

PROJECTS OFFICIALLY LAUNCHED IN SKUINSDRIFT

After months of preparation and hard work in the Skuinsdrift area, we are proud to announce that the first projects in Skuinsdrift have officially been launched on the 21st of March. We spent a wonderful day at Koffiekraal School, where SCORE, an organisation that focuses on peer leadership development through sport, announced their official commitment to the youth of Koffiekraal and the rest of the Skuinsdrift community. It was a hot and dusty day, but the excitement was tangible when sport teams received brand new sport uniforms, and opening matches were cheered on until late in the afternoon. We also spent time with the emerging farmers in Skuinsdrift, to assess the premises where a Multipurpose Centre will be established. This centre will fill many needs such as a home-based care facility for orphaned and vulnerable children, a skills learning centre, drop-in centre and a general community support centre. These projects are all made possible by the generous support of British American Tobacco SA, and from our side, we would, once again, like to thank them from the bottom of our hearts for their investment in the future of this community.



TOP: From left to right: Representatives from SCORE, opening the day's activities with a game; A tired netball player, witnessing her team's victory; Ambitious soccer players, gunning for a goal.

BOTTOM: The derelict structure that will be renovated into the new Multipurpose Centre in Skuinsdrift.



A reminder that interested schools in the Bojanala District are invited to contact Bonolo at the GRCF if they want to enter the Barbara Petchenik Children's Map literacy competition. Last year, two children's entries from our district went through to the final judging round in Paris, France. The map literacy competition aims at raising awareness among learners about their environment, and how they see themselves on the planet.

Final judging will take place in August this year, but requests for entries should reach us no later than the end of April. To the right are some pictures of last year's exhibition at the Waterfall Mall.



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Making Rustenburg the place we love to call Home

GRANT PAID OUT TO RCU – PROCEEDS FROM THE WATERFALL MALL'S FUNDRAISING INITIATIVE

We've had the privilege this month, to pay out a grant in typical community foundation style. Last year, the Waterfall Mall, our regional shopping centre, established a fund with the GRCF, and hosted a big fundraising event in order to raise funds for Rustenburg Charities Unite (RCU). This organisation is made up of several local charities in Rustenburg namely, CMR, CANSA, FAMSA, Future Visions, Ondersteuningsraad, the SAVF and Spes Bona. The fundraiser is the Longest Breakfast Table, that has been hosted by the Waterfall Mall since 2007, and as per annual custom, they broke all previous records with serving over 1200 people a hot breakfast in under 15 minutes, at a table over 350m long. This event has become an annual pillar event in the Rustenburg community, and we as the GRCF are proud to be a facilitator in this grantmaking process.



Top: Brenda Klopper, previously from Spes Bona, and also a donor of the GRCF, enjoying the morning of the Longest Breakfast Table with her mom in October last year.



COLLABORATION IS THE KEY

When the GRCF first opened its doors back in 2000, Thlolego eco village was one of the first grantees of our organisation. Over the past twelve years, Paul and Stephanie Cohen, who are at the steer of this wonderful place, have not only become good friends of the foundation, but also mentors, and educators to us and the wide community that we serve. It should come as no surprise then that we've once again reeled in their skills to assist us with the big project we are undertaking in the Skuinsdrift community. Paul, our guru in eco-sustainable living, will be assisting in teaching valuable skills such as water harvesting, and mud-brick building. A pilot day was undertaken on 29 March, where Paul guided youth in the principles of water harvesting, in preparation to tree planting that will take place later in April. These young people were also educated in identifying indigenous trees by Alp Sephton, who helped them understand the importance of cultivating and conservation of our indigenous vegetation. This forms part of the environmental awareness program that will be part of the holistic community upliftment project in Skuinsdrift.

A WELCOME VISIT FROM OUR FRIENDS IN THE WEST

The concept of Community Foundations was birthed in the United States of America, and after extensive research and adaptation, the GRCF was the first community foundation to be founded in South-Africa. We are proud of the pioneer work that we have done over the past two decades, and when we get the opportunity to share and ponder with our peers from the USA, we welcome it with open arms. We've had such a welcome visit recently, from Jeff Yost, President and CEO of the Nebraska Community Foundation. NCF was founded in 1993, is headquartered in Lincoln and is heralded as a national model for its innovative work in community development philanthropy and for its groundbreaking work in using the intergenerational transfer of wealth to craft community endowment-building goals. Their enthusiasm towards our citizen driven development models have humbled us, and once again, made us believe in the work that we do. Thank you for your visit, and we hope to cross paths soon again!

