

Dear friends of the House of Encouragement foundation,

Two major projects were completed within the first half of 2011. Firstly, we were able to officially dedicate the new Orphan Care Centre for the orphans of the Primary School Lesedi-Potlana and secondly, we went online with our new homepage of the foundation. Both projects received substantial sponsorship.

Thanks to exceptional donations from the Rotary Club Zürcher Oberland and some very generous donations from individuals from the club we completed our new building project for a further Orphan Care Centre. After a construction time of about 12 weeks and with tremendous commitment from our South African partner organisation Acts2Change the very beautiful and practical building was completed.

It was manual labour from A to Z



The daily progress of the building was clearly visible



The Centre is located on the premises of the Primary School Lesedi-Potlana and serves as Classrooms for the Preschool children in the mornings. The School Principal facilitated the preparations for the official dedication.

(from left: Coordinator for the orphan children of the School, Deputy and Principal of the Primary School Lesedi-Potlana, E.B. of House of Encouragement)



The dedication was regarded as very significant. We therefore involved the children from the School in the preparation work and included various decorative art projects. This was great fun and produced very impressive results.



The teachers selected about 40 kids who showed great enthusiasm and creativity in painting sticks, hearts and pet bottles. The final products were beautiful, striking and dramatic, and proudly presented by the children.



It was a race against time on the day of the dedication. After final touch-ups the programme started an hour late but nobody (apart from us Swiss) seemed to be bothered. The new building looked beautiful. It is fully functional although some aspects need to be completed, namely flexible separating wall, kitchen equipment, play ground etc. *(Further donations are more than welcome!)*



In true African style there were long speeches and numerous performances by the children. A programme director presided over the event comprising 25 programme items. The kids performed dances and sang from the bottom of their hearts to the delight of the people attending the celebration. Of course there was also basic but very tasty food and good fellowship.



It was a colourful and very happy dedication. However, the lengthy official ceremony was rather boring at times for the children. That's why we have decided to organise - especially for the 84 orphans from this school who now are taken care of in the Centre daily – a separate opening celebration with games, fun and food in the next quarter of the school year.



These are approximately half of the orphans – the small ones – whom we take care of from Lesedi-Potlana.

The second successful project of this first half-year was due to a wonderful sponsorship from the company seaio ag, Uster. This specialised organisation developed and produced, free of charge, a professional homepage. We trust that we can use this channel to improve our communication and inform you on a regular basis about what is happening in our foundation.

Regarding our own administration: The flood of fundraising-mail is overwhelming and it is difficult to respond to every mail. This is because we are on too many address files, and also because we believe that we can lose perspective and could fail to recognise why and where to become financially involved. We don't want to send newsletters to people who are engaged in other projects and who have not interest in acquiring information about our foundation work. Therefore, some of the recipients will receive from us a reply card with which they should inform us if they would like us to delete their address in our file. Of course you can also inform us at any time via homepage/email. Thanks very much in deed to all those who identify with our work and consistently support us.

Furthermore we would like to save on postal charges. We kindly ask those of you who would prefer to be informed about our newsletters by email to confirm this to us per email. Thank you for letting us know.

With sincere thanks and kind regards,

For the charitable trust House of Encouragement

Walter und Estelle Bosshard

Visit our **new homepage** www.houseofencouragement.org