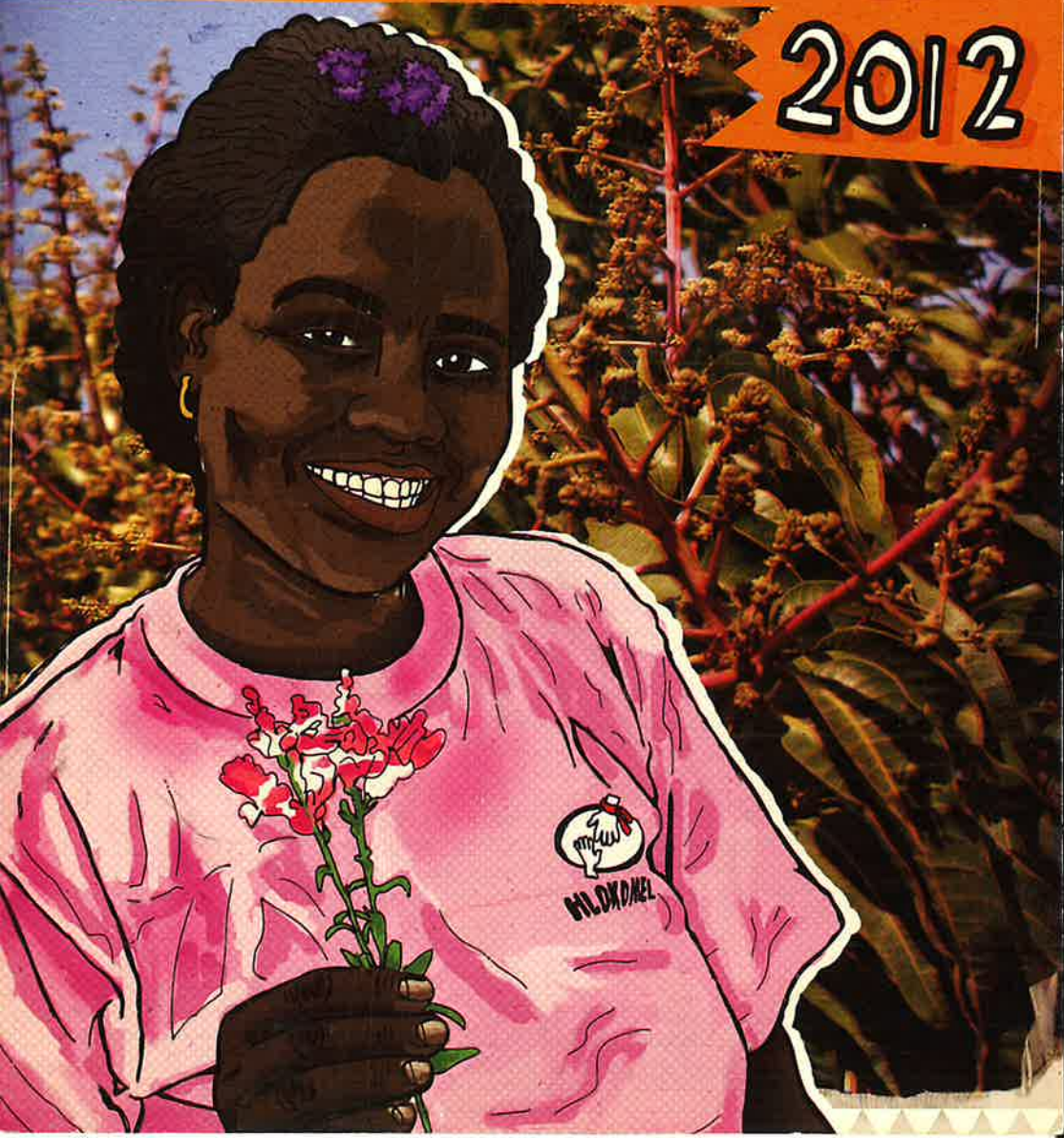


HLOKOMELA ANNUAL REPORT

2012



HELLO FROM

HLOKOMELA*

means Beware!!
... or Taking care!!

Hlokomela is a Non-profit NGO whose purpose is to improve the health and reduce the vulnerability of migrant and permanent farm workers and their families in the Hoedspruit area. Started in 2005, Hlokomela implements a dynamic array of health and educational development initiatives for 69 local agricultural businesses associated with the Hoedspruit Training Trust (HTT)

Hlokomela's Good Governance...

"What a privilege it is to be associated with the Winning Hlokomela Team! The Hoedspruit Training Trust Board Members are awed by the energy and diligence of the staff members and the farm workers who all contribute to the success of this programme.

As the Board, we are aware of the many challenges faced by Hlokomela, but we are encouraged by the spirit in which the organisation faces them. Hlokomela lives the Giuliani assertion: "When you confront a problem you begin to solve it".

On behalf of the Board, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to every staff member, every Farm/Lodge manager, our funders and every worker and their families that participate in and contribute to the Hlokomela Programme."

MT UYS, board member

Hlokomela's Dynamic Director:

The beauty of an organisation like ours is that we are able to respond spontaneously to issues that affect our communities... Hlokomela seeks to contribute to the reduction of HIV prevalence and the impact of AIDS among commercial farm workers and their families through an integrated programme of prevention, treatment and care...read about them on the next few pages!

CHRISTINE DU PREEZ, founder director

"Twenty years from now you will be more disappointed by the things that you didn't do than by the one you did do. So throw off the bowlines. Sail away from the safe harbour. Catch the trade winds in your sails. Explore, Dream, Discover."

Mark Twain



COME SAY

Hi!

Hlokomela's geographical focus is the Hoedspruit agricultural community in the Maruleng Municipality, Mopani District, Limpopo Province, South Africa, adjacent to the Kruger National Park. Hoedspruit is predominantly a fruit and game farming area with a large population of seasonal and migrant workers. An estimated 10,000 farm workers and their families benefit directly from Hlokomela's services.

Become a Fan on Facebook:

 www.facebook.com/pages/HLOKOMELA

To check our research and our donors, refer to

www.iom.org.za & www.htt.org.za

for more details.

Hlokomela's Honours over the years...

- 2007: Independent study finds farm workers trusts confidentiality of services offered
- 2007: Oral Presentation at South African AIDS Conference in Durban
- 2007: Local Thobela FM radio station listeners chose Hlokomela as the project making the most difference in their community
- 2007: Cash contribution from Shoprite/Checkers as Community Builder
- 2008: Impumelelo Silver Prestigious Innovation Award
- 2008: Maruleng Municipality's Best Non-Profit Organisation in Mopani district.
- 2008: Christine du Preez - finalist in "The Southern Africa Trust and Mail and Guardian Drivers of Change - Investing in the Future" awards.
- 2008: XVII International AIDS Conference in Mexico City. Poster presentation
- 2008: Poster presentation: "The Impact of Nutritional Supplements on Antiretroviral Treatment of Patients", at the 4th Annual South Africa Aids Conference in Durban
- 2009: Cash award from the Mopani District Executive Mayor Charity
- 2010: XVIII Conference in Vienna. IOM present on Hlokomela
- 2010: Silver Star award from Impumelelo for innovations in government and public
- 2010: Poster presentation: "Caring for Farm Workers' Children in Hoedspruit", at the 1st Orphans and Vulnerable Children Conference in Africa, Johannesburg
- 2011: Board member presentation on the Herb Garden at the Peace Corps South Africa Health Symposium in Johannesburg.
- 2012: Television crew from Denmark film an episode of a cooking series by the winner of Master chef Denmark, using ingredients from Hlokomela Herb garden

HLOKOMELA'S WONDERFUL WELLNESS ON COMMERCIAL FARMS

Based on the research conducted in 2008 which confirmed the seriousness of the HIV epidemic in the area, Hlokomela designed and implemented workplace HIV and AIDS policies and programmes, appropriate training interventions, and the roll out of prevention and treatment programmes, proving that a more productive agricultural industry and enhanced rural socio-economic development is possible through the workplace wellness programme ...

- Farm management have been assisted to develop a healthier work environment, and to develop and implement workplace wellness policies and programmes that include HIV and AIDS and other life-threatening conditions.
- All 78 sites, including high transmission areas such as truck stops, shebeens, taverns, taxi ranks, the hawkers market, hotels and lodges are monitored and supported with visits for condom dispenser maintenance and replenishments. Sadly female condoms never meet the demand.
- Farm workers/supervisors/management receives training on Life Threatening Illness and Workplace Policy, when introducing their wellness programmes. Pamphlets explaining the Policy were translated into local languages.
- 7370 IEC pamphlets on various topical wellness subjects were distributed during awareness raising events. An additional 4417 health promotion materials including Hlokomela booklets, calendars and annual reports were distributed.



HLOKOMELA'S HOME BASED CARE

Primary Health Care is provided by training and mentoring 55 farm workers as caregivers (Nompilos and Change Agents) who communicate face to face with farm workers to address the deep-rooted social and cultural barriers to behaviour change, and to empower them with accurate information and knowledge about the choices available to them for healthier lives.

- 18 new CAs/Nompilos were trained in HWSETA accredited courses. They all meet regularly for training and support, and receive Annual recognition Awards.
- 55 Home care kits were replenished.



Clinical CARING COUNTS

9 Wellness Clinics are established and serviced on a rotational basis at Richmond, Bavaria, Hlokomela, Klaserie Nature reserve, Ngala, Phelwana, Singita, Thornybush, and Beretta school run by Professional nurses with Doctor support to provide information, condoms, health care services and referrals for farm workers and their families.

Monthly, approx 400 people access voluntary HIV counselling and testing (HCT) services.

- 1 979 clients provided with HIV, counseling and testing (HCT)
- 530 workers on Anti Retroviral treatment (ARVS)
- 13 TB clients referred for treatment.
- 11 babies of farm workers born HIV negative, due to PMTCT intervention
- SUPPORT GROUP MEETINGS for patients held at the clinics cover discussions on: Disclosure, condomizing, STI's, Money in a relationship, Do not wake up the virus, and "Abuse". A common thread of "Having one partner only" - also addressed through the dialogues was woven through the discussions.
- OTHER ACTIVITIES: whenever there is time or a lot of group members in the waiting area of the Clinic they keep themselves busy with something fun and stimulating.
- Play days: play days and a Candlelight memorial for children were held at Bavaria crèche and Beretta school and children play with various games and toys.
- Workplace Policy on Life Threatening Illnesses: patients' rights as a worker on a farm and also a supervisor's responsibility towards workers.
- Valentine's Day: Sewing Project at Bavaria Fruit Estate and ladies who attended the art groups made 250 cushion hearts with the red ribbon and cards with messages like: 'Responsible couples condomize'; 'Can you go with me for HCT?'; and 'Condomize for Life', etc.
- Manufacturing of "Hlokomela pins": For Hlokomela's 120 Annual Reports 2010 the Support Group made special "Hlokomela pins." Red ribbons were cut and put around the reports with Hlokomela pins affixed.
- 18 women participated in an art work shop at Bizarre Doodles, making creative functional art, including mosaic mirrors to be used in an auction at a fundraising event for Hlokomela's' Herb Bush party.
- Support Group Retreat for children: 14 children on HIV treatment, aged 2-11, along with their parents and/or guardians were treated to a day where they could all meet and share experiences and challenges of taking care of an HIV positive child.
- Support Group Retreat in Kruger National Park: 13 excited members of the support group from two of the clinics spent a day game watching.





HLOKOMELA'S PUBLIC AWARENESS CAMPAIGNS and RECREATIONAL PROGRAMMES

to increase awareness, social participation, social cohesion and improve the quality of farm workers' lives

- The 16 Days of Activism of No Violence Against Women and Children March in November covered 4 km from Kamogelo Tourism Information Centre to Pick n Pay. Some 68 people including SANDF, SAPS, business management, banks, and the local municipality, farmers, farm workers and NGOs took part. After the march, HCT was offered to all. The Department of Home Affairs also offered services.
- World AIDS Day was held at Phelwana Wellness clinic for the game farms where 87 employees were entertained to a drama on addressing gender based violence
- Candle light memorial services on the international theme "Touching Lives" was held at Klaserie Private Nature Reserve and a primary school, and attended by workers on local game lodges.
- The Hlokomela Annual Golf Day saw HTT employees and female farm workers, farmers' wives and community members playing golf to raise awareness on breast cancer and other health related matters.
- National Lotto funded 35 deserving children aged 12 to 18 to a seaside trip in Mtunzini at Twinstreams Environmental Education Centre, KZN. They played environmental educational games, tried canoeing and had fun playing in a natural mud pool. Some children on the trip had never been outside their farms!

GENDER SESSIONS:
on Life Orientation were held at Blyde Adventure camp and local schools for various groups of children of ages 12-16years.

Driehoek shebeen outreach: sessions on responsible drinking of alcohol, STIS and condom use.



HLOKOMELA DYNAMIC

Hlokomela implements an integrated social and behaviour change communication programme, which includes peer communication (face-to-face dialogue between Nompilos and farm workers), peer education and the participatory development of local communication tools such as billboards, pamphlets, newspaper articles, murals, T shirts, and other materials like the cushion hearts. The aim is to build individual and collective esteem and create a supportive environment of caring that enables individuals to reduce high-risk behaviour and lead healthier lives

- Hlokomela keeps a vibrant face in the public space: Four more billboards with the message of "One Partner is enough" were translated into the two local languages. T-shirts were printed with the same message.
- Workplace Policies were designed, translated into the respective languages and printed into pamphlets to be distributed to all partners
- 19 839 farm workers participated in the innovative dialogue sessions, led by the Nompilos and the 38 Gingirikani* farm worker focus groups. The dialogues are organised around quarterly themes and monthly topics and create opportunities for farm workers to discuss relationships, as well as social and cultural issues that negatively affect health - then developing confidence to deal with them.
**Gingirikani means working with more effort*
- 120 Gingirikani helped organise 3 recreational and cultural activities on farms, encouraging farm workers to participate, access public health programs and make positive interventions for a healthier lifestyle



FARMWORKERS
CARE FOR EACHOTHER

DIALOGUES:



Hlokomela's monthly dialogue topics for 2011 – talking face to face to build trust and protect health

- “Stop abuse”
- “Treat your man like a king and your woman like a queen”
- “I am a responsible partner”
- “I am empowered”
- “Lead by example”
- “I am trustworthy”
- Stigma free generation on farms
- “My workplace policy”
- “HIV free generation on farms”
- Stopping, controlling/in-balance relationship
- I'm against substance abuse
- Enabling free violence society



**"STOP
ABUSE"**

Sensitizing, training, and mentoring male role models with the aim of addressing issues such as gender based violence, transactional sex, and poor health-seeking behaviour in men.

Silkscreen Printing Workshop: Community Development Project Trust provided training and support for using art in development with a strong focus on women empowerment and gender transformation. The training they provide in print-making and fabric - both because these can be used to promote dialogue and communication. The aim of the workshop was for participants to be able to make their own T-shirts for advocacy around the Hlokomela quarterly dialogue themes. 150 T-shirts were bought printed with a gender message: “I'm emPOWERED” developed by HTT Coordinators and farm workers.



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Thusang Setshaba:

Provide ongoing support on basic life skills interventions to individuals

The Village Loans and Savings Association has two groups of 20- 25 members, who saved R100 050 from October 2010. The person with the highest shares received dividends for R4897 and the lowest received R1221.00

An in-house workshop included advanced finance literacy, where National Credit Regulator (NCR) was invited to assist the Nompilo Change Agents with information on how to resolve problems related to the Credit Bureau.

The Ripple Effect Conference on Employees Wellness demonstrated the disruptive effects of money issues on normal workplace routines of employees.

HLOKOMELA Charity Shop

A second hand clothes/white elephant shop was started in the Kamogelo shopping centre. The community donates items to the shop and these are sold for income generation.

Vatsho va mapurasi va hlalisanana!



Hlokomela Heavenly Herbs!

Improving the nutrition of sick workers by providing them with food grown in a community vegetable and herb garden.

The Hlokomela Herb Garden started in 2008 and boasts a wide variety of seasonal organic products. As an income generating opportunity, all of the income derived from the business is used to address organisational sustainability by providing fresh organic herb products to local markets, restaurants and lodges in and around the K2C (Kruger 2 Canyon) area.

- A television crew from Denmark filmed an episode of a cooking series using ingredients bought from Hlokomela's Herb Garden. The 2 visitors were Timm Vladimir newly crowned winner of Master Chef Denmark and Camilla Ottesen a female hunter. In the Hoedspruit episode Camilla hunted a blue wildebeest in Blyde Wildlife Estate one of Hlokomela's member farms. The patients and staff of Hlokomela were treated to a feast!
- Paw paws were grown and sold to the market for the first time in 2011
- Rose Hibiscus Tea was launched, with Support group participants assisting by cleaning the fruit, packing tea bags and decorating the bags with red beads as well as serving patients the new herb syrups to judge!
- At a presentation on the Herb Garden at the Peace Corps South Africa Health Symposium, homage was paid to the Hlokomela Peace Corps Volunteer, Nick Vorono, who was instrumental in starting the project.
- Thornybush hosted the Hlokomela Herb Bush Party where the chefs were tasked to use at least one of Hlokomela's wide varieties of freshly produced herbs.
- Different products were sold at the Sustainable Living Festival.

Hlokomela Food Bank

The Food Bank aims to improve the health of their clients at the Hlokomela Wellness Clinics, through locally grown produce and the valuable support of the local farming community, who donates excess fresh fruit and vegetables for distribution

Surplus vegetables are sold at a local food stall, Spar and Pick and Pay supermarkets and game lodges. The revenue generated is used to improve the garden's facilities, and purchase drip irrigation supplies, seeds and seedlings.



HLOKOMELA HOPES & DREAMS

Building partnerships with public and private entities to build capacity, attract resources, improve access to services and enhance sustainability.

- Meetings with the Department of Health and Social Development regarding the new Primary Health Care Re-Engineering (PHC) model
- Planning to establish a hospice/step down facility to offer a programme of specialised home based palliative care to terminally ill patients and support to their families.
- Male medical circumcision dialogue preparatory meetings were held in The Oaks Village to plan for debate on male medical circumcision versus traditional circumcision.

Hlokomela representatives attended key learning events this year, including:

- Peer Educators Conference hosted by South African Business Coalition on HIV/AIDS.
- 5th AIDS Conference held in Durban
- Southern Africa Institute of Fundraising 10th Biennial Convention
- Discovery Fund Training: The Imminent Health Insurance changes in RSA's Legal Framework.
- Limpopo Business Sector conference on HIV and AIDS and Wellness by SA Business coalition on HIV & AIDS. Mr Johann du Preez one of the participating farmers was nominated to serve on the Limpopo Board of Governor
- AIDS Consortium's HIV and AIDS Charter Dialogue: 'South Africa is a democratic country which is governed by the constitution which allows people to live freely as part of the human rights; this includes people living with HIV'
- The launch of "Young South African Women in Dialogue"

INTERNAL ORGANISATIONAL AND IMPLEMENTATION DEVELOPMENT

- South African Quality Authority (SAQA) Facilitators and Assessors Training
- Sibambane Development Communication: Social and Behavioural Change Communication (SBCC) implementation
- Health Promotion Training, Sexual Gender Based Violence training
- Employee Assistance Programme (EAP) wellness Ripple Effect Conference
- Gender workshop on the dissemination of nodal research findings and integration of gender
- HTT Board of Trustees attended Governance training by the Mopani District Department of Health
- Capacity building for HIV/AIDS Ambassadors for PLWHA (People living with HIV and AIDS) from Hoedspruit farming community to facilitate outreach programmes.
- Drama capacity building workshop: to strengthen skills for developing and delivering dramatic performances which raise awareness, enable dialogue and audience engagement, and promote health

