

Alexander Forbes Community Trust

Newsletter

February 2011

Introduction

In many aspects 2010 was a great year: the successful hosting of the FIFA World Cup, Alexander Forbes maintaining its Level 3 BEE rating status, adoption of the BHAG, the company's business growth strategy and most importantly, the noticeable increased employee participation in community related initiatives throughout the company.

*We can certainly
do more for our local
communities*

I am convinced that 2011 will not be different.

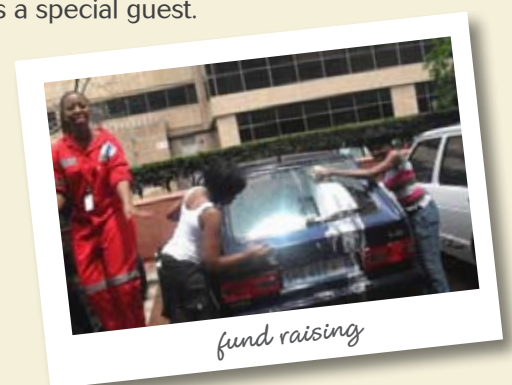
2010 Highlights

Christmas Party in Soweto

"Children from the Mapetla Day Care Centre in Soweto could barely keep their balance as they clutched neatly wrapped gifts almost half their sizes with one hand, and slung even bigger bags of goodies over their shoulders" – reporter Vuyo Mkhize: The Star.

All this was made possible by the dedicated team from Alexander Forbes Risk Technical Services led by Shelie van Zyl and Linda Hulley. The team worked tirelessly to raise funds which were matched by the Community Trust. One of the ways in which the team raised money was to wash 60 cars in a single day at the Sandton offices – *Ouch!* "What an exercise," remarked Boitumelo Maotwe, an intern at AFRS.

The centre also received two modern fridges which were donated by the staff of Alexander Forbes Life division. The event was attended by Alexander Forbes Risk and Insurance Services CEO Jurie Erwee, Alexander Forbes Financial Services MD Anton Ossip, Alexander Forbes Life MD Selwyn Kahlberg and about 50 Alexander Forbes employees. Well-known cricket personality, Dr Ali Bacher was also invited as a special guest.



“We are the *future*”....

About 50 employees joined Alexander Forbes Group CEO Edward Kieswetter and Lerato Pule, the chairperson of the Alexander Forbes Community Trust, at a graduation ceremony at the KHATA Day Care Centre on the East Rand. A total of 39 children graduated from the Early Childhood Development programme to formal school. These children are all affected by HIV/AIDS in some way.

Michelle Scholtz and the Alexander Forbes Financial Services legal team raised funds to buy school uniforms for all the children who graduated. They were also given sweet hampers, soccer balls, vuvuzelas and lots of other goodies. In return the children entertained employees with cultural dancing and some brilliant Michael Jackson moves.

The centre also produced outstanding Grade 12 results with seven learners who are also orphans, achieving a total of **10 distinctions**. The Community Trust will be awarding bursaries to these learners as part of the In 4 Life programme.



{ *Partying in style.....*

The Stellenbosch office hosted a truly heart-warming Christmas party for the children of the Bizweni Centre for Disabled Children, another beneficiary of the Community Trust. Each employee volunteered to ‘adopt’ a child from the centre to give a gift to. They also treated the children to a scrumptious meal. Had it not been for the bad weather, they would have had refreshing fun on the beach, but unfortunately had to settle for an indoor bash. It is reported that one of the little girls actually stood up and used her voice in public for the very first time, which was delightful to the staff.



Celebrating with our children

In Port Elizabeth Alexander Forbes employees bought gifts for the 77 orphans and vulnerable children from both the Lighthouse Community Development Initiative and Jongilanga Day Care Centre. These two projects are both beneficiaries of the Community Trust. The children also got party packs to take home.



Megan Marks and Linda Sherlock of Alexander Forbes Financial Planning Consultants hosted 60 children from Soweto to McDonald meals during the festive season. They both contributed R1 500 and managed all logistics to make this a special outing for the little ones.

Flying high with Investment Solutions

In the true spirit of 'ubuntu' Investment Solutions visited MaAfrika Tikkun's Wings of Life in Diepsloot near Fourways. This community centre provides support and care to vulnerable children and young adults from nearby townships.

As part of the initiative, Investment Solutions invited staff to donate books and toys to put in a Kiddies' Corner at the centre. The corner is used as part of a counselling programme for abused children and for the early childhood development curriculum. The Human Resources team painted murals of Winnie the Pooh and Friends, transforming a gloomy empty room into a spectrum of colour and cheer.



before



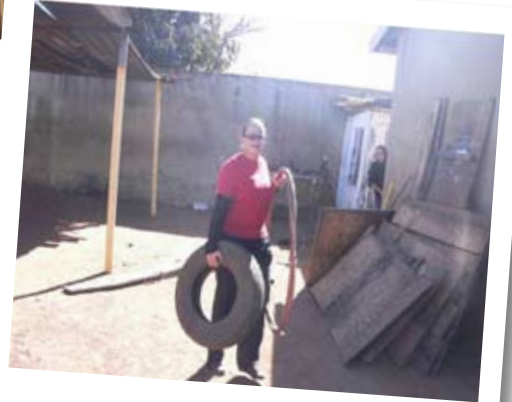
after



Elliott Shuping, an intern at the Alexander Forbes Stellenbosch office, facilitated a memorable trip for Grade 12 learners to Robben Island in November last year. These learners are part of a group from the Vision K centre which is supported by the Stellenbosch office.

*Robben
Island
excursion*

Celebrating spring day @ KHATA Day Care Centre



e'Pap

Alexander Forbes Insurance employees are donating R4 120 every month to the Iterileng feeding scheme based in Laudium, west of Pretoria. This money is used to support 100 children as well as the monthly distribution of epap.

AF increasing the pool of actuaries

Alexander Forbes and the Community Trust hosted about **30** Actuarial Science students who have bursaries from the South African Actuaries Development Programme (SAADP), a beneficiary of the Trust. Alexander Forbes Financial Services MD Anton Ossip and Lerato Pule, chairperson of the Trust, together with senior managers within the Group, welcomed the students on Friday afternoon, 27 August 2010 at our Sandton offices. The objective of the event was to showcase Alexander Forbes Group as a preferred company of choice and to entice the students to join the company. **Eighteen** students graduated and Alexander Forbes has extended employment offers to some of them. "We will endeavour to increase the intake of graduates to beef up our capacity and enhance the company's employment equity profile," said Anton

The Community Trust has been a committed partner of the SAADP since 2006 and has invested **R4m** to the development of black actuaries in South Africa. To date, the SAADP has produced two qualified black actuaries and **49** Actuarial Science graduates. Five of

these graduates have only **two** or three more professional exams to write before qualifying as actuaries. Since 2006, Alexander Forbes has employed **8** SAADP graduates and provided support in capacity building programmes such as mentoring, work readiness, life skills as well as financial management courses to the final year students.

Lerato said that Alexander Forbes was committed to continue its journey of addressing the shortage of skills in the country and at the same time contributing to the development of local communities.

Anton Ossip (second from right) and other Alexander Forbes staff members with SAADP students.





You and Alexander Forbes: Helping to make dreams come true



Johannesburg



Cape Town



Johannesburg



Durban

Reach for a Dream believes in the power of dreams. They encourage children to use their dreams to fight life-threatening illnesses.

Alexander Forbes also believes in the power of dreams. That's why we gave our valued clients two copies each of Reach for a Dream's first children's book "A Magical Day for Dreaming" – one for themselves and one for a child living with a life-threatening illness.

Last week Financial Services MD Anton Ossip and staff from Alexander Forbes and Reach for a Dream went to the Saint Francis Home in Boksburg to deliver the books and 'fun packets' to the children who are all HIV positive. Staff in Durban and Cape Town also delivered packages to children at King George Hospital and Groote Schuur.

The money that Reach for a Dream gets from the sales of the children's book will be used to fund the Jabulani Kingdom project. The project developed out of a need to give children who were unable to physically leave the hospital environment, access to the Reach for a Dream magic. The professional magicians and clowns in the project use humour to entertain the children for more than two hours per session. They perform magic tricks, sculpture balloon characters, tell jokes and generally cause fits of giggling and laughter throughout the hospital corridors.

Thank you for helping us bring laughter, hope and magic into the lives of so many children suffering from life threatening illnesses.

Other activities

employees participated in

- Investment Solutions employees volunteered to visit Usindiso Ministries, a shelter for orphans and the homeless where they served lunch to 220 people. There was chicken, curried stew, rice, salads, dessert and soft drinks on the menu. "It was disheartening to see that so many women and children are destitute and come from impoverished backgrounds with very little life skills. We take it for granted that one is entitled to a well-balanced meal on a daily basis", said Kassy Govender, the Transformation Coordinator at Investment Solutions. **"A little becomes a lot when a lot of people do something to make a difference."** This is the motto that Alexander Forbes employees should embrace and spread across all levels of our business to make meaningful contributions.
- The severe lack of water in the Beaufort West district has touched the hearts and emotions of staff from both the Stellenbosch and Cape Town offices. Marlize Koen facilitated a fund raising initiative which raised R4 000. They used the money to buy bottled water from a local Pick n Pay supermarket at a discounted price and donated it to the local community.
- Debra Delise and her team from Alexander Forbes Risk Services collected 29 Christmas boxes which were donated to Hungry Hearts, an organisation for abandoned babies and children.
- The Cape Town office donated printing paper worth R10 000 to the *Maths: Yes We Can* programme, an initiative of Fezeka Secondary School. The office also contributes R600 a month to the South African Education and Environment Project (SAEP) and make regular donations of toys, etc to 16 crèches.

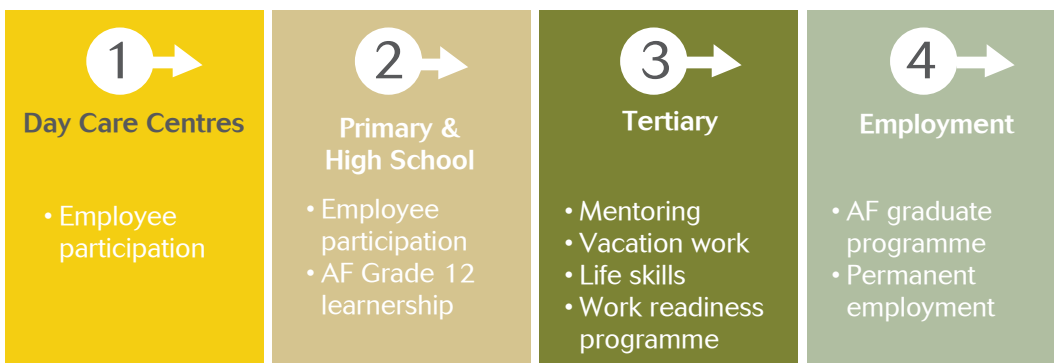
In 4 Life



In 4 Life is an Alexander Forbes Community Trust model which seeks to integrate the holistic care for orphans and vulnerable children providing a comprehensive support to one of the most disadvantaged groups in South Africa. This is achieved by integrating two of the Trust's focus areas, namely, HIV/AIDS and Education. It is implemented in partnership with community-based organisations. These organisations receive funding from the Trust every year to support the implementation of their respective community programmes aimed at benefiting these children. This includes an after school tuition programme for Grades 11 & 12. The community-based organizations act as a catalyst between the Trust and beneficiaries and focus on the implementation of phases 1 & 2 in the model below:

Integration of HIV/AIDS & Education to create a sustainable impact

In 4 Life



Benefits

- Address scarce skills at Alexander Forbes
- Job creation
- Income
- Informed society
- Stable families
- Contained spread of HIV/AIDS

Continuous development & support for orphans and vulnerable children

Class of 2010

The Community Trust supported **61** grade 12 pupils through the In 4 Life programme and **54** of them passed their final 2010 exams. That's a pass rate of 88%.

Breakdown of results:

- **54** pupils passed
- **39** received university entrance
- **10** pupils achieved distinctions. Four are from the KHATA Day Care Centre recently visited by the Group CEO and the Chairperson of the Community Trust.

Some of these pupils will be awarded bursaries by the Community Trust to further their studies at tertiary level and others will get the opportunity to participate in the company's Learnership Programme.

The impact of HIV/AIDS in our society is far greater than anyone can imagine. The most vulnerable group is children who are either infected themselves or affected because their biological parents are ill. There are currently about **1.4 million orphans and vulnerable children in our country**, but predictions are that this number will skyrocket in the next few years if the infection rate does not come down.

It is for this reason that the Community Trust is implementing the In 4 Life strategy to provide holistic care and support to these children.

Did you know that.....



Don Ray Malabie
Yours in community support

- HIV/AIDS was first identified in the **1980s** and today there are more than **33 million** people living with the virus.
- The number of people living with HIV globally has increased from around **8 million** in 1990 to **33.4 million** in 2008.
- About **22.3 million** people (67%) living with HIV are in sub-Saharan Africa and **5.7 million** are in South Africa.
- More than **25 million** people around the world have died of HIV/AIDS since the first confirmed case in the 80s, an estimated **15 million** (60%) in Africa.
- There are **18.5 million** orphans and vulnerable children to HIV/AIDS globally. An estimated **11.6 million** orphans are in the sub-Saharan region with **1.4 million** in South Africa.
- At the end of 2008, women accounted for **50%** of all adults living with HIV worldwide.

Source: Avert Organisation

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the staff members who donated and supported lunches, events and special outings to these community organisations during the festive period and throughout 2010. I believe that we will certainly do more this year.