



MASIBUMBANE HIV/AIDS MISSION
Mpophomeni, KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa

An Outreach of the Hilton Methodist Church

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1. MASIBUMBANE HIV/AIDS MISSION

1.1 MISSION STATEMENT

Masibumbane HIV/AIDS Mission aims to provide sustainable holistic care for people with HIV/AIDS and to empower AIDS-affected families and AIDS orphans to be as self-reliant as possible.

1.2 VISION

Mission’s clients being content - coping with and rising above their circumstances.

1.3 STATUS

The Mission is a registered non-profit, public benefit organization that operates independently under its own management committee but is accountable to the leadership of the Hilton Methodist Church, KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa.

1.4 GUIDING PRINCIPLE

Seek first the God's way and a sound relationship with Him, and all the rest that you need shall be given unto you. (Matthew 6:33).

1.5 IMPORTANT CONCEPTS

- Masibumbane is not a handout agency. Reciprocal effort, however small, is expected from clients to earn whatever assistance they receive to foster the ultimate goal of self-reliance. "Our people must learn to devote themselves to doing what is good, in order that they may provide for daily necessities and not live unproductive lives" (Titus 3:14) "The one who is unwilling to work shall not eat." (2 Thessalonians 3: 10).
- Masibumbane is a community of empowered locals empowering their fellows rather than an organization.

1.6 BACKGROUND

Masibumbane HIV/AIDS Mission works in Mpophomeni (Zulu for 'waterfall'), a small township near the town of Howick which is 120 km west of Durban in the province of KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa. Unemployment in the township, with its population of about 35000 mainly Zulu people, is more than 80%. At one time, up to 25 people a week were dying from AIDS or AIDS-related causes. Typically the breadwinner in the family succumbs to AIDS leaving families of grandmothers and orphans or child-headed families.

Masibumbane HIV/AIDS Mission was started in 1999 by Rob Kluge of the Hilton Methodist Church with the support of the Atonement Lutheran Church, Missoula, Montana. It draws support from various church denominations. The Mission endeavors to give substance to the teaching of Jesus Christ to care for those in need.

When Masibumbane started, the focus was on assisting sick and dying people. However, with the advent of anti-viral drugs (ARVs),

the challenge shifted to assisting 'well' clients on ARVs; helping them to survive financially and to be able to enjoy their new found lease on life. Masibumbane is evolving from being primarily a relief agency to being a developmental agency, i.e. developing clients to earn an income.

Clients can derive income from three main sources. Firstly, there is formal employment which is the ideal. This is the hope for all our clients. However, with the high unemployment, permanent jobs are hard to find. Also, realistically speaking, many of Masibumbane's clients, who tend to be from the lower end of the social spectrum in Mpophomeni, are not immediately suited to the formal job market. Secondly, there are social grants which form the basic income for almost all clients. But again these fall woefully short of clients' needs. Thirdly, there is entrepreneurship or income generation which is in many ways the best long-term option to be truly self-reliant. Hence homestead gardening and micro-business PROGRAMME have become increasingly important Programme Masibumbane, but these come with many challenges.

2. MASIBUMBANE PROGRAMMES

At present the Mission runs four programmes. All programmes, except one, the Support Programme, are integrated into a six-step empowerment programme that aims to assist clients to become as self-reliant as possible after four months. The programme also serves as a structured framework to co-ordinate the delivery of all the Mission's services.

The six-phase empowerment programme is divided into:

- 1 Application
- 2 Waiting list
- 3 Emergency - meeting immediate physical needs
- 4 initial rebuilding - addressing emotional needs and initiating life-style and skills training
- 5 Advanced rebuilding - a consolidation period
- 6 Maintenance

During the initial emergency phase clients are given essential items at no charge, but after that some reciprocal action, as they are able, is expected. This is to discourage dependency and to begin to instill in them the idea of earning and self-reliance that restores dignity.

Each field-worker gives a client tasks to do each week. These are written in the so-called “work book.” The following week his/her performance is rated and they receive food or service accordingly.

2.1 HIV/AIDS PROGRAMME

2.1.1 Medical Support Project

Clients are given pre- and post-HIV testing counseling and regular visits to the CD4 clinic in Mphophomeni are encouraged so that their CD4 counts can be monitored. They are assisted with anti-retroviral drug therapy and given appropriate life-style guidance. Home-based care is provided when necessary. With the advent of anti-retroviral drug therapy and improved longevity of clients, the scope of the project broadened to include other related health issues such as TB, sugar diabetes, blood pressure and birth control. Clients are referred to local government clinics and a local medical practitioner with whom Masibumbane has a working relationship.

Field-workers - Happy Khumalo (HIVAIDS Programme Manager and AIDS counselor)

2.1.2 Material Support Project

This provides for basic physical needs: household needs (e.g. bedding, clothing, cooking utensils, money for electricity, etc.) and food (a nutritionally balanced weekly food ration) and lifestyle improvement education. Clients are taught to make hot-boxes in order to cook food and save on electricity.

Field-workers - Happy Khumalo (Programme Manager) and Thandiwe Dlamini (Food distributor)

2.1.3 Social Grant Support Project

Clients are assisted to obtain essential documentation (birth certificates, identity books) and to apply for social grants (child support, disability, pensions etc.).

Field-workers – Happy Khumalo (Programme Manager)

2.1.4 Personal Finance Support Project

Clients are taught how to make the most of their limited financial resources by teaching simple principles of budgeting, saving and wise spending. Clients are also assisted to open a bank account, obtain a funeral policy and to draw up a will.

Field-workers: Happy Khumalo (Programme Manager)

2.1.5 Spiritual Support Project

Masibumbane respects the various spiritual beliefs of all its clients but offers its own way of believing to them. The Mission aims to promote the spiritual growth of clients who have made a first time commitment or a recommitment to Jesus Christ. Clients are referred back to their denomination or suitable denominations are suggested. The Mission works closely together with the denominations. The group meets weekly. Marriage courses are also held.

Volunteer: Pastor Siyabonga Zondo

Project Co-coordinator: Pastor Mduduzi Zwane

2.2 JEHOVAH JIRAH INCOME GENERATING PROGRAMME

These projects aim to set up clients in entrepreneurial-type, income generating businesses to supplement incomes and further ensure their long-term self-reliance.

2.2.1 Homestead Vegetable Gardening Project

Clients are taught to grow their own vegetables organically. This also promotes good nutrition that is important for HIV/AIDS sufferers.

Clients are visited once a week by two gardening instructors to receive training, advice, seeds and seedlings. A rating system, based on eight criteria with a maximum score of 30 points, has been devised to monitor the progress and state of the gardens from month to month. The home garden is the entry requirement for further participation in the income generating projects.

Volunteer: Ntombenhle Mntambo,
Project co-ordinator: Mduduzi Zwane

2.2.2 Hot Box Project

Client are given hot boxes (hay boxes) and taught how to use them for cooking to save electricity.

Field-workers – Thandiwe Dlamini

Volunteer - Solveig Otte

2.2.3 Child caring Project

Unemployed women can earn an income by looking after small children for working mothers. Masibumbane was able to supply a client with a 3x3m wooden cabin donated by Ventura Lutheran Church, California. Arthur Bilborough donated and set up swings. Masibumbane is able to pay her a small stipend through the Extended Public Work Programme. Bread is donated weekly by Church of the Ascension. The attendance varies from 10-15.

Fieldworkers: Makhosi Nzimande

2.2.4 Sewing Project

This project was started with the donation of three sewing machines purchased with money raised by Pam Nel, from Canada. The group meets on Thursday mornings.

Fieldworker: Thandiwe Dlamini, Volunteers: Ros Viljoen, Deone Gerrard and Barbara Hemming.

2.2.5 Recycling Project

This project was initiated with a recycling NGO, Wildlands. Clients are paid in kind (food, building material, etc) for glass, plastic, cardboard and tin, according to the amount they have collected.

Volunteer responsible: Pat Caldwell

2.2.6 Selling Project

The aim of this project is to teach clients to earn an income from selling. Clients buy second hand clothing and a wide variety of other used goods which are donated to Masibumbane at a nominal price for them to resell for as much as they. All the profit is theirs.

Volunteer: Pat Caldwell

2.2.7 Baking Project

Two clients have been trained through the Bake-for-Profit course run by Ethembeni. Lydia made R520 (ca\$58) and Thando R320 (\$40) until they had problems with their ovens.

Fieldworkers: Thandiwe Dlamini

2.2.8 Laundry Project

Washing clothes etc. is a simple way to supplement income. There were ten clients who earned a total earned of R3420 (ca\$380).

Fieldworkers: Thandiwe Dlamini

2.2.9 Seedlings Project

The aim of this project is to assist gardeners to obtain seedlings easily and to encourage them to carry on with the gardens.

This self-help venture also raises funds for the Mission by selling vegetable products to the public.

Volunteer: Ntombenhle Mntambo

Project Co-ordinator: Mduduzi Zwane

2.3 LESEDI YOUTH PROGRAMME

Lesedi means light. This programme looks after the interests of clients' children.

Programme Manager: Thandeka Ngubane

Fieldworkers: Makhosi Nzimande

2.3.1 School Support Project

Children are assisted with school uniforms and school fees. Their school attendance and performance is also monitored.

2.3.2 Pschyco-social Support Project

Psycho-social support is provided by the trained child carers.

2.3.3 Homework Club Project

Children come to the Mission after school where they receive a meal, help with their homework and Bible teaching.

2.3.4 Holiday Club Project

Programmes are run for school children at the Mission Centre during school holidays.

2.3.5 CAYAR Project

Cayar stand for Child and Youth at Risk. As some of the most vulnerable society, children and youth require particular protection they are at risk of various factors. The aim of this project is to address such threats and improve the well-being of children young people at risk. Lesedi trained and qualified staff will provide psychological counselling and referrals based on children and youth at risk.

2.4 COMMUNITY UPLIFTMENT PROGRAMME

These are not part of the core business of Masibumbane, but the Mission has been opportunistically drawn into supporting established home-grown projects that have been deemed worthy of supporting.

2.4.1 Qedindlala Community Garden

The Qedindlala Community Garden was established in 1999 by Robert Zuma and a few enterprising locals. They were given fencing and irrigation by the Department of Agriculture. The Masibumbane HIV/AIDS Mission became involved when we referred some of our clients to the Garden and became aware of their needs. The Mission has:

- * helped the members to get organized by drafting constitution for them
- * introduced them to permaculture/organic farming methods
- * helped them to erect a small storeroom and water tank tools
- * purchase vegetables from and help them to market their produce
- * helped get the Garden on a more business-like footing.

Fieldwork: Happy Khumalo

2.4.2 Ekuthuleni Crèche (Preschool)

In 1999, Flora Ngubane (now also on the Board of Directors) started the crèche in a wooden cabin. Masibumbane started giving

Ekuthuleni material support because client's children were there and because it believes this is where the fight against the HIV/AIDS pandemic should begin. In 2010, Ekuthuleni was able to move from the now dilapidated wooden cabin into a renovated house purchased by Masibumbane. The Brentwood Methodist Church in Mississippi provided the finance. Renovations were sponsored by Hilton Build-it and fencing was supplied by Hilton Fencing. Masibumbane is able to supplement teacher's salaries through the Extended Public Work Programme. Bread is donated weekly by Church of the Ascension. Ekuthuleni is a registered NPO.

Field-worker: Makhosi Nzimande

2.4.3 Sizanani Women's Support Group (Olga's Soup Kitchen)

Olga Maseko started the Soup Kitchen with a group of retired women when she retired as a social worker at Mondi. The company gave her a 12 x 3 meter mobile home to operate from. Currently the Soup Kitchen provides two meals a day each week for up to 100 orphaned and vulnerable children. Masibumbane first became involved with the Soup Kitchen when it assisted them with the vegetable garden. Then when Masibumbane needed a partner to qualify for funding it drew in the Soup Kitchen as a partner. Currently, through Masibumbane, the Soup Kitchen receives funding for three carers to give psycho-social support to 150 children, nutritional support for 60 children and material support (school uniforms) for 57 children. Sizanani Women's Support Group is a registered NPO

Field-work: Makhosi Nzimande

2.5 MASIBUMBANE FITNESS PROGRAMME

Healthiness and fitness are intertwined. The aim of this programme is to improve the level of fitness and build a relationship between Masibumbane team and clients by doing gym sessions together, and thus earning the right to speak and not just providing food parcels. Masibumbane believes in walking the walk of HIV/AIDS together with our clients. This will help providing physical and mental fitness and thus less prone to illness. This programme provides an opportunity to relate to adult clients.

This programme provides opportunity

Fieldworkers: Nokuthula Ndaba (Personal Assistant)

2.5.1 Personal physical fitness project. This is a body exercise performed at home. It is good for physical and mental development.

2.5.2 Walking exercise project

This project help lower a blood sugar and weight. It can also protect against heart disease.

2.5.3 Running exercise project

The aim of this project is to improve level of health, prevent disease, lose weight, boost confidence, eliminate depression and relieve stress.

2.5.4 Healthy lifestyle project

This project is aiming to assist clients, members of the community, and Masibumbane team to improve lifestyle, developing good eating habits, encouraging wellness support groups and reduce risk factors for chronic disease, by enabling them to be responsive to their own health priorities.

3. IMPACT

3.1 *Evelyne*

Evelyne has been associated with the Mission since 1999 when a local pastor referred us to a destitute family who were receiving food from their neighbours. This was Evelyne, her daughter and five grandchildren. The Mission supported Evelyne with a weekly food ration, assisted her to obtain social grants and open a bank account as well as gives her the opportunity to earn extra income from crocheting. Her daughter passed away three years later and so Evelyne became one of the great bands of grandmothers saddled with the responsibility of raising their own grandchildren. Evelyne has courageously progressed to a stage where she is able to support herself and all her grandchildren with income from social grants, selling snacks and crocheting. She is considered to be the “mother” of the crocheters and she has probably made more than 800 bags/purses over the years

3.2 Nokuthula

Nokuthula is one of the grand-daughters Evelyne raised. Nokuthula learnt from her grand-mother how to crochet and, was soon able to

produce marketable bags. The money Nokuthula earned from crocheting she used to pay her way through school. Last year, after she had completed her schooling, Masibumbane gave her first job as a youth worker. She is now the Personal Assistant to the Director at Masibumbane. While working, Nokuthula has completed a communications course with a cell phone company.

3.3 Harriet

Harriet is a gracious lady; one of the more elderly clients. She came to the Mission in 2006 when her social grant was stopped. She and her daughter had no more food. Harriet has become one of the model clients. She followed the gardening instructor, Robert's instructions diligently and soon had one of the best homestead gardens. Her garden provides her with fresh vegetables for most of the year and sometimes she has excess to sell. Because of her exemplary garden, Harriet was the first gardener to have a water tank and gutters installed - for rainwater harvesting. She joined an ACAT group and has been selling bags of jumble. Harriet was also chosen for the pilot Zulu chicken project and makes money selling her chickens. She is a pillar member of the Manyano Women's Group of the Methodist Church, in Mphophomeni. In April this year, Harriet asked Mduduzi to take her off the food list. She felt that with her various sources of income, she was now self-reliant. What Harriet has achieved is all Masibumbane strives for.

3.4 Lindi

Lindi was the Masibumbane's second HIVAIDS counselor and unemployed at the time. While she was with the Mission she obtained her driver's license. After two years she resigned for a post with the Department of Health where she has excelled. She proudly showed us the alterations to her house and the new car that she has bought. Masibumbane is thankful that it was able to serve as a stepping stone for Lindi.

3.5 'Olivia'

Olivia became a client about eight years ago as a teenager with the inevitable baby. She crocheted and was on the food list for a few months and then disappeared. She then resurfaced in another part of the township where she was living with her mother. Olivia went back onto food support and in return she had to start a homestead

garden. This she did very reluctantly. Then one week when she did not do her weekly tasks she was not given food. This may have been some sort of turning point for her because after there was never a problem again and Olivia became one of the best homestead gardeners. Olivia started looking after a few small children to earn money – the beginnings of a crèche (preschool). The Mission encouraged her by supplying her with a wooden cabin. Sadly this burnt down, but the kind people of Ventura Lutheran Church in California responded by sending money for a new, larger cabin. A member of Hilton Methodist Church put up swings. Another gave plastic chairs. Another visited Olivia and encouraged her. Sister Peg helped with training. The crèche flourished and the attendance has grown to 20. The budget now shows income from four sources; social grants, IDT, the crèche and her garden. More importantly it shows an excess of income over expenditure that allows Olivia to save at least R200 (ca\$30) a month. Mduduzi has been counseling O spiritually and she moved to a church with a sound doctrine. To top it all she and her boyfriend got married in December 2011. He is presently unemployed but selling chickens.

4. PERSONNEL

4.1 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

P.Cole (Chairperson), M.Zwane (Director), Grant Edkins (Treasurer), S. Otte (Fundraising), F.Mchunu, N.Mntambo and, Arthur Bilborough (Liaison with Churches)

4.2 DIRECTOR

Mduduzi Zwane E-mail: mduzwane4@gmail.com Cell: 082 0802001

4.3 ADMINISTRATION

Nokuthula Ndaba Personal Assistant to the Director

4.3 FIELD STAFF

Thandeka Ngubane Project manager

Happy Khumalo HIV/AIDS Programme Manager

Thandiwe Dlamini Food distributor

Makhosi Nzimande Child and youth worker

4.4 VOLUNTEERS

Grant Edkins (Treasurer), Rosemarie Bullock (book-keeping), Pat Caldwell (Income generation), Solveig Otte (publicity, fund raising youth, hot boxes) Derek Hedgcock (buildings), Ros Viljoen (Sewing) , Deone Gerrard (Sewing), Barbara Hemming (Sewing), Siyabonga Zondo (Spiritual project)

5. MEMBERSHIPS

CINDI (Children in Distress Network), PACSA (Pietermaritzburg Agency for Social Awareness) and CHUMA (Howick Vulnerable Children Network)

6. LOCAL NETWORKING PARTNERSHIPS

ACAT (*African Co-operative Action Trust*), Church of the Ascension, Hilton, Ethembeni Ministry of the Howick Community Church, PACSA, Dr. Naidoo (General practitioner), Sizanani Widow's Support Group (Olga's Soup kitchen), Anabaptist Network in South Africa

7. FUNDERS

Independent Development Trust (Expanded Public Works Programme), SA Sugar Association, Nedbank.

8. CONTACT DETAILS

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Address	135 Rivonia Road, Sandown, Sandton, 2196
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Branch Number	151925

Non-Profit Organization:	Reg. No. 0 38-801NPO
Section 18A Public Benefit Organization	Reg.No. 930 022 643
SARS P.A.Y.E:	Reg. No. Pending
SARS UIF:	Reg. No. 1288461/4
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