

Ons Plek - Accessibility of Organisation

Physical Accessibility

Ons Plek was initially in town specifically because it was accessible to street children there. Our success in reducing the number of girls street children led to us being able to shift our focus to intervening before the children became street children. We could move to a safer, more healing area in Mowbray. Ons Plek is now in Mowbray close to bus, train and taxi facilities as well as to shops, churches, and libraries. This is because our treatment model encourages childrens' independence through day to day shopping duties, using public transport in preparation for adulthood, trips to the library.

Ukondla in Philippi is within 15 minutes walking distance of children, families and schools.

Language (ability to accommodate focus groups from different communities)

We have staff members who speak Xhosa, Sotho, English, Afrikaans and Tswana. We are accustomed to using each other as translators if necessary.

Admission Policy (racial integration)

We have been open to all races since inception i.e. 1988 — including children from other African countries.

Question

How do you make the community, other role-players and potential beneficiaries aware of your organisation and the services that will be rendered?

Newspaper reports; talks in communities and schools; slide shows; exhibitions in libraries and town halls; radio interviews; television interviews, attending community workshops; going to street committees; and informal chats in the community as we walk around. We also use the beneficiaries' network — they have their own networks.