



# Golang Education Outreach

## Emthonjeni Community Centre, Zandspruit

Newsletter 1/2014

“ Safety and security don't just happen, they are the result of collective consensus and public investment. We owe our children, the most vulnerable citizens in our society, a life free of violence and fear. ”

-Nelson Mandela, former President of South Africa



“I am a product of Golang!” says Nhlanhla proudly to the visitors at Golang – “if it was not for Golang, I don't know where I would have been today”.

We did a quick calculation and worked out that

Nhlanhla was 9 years old when he first walked through the gates of Emthonjeni to join the aftercare centre - 12 years ago. Like many other boys in Zandspruit, Nhlanhla grew up with few opportunities. Golang became a second home for this young man. As a teenager, he joined the Youth and developed into a role model and leader in his own right. At the beginning of 2014, Golang decided to appoint him as caregiver for the 10-11 year olds at the Aftercare. What a joy to see this young man interacting with the children who come to Golang! ‘Hi Bra Nhlanhla, High Five’. “We salute you, Bra Nhlanhla - Thank you for giving back to your community!”



Well done Everest and the Golang team for a huge team effort!

### OUR PARENTS ARE IMPORTANT TO US:

It takes a whole village to raise a child. Golang does not want to operate without the buy-in of the parents. Over the year we have built valuable relationships and for the past two years two of our experienced staff members, Eunice Hlatswayo and Anna Nyaphuli also present termly Parent Workshops, where

parents receive some training and guidance on raising children. Another Parents' Workshop will take place later on in the year. Some feedback we receive from parents of Golang aftercare children:

"Our biggest concern is the safety of our children while we are at work. Since our children are attending Golang, we know that they are safe and are receiving love. Golang is approachable. I also appreciate the encouragement from the Parent Support Group."

“ **Golang is an eye-opener to me. I learned that life is not easy, but we must not give up** ”

- Memathebang – Parent of Thabang Gr 4.



“ **We can have peace of mind while our children are at Golang** ”

“ **We love it that they can play with other children, have exposure to different toys, and are safe** ”

Eunice arranged a Parent Workshop for the Kidz Club this term, where 40 parents attended – the most ever! This is indicative that Golang is providing a very crucial need in the community, parents are keen to be involved, and this is a clear sign of the need to sustain the Aftercare Program.

“ **We appreciate all the gifts and all you do for our children – we can't afford these things** ”

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## TRAINING THAT CHANGES LIVES...

Simon Ntlatleng, Youth Pastor and renowned children's Minister from Britz, came all the way to conduct training on the basics of children's ministry. The Golang staff, together with the leaders of "Video Centre's" After-care Centre, attended a two-day training at Rocky Valley in Krugersdorp. After some thorough Word study on intergenerational worship and the importance of children according to the Bible, there was time for enough fun and games which equipped us for our job with the children of Zandspruit. On the Monday evening the team took part in a cooking contest and discovered, with the help of Mama Riekies, some new creative ideas. Valuable relationships were strengthened. We are grateful to our sponsors for the funds needed for continuous training in our core values.



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## GOLANG'S VISION:

To be a God-centered Child-care Center where the most needy children of Zandspruit can holistically be taken on a journey to discover their true potential and to grow in an environment of love, safety, nurturing and belonging

“ **If you welcome one of these little ones on my behalf, you welcome Me** ”

-Mark 9:37



## GOLANG'S VISION:



- **Holistically:** we serve the children and youth with different programs, incorporating their physical, mental, emotional, spiritual and educational development
- **Journey:** the process where children from the ages of 3 - 18 get an opportunity to experience love, nurturing, protection, stimulation and fun under the care of child care workers and teachers
- **Environment of love, safety, nurturing and belonging:** we aim to have a space where children experience God's love for them not just through our teachings but through our deeds

when the Maragon school bus collects eight Golang children to attend basic computer literacy at Maragon. We value our continued partnership with them and the time and support they offer us.



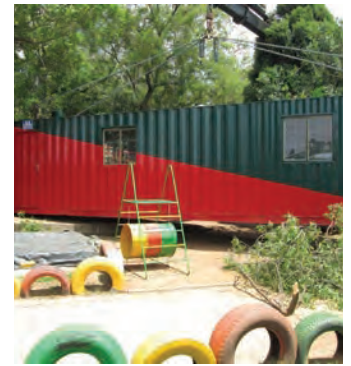
## VOLUNTEERS ARE VALUABLE TO US...

Coming into a community needs to be considered as "holy ground", as we are not the ones who make community development work. It is the local leadership that makes the project sustainable. We once again experienced this at the beginning of the year when the local primary school was closed for various reasons (dog died on site, political unrest, etc) - the children of Golang had a second home to come to while the schools were closed.

- Bev Woolfe is another volunteer who does not give up. As a trained preschool teacher with years of experience in a structured environment, she is willing to start from scratch (and on the floor) with our Grade 7's for much needed Maths tutoring. Thank you, Bev - it seems the children are beginning to enjoy Maths!
- "Wednesdays are the highlight of my week!", says Elzette van Niekerk, teacher at Maragon Private School, Ruimsig. This is
- There are some volunteers who come and serve and keep their commitment. Should you happen to be in Zandspruit on a Friday afternoon, you will see Alison presenting Scouts to our Grade 7's. We salute you, Alison - thank you for making the kids aware of so many new things in life!



- Courtney Pienaar (Grade 7 Prefect at Trinity house Primary) is a young lady who does not wait for the older generation to take the lead. She took the initiative to contact Golang and came with a friend and some books, to assist on Wednesday afternoons during Golang's literacy time.
- We are currently in discussions with JP Davies and his team from Barclays (Absa – Sandton) who are planning to involve themselves in a partnership whereby their employees volunteer on a Wednesday afternoon with our Literacy Program.



We admitted 20 more preschoolers, ages 3-4, and appointed another teacher, Naledi Mokwena. Our preschool now boasts 60 children, all being taught under the "Play With a Purpose" curriculum.

### GOLANG PRE-SCHOOL

We are delighted to inform our sponsors that at the beginning of this year, we opened a third classroom, thanks to the generous donation of a container classroom from the Embark Foundation.



### OUR VALUABLE SPONSORS:



We were fortunate enough, after much effort, to receive a small allocation from the National Lottery Fund. These funds will go towards the upgrading of our classroom and toilets containers, which are in dire need

of repair, having been utilized for over ten years now. Our playground equipment is also in need of maintenance and upgrading, so this allocation from the NLDTF has come in good time.

However, we still depend on you, our most valuable sponsors, for the day to day running of Golang. Without your support, our children would not have the facilities to discover their true potential, while in a safe and secure environment. We are extremely grateful to you for your continued generous sponsorship and encouragement - children's lives are changed for the better because of you.

“ **Banking details: Standard Bank, Northcliff, Acc no: 023014598** ”