have applied for a grant at the German Embassy but unfortunately, they declined our request. Julian and Franzi then took the initiative and established a crowdfunding campaign to buy at least an outside toilet. <https://www.gofundme.com/f/a-toilet-for-the-nonkqubela-school>

We hope the COVID-19 disease can be controlled soon. We will stay closed until the lockdown is lifted.



Afterschool Enrichment program

The afterschool program started in 2008. The purpose of the program is to help the children from Mankosi village to improve in school. This afterschool year started on the 15th of January. Andisiwe, our teacher is helping the students to improve in English, Mathematics, Arts, and Craft and also helping them with their homework. Moreover, we are playing educational games. With these games, they are developing thinking skills and improving brain development.



At the beginning of the afterschool year, we had to assess and register the participating students. The number is increasing. In total 55 students attend afterschool in 2020 from which 21 students are in grades 2, 3, 4, and 5, 20 students in grades 6 and 7, and 14 students in grades 8 and 9.

Troy is a new volunteer who is helping us to speak more English in class. With Franzi and Julian, Troy is the third volunteer in the afterschool program. He is encouraging the students not to be shy but to speak English. We are also reading stories with the students. After reading the story, the students are dramatizing the story. They enjoy this way of learning. It helps the students to speak.



On Fridays, all students come to afterschool

because it is the Arts and Crafts day. By doing Arts and Craft they develop small muscles and creativity. It is fun for the students after a hard school week.

All in all, afterschool is doing well because the number of students is increasing. We help the children to become better in school. We had to close the term early on the 27 of March, because of the Coronavirus outbreak.

We will stay closed until we have permission from the government to open again.

Thank you so much for your support and please take care.

Kind regards,

Yours Andisiwe Masiphule

Scholarship Program Report

Since February 2020 we have a new Scholarship Program Manager. Jay Masibulele Siya resigned and Andisiwe Masiphula, our Afterschool teacher took over.

Because of the Coronavirus, the schools closed early on the 18th of March. Unfortunately, the schools have not opened yet again for our students.

As of January 2020, we have 4 scholarship students.

Sibusisiwe Siya

Sibusisiwe is in East London at Buffalo City College studying Public management. She is doing 4 modules at the moment. Entrepreneurship and business



management, Management communication, Computer Practice Level 4, and Public Administration. She passed all her modules with 62%-68%. We are very proud of her. She spent the period of the lockdown at home in her village. The college did not offer any online classes nor support. Sibusisiwe will return to college on the 6th of July to continue with her studies. TransCape will continue to support her until the end of 2020.

Abonga Mapinyose

Abonga Mapinyose is doing Grade 12 in Dalindyabo High School in Mthatha. He passed his grade 11 and was promoted to grade 12 with 48%. He struggles in Maths and we have arranged extra classes for him to improve his marks. Abonga is interested in Computer science and is planning to study IT-related subjects further in his schooling career.

When his school closed in March due to Covid-19 he came home to his village and studied at home. We printed his study material for him and he tried to teach himself as good as he could. Dalinyebo school did not offer a lot of support during this difficult time. The grade 12th was supposed to resume school on the



1st of June 2020. When Abonga arrived at his hostel he was told that the teachers are going on strike. The next day the teachers barricaded the school and burned stuff outside. They did not want to take the risks of getting infected by the virus. All students returned home. Abonga was very disheartened because the chance for him to finish matric this year is very slim.

Abonga is supposed to go back to school on the 6th of July. The school is demanding a COVID test before they going to let him into the school premises. His mother and Abonga are going to travel to Mthatha and get tested. The results will take about 2 weeks to come back.

Gcinakazi Ntloko and Masithemba Masiphule

We have two new scholarship students this year. Gcinakazi Ntoko and Masithemba Masiphule are going to St. Martin' s School in Mthatha. We made sure that they are in a friendly environment and the boarding houses seem nice and the food is nutritious and healthy.

The first year is always the hardest as the students need to adjust to the new teachers and also the standard of English spoken in school. Gcinakazi passed all her subjects in the first term and presented us with a nice report. Masithemba failed Maths but did otherwise ok. We arranged for both of them to have extra Maths classes next term.

Gcinakazi and Masithemba also came home in the middle of March when the school closed because of the pandemic. TrasnCape supplied two laptops for them to continue learning online. Andisiwe supervised them in her house. We also arranged a qualified Math teacher to give them lessons 3 times a week for 6 weeks, to help them catch up on their Maths. On the 6th of July, they will return to St Martin' s school in Mthatha to resume their studies in grade 10.



We had to say goodbye to Musa Jampo and Matsidiso Jampo as they failed their grade and were not promoted.

We would like to thank you from the bottom of our hearts for your support.

Yours sincerely,

Andisiwe Masiphule