



GR@ILVINE

GRAIL PROGRAMMES NEWSLETTER

Kleinmond, South Africa, April 2019



CANSA Relay for Life 2019, at Mthimkhulu Village Centre, 16-17 March.

CANSA Relay for Life 2019

By Debbie Hull

CANSA Relay for Life 2019 was hosted at Mthimkhulu Village Centre on the weekend of 16 to 17 March. More than twenty five groups with 250 members participated in the event in which they competed in the relay throughout the night starting at 6pm and ending at 6 am the next morning.

Five hundred day visitors and ninety cancer survivors attended the event between 6 am and 11 pm on Saturday evening. Some of the groups that attended came from as far as Villiersdorp, with Botriver, Hawston, and Kleinmond well represented. This event will be remembered by many for a long time.

Computer & Internet Boot Camp

In collaboration with Wow Media & Catholic Institute of Education, Mthimkhulu Community Development will be hosting an 8 Week Computer & Internet Boot Camp. The course will focus on websites, coding & web hosting.

Venue: Mthimkhulu Village Centre

Dates: 08 April – 31 May 2019 (Monday – Friday)

Time: 09:00 – 15:00

Age: 16 - 35

Cost: Free

Contact Sylvester on + 27 (0)28 271 5213 or
admin@grailprogrammes.org.za

Conducting training programmes with new skills

By Shashikant Parmar (India, 2017-18 Diploma Course)

My long association with an organization which is working towards empowering down trodden and voiceless communities has enabled me to attend the Training for Transformation Diploma at the Grail Centre.

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I am an advocate by profession, but am involved in the training programmes besides the legal practice. I have been conducting training programmes on Value Education, Personality development, and Social Awareness for children and youth. I also conduct training programmes for various groups like paralegals, social workers, institutions, etc. I am also involved in family counselling besides practicing law, that way I am also a legal activist.

The TFT Diploma Course has enriched me in various ways. I have acquired facilitation skills that include communication skills, attentive listening, and observing group dynamics. After attending the Diploma course I had conducted five workshops of which one was exclusively for women, wherein 65 women participated. This was on the constitution of India and women's rights. One was for college ladies, where 150 female students along with their faculty members participated. In this workshop, the basic common laws, more particularly, laws affecting the rights of women were addressed. Another was for political awareness wherein 55 men and women participated. The focus of this workshop was mainly on the right to vote and the choice of right candidates. Another workshop was conducted for 40 employees of the telephone department. In this workshop rights of the employees were taken up.

Another workshop was conducted for a group of 30 people, and focused on training for trainers. In all the above workshops, I used basic tools that I learnt during TFT. Designing a workshop is an important skill I acquired and developed during my training at the Grail Centre.

In the past I used to conduct workshops but I did not make use of a design. How to plan an entire workshop was a new learning for me.

During the workshops, I used Paulo Freire's, key principles like problem-posing, dialogue, action-reflection, radical transformation, etc.

I have personally benefited from TFT in many ways. It has widened my understanding and developed critical thinking, action reflection, and questioning the situations and systems. TFT has also developed my skills. The work of transformation is always challenging at personal level too. I have been working in this field for last 20 years. I used to get upset with the non cooperation from the victims or stakeholders, but during TFT I learnt non-cooperation from the concerned stakeholders only mean they are not ready for change and need better assistance.

Practicing the principles of Paulo Freire would become tools in bringing about change in the community. It has created a very positive impact on me personally, the work of family counseling, and in conducting workshops for different groups.



I had been lucky enough to be associated with the organization where one of the team members is DELTA trained and has been actively involved in this field for last 40 years. I am also in contact with Fr. Xavier who is a facilitator of TFT and founder of the organization where I am working. Thus, I have had the opportunities to work with and collaborate with likeminded people that give me strength and a support system that is readily available.

'Freire in our Time' Workshop

Apply now to the TFT workshop 'Freire in our Time'. This 5 day course is an introduction to Training for Transformation; a people-centered approach to transformative development.

Venue: Mthimkhulu Village Centre

Dates: 21 – 28 July

Cost: R5 500 (covers full board and lodging).

Contact Noksie on + 27 (0)28 271 4887 or noksie@grailprogrammes.org.za

Key themes

- Paulo Freire's critical conscientization
- Digging deeper into the root causes of socio, economic and political challenges
- Tools to take action with people, for people
- Creative and participatory methodology

2019 out-of-season special offer to NPO's

By Heleen Sliep

2019 out-of-season The Grail Centre special offer to: nonprofit organisations or Social Movements active in sectors such as Art, Culture, Education, Gender Equity, Health, Spirituality and any issues of Justice or Development.

Book three or more cottages for two or more nights and enjoy the low season rate PLUS a **15% discount**.

Contact Sherridan, Heleen, Alfonse or Agnes
+ 27 (0) 28 271 3410 or grailadm@mweb.co.za

"People think better when they can arrive and notice that the place reflects their value - to the people there and to the event. Place is a silent form of appreciation."

Nancy Klein: *Time to Think*



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 40 people. Our work is not possible without the support from funders and donors.

You too could help us today to expand it. If you so wish, contact Eunice at eunice@grailprogrammes.org.za.

The Grail Centre

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