

First For Mkhondo District

Melissa Kruger

The “Thul’-Ulwazi – Thol’Impilo” project was launched in 2005, and now, almost 7 years later, this amazing project has literally grown in leaps and bounds – something that we as a community should support and be very proud of.

Way back in 2005, Mr Johnny Engelbrecht, a local farmer, identified a need in rural communities of people that don’t have access to proper medical facilities and neither did they possess any knowledge on illnesses such as HIV and AIDS.

Working closely with other farmers a group of peer educators (people or representatives from these rural and far-off communities) were trained and equipped with a wealth of knowledge to educate the communities from which they come and to act as the eyes and ears of the medical staff they work with.

Kindly people from Germany and local community members of the Augsburg area joined forces to purchase the very

first Comprehensive Health Care Mobile Clinic – this is also when Mondi came aboard to greatly assist in the growth of this life-changing project.

A second vehicle has in the meantime been obtained and has been fully operational for the past two years, providing relief and much needed medical services to 46 villages, of which 27 are Mondi villages.

In the past year, both these mobile clinic vehicles have served a staggering 19 637 people of which 7 164 people hail from Mondi villages – some of these people have in the past not received or known of such medical care as they are now receiving.

A third vehicle, sponsored once again by people from Germany, with the help of Mpact Mondi (very generously taking care of all maintenance costs) and Safire (ensuring that these fully equipped vehicles are insured properly) is on its way and will very soon be serving people so desperately in need of care!

According to personnel working

on these immaculate clinics, they are honoured and privileged to work in such a rewarding environment and gain much satisfaction from the sacrificial work they do on a day-to-day basis.

The fact that much needed ARV’s can now be taken and supplied to people in need makes for a paramount impact on these peoples’ lives! The years of trying to achieve what these folk have finally done up to date, make everything worth the while!

Every single person involved in this project, from each peer educator, to the farmers and sponsors from Germany, Mondi, Mpact, Safire and the other benefactors are surely very special in playing their part in people receiving proper medical care.

Should you wish to become involved with this awesome initiative or would like to sponsor any of the following: two way radios, tyres or cooler boxes that can be plugged into the vehicle to be kept at a certain temperature, please contact Johnny Engelbrecht on 082 825 2823.



Sister Yvonne Gertenbach, Ziggy van Niekerk, Flamingo Mdluli, Tapsile Msibi and Johnny Engelbrecht – not on duty Bonisile Hadebe