

## HEARTWARMING SUCCESS STORIES FROM MOKGALWANENG

Mokalwaneng, Disake and Matlametlang are villages in close proximity to each other, on the far north-east border of the Bojanala district in the North-West province. Very close to the Botswana border, these villages have their origin from migrating SeTswana tribes. Because of the remoteness of these villages, breadwinners have to travel far to earn an income, and basic necessities also have to be carted in from nearby towns, some of them, almost 40 kilometres away. In August 2010, the GRCF was asked by the Department of Health and Social Development, to distribute household grants to households in Mokalwaneng, Disake and Matlametlang. One hundred households were identified for these grants by the department, and immediately the GRCF engaged with the community.

During the initial week's CAMP (Community Asset Mapping Program), it was apparent that the community was somewhat despondent, and were looking for means to get out of their situations. As the week progressed though, their focus was shifted from what they lacked, to what they already had, and a small flame of hope ignited. During the past year, the GRCF has been assisting the community members of this area, to initiate small enterprises with the financial assistance of the Department's household grant. Today, we are delighted to report on some of the success stories.



**Gladys Segone (34).** Gladys was raised by her grandparents in Disake, and now lives in the same home that she grew up in, with her son. She trained as a waitress at the Carousel in Gauteng, but having to return home, she was left without a job, and no opportunity to earn an income. Her passion has always been with the catering industry, and after attending the CAMP workshop, she decided to establish her own catering company.

Letipa Catering (named after her late grandfather), saw the light in March 2011, and have been growing from strength to strength, being approached for weddings, funerals and other events in the community. "I am just so grateful for the guidance and direction that I received from the GRCF", says Gladys. "I will now be able to provide for my child, and send him to school." She is also in the process of opening up a "Fast Food" kiosk on a piece of land obtained from the tribal office, right in front of her house, where she will be able to sell cooked meals daily.



**Elmah Molefe (22).** Elmah is a young school leaver, who had very little hope that she would be able to follow her dream of becoming a paramedic. She has been living off grants since she finished school, and had no idea how to further her studies. After attending the CAMP workshop with the GRCF, she applied for the grants provided by the department, and enrolled in a training course with the Bokone-Bophirima Ambulance Training college in Thlabane.

In April 2011 she completed the training, and is now ready to be employed as a trainee ambulance attendant. Elmah's eyes lit up when we asked her, why ambulance training? "It's always been my dream to help people, and to be a paramedic, with the help of the GRCF, I will now be able to start a career." The assistance of course, does not end here, and the GRCF will walk the road with Elmah, in helping her to enrol with the national health workers' board, and seeing to it that she is legally, and responsibly placed in the job market.



**Eva Malebye (27).** Eva is a single mother, living with her family in a small home in Disake. She's been earning a small income by offering hairdressing services to friends and family, but never enough to provide for her child, or herself. After attending the CAMP workshop with the GRCF, Eva applied for the household grant, to erect premises where she can formalise her business, and today, she is the proud owner of Rea-Thaba Hair Salon. Her business is going so well, that she has had to call in the help of her cousin to assist her during busy times, thus, providing an income to another household as well. For Eva, the greatest change is the pride that she now has, that she is able to create a life for herself and her child, and that she can provide opportunities for him as well. The biggest value that she got out of the assistance from the GRCF, was the fact that she realised, that what she was already busy doing, could provide her with an opportunity to create a better life.



## Thank you to recent donors

We here at the GRCF have once again been humbled by the generosity of individuals in our community, who selflessly contributed to making Rustenburg the place we love to call home.



Recently, we had the privilege to receive conduit funding from Huizemark Rustenburg. Conduit funding, is funding that we receive from a donor that is designated to a specific cause, or organisation, of which the GRCF then oversees the expenditure of those funds. In this case, Huizemark asked us to apply the funding they donated to My Home Children's Home, one of the GRCF's long standing beneficiaries. These funds were raised through Huizemark's efforts for Mandela day on 18 July. From all of us at the GRCF, and all 28 children at My Home a very VERY big thank you to Huizemark for your contribution. Pictured above is Ryno and Jolandie from Huizemark, with Mr George Mathuse, our CEO.



*Thank you also to Alma Delpont, one of our volunteers, for your contribution to our Piggy Bank fund.*

*If there are any Piggy's out there whose bellies are full, give us a call to come and relieve them, and make space for more!*

**REMEMBER:** Registrations for the CAMP for Change Conference close on 26 August. If you would still like to register, you can download the registration documents on our website [www.grcf.co.za](http://www.grcf.co.za) or send an email to [uaar4@unisa.ac.za](mailto:uaar4@unisa.ac.za)

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## STAFF NEWS



Corné Theunissen has been with the GRCF since it's launch in 2000, and is currently our Research and Development Manager, responsible for continuous research, as well as monitoring and evaluation of GRCF programmes. This research combined with academic related research forms part of her work towards a PhD in Social Geography.

During the course of the last ten years she had extensive international exposure to development trends and training including a Certificate in Fundraising from the Centre of Philanthropy at Indiana University. She was a founder member of the GRCF and has been actively involved with the organizations development since inception at which time she was a lecturer in Economics at the Pretoria Technikon.

A passion for people, social justice and development motivated her to study in politics, development and international relations. She also completed a Master's degree in Development Management at the Potchefstroom University.

In her current position at the GRCF she is heading the research regarding the implementation and success of CAMP, which refers to two basic intertwined processes towards development, namely Community Asset mapping Program and the Community Action mobilization Process, as a major cutting edge program in the South African context as an instrument for more innovative approaches to grassroots grantmaking and the effective utilization of community assets.

Her two daughters, Sulesdi(13) and Anni (10) are also donors to designated funds, hosted with the GRCF.

*Making Rustenburg the place we love to call Home*