



# GR@ILVINE

## GRAIL PROGRAMMES NEWSLETTER

Kleinmond, South Africa, June 2014



*Kleinmond group of the IDT workplacement project*

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### MTHIMKHULU COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

#### Sign up for Basic Computer course

Course fees - R400

#### Visit our Job Centre

Open Mondays to Fridays: 09h00 - 16h00

Services: assistance with job/ study searches

Typing of CVs, Printing, Faxing, Internet

\* prices affordable & available on request

#### Smartkids Educare Centre

Debutant Ball - October 2014

### TRAINING FOR TRANSFORMATION

#### Introduction Courses

TfT Introduction courses were held in Ghana (7 – 14 May) and Papua Indonesia (20 May – 7 June). In Zambia, a one week Introduction course, is being held from 23 – 27 June!

#### July

The registration for the TfT Diploma Course 2014 – 15 will end in July. Download your application form and course requirements on [www.grailprogrammes.org.za](http://www.grailprogrammes.org.za).

### THE GRAIL CENTRE

#### The Grail Centre offers:

- 10% discount for July and August over weekend bookings
- 20% discount for mid week bookings

### 100 unemployed benefit from work placement initiative

By Hazel Apollis

Mthimkhulu Community Development (MCD) Programme - a program of The Grail Centre Trust - has entered into partnership with the Independent Development Trust (IDT) for their work placement program.

The opportunity is given to 100 unemployed beneficiaries (mainly youth) from **Overstrand & Theewaterskloof** municipalities to be placed at various businesses/ organisations to be exposed to meaningful work environments. Beneficiaries have commenced the 9-month placement on Monday, 09 June 2014 with 40 of them from Kleinmond. Coupled with work readiness training, inclusive of work ethics; rights & responsibility at work; financial management etc, beneficiaries will receive on-the-job training in the various sectors. In 2012, only 9 host organisations took part in this initiative; this year we are a total of 18 host organisations – with SPAR (Kleinmond) & Emmanuel Shalom Salon (in Hermanus) newly added.

Since the inception of this project in 2012, 25 young people have been full-time employed @ the host organisations they were placed; 5 full-time placed elsewhere; and 14 entered into tertiary institutions and pursue the career they were exposed to. The various career placements include administrators, teachers' assistants, journalists, cashiers, mechanical work, hairdressing, frail care, Educare teachers and more.

Selection for beneficiaries for this project was done through our unemployed database – young people register

and submit their CVs @ our jobcentre and indicate their field of interest. The host organisations form part of the interview panel to select suitable candidates.

MCD continues to encourage the unemployed, especially the youth, to visit our job centre and/or follow our facebook page, for information on employment AND/OR study opportunities at Mthimkhulu or at other institutions.

### Contact details

Nicky/Sylvester @ job centre – 028 271 5648

Whatsapp (Nicky) – 079 6687 146

Facebook – Mthimkhulu Community Development

### **My Practical Experience; A new Consciousness in the Community of NUMFOR and at the Provincial and District Development Planning Office of Papua**

By Maria Latumahina



Maria Latumahina is an independent consultant with passion and focus towards liberation of the Papuan people from socio-economic oppression and the environmental injustice. After she participated in the Training for Transformation Diploma course of 2012-13 she started to become a community facilitator as well.

*“We are the ones we have been waiting for!” exclaimed one of the village leaders during the evaluation of the course.*

*I have been through so many real life experiences in community awareness raising programmes but the one in Numfor speaks to me the most about the power of popular education. Numfor is selected and has become one of the BAPPEDA pilot sites mainly because of some socio-economic dynamics and the ecological challenges (BAPPEDA, 2011). Wikipedia locates Numfor, just north of Cenderawasih Bay (Geelvink Bay), between the island of Biak and the east coast of the Doberai Peninsula (Vogelkop/Bird’s Head Peninsula), on mainland New Guinea.*

*According to government census the population of Numfor is 9,336 people.*

*The people of Numfor are a combination of both indigenous and incomers from other part of Papua as well as from the outer islands.*

*Popular Education, applying the Training for Transformation method, was first brought to Numfor by the programme director of Training for Transformation, Ntombi Nyathi and Zunaid Moolla, an economist, one of the Training for Transformation facilitators. I called this training a process of liberating the soul.*

*They ran 10 days of training from 16th - 26th July 2013. The training included 25 community leaders and activists, 10 of whom were female. My role in that workshop was doing simultaneous translation. I really enjoyed this role as it allowed me to observe a lot and practice facilitation skills at the same time. I had to talk and act just like the original facilitator.*

*In my observation I was mostly struck by the level of trauma the community has been living with. One of the local leaders said “as local leaders we are under immense pressure from the system to function within the laws and regulations - even if they impact negatively on people” (Nyathi, 2013). The oppression that Numfor people have been facing is a mirror of the oppression all Papuans have been facing. Papua has been famous as an area where oppression and violence are part of our daily life. According to Chauvel and Bhakti (2004) the central government in particular relies on force to maintain its authority in Papua. Unfortunately the reliance on force produces powerful counterproductive dynamics. It fuels the opposition: hence, the aspiration for independence and the continuous conflict with central government. The training managed to get the community to see the power of being with each other to help overcome the individual and societal fear they have been sitting with as a result of psychological pressure by the military and the authoritarian government for many generations.*

*Furthermore the community also managed to see the great challenge they are facing is the inability to focus on the common good and not on differences. In one of the sessions on religious tolerance between Muslims and Christians, participants were emotionally shaken, and they became conscious of the root cause of social disintegration. There is no reason to think that the quality of life of Numfor people will be enhanced if only one religion is dominant.*

*The training was not only liberating for the island community, but also for the local government officials at both provincial and district level. There were 6 provincial and district bureaucrats attending the training. They witnessed how community rose above their fear and become motivated to take responsibility for themselves. The result was a group of community facilitators and a plan to facilitate a set of actions around the issues of selling land, debt, waste management, renewable energy, etc. Further to this is a full commitment of the local government to support a 3-year programme of Numfor community empowerment working in collaboration with Training for Transformation.*

*Last but not least, the district government is planning to apply this method in facilitating village development planning across the district, and the provincial government is planning to bring this method into two other districts.*

*The idea and the energy of bringing this method and applying it across Papua to me is a joy. But despite the joy of seeing such a powerful impact, I sit with the question of how to multiply TfT facilitators in Papua. I am the only Papuan who has been to the TfT Diploma Course. How could I support others to get access to the course? This question is my guiding star pointing towards a better future of Papua.*

Article also in  
*Training for Transformation in Practice*, p. 138-9

## **ABOUT US**

The Grail Centre Trust is based in Kleinmond, Western Cape. This Not-for-Profit Organisation delivers two programmes, namely Training for Transformation and Mthimkhulu Community Development Programme. In addition, the Grail Centre Conference and Retreat Centre can accommodate groups of up to 50 people.

### **Mthimkhulu Community Development**

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**[www.grailprogrammes.org.za](http://www.grailprogrammes.org.za)**



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