

A high-angle photograph of a person's hands and arms as they plant a small, vibrant green seedling into the ground. The ground is covered with a thick layer of dry, brown leaves and twigs. The person is wearing a dark blue or grey long-sleeved shirt. The lighting is natural, highlighting the textures of the soil, leaves, and the person's skin.

HLOKOMELA

**ANNUAL
REPORT
2012/3**

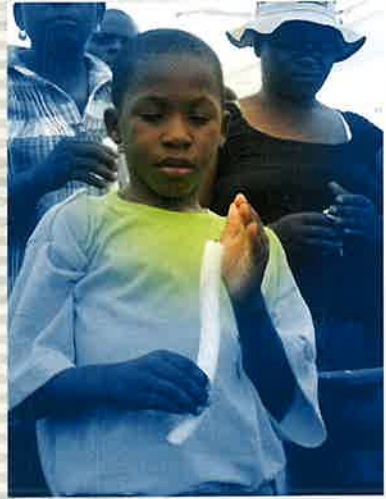
ABOUT US

Hlokomela cares about farm workers, particularly their health and well-being. The project started seven years ago and is currently active on 69 sub-projects, reaching about 12 000 people annually through various activities. Guided by research, Hlokomela has become a prominent HIV and AIDS education and treatment provider within the farming and nature conservation community in the greater Hoedspruit area.

We do not exclude other health issues in our holistic approach when caring for farm workers. While we prioritise farm workers, which include families and migrant workers, in our programme, Hlokomela strives to have all its stakeholders shape and share its vision for a healthy farming community.

WHERE WE WORK

Hoedspruit is a ward of the Maruleng Municipality in the Mopani District of South Africa's Limpopo Province. This area, situated in the Lowveld of the country, is also part of the Kruger to Canyon biosphere, which incorporates the central regions of the world famous Kruger National Park. Fruit and wildlife farming are two of the main economic drivers in the area and support a large population of seasonal and migrant workers. About 20 000 farm workers and their families benefit directly from Hlokomela's services.



OUR VISION

Our vision is to support commercial farming communities towards stable and informed family units, empowered to take responsibility for health, spiritual and educational issues and improve their quality of life.

OUR MISSION

Our mission is to empower the commercial farm worker in the Maruleng commercial farming municipality in respect to health, spiritual and educational issues.

*check our research and donors: www.iom.org.za
and www.htt.org.za*

IT WAS A CHALLENGING YEAR

2012 was a taxing year and it was increasingly difficult to raise funds. The challenges on farms - for both workers and farm owners - remain tough. Gloomy global and local economic tendencies are straining resources.



Yet many in the farming fraternity have found fresh, innovative, creative, determined and dedicated ways to change hardship to a home-run. HIV and Aids continues to claim lives, break apart households and overwhelm communities. However, we also appreciate the continued roll-out of free anti-retroviral treatment available at most of our clinics.

In the same vein, we are grateful to supplement this treatment with fresh produce every week from our food bank. This comes from our very own community garden and generous donations from farmers in the greater Hoedspruit area. Thank you.

Our donors keep our doors open. Your tangible belief in our every activity is like a generator that could light up Hoedspruit for a week. We appreciate every cent, gesture, effort, minute and commodity that come our way.

We are equally grateful for your support of the Hlokomela Herb Garden, Charity Shop and Compost Project through which we try to ease our donor dependence.

And so I come to the staff without whose hard work nothing will happen on any given day. From the humble two staff members in 2005, we have grown to 40 dedicated people working at Hlokomela and from 16 Nompilos (peer educators) to 59 in 2012. Thank you for your support and caring!



Christine du Preez
Project Director

FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED FEBRUARY 2012

Hoedspruit Training Trust (HTT) continued to use the services of the firm Willem van Wyk Accountants and Daan de Kock (CA) to do their annual audit. The audit for the year ended February 2012 was thorough and in accordance with the International Financial Reporting Standards for small and medium sized entities and in the manner required by the Companies Act of South Africa. HTT is registered as a Non-Profit Organisation in terms of the Non-Profit Organisation Act, 1997. Income is generated through donations, funding, income-generating community/social development projects, interest and fundraising.

INCOME RECEIVED

MONETARY DONATIONS/FUNDING

FUNDS WERE GENERATED FROM THE FOLLOWING SOURCES:

- Department of Health and Social Development (DOH) Service Delivery (SD) Mopani District
- Department of Health and Social Development (DOH) Home Base Care (HBC) Mopani District
- Department of Health and Social Development (DOH) High Transmission Area (HTA) Limpopo Province.
- Right To Care (RTC/USAID)
- Discovery Fund
- National Lotto Distribution Trust Fund (NLDTF)
- International Organisation for Migration (IOM/USAID)

OTHER DONATIONS / FUNDING

- Income generating community/social development projects
- Timbavati Private Nature Reserve and Phelwana Clinic Nursing Services Private Donations
- Own fund raising projects (Hlokomela Herb Bush Party)
- Interest capitalised on Money Market Investment

NON-MONETARY DONATIONS

- Electricity paid by Unifrutti Blyderiver and Bavaria Fruit Estate (In-kind donation).
- Fresh fruit and vegetables by farmers for distribution to community, farm workers and their families.
- ARV's and Primary Health Care Medicine from DOH (Accredited and MOU with DOH)



OPERATING EXPENSES

FUNDS WERE UTILISED IN THE FOLLOWING MANNER:

HTT PROJECTS/PROGRAMS

- HIV/AIDS Treatment and Primary Health Care Service Delivery
- Home Base Care
- HIV/AIDS Prevention, Care and Support
- HIV Counseling and Testing (HCT)
- Social Development Projects (Herb Garden)
- Holiday Program for Farm Worker Children
- Training and Capacity Building
- Website
- Fundraising
- Awareness Campaigns
- SBCC Material Production and Workshops

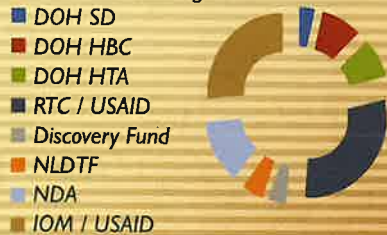
HTT OPERATIONAL AND SERVICE DELIVERY COSTS

- Salaries
- Staff Training and Development
- Electricity and Water
- Rent
- Tel, Fax and Internet
- Stationary and Printing
- Fuel and Vehicle Maintenance
- Security and Insurance
- Medical Waste Management
- Medical Supplies
- Consumables
- Bank Charges
- Audit Costs
- Consultants Services
- Maintenance and Repairs
- Tools and Equipment
- Seeds and Other Products

Operational and service delivery expenses



Monetary Donations / Funding



FUNDRAISING

HTT continues to actively campaign for new donors to raise funds for on-going service delivery- and social development projects. HTT will also continue raising awareness of the work being done by the organisation by means of awareness campaigns and marketing of income generating projects to support farm workers and their families from the Kruger to Canyons area with respect to health, spiritual and educational issues.

Detailed audited financial statements are available on request.

WHO WE ARE

Board of Trustees:

Chris Huddle,
Christine du Preez,
Marié-Tinka Uys,
Ernest Shai,
Roger Baloyi

Programme Director:

Christine du Preez

Programme Manager:

Antoinette Ngwenya

Health Manager:

Lea Swart

Finance Officer:

Marian Viljoen

Office Manager:

Dineo Shubane,

Herb Garden Manager:

Angie Rowles

Compost Garden Manager:

Jackie Hills

Data Capturers:

Jeanette Monyayi,

Sindy Nkuna

Medical Officer:

Dr L du Toit

Professional Nurses:

Thalitha Mthethwa

Glenda van Wyk

Coordinator SCC:

Teenage Rapatsa

Coordinator IOM:

Candy Nkgogo

HCT Counselors:

Lucy Maile, Brilliant Ndlovu

Lay Counselors:

Constance Ngobeni,

Junior Mogakane,

Doris Malepe, Tinah Mashego

Maria Mthomboti, Julie Malope,

Bheki Malomola, Tryna Mnisi

Refah Mogakane, Modern Mnisi

ART Supporters:

Office Assistant:

Gift Nyambe

Shop Assistant:

Wilna Mongadi

Driver:

Solomon Ngobeni

Garden Assistants:

Tebogo Modipane,

Lawrence Malapane,

Elizabeth Sekgobela,

Melvin Makhubela

Amina Nkgogo, Maria Sekgobela

Victor Bango, Jan Kobene,

Betty Makhubele, Mpho Malatjie

Volunteer:

Mona Bildhauer

GOOD GOVERNANCE

Hlokomela's story is the embodiment of the African proverb: "If you want to travel fast, travel alone; if you want to travel far, travel together!"

The Hlokomela team has travelled far with the empowering "farm workers care for one another". Sometimes the journey was difficult and challenging, but every moment of it was worth it. And there are still many adventures to be experienced on our road together.

Sepela Gabotse/ Hamba Kahle!

Marié-Tinka Uys, Board Member, HTT

OUR MAIN ACTIVITIES

- ▲ Working with work place management to develop a healthier work environment and to develop and implement work place HIV and AIDS policies and programmes;
- ▲ Providing peer education;
- ▲ Providing primary health care through training and mentoring workers as caregivers (Nompilos);
- ▲ Sensitising, training and mentoring male role models to address issues such as gender-based violence, transactional sex and reluctance among men to seek health advice;
- ▲ Developing and implementing an integrated social change communication programme using billboards, pamphlets and other material to promote behaviour change to reduce high risk behaviour;
- ▲ Organising and implementing recreational programmes to increase social participation and improve the quality of workers' lives;
- ▲ Establishing and running wellness clinics to provide information, condoms, health care services and referrals, including HIV counseling and testing, as well as anti-retroviral treatment to workers and their families;
- ▲ Growing and selling herbs and running a Charity Shop for non-restricted income generation;
- ▲ Selling high quality compost as part of fund-raising activities to become self-sustainable and enable Hlokomela to continue health service delivery to farm workers and their families.

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WE FACILITATE ACCESS TO HEALTH SERVICES, PROGRAMMES AND PRODUCTS

FACILITATE HIV/AIDS WORK PLACE POLICY IMPLEMENTATION

Hlokomela assists 69 enterprises – 55 small and 14 large – to develop and implement an HIV/Aids work place policy. This must be in writing and endorsed by management and the workers and include a peer education programme.

It encompasses HIV counseling and training (HCT), as well as formal HIV prevention activities to provide factual information that protects workers from HIV transmission.

WELLNESS CLINICS

We service nine clinics on a rotational basis at Richmond, Bavaria, Hlokomela, Klaserie Private Nature Reserve, Ngala, Phelwana, Singita Lebombo, Thornybush and Beretta School. A doctor and professional nurse provide health care services and referrals, condoms and information. There were:

- 7702 clients provided with HIV, counseling and testing (HCT)
- 448 patients on ARVs
- 309 Pap smears conducted

SUPPORT GROUP MEETINGS

Support group meetings are held at the clinics for patients to discuss topical issues such as living positively with HIV, safer sex and understanding HIV risks, stigmatization, acceptance and disclosure.

NOMPILOS AND CHANGE AGENTS

These are our care-givers on the farms. In the year under review, of the 59 Nompilos, 23 Nompilos took care of 80 patients, providing interventions according to their needs. This could range from primary health care to social and educational knowledge to bringing about healthier living.

NOMPILO AND CHANGE AGENT WORKSHOPS

The care-givers have a monthly workshop where they discuss the progress and challenges of the wellness programme. They look into the feedback on the quarterly dialogue theme, the monthly topic and the group opinions.

Also included are analyses of formal reporting tools such as patient records, referral and household, as well as home based and health promotion tally forms.

NOMPILO / CHANGE AGENT OF THE YEAR

Sibongile Mashele, who works with truck drivers, sex workers, hawkers and farmers at the Blyde truck stop, was the Nompilo of the Year 2012. The awards ceremony took place at Blyde Wildlife Estate on December 14 and was attended by Nompilos, proudly dressed in their traditional wear.

CONDOM DISPENSERS

We replenished condom dispensers at 78 sites, including high transmission areas such as truck stops, shebeens, taverns, taxi ranks, the hawkers market, hotels and lodges. We distributed 996 000 male condoms, and 15 000 female condoms.



SUPPORTIVE ENVIRONMENT

AN INTEGRATED SOCIAL AND BEHAVIOUR CHANGE COMMUNICATION (SBCC) PROGRAMME

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

DYNAMIC DIALOGUE

Nompilos and Gingirikani farm worker focus groups facilitated creative dialogue sessions in which 17 434 workers participated. The dialogues are organized around quarterly themes and monthly topics where farm workers discuss relationships, as well as social and cultural issues that affect their health.

During the focus group discussions, emphasis is placed on building trust and confidence to deal with the impact of the issues at hand.

The topics included:

- My spirituality and HIV
- Medical male circumcision
- My cultural beliefs and HIV
- I'm responsible for my own health
- I'm a man and I'm involved
- Our equal rights
- Break the silence and report abuse
- It's time for men to change

OUTREACHES

74 520 individuals reached on health promotion, awareness campaigns and health information sessions on farms

Hlokomela keeps visible in the public space, using appropriate communication tools such as billboards, pamphlets, radio, television and events.

BILLBOARDS

Hlokomela put up three billboards in the Hoedspruit area. One of these is in the Hoedspruit central business district with a message encouraging community members to know their HIV status and to get tested.

INFORMATION MATERIAL

During the year, we distributed 11 465 pamphlets and about 2000 t-shirts, annual reports and calendars during various occasions and events at the farms.

TELEVISION

On December 1st, the television production company called Mothers of All Profession televised a series on Hlokomela on SABC 2 to coincide with World AIDS day. This was a health series focusing on HIV and AIDS, which was recorded in July 2012. The KykNet Kwela Film Crew produced an insert on the herb garden in May 2012.

RADIO

The director was nominated as a Community Hero and interviewed on SAFM. She was also interviewed on the local radio station, Hoedspruit FM 96.4 in April, as was the SBCC coordinator, Teenage Rapatsa, in September. Hlokomela will have a weekly evening slot on Hoedspruit FM 96.4 – the Hlokomela Health Talk Show – a name and time suggested by the Nompilos and workers.

PRINT

Several articles and adverts appeared in the local newspaper, Kruger2Canyon, ranging from vacancies for a Data Capturer to coverage of Hlokomela's annual Golf Day. There were also articles on AIDS awareness and the United States celebrity Aphrodite Jones who visited the organization, as well as the 16 days of activism march held in December.

IT'S TIME FOR MEN
TO CHANGE



We organise and/or facilitate events or campaigns to increase awareness of the Hlokomela message, encourage social participation and cohesion, as well as improve the quality of farm workers' lives.



THE HLOKOMELA ANNUAL GOLF DAY

The annual golf day took place in October. Some 60 farm workers, Nompilos, care givers, managers, owners and wives played golf to raise awareness on breast cancer and other health issues. Many played the game for the first time, got to know each other in a completely different environment and built on other dimensions to their relationships.

16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM OF NO VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND CHILDREN

In partnership with Hoedspruit Air Force Social Department and the Hoedspruit Clinic Social Worker, Hlokomela developed and implemented this campaign around the theme, "Its time for men to change". The message originated as a dialogue topic from the focus groups on the farms. It was printed on 300 T-shirts in Xitsonga, Sepedi and English. The shirts and white ribbons were worn during the 16-day period.

AIDS DAY AND 16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM MARCH

The five kilometer protest march saw workers, wives and other stakeholders take their message to the main road between Hoedspruit and Bavaria past Agri-Park. Traffic officers and police ensured safety and security for the 300 activists who gathered at Bavaria Fruit Estate for the World AIDS Day programme. Joey Steyn of the SANDF led a candle light memorial and Mazibuko Josephina, district manager of HIV and AIDS, STI and TB Services was the main speaker. After a lively discussion on "It's time for men to change", local musicians ensured the day ended on a light-hearted note.

SOCIAL CHANGE



ADDRESS CONTEXTUAL BARRIERS TO BEHAVIOUR AND SOCIAL CHANGE

GENDER TRAINING

Hlokomela facilitates regular training sessions to understand and manage gender dynamics in the context of HIV/AIDS. The training is not always aimed at women only, but includes men, migrant workers and their families. Women are informed about the impact of unequal gender relations on their health, economic and social participation and are taught about their rights and how to develop strategies to promote and protect these rights.

Men are sensitized, trained and mentored to become role models that will face and overcome gender based violence, transactional sex and poor health seeking behaviour. During the year 66 males and 52 females attended gender training workshops. 337 males and 258 females attended gender based violence campaigns.

FACILITATE RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES

Opening of Phelwana clinic: At the opening of Phelwana clinic, HTT staff members had formed a choir to mark the occasion. Children of farm workers performed traditional dance.

The Mopani District Soccer Tournament: Eight teams from farms in Hoedspruit, Tzaneen and Letsitele took part in a well-received tournament that aimed to unite farm workers and promote a healthy lifestyle. The 144 players participated in eight matches in the high school section and 16 in the primary section. The Mopani District Municipality supplied water and energy drinks and the winning teams won trophies and soccer jerseys. A second tournament is scheduled for 2013.

Holiday programme: During the October school holidays, 25 children of farm workers attended a holiday programme at the Bavaria Toy Library.

We believe people make things happen and foster all our stakeholder relationships.

HOEDSPRUIT TRAINING TRUST (HTT)

Hlokomela's parent partner is the HTT, who oversees our activities. HTT evolved from the Rural Foundation community development initiative of the 1990s with its strong emphasis on the health of farm workers and their families. The Trust was registered as an NPO in 2006.

HLOKOMELA STAFF

We have a committed and dedicated team [of 40 people] whose passion guides their compassion and professional conduct.

TRAINING

Training is important to Hlokomela and translates into workshops, conferences and/or longer-term training courses where needed.

Scholarships: The Foundation for Professional Development, sponsored by PEPFAR, awarded scholarships to the data capturer and programme manager to do the higher certificate in management. The data capturer completed the year course in June 2012 and the programme manager will do so in July 2013.

Workshops: Hlokomela staff attended workshops throughout the year ranging on topics from life before death (hospice), maternal and child health care to HCT as well as Human Rights.

Conferences: Board member and director of HTT, Mari-Tinka Uys, attended the 19th International HIV Conference in Washington DC, together with more than 20 000 global stakeholders.

TEAM BUILDING

The staff retreated to Swadini for two-days of team building, facilitated by the Blyde Canyon Centre Team Building Group. The outcomes highlighted the importance of team work, communications, time management and conflict management.

EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR

Amina Nkgogo is our employee of the year and enjoyed her prize of two nights at a participating luxury lodge, Motswari, with her sister. Amina works at the Hlokomela Herb Garden.



PARTNERSHIPS

INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATION FOR MIGRATION (IOM)

In 2005, Hlokomela formed a partnership with IOM in response to the findings of an IOM study on HIV/AIDS vulnerability among migrant farm workers in the area. This partnership has been cemented in a financial commitment from IOM to HTT to reduce HIV and TB vulnerability amongst migrant and mobile workers in the greater Hoedspruit area by implementing the Ripfumelo II project.

DONORS

Discovery Fund: A grant toward the running cost of Hlokomela for the period June 2012 to May 2013.

Global Fund: The HTT is one of the service providers secured by Right to Care (RTC) to do HIV counseling and testing and Tuberculosis symptom screening for which RTC received a grant from the Switzerland based Global Fund for Aids, Tuberculosis and Malaria.

National Lottery Distribution Fund (NLDTF): There are two grants from the NLDTF. The first is in support of the Hlokomela community projects – the herb garden, food bank and farm crèches. The second grant is to implement an income generating compost project.

GOVERNMENT

Provincial Department of Health: Since Hlokomela was established in 2005, the organisation has built a very strong partnership with the Department of Health and Social Development. The organisation has been funded for service delivery and a stipend for community home-based care givers and peer educators. The department is also paying for laboratory services for test specimens for the wellness clinic.

Department of Health, Mopani District: Hlokomela is a member of the Hoedspruit Clinic Committee representing not-for-profit organisations in the community. The committee's focus is the good governance of the clinic and dealing with issues such as work ethics, daily service delivery, handling clients' complaints and the rights of all clients, including migrant workers to access services.

Maruleng Municipality: The Hlokomela coordinator liaised with the local municipality on issues such as HIV statistics, as well as working together on events like TB and World Aids Day.

BUSINESS

Pink Drive: Hlokomela joined the Pick n Pay initiated Pink Drive breast cancer awareness march on September 30 in Hoedspruit, where about 1000 community members took to the street. The following day, the Pink Drive vehicle visited the Hlokomela Wellness Clinic and 98 farm workers underwent free breast examinations.

Santa Shoebox: Children's Eco Training and volunteers collected and distributed more than 1000 "Christmas" boxes for less privileged children in the greater Hoedspruit area. All the farm crèches received boxes.

Herb Bush Party: Thornybush hosted the second annual Herb Bush Party in September. Nine lodges and restaurants took part in the cook-off, where at least one of Hlokomela's fresh herbs had to be used. Rhoda Kadalie's inspirational speech – "There is hope if someone cares" – set the tone for a successful auction that contributed to the evening's total funds raised of about R50 000.





SUSTAINABILITY

Hlokomela pursues several income generating opportunities to become less dependent on and / or supplement our grant funding.

HLOKOMELA HERB GARDEN

The Garden started in 2008 and has grown into a well-known reliable supplier to local supermarkets, restaurants and lodges. A new manager was appointed in July 2012. The Garden is also a popular destination for tourists on a Hat tour day trip in the area. We introduced new labels and a new product line (syrups) with great success. We sold several products at the annual Sustainable Living Festival and continue to sell these products at the monthly Southern Cross Schools Organic Markets.

HLOKOMELA CHARITY SHOP

The Hlokomela Charity Shop is in its second year and has moved to the main road in Hoedspruit. The community donates items, which are sold for income generation.

HLOKOMELA FOOD BANK

The Food Bank comprises our own grown produce, supplemented with fresh fruit and vegetables donated by the local farming community. Food parcels are available at the Hlokomela Wellness Clinic to farm workers who need nutritional supplements. We sell the excess produce at a local food stall, Pick n Pay, Spar and the local lodges. The revenue generated is used to improve the community garden's facilities, buy equipment, seed and seedlings. The first Hlokomela Community Garden was established in 2005 on Bavaria Farm.

COMPOST PROJECT

Our aim is to establish a profitable compost manufacturing facility in Hoedspruit. Profits from the compost project will be channelled into the Hlokomela HIV/Aids programme which is currently being funded by international funders. The purpose of the compost project is to enable the Hlokomela programme to become more self-sustainable. We hope to market and sell 800 cubic meters of high quality compost in 2013 to Hoedspruit residents and local farmers, extending out into the surrounding regions as cost, volumes and transport permit.



HLOKOMELA HONOURS



- 2007: Independent study finds farm workers trust confidentiality of services offered
- 2007: Oral presentation at South African Aids Conference in Durban
- 2007: Cash contribution from Shoprite/Checkers as Community Builder
- 2008: Maruleng Municipality's Best Non-Profit Organisation in Mopani district
- 2008: Christine du Preez is a finalist in The Southern African Trust and Mail and Guardian Drivers of Change – Investing in the Future awards
- 2008: Poster presentation at the 17th International Aids Conference in Mexico City
- 2008: Poster presentation at the 4th Annual South African Aids Conference in Durban
- 2009: Cash award from the Mopani District Executive Mayor Charity
- 2009: Hlokomela received an award from Mail and Guardian "Investing the Future" awards selection committee with the 2009 'Investing in Life' award for its holistic innovative approach to medical and social service delivery for farm workers and their families
- 2010: Hlokomela participated in the 2010 International Aids Conference in Vienna with the generous financial support from its member farms and the Hoedspruit community
- 2010: Silver Star Award from Impumelelo for innovations in government and public sectors
- 2011: Board member presentation on the herb garden at the Peace Corps South Africa Health Symposium in Johannesburg
- 2012: Denmark based television crew films an episode of a cooking series by the winner of Master Chef Denmark, using ingredients from Hlokomela Herb Garden
- 2012: Poster presentation at the 19th International Aids Conference in Washington DC, USA.

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THANKS TO

