

Transcape

NEWSLETTER NPO

THREE MONTHS UPDATE REPORTS JUNE – SEPTEMBER 2020



Including

Education Projects

Health Projects

Social-Economic Projects

Table of Contents

<i>About TransCape</i>	3
<i>Education Projects</i>	4
Early Childhood Development	5
After-school Enrichment Program	6
Scholarship Program.....	7
<i>Health Projects</i>	9
Home Visits.....	10
Home Based Care Groups	10
School Visits.....	11
Sanitary Towels.....	11
Cataract Surgery	11
Community Awareness	12
<i>Social-Economic Projects</i>	13
Mankosi Skills Development Center.....	14
Children in Need Project	17
<i>Contact details</i>	18

About TransCape

TransCape NPO was registered as a Non-Profit Organization on 4 August 2004. It developed through a partnership with Mdumbi Backpackers' workforce and friends and the medical staff at the local Canzibe hospital. It was founded in order to support the local hospital, to improve its service delivery and to assist people to become active in their communities. TransCape works in the heart of rural South Africa, with and for the Xhosa people. In the Mankosi community, the role TransCape plays is to facilitate and help local residents to take ownership of their own resources, to live sustainable livelihoods in harmony with their social and natural environment. Since 2004, TransCape's activities have come to be divided into areas of Health and Social activities, Business and Education. Social and environmental sustainability suffuse all aspects of the organization's work. Based in the

rural communities of the Eastern Cape, we are faced with a poignant context of poverty and poor health populated by the thriving energy of a people who want to live full and healthy lives.

Our vision: We are a connected community, comprising of holistic, healthy and empowered individuals in an optimally developed and fairly managed sustainable environment.

Our mission: Rural action for sustainable community development. To be an optimally informed, monitored, open and accessible hub with relevant examples, tools and networks for making positive choices about how to live.

To work towards our vision we have several projects running. This report explains all the work we have been doing with our team from June to September 2020.



Education Projects

Early Childhood Development

Mdumbi and Nonkqubela Preschool have been closed since end of March 2020, due to Covid-19.

In the meantime, our teachers attended workshops, to learn how to deal with the Virus. They prepared the classrooms and marked out the designated areas in the whole school for social distancing. Nolutho and Nokubonga talked to the parents of the children, to inform them of the new regulations as school. The parents were happy and they are confident to send their children back to school.

At the moment we are waiting for the government and the Department of Social Development to give us the green light to open the preschools again.

We will start with the Grade R class, in order to get them ready for Grade 1 next year.

Good news from Nonkqubela school is that we were able to support them with the building of a toilet and a new fence around the premises. The building process is a little bit delayed as it started raining a couple of weeks ago. But we are very happy that, finally Nonkqubela has a toilet for the little ones to relief themselves during school hours.



After-school Enrichment Program



Andisiwe our After-School program teacher has opened up the classroom for lessons in the beginning of August. The numbers of students attending, dropped from 55 to 25 due to Covid-19. The program provides extra classes to enhance and enrich learning, especially English and Math.

Andisiwe reported that her students find themselves hopeless and demotivated because of the interrupted school year. The students fear, they lost an entire year. Andisiwe made sure that they

feel safe in our classrooms, by giving out free masks and sanitizer. Then she explained everything about the virus and gave the students a feeling of security through knowledge. The situation has normalized and Andisiwe focuses on preparing the students for their exams. They work very hard to catch up on the syllabus to cover all subjects. She said that she really misses our volunteers, who are usually helping her in the classroom. Unfortunately, our international volunteer program had to be cancelled until further notice.

Scholarship Program

The scholarship program selects promising students from the Afterschool enrichment program and provides them with the option to go to a better school in town to do Grade 10-12 and one tertiary year. In 2020 we have 4 students.



Gcinakazi Ntloko

Gcinakazi Ntloko and Masithembe Masiphula started their first-year scholarship year, with TransCape, in January 2020. It has not been an easy year but luckily the school we chose for them is a private school and they were able to open up earlier this year in July 2020 again. Due to the social distance regulations the students attend only 3 days a week,

alternating with other students to prevent overcrowding the classrooms. TransCape made sure they are equipped with a smartphone and data to stay in contact with their teachers and receive lessons, learning material and feedback on their off days. Masithembe's hostel gave us problems as the matron decided not to cook for the children anymore. Masithembe has to organize his own food now and we are scared he will live on unhealthy fast food. Our project manager Andisiwe is busy looking for an alternative option for him.



Masithembe Masiphula

Abonga Mapinyosi is doing Grade 12 in Dalindyebo High School in Mthatha. He had it the worse in that school, as it was continuously interrupted by Covid-19 regulations, strikes and fights between the teachers and the government. Grade 12 is his final year in school and he is busy writing his trial exams. We can just hope that he will manage to catch up on all the subjects before year end exams. TransCape has provided him with extra funds to pay for extra classes.

Sibusisiwe Siya is studying Public Management in the TVET college in East London. She is doing her 3. Semester and this will be her last year with us, as scholarship student. The college resumed classes on campus on the 29th of June 2020,

after a long break due to Covid-19. She has been studying hard and we are sure she will pass her exams again with flying colors. At the moment she is busy writing her final exams.



Sibusisiwe Siya



Health Projects

It has been such a difficult time due to the Corona Virus pandemic, but we have been continuing with the following projects, trying as much as we can to make a difference and helping our communities. It is however a tough road, as we had to adapt to a new normal.

Home Visits



Zintathu

Zintathu our HIV Counsellor has visited more homes as it was the safest way to keep everyone updated. In these unprecedented times it was of paramount importance to support our community members who have to take HIV medication. It was difficult to get to the clinics and pharmacies due to the national lock down. There

was even shortish of medication and Zinathu had to encourage people to not give up but check for their medication with their clinic staff and doctors. Extra counselling was needed as the people were suffering from job loss and beginning to starve. Taking HIV medication on an empty stomach can cause grave side effects.

Home Based Care Groups

Zintathu worked hard to educate the Home-Based Care workers about Covid-19 and the raging pandemic. She continued with their monthly meetings and gave out a lot of information materials in form of

booklets and pamphlets concerning hygiene and prevention of transmission. Special workshops were given to 5 groups, focusing on dealing with HIV/Aids clients during the pandemic.

School Visits



Some schools closed their doors to outside visitors, as part of Covid-19 protection. Zintathu was allowed into 2 schools to educate the

pupils about hygiene and Covid-19, but also continued to teach about teenage pregnancy, drug and alcohol abuse.

Sanitary Towels

Zintathu and her sewing ladies managed to make 1800 reusable sanitary pads and distribute them to most needy young girls. We hope

having secure protection will help the girls to stay in school and be able to learn continuously. Each pack has 10 sanitary pads inside.

Cataract Surgery

We provide transport for Cataract patients who need to go from Canzibe Hospital to

Zithulele hospital for operations. We only had one trip with 10 patients due to the pandemic. Slowly things

get back to normal and we are planning the next trip in November.

Community Awareness

Zintathu invites the whole community to attend the community awareness events to get information about Covid-19 and HIV/Aids once a month. At the events she provides everyone with

masks, takes their temperature, sanitizes the participants hands and practices social distancing by seating them 1.5m apart. Windows and Doors stay open or the event is held on the lawn.



Social-Economic Projects

Mankosi Skills Development Center

The skills development center is our newest project and managed by Khanyisa Hlohla, a very talented lady from Mankosi area. The purpose of the program is to fight youth unemployment through skills transfer.

The building



Skills Development Center so far

The last three months saw the beginning of the building, where the Skills Development is going to be housed. We managed to cast a strong foundation out of concrete and build the walls up to roof height. Between a group of Dutch Architects and our local builders, we were able to design and build half of the center already. We are busy fundraising for the completion of the building.

Adult Education and Training



Adult Education Class of 2020

Since January 2020 we have a great group of young adults studying NQF level 4 at our center. This level will equip them with a Umalusi Certificate which can open doors to TVET colleges and tertiary education. 15 young adults are busy writing their Prep-exams at the moment. We are very excited about their progress and we can see that they are on the right track towards a better future. Their exams will be in the beginning of November. After that we are planning to enroll them in a work readiness workshop, which was designed by us, to suit the special needs of our young people. After that a 3-week work experience in a retail sector is lined up, to expose them to the competitive world. We started with career guidance, to explore their ambitions and dreams. We are certain that we will be able to

help them find tertiary education, transfer a skill or create business opportunities.

Sewing Project

Nosphellele and Nolethu are well trained seamstresses of the Skills Development Center. They already learned many techniques, including how to work with an electric sewing machine and an overlocker.



In September Nosphellele and Nolethu learned how to sew graduation gowns for children. Every year the Preschools around the area need those gowns for the end of year celebrations. The sewing ladies identified this as an opportunity to make some money as we could hire

them out to the schools. Khanyisa found a sewing lady from the neighbouring village to transfer these sewing skills to our ladies. Nosphellele and Nolethu are busy making them now to be ready for December 2020.



A local guy named Sive Lukozi is already familiar with a hand-operated sewing machine. He is using the sewing machine from his mother and repairing trousers for the community members. His goal is to learn how to use the electric sewing machine and to start a business in making men's and ladies trousers. The lessons started at the beginning of July 2020 and he already learned how to cut the trousers using a pattern and sewing the different pieces together. We are looking forward to seeing how Sive will develop and maybe help him

with a Microfinance loan to get his business started.



Sive's first achievement

Driver Licence program

Daniel Mvumbi is our manager for the Driver licence school and

Microfinance program. We are happy to report that he passed his practical driver licence test in September 2020. He is the proud owner of a licence now. We observed that all community members with a driver licence have a job. We identified this skill to be of paramount importance to become employable. Next year we will start courses to enable applicants to become capable drivers of cars and even trucks.

Agroecology

The inland village of Qolweni identified a young lady from their midst to go for training in basic agriculture skills. The training was sponsored by the Department of Agriculture and taught original and fundamental agriculture practises. We are excited about working towards sustainable solutions for the gardens in our area, together with the community members who are farming.

Mirthe our volunteer from the Netherlands will be leaving the area in October. She is going back to Holland after 3 years of volunteering and managing the Skills Development Center. She will be greatly missed.

Children in Need Project

The purpose of this program is to look after vulnerable children and orphans. Recently we added to care for needy elderly people from the community. It doesn't happen often that old people are neglected here. Andisiwe, our project manager has localized one old woman who was suffering of loneliness as her family is not visiting her lately. Andisiwe organized volunteers and she went to clean the old ladies house, fix the walls, cook a healthy meal and wash the laundry. We also reported the case to our local headman, and he gave the family a warning to not forget about their parent. TransCape also provided masks for the old people in our community and they were very happy. Andisiwe teaches the old people how to wash hands properly to escape the virus.

The children in needs project also takes the children who have no birth certificate or ID to Home Affairs usually. But the Home Affairs offices

were closed for these kinds of applications during the lockdown period.



The project still supports two young boys with food parcels every month, from the community. The boys are orphans and have no identification documents. Militha is doing grade 11 and Avela is doing grade 12 in the local Highschool. Avela hit a hard time at school, wanting to give up this year. Andisiwe together with his teacher went in and motivated him to pull through. He will try to do his matric this year and we all cross our fingers for him.

Contact details

Email:

info@transcape.org

Phone:

+27 84 802 1794

Address:

PO box 220, Mthatha, SA - 5099

Website:

www.transcape.org

Follow us on Facebook:

TransCape NPO

Follow us on Instagram:

transcape.npo

Follow us on Twitter:

TransCape NPO

Registration number:

035-619 NPO

Bank Details:

Account Name: TransCape NPO

Account number: 627 559 007 95

Bank name: First National Bank

Branch number: 21052100

Swift code: FIRNZAJJXXX

Compiled by Julian Schroers



The Team of TransCape NPO Zintathu, Andisiwe, Khanyisa and Astrid would like to thank you and express our deepest gratitude toward your generosity.

Thank you and God Bless!

