

April/May Newsletter

"Your testimonies are wonderful; therefore my soul keeps them. The entrance of Your words gives light; it gives understanding to the simple. I opened my mouth and panted, for I longed for Your commandments. Look upon me and be merciful to me; As Your custom is toward those who love your name. Direct my steps by Your word, and let no iniquity have dominion over me." Ps 119:129 - 133

April is gone and we are in the middle of May! I'm sure everybody enjoyed the holidays and are now faced with the reality of Easter and an election that has passed. Lots of work to be done and not much time to do it in... In Khula we had some interesting things that took some of our time, but will surely help us a lot in the future. Herman Grobler, a play therapist busy with his Doctoral degree visited us in April. Herman is going to do a study together with the University of Northwest to identify the primary needs of women over the age of 50 who are the primary caretakers of school going children. In the Paarl East area it is often the norm for these women to take care of their grandchildren and other women's children. They don't really get paid to do it and is often faced with the reality of making ends meet with no extra income. In our Khula group at least 10 of our ladies are in this category. We really pray that this research is going to help us as an organization to be more effective in our support of these wonderful women.

Sarita Oosthuizen, another student of UNISA busy with her counseling degree came to visit us for two weeks. She is doing research to help Khula discover the primary expectations of the women who attends the Khula women support groups. We wanted to know what Khula could do better and more to fulfill in these expectations and needs. We are really looking forward to the outcome of these research programs.

On 21 April just before Easter, our team went out into the Fairylands informal settlement. Our goal was to find some of the children who doesn't attend school and just bless the people sitting around and pray with some of them. We discovered a mother of 4 children who actually stayed with one of our Khula fieldworkers since October last year and who just moved into her own little bungalow. We had the opportunity to pray with her and encourage her to be strong and to be a good mother to her children. Her housing conditions however are extremely poor.

On 17 May, the day before our elections, we interceded for our country and used the Scripture of 2 Cor. 4:17 to really repent for the sins of our town and country. We, as the woman of Khula, trusts God to do mighty things to heal our land!

(The Message) 2 Corinthians 4: 16-18 So we're not giving up. How could we! Even though on the outside it often looks like things are falling apart on us, on the inside, where God is making new life, not a day goes by without his unfolding grace. These hard times are small potatoes compared to the coming good times, the lavish celebration prepared for us. There's far more here than meets the eye. The things we see now are here today, gone tomorrow. But the things we can't see now will last forever.

Testimony:

The day that we were walking through the settlement of Fairylands, I received a call from a frined from church. They just collected a box full of Easter eggs at their office and wanted to know if we have a use for it and can possibly distribute it. We were standing in awe of God's goodness. The young children in the community were blessed with the sweets and we saw God's love shining through in such a practical way. Please pray for us!

Love

Daleen and the Khula team