



KEEP THE DREAM196
Children's Life Skills Program
"Building Tomorrow Today"

ORGANISATION DESCRIPTION:	Child focused, Rights based Organization operating in Mopani District Limpopo Province Republic of South Africa
OFFICIAL REGISTRATION:	NPO Section 21 Registration 2007/019186/08 PBO Registration: 930 026 798
CONTACT PERSONS:	Miss Louise Batty (Managing Director)
CONTACT DETAILS:	PHYSICAL: Zwariri Drive POSTAL: PO BOX 298 Duiwelskloof 0835 TELEPHONE: 0732742080 or 0722533245 Fax: 086 650 9206 E-MAIL: louxtreme@gmail.com or keepthedream196@gmail.com Website: www.keepthedream196.com

Organization Mission

“Our mission is to assist children to overcome difficult life circumstances by building resilience physically, emotionally, spiritually and psychologically, using a Right’s-based framework, so they are able to realize their full potential and contribute to the building of South Africa.”

Organizations Main Activities

This project is not a quick fix answer to the needs of children; rather it is a long term investment in their future. We develop the child holistically and sustainably to overcome not just the current situations they find themselves confronting, but all the challenges that life has to present in the future:

- 1. Training**
- 2. Support**
- 3. Advocacy and Awareness Raising Activities**

Keep The Dream 196 Children’s Life Skills Project is a comprehensive, integrated model of training, care and support for all children, particularly Orphans & Vulnerable children and their Caregivers. The model is child-focused, and assists the child to identify their strengths and to build on them to overcome challenges so they can address their own needs. Children are empowered to participate in activities and decisions that shape their lives; advocacy is an important component of the overall mission of the project.



History

Keep The Dream 196 Children’s Project was formally started in 2007 and is funded by various local and international donors to carry out projects for specified periods. KTD196 is a Non Profit Organization with Public Benefits status with SARS and has a Board of Management.

The essence of the Children's Program was created in 2003 as a direct response to a Situation Analysis performed by the Home Based Care Volunteers and focus groups held with the children concerning their needs and desires. In collaboration with The Kings Court Christian School, Keep the Dream 196 was birthed formally in August 2007.

In November 2003, a pilot program was commenced with 13 children. By May 2004, that number had grown to 60 children aged between 5-15yrs. From these humble beginnings, the Life Skills Program has grown exponentially.

Some Highlights since 2004:

- 170 caregivers in 85 rural communities have been trained in the provision of the Life Skills Project (Over 2000 children continue to attend on a weekly basis)
- 35 Caregivers & 45 Teachers have been trained in the provision of Group Therapy, and 5 areas have run 15 x twelve week Therapy Sessions for Children Infected and Affected by HIV/AIDS.
- 40 Caregivers have been trained in Child-specific Communication Skills to supplement the current HBC National Curriculum as children are not specifically or comprehensively addressed.
- 180 Caregivers have been trained in Wills and Grant Access with the expectation that this would be rolled out and implemented in their communities.
- 2,456 children have been trained in HIV AIDS prevention
- 800 children have been trained in the provision of First Aid

- 60 children were trained in Participatory Edutainment Theatre techniques and now present plays regarding Children's Rights in their local areas.
- Since 2008 over 2,500 children have been trained in Children's Rights, Gender Equity, HIV/AIDS prevention.
- Since 2008 200 children have been trained to be HIV Peer Educators
- Since 2010 over 2,000 children have been trained in sustainable livelihoods and started their own vegetable gardens

In 2012, we are working with 2,006 children from 85 different villages, 99.98% of whom are rural, impoverished, orphaned and vulnerable. We now have over 160 volunteers from 25 different Community-Based Organizations (Drop-In Centers and Home Based Care organizations). We have started developing parent groups (24 in total), where parents are educated in basic parenting skills, children's rights, and their responsibilities as duty bearers but also in supporting their children at scouts.



1. Training

Keep The Dream196 presents quality training and ongoing support to selected caregivers, trainers, workplaces, Community Based Organization's (CBO's) and individuals located primarily in the Greater Tzaneen Municipality (GTM). The aim is to capacitate them to develop skills and confidence when dealing with children and children's issues, particularly regarding the changing family dynamics associated with the HIV/AIDS pandemic and poverty.

- Training of Home Based Care Workers in OVC related issues:
 - Counseling, counseling children, communication skills with children, Group Therapy
 - Grants access
 - Children's Life Skills project
 - Children's Rights and their responsibilities
- Training of Caregivers e.g. parents, grandparents, older siblings, foster parents etc in:
 - Counseling, child-focused grief & loss, building resilience in children, developing safety nets for children, communication skills with children, grants access, grant abuse issues
 - Children's rights and their responsibilities
- Training Children:
 - Their Rights and responsibilities
 - Building Resilience
 - Peer Education in Life Skills e.g.:
 - Self Discipline
 - Self Development
 - Team-work skills
 - Community Service
 - First Aid, HIV/AIDS Peer Education
- Training of service providers and other interested parties.

(Please go to www.keepthedream196.com for more information)

2. Support

Ongoing Support is provided in terms of Monitoring and Evaluation of service delivery and in service training through the CBO's. Support is provided to ensure that the fundamental principles of Children's Rights are upheld and that quality of service delivery to the communities is maintained.

3. Advocacy and Awareness Raising Activities

Advocacy and Awareness Raising Activities regarding children is a cross-cutting component of all training given and forms a major portion of empowering children and building resilience by using a Rights-Based approach to all services delivered.

Staffing

The Children's Project has a fulltime staff of 2 and 5 part-time staff members. The Director has background in Community Development and Health, the Program Manager is a qualified teacher who is trained in the provision of accredited Home Based Care training. The Finance Officer works part-time, four part-time staff members are Home Based Care Givers who have been working with this project since its inception in 2003. The office is based in Modjadjiskloof with outreach projects in all 5 local areas of Greater Tzaneen Municipality, and recently in Thohoyandou in Vembe District.

Partners

The Children's Project works closely with the Greater Tzaneen Communities and the South African Scouts Association, who assist in funding the rolling out of the Life Skills Program. Children's Rights Centre – Durban, ACCES and SANAC Children Sector Network, National Development Agency and Oxfam Australia, Kindernoithilfe and The Kings Court Christian School. We also work with 6 Home Based Care Organizations and 19 Drop-In Centre's, assisting them to implement the Children's Program.

Rationale

The rationale for The Children's Program is to assist Community Based Organizations within their local communities, to offer services to children in general, and those facing crippling circumstances specifically. We want to build capacity in the next generation to ensure a stable emerging population able to build the New South Africa. Children who participate in our programmes are able to use the skills given to them to overcome their past traumas and view their challenges as stepping stones to a productive and empowered future.



Support you can provide

After reading through this information you might think "What can I do to help?" There are lots of opportunities that exist for you to assist us including:

- Volunteering for a period of time;
- Raise awareness of Keep The Dream196 and the work we do by hosting a morning tea to fund raise and promote the organization.
- Donations in kind such as recyclable material, paper, pens, clothes etc really help to support the children and their activities.
- Regular monthly financial contributions can be made via www.KeepTheDream196.com to support the work we do.

Please visit www.KeepTheDream196.com for more information on how you can make a difference.