

SHISELWENI NEWS

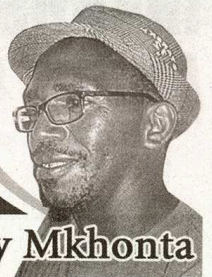
...With

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GOOD GESTURE: Dignitaries including the leadership of Mbangweni Umphakatsi in a group photo after the official opening of the soup kitchen.

TAIWAN FUND BUILDS E1m KITCHEN AT MBANGWENI

A charity organisation with its origins in Taiwan has helped in the construction of a state-of-the-art soup kitchen at Mbangweni, a project that has cost close to E1 million.

The Taiwan Fund for Children and Families (TFCF) was approached by the Shiselweni Home Based Care (SHBC), to assist with funds to construct the beautiful neighbourhood care point (NCP) kitchen which is a different design from the common NCPs that exist in other communities around the country.

SHBC is a Shiselweni based ministry founded by Dr Arnau van Wyngaard who is a pastor of the Shiselweni Reformed Church.

Dr van Wyngaard has been hailed in a number of communities in the region for his efforts in improving lives of the destitute and orphans as well as the sick.

His ministry is fully involved in assisting communities in a number of ways and now wherever he goes, many refer to him as 'Hope of The Needy'.

Dr van Wyngaard was showered with accolades by almost all the speakers during the official opening on Friday, an event that was graced by authorities from Mbangweni chiefdom as well as representatives from Shiselweni II Inkhundla.

TFCF Director Cash Kuo who was accompanied by some of the organisation's employees also attended and delivered a speech. The organisation was the main sponsor of the project as it splashed out a sum of E788 503 and this donation was made towards the end of 2015.

In her remarks, Kuo thanked SHBC as well as the Mbangweni chiefdom



NEW START: Director of Taiwan Fund for Children and Families (TFCF) Cash Kuo preparing to cut the ribbon to mark the opening of the soup kitchen at Mbangweni. Looking on is Dr Arnau van Wyngaard who is the director of the Shiselweni Home Based Care.



for the dedication they showed from the first day the project started up to the last day it was completed.

The TFCF Director said it was after meeting the parties that were involved in the planning of the project of this nature that they (TFCF) saw it proper that it should be funded.

The zeal and vigour shown by Dr van Wyngaard in changing lives of those less privileged touched TFCF hence they did not hesitate to assist in a project of such magnitude.

"The desire of TFCF for Mbangweni is to see the standard of life improving

and this project its part of this desire. You will have at least a decent structure for cooking, access to clean water, a better storage for things like food. This facility we are handing over today has a pre-school, playground and is well fenced. In addition, there is a garden and toilets of the required health standard," said Kuo.

Kuo also thanked all the caregivers saying they were a dedicated team and kind. She noted the love the caregivers have for the children on daily basis and said it showed their humanity and true 'ubuntu'.

SHBC takes care of close to 1 000 children

MEANWHILE, Dr van Wyngaard disclosed that SHBC has a total of 11 NCPs it caters for and a total of almost 1 000 children fed in these NCPs.

Others include those at Edwaleni, Matsanjeni, Hlushwana and now SHBC has also stretched its assistance to Big Bend which is in the Lubombo region.

Explaining about the work of Shiselweni Home Based Care (SHBC), Dr van Wyngaard said what they were doing was encouraged in the scriptures. He said SHBC was a God sent organisation built on a Christian oriented foundation. "God is using us to do his good work.

In fact we are His partners as he can't come from heaven to do what needs to be done here on earth. Through us, He is

able to do what needed to be done, that is assisting the needy in these communities," said Dr van Wyngaard.

Speaking on behalf of the caregivers, Monica Hlophe said they were pleased as women to see progress and it was pleasing to see a project of this magnitude completed. She said what was also interesting was that it was a project fully supported by the authorities of the area.

"We are encouraged that the soup kitchen is right at the umphakatsi's door step and that they (elders) allocated this piece of land to have such a project built is another indication that the authorities of Mbangweni are caring about destitute people of the area," said Hlophe.

The NCP at Mbangweni caters for 124 children who will get a meal daily.



TAKEN CARE OF: These are some of the children to be fed in the soup kitchen.

Reformed church urged to open branch

MBANGWENI elders have requested the Swaziland Reformed Church to open a branch in the area.

Acting Chief Musa Matsebula said the authorities would have no problem of allocating the church land.

He said as the church has shown that it was indeed founded on true Christian principles, it would be a blessing to have it establishing a branch in the area as many hearts which were lost would be found.

The acting chief was speaking last Friday during the official opening of a neighbourhood care point (NCP), a project funded by the Taiwan Fund for Children and Families (TFCF).

The acting chief appealed to Dr Arnau van Wyngaard to consider adding a branch of his church in the community as this would also help in finding lost souls.

"You have won our hearts as elders of this area and we are now requesting you Dr van Wyngaard to consider opening a branch of your church here. Spiritually, we also need to be

fed and there are a number of souls which can be won once you open this branch here," said the acting chief.

Provided

Matsebula said it was clear that van Wyngaard's church served God's mandate as it was the teachings in the scriptures that those in need should be provided and it was exactly what the Swaziland Reformed Church was doing.

He said Dr van Wyngaard was easing off the burden on the umphakatsi's shoulders, that of assisting in the construction of the soup kitchen.

Matsebula said people like Dr van Wyngaard were needed for the attainment of the first world status. Matsebula also thanked TFCF as the main sponsor of the project.

He said it was pleasing to see some of the country's friends being so supportive and reaching out to the communities with challenges.

"Asibonge kakhulu kuto tinini telive ngalitesentela kona silive," said Matsebula.