



Ons Plek Projects

providing hope instead of street life



2015 Newsletter

~ Ons Plek Projects ~

We invite you to visit all our Projects, meet the staff members and the children

Director: PAM JACKSON

Deputy Director: GINA JAGERS

Our assessment centre intake shelter ONS PLEK and our OFFICES are situated at 4 Albertus Street, Cape Town
Tel: 021 465-4829/72 ~ Fax: 021 461-0530.
email: onsplek@new.co.za ~ website: www.onsplek.org.za

Our second-stage shelter SIVIWE is situated at 7 York Road, Woodstock, Cape Town. Tel: 021 448-6529.

Our Community Development Programs:

UKONDLA 1 is situated at City Council Community Hall, Browns Farm, Philippi, Cape Town.

UKONDLA 2 is situated on the premises of Sizakuyenza Safe House, cnr Eisleben and Phumelele Roads, Philippi, Cape Town.

UKONDLA 3 is situated on the corner of Eisleben and Phumelele Roads, Philippi, Cape Town.

Our Wish List ...



FINANCIAL DONATIONS FOR:

- Transport costs for the girls: school (bus/train tickets); educational outings; camps.
- Medical expenses eg. eye tests for the girls.
- Photocopy costs of educational exercises (more affordable than buying books/child).
- Workbooks and educational books for bridging school (list available)
- Siviwe House: Telephone system; external safety gate; geyser timer.
- Kettles/irons.
- Bond repayments for new premises secured (intake shelter/safe house).

GROCERIES:

Oats, maize, samp, rice, peanut butter, flour, pilchards, sugar, mealie meal, oil, chutney.

TOILETRIES:

Toilet paper, hair straightener (**must be mild**); black shoe polish and brush; Nitagon lice shampoo (*clinics no longer supply*); sanitary towels (pads); flannel nappies.

SCHOOL CLOTHES:

Tracksuits; grey pants and skirts; white shirts; jerseys (school colours).

UNDERWEAR (*Brand New Please!*):

Panties and bras for girls aged 5-18 years; briefs for boys aged 2-5 years.

STATIONERY:

Photocopy paper (white); plastic sleeves; A4 colour project paper; Flip files; A4 hard cover books (288 & 192 pgs); calculator; Pritt stick (large); project board; examination pads; Ponal wood glue.

School Stationery: Pritt (40g); homework diaries; Oxford dictionaries (English ONLY)

OTHER ITEMS:

- Mops and brooms
- Globes (energy-saving)
- Saucepans
- Plastic cups, plates and bowls
- Forks and spoons
- DVD and/or CD Player
- Fax machine with telephone handset
- Single bed
- Plastic chairs (sturdy catering type)
- 2 x Carpets/mats (3.40m x 3.75m) must be able to roll up
- Power Point Projector — *please contact us first regarding this item*

FIRST AID KITS:

Panado; cough syrup; flue packs; plasters; bandages.

We acknowledge with much joy our Major Donors ...

- * CENTRAL METHODIST MISSION (in the form of a very reasonable rental)
- * DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT PROVINCIAL ADMINISTRATION - WESTERN CAPE
- * GLOBAL MINISTRIES (Indianapolis) - AFRICA AND UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
- * GLOBAL MINISTRIES (Institutional and Women's Division) - USA
- * INTOMBI - GERMANY
- * NATIONAL LOTTERY
- * SOUTH AFRICAN ASSOCIATION OF HONG KONG
- * STICHTING STRAATMEIDEN KAAPSTAD
- * STREETSMART
- * THE COMMUNITY CHEST
- * UNITED METHODIST WOMEN - USA



OUR BANKING DETAILS:

Bank: FIRST NATIONAL BANK
Branch: ADDERLEY STREET
Branch Code: 201-409
Account No: 620-529-16908
In name of: ONS PLEK PROJECTS
Swift Code: FIRNZAJJ

Monies being deposited from overseas (telegraphic transfer) must please make use of the swift code.

Please Note:

First National Bank has advised that cheques will not be accepted if the full name i.e. **Ons Plek Projects** is not reflected on the cheque ... and we would be so sorry to have to return any cheques!

HAVE YOU MOVED?

Please advise us of your change of address if you have moved home or office ... it's so disappointing when the 'thank you' letters that the girls have written, or our newsletters, are returned to us!



Pam Jackson : DIRECTOR

Long Overdue for a Move!

Ons Plek staff sit in our staff meeting room cum classroom cum dining room every Friday while girls cram into the childcare workers' bedroom cum office cum family interviewing room cum pantry!

Ons Plek staff have perfected the art of 'knype' while pinned against a wall by the table in front of them and another staff member on either side. Or resorting to crawling under the table to leave the room. It's not quite as bad as going into a Matatu-taxi in Nairobi — where you can go in one body shape and leave with an entirely different body shape!

Upstairs staff climb over piles of neatly packed donations, to get to their desks — minimum packing space!

And outside where courtyard space is at a premium undesirable elements clustered around our fence hinder girls in making a break into a different lifestyle — a perennial problem.

TIME TO MOVE !!!!!!!!!

One Year of Fundraising Later

The wisest use of donors' money would be to buy a house and avoid high bond rates! We have an annual budget of R3million and a Reserve Fund of R3million, which we never touch, to allow us to close

with dignity to girls and staff if we need to. A potential new house will cost approximately R3million. But no money for a building has come in and no sign of a house with a safe courtyard in the middle of the building, close to public transport, Siviwe, shops and of course enough space.

One Sunday Morning ...

Pam opens the newspaper and sees a house with 9 bedrooms, lounge, kitchen, 4 bathrooms, a big courtyard in the middle, close to shops, public transport, Siviwe. Asking price R3 000 000.

She does a quick re-think. The house rents out rooms to UCT students and has a monthly income of R25 000. Pam thinks it may be time to put R2 000 000 of our Reserve down and use the R25 000 to pay bond costs and administrative person to collect rentals until the occupancy date of January 2016.

Deputy, Gina Jagers and later Kara, Secretary, look at the building with Pam. A lot of background work is done.

The Committee, always prudent, nevertheless decide that despite the risks it is time to move our assets from cash to property. After a long look at sustainability of course.

**Offers are made and the house is ours
— with a bond of R400 000!**

Well ... Not quite ...

Ever walked on water? We start walking on the 30th March ...

The banks refused the small bond, disregarding our healthy long-term proven sustainability. They have an idea that being able to sell the house if we renege on our repayments is not enough. They want someone to stand surety. We have a foreclosure plan of our own and were putting down in cash R2million of the R2,4million needed but even this did not get us beyond the red tape criteria.

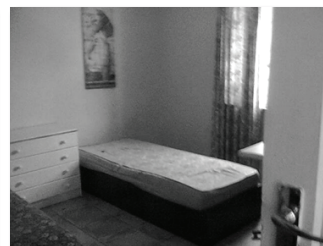
The race was on to find a private investor to give us a bond or donations. We did radio programs, auctioned 'One Direction' tickets donated through the radio program, wrote to and phoned everyone we know, used social media like never before! Thanks to our families who educated us in more use of social media.

First D-day for printing! Thursday 2nd April

At the time of going to print we have one investor for R100 000 and another pending! R300 000 to go! Do we cancel the printing of the newsletter because we do not have the necessary funds yet? Or feel like we have 'egg on our faces :)' if we do print. We delay till after Easter.

Page 4 : **Second D-day ...**

Some photographs of our hoped-for new house!



Second D-day for printing! Tuesday 7th April

No further news. We hastily draft the following sentence and Wendy re-designs the newsletter. PATIENTLY? The need for the house is still urgent. If the required funds are still not forthcoming in the near future we will be going back to the drawing board to see what our next step is. We are still standing on our faith in God but

now we know what walking on water feels like!

... And here we go again ...

Third D-Day for printing! Thursday 9th April

A pledge of R300 000 comes in! But it's not in the bank yet, and the printing cannot be delayed again until it is. So when you read this you will not know if the house is ours for sure?

Phone us! We will share the end of the story with the highest bidder.

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**PS:** Thanks to the committee member whose belief in Ons Plek is so strong that he offered to invest R200 000 at the going bond rate and to the other who offered her flat as security — **we turned both down because they would have had to resign from the committee.** ❀

A committee member asks ... What does this job have to recommend it? Small crowded premises, low salaries, an often dangerous work situation, and complaints from public ...

### WELL, WE HAVE SOME WONDERFUL DAYS!!

What is it that does sustain us?

**Pam:** I came into the Friday meeting having told staff we would be going to church to give thanks for the house. The minister, Alan Storey would meet us.

I opened the meeting agenda and Gina very respectfully asked if she could have a few words first.

**Gina (Deputy Director):** "All staff is excited to hear that finally Pam secured the new house for the Ons Plek intake. We are here now to say 'Thank you' for your leadership role you have played throughout the time we know you. I personally do not always agree with what you say or decide for the project. But it turns out most of the times that you had the oversight and take a risk for the better of the organisation. And I know you as a person who tirelessly puts in efforts, encouragement and positive attitude towards children, staff and any person coming in contact with Ons Plek for many years already and giving us as staff a good example. Through your positive leadership role you are giving us strength and hope to forge on. Also in difficult times you do listen to staff's problems and personal challenges always willing to support.

The flowers we bought you today are a symbol. We know that you love the mountain and the protea is our country's national flower which also symbolises the beauty of our nature. We know you love this country so much that you decided to dedicate your time and efforts to Ons Plek and the children we serve as a symbol of your contribution to reuniting the country. Thank you Pam for what you have given and are giving to all of us".

**Andiswa (Childcare Worker):** "My family always say our lives have changed, they see a big difference in me since I started work at Ons Plek. I have learnt so much about parenting from all the training Pam makes possible ... my neighbours also benefit.

**Christina (Childcare Worker):** "Pam puts her mind to something and she just keeps going until it happens".

**Kara (Secretary):** "I have taken a 50% drop in salary to work here, I have had at least 20 job offers since I came last year. From Pam I learnt to express my softer side in my work. In business you have to show your tough side. I'm sure God called me here".

### And so the meeting progresses with staff offering their contributions off the cuff.



Gina hands over a beautiful bouquet of flowers to Pam

We go to church where Adrienne van der Merwe — in Alan's place — joins us in prayer and thanksgiving. We then each anointed each other. Gina came up spontaneously with a German song, Assah and Grace shared inspiring words and I led staff out of the church singing and dancing "Sihamba Na Ye — We walk with Him".

So in answer to the committee member "We have a perk, a sustaining force, in our staff support of each other and in God. We work hard, we challenge each other, we evaluate our performance critically but supportively in order to grow." ❀

After prayer and thanksgiving, we anointed each other.



# We dedicate this page to all our generous donors ... thank you!



*This list includes financial and other contributions received  
~ from July 2014 to March 2015 ~*

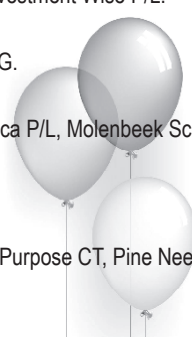
## INDIVIDUALS:

- A. Abekwe C, Ackermann S, Adams F, Adams F R, Adonis N, Akumba J, Albertyn Z, Allers C, Alor M, Andrews L, Andrews R, Angelucci F, Anthony B, Anyamene H, Arendze Mr & Mrs, Ascott C, Auld K G, Aunty Roxanne, Aunty Theresa, Ausley S.
- B. Baird I, Baird M, Banjoko J, Barfield S (UK), Bartman L, Bassier L, Bassier S, Belman L, Berman G, Bertels S, Block R, Bosch L & A, Botha F, Botha S, Botha S R, Bowen C, Braithwait N, Brandstater S, Britz F, Broekmann T, Broumels M, Brown M, Brown P, Brown R, Brown Y, Brunner H, Bruns H, Bryant D, Bubi D, Buckley J (UK).
- C. Camming A, Campbell R, Carpenter D, Cerqueira T, Cescarini L (USA), Chiat A, Chidebela P, Chinagorom U P, Chloe, Chorley P (US), Chukwuemeka C, Chukwunye E, Clarke L, Classen C, Coetzee B, Colling E, Cornell C, Cornish W R, Court R.
- D. De Castro A, De Chazal J, De Jager C, De Jager N, Dhankhau K, Dower J K, Duggen J, Dullaart A, Dullaart G, Dumbutshena R, Duncan C, Dwebi M, Dyasi N, Dyson C.
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- F. Fagroedien R, Fairbridges, Farrell L J, Fatima, Feldman T, Feldmann L, Fells R, Filippi M, Fisher S, Forgas D, Frater S M A H, Fresen L, Fusoa Mrs.
- G. Gardner M, Goodwin R, Goulden C, Gouws H, Gouws J M, Gram C (Norway), Groenewald C, Gurtzschmann N, Guyeu J, Guy A.
- H. Haalck J, Hardy Dr B, Harris-Schenz Dr B M (USA), Hawkes R & G, Hendricks Mrs, Hendricks Z, Henwood Mr, Hering J & K, Herselman M, Hetreed N, Hey B, Hicks M, Hill P, Hirschsohn C, Holditch Mr & Mrs (UK), Home Family, Hudson-Bennett R, Hughes J, Hurt E.
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- J. Jackson P, Jacobs R, Jearey D, Jennings R, Joemat C, Johnson P, Jones I, Juli.
- K. Kahn M, Kanguru M, Karjiker Dr M, Keel J, Keen J, Keet K, Kenana K, Konjwa A, Korff J, Krige S, Kruger A, Kruger L, Kumeke C.
- L. Laakmann H, Labia Count & Countess, Laila, Lambrechts R, Latimer N A, Lawrence M, Le Roux D, Leah, Lioba E (Europe), Longden-Thurgood C, Luaba D, Lucas B, Luyindula P.
- M. Manuel C, Mapasa K, Mapholo N, Marais Mrs, Marizu O, Marks S, Martin Y, Mashaba L, Mbekela Y, McKenzie P, Megan, Menneghin C, Mess D (Germany), Meyer A, Meyer B, Meyer family, Mgbojike Mr & Mrs, Mhlongo O, Mika, Miller Dr D, Minnaar A, Mitford L, Mohammed, Molteno R, Mompoti B, Moore Dr D, Moosa M, Moosajee F, Moreira S, Morrell P, Morrell T, Mudyirwa C, Mulders R, Muller Rev B, Mutch D, Mwachurwa J.
- N. Naicker C, Naicker N, Naledi T T, Ndzuza J, Nel C, Nel D, Nel N, Newman M, Nizam N, Nondumiso P, Nothnagel U, Notwala M, Nwachukwu J.
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- P. Pedro E, Penhale B, Peregrino S, Pereira Z, Petter S, Pike M, Plasberg J, Polley M, Ponto S, Price S.
- R. Retief R, Ries R, Robertson G M, Romanes O, Roodbol A, Rosenmann J P, Ross J, Rossouw A, Ruch Mrs, Ruth.
- S. Salie S, Samakasky D, Samuels R, Sarah, Saunders J, Scello I, Scher T, Schmidt E C, Schneider L, Schou S, Schumann G, Schuurman-Stekhoven A P, Schwarz U, Sebastian V, Seeley N, Seibert Family, Sena D, Shapiro Y, Shikemeni N, Silverman S, Sirkhotte M & S, Smith J, Soal K, Stanfield D, Stapley M, Steenkamp R, Stichting O & A, Strong G, Strybis A.
- T. Taliep A, Toefy Mrs, Toms M (UK), Tough J, Trew E, Tyrell C.
- U. Uchendu C, Uncle Zimboy.

- V. Van Angeren T, Van Aswegen, Van Breda Z, Van Corler A, Van Den Burg D, Van Der Merwe H, Van der Merwe L, Van Der Merwe S, Van der Schyff M F, Van Niekerk J, Van Niekerk L, Van Rensburg C, Van Tonder T, Van Vuuren K, Van Zyl A, Vandevorst B, Vernon N, Vos Dr & Mrs, Vucurevic M.
- W. Wang E, Ward T, Ware G, William B, William M, Williams L, Williams M, Williams Mrs, Wilson K, Winkler Family, Winstanley C, Witte A, Witz L, Wolmarans M, Wood K, Worthmann U.
- Z. Zonoh L.

## ORGANISATIONS, SCHOOLS, ETC:

- A. Adidas, Admakers International, Aerotechnic, Art of Living, Afena Capital Team, Atlantic Asset Management, Atmosphere Communications, Azriel & Moyra Fine Foundation.
- B. Barclays Bank (UK), Bush Radio.
- C. C M Barry & Company, Carter Family Charitable Trust, CCID Cape Town, Charly's Bakery, Cheri's Designs, Clicks Group, CPUT Students, CT Sewing Centre.
- D. Democratic Alliance Goodhope Ward 77, District Six Museum-Homecoming Centre.
- E. Edward Daniels Charitable Trust, Entrepreneurs Organisation.
- F. Faith47, First National Long Street CT.
- G. German School, Gibb P/L, Good Hope International Beverages, Good Hope Seminary High.
- H. Harley Davidson Africa, Heart 104.5 Radio, Hennig Foundation, Herschel Grade 4 Class, Homestead CT.
- I. Igbo-Ukwu Development Union, INET BFA, Investment Wise P/L.
- J. Jonga Trust.
- K. KFM 94.5, Khan's Butchery, Kilowatt AV, KPMG.
- L. Lawrence House, Lewis Stores, Lions CT.
- M. MOMs Charity, Merry Pop Ins, MOL South Africa P/L, Molenbeek School, Molo Songololo, Moonlighting Films P/L.
- N. Nebula, Newkidz, Nolan's Tyres.
- O. OTI Africa P/L, Out In Africa.
- P. Park Inn, Parliament of Peace, Parties With A Purpose CT, Pine Needles, Projects Abroad SA.
- R. Rustenburg Girls High.
- S. SA Association of Hong Kong, SA Edu & Environment Projects, Sassy Shuga, Save SA, Shell Global CSC, Shimmy Beach Club, ShowWorks Creative Entertainment, Sir Dicks Uniforms, Springfield Convent, St Agnes Primary, Suiderland Fishing Division-Pioneer Fishing P/L.
- T. Taj Hotel, Team SCA Care of Life, The Din Din Trust, The Douglas Jooste Trust, The Ice Station, The Owl Club, The Rouge Revue, The Woolworths Trust, Thompsons Holidays, Town House Hotel, Tumol The Unlimited Movement Org.
- W. Walmer Estate Primary, Werksmans Attorneys, Westerford Parents Networking Group, Western Province Preparatory, Wetton Feeding Scheme, Wictra Holdings, Woolworths Design Team, WSP Group Africa.
- Z. Zip Zap Circus.



## CHURCHES:

Brackenfell Methodist WA, Central Methodist Mission, Grade 7 Catechism Class, Hillsong Church, New Apostolic Church, Salt River Methodist, Sea Point Methodist, Seventh Day Adventist Kraaifontein, St. John's Church, St. Peter's Anglican.

## UNKNOWN:

Please do contact us if your name has been omitted. We have a number of donors' details whom we are unable to identify. ❀

# Growing at Ons Plek

It's evaluation time again. The annual detailed look by supervisor and each staff member at their individual performance. A strict but growth orientated process. Each staff member prepares an evaluation of themselves and meets with their supervisor who has also prepared an evaluation of the staff member. After discussion a rating is given and goals set for further growth.

I, Pam, have noticed that the culture of evaluating ourselves and each other is growing. Staff spontaneously addressed me in the celebratory Friday morning meeting after the house "offer to purchase" was accepted. What they were doing is sharing their evaluation of me and doing so responsibly and without fear. It is wonderful to see this, wonderful to see the improvements we all make after every evaluation and wonderful to work with a team of Managers who can honestly and constructively give each other feedback.

**Christina, Childcare Worker** has this to say:

## "This is my Evaluation 2015

### Development ~ Supervision:

Every Tuesday we have supervision.

Reasons why I like supervision:

Girls' discussions: Sit together Manager and childcare worker to discuss child's behaviour, growing, observation also make future plans for child.

Also monitor if child is part of our treatment plan program. If there is behaviour problems we decided to do ID Plan for child — most exciting part course the family, external social worker have social worker, managers as well as childcare worker — as well as the

child is sitting around the table we hear from the child's side the way forward and we always act in the best needs and interest of the child — because it's part of the child's right.

Supervision helps to work in the moment of a child also to learn about the child's weak points and to twist negative behaviour to positive — to let the child learn new positive behaviour.

### Petty Cash

I did learn a life lesson from petty cash — it will stay with me — I can handle my petty cash much better.

### Rules

I notice that I give more consequence — I did stuck for long on that development — but we did do a workshop once around punishment and consequence. I really did learn a lot from that.

Like Desiree did said once: "Aunty I will not tell my husband once day, I was at Ons Plek. But I will bring up my children the same Ons Plek brings me up, to teach them to be strong people outside". That remark will stay with me — giving me hope we are doing a good job.

### Challenges

Try to hear what makes your child so unhappy. Call the other party also in and sit down with both of them if there was a fight. Try to find a solution. They must talk it out, apologise and leave your room in peace.

Every day is around developing, chatting and attitude at house Siviwe and course we work with difference children."



Flourishing  
vegetables growing  
in boxes at Siviwe



## Corporate Social Responsibility

### Tax Deductible Benefits:

We are registered as a Public Benefit Organisation and thus all donations to us are tax deductible under Section 18A of the Income Tax Act.

### Pay less estate duty:

Being a Section 18A Tax Benefit company means that your family will save from payment of estate duties.

### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

**Henk Blom** (Zeplin Productions 082 667 1688), **Kent Lingeveltdt** (Kent Lingeveltdt Photography 072 982 1312), **Renée Rossouw** (Website and FaceBook page), **Salty Print** (021 448-5620 for printing) and **Wendy Wilkinson** (The Write Setting 021 850-0684 for typesetting).