

MICHAELHOUSE COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

QUARTERLY REPORT
April – June 2022

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS: PROGRESS REPORT



OVERVIEW

The Michaelhouse Community Partnership Trust is a registered non-profit organisation that works with no-fee schools located between Lions River and Mooi River to improve their functionality as places of learning, through the implementation of various projects. The schools that we support are based in communities characterized by high levels of unemployment, poverty and illiteracy.

TRAINING

Following the Partners for Possibility leadership development, we continue to offer training for the principals at the schools we support. The child safeguarding training continues with school visits and workshops. Our goal is to establish a safer learning environment for our learners. School leadership teams are well prepared to manage any upcoming issues that may arise at their schools. All schools have a school safety map, incident file and are establishing vegetable gardens. We have partnered with the Legacy Foundation and looking forward to some exciting upcoming workshops.

On the 14th May, there will be a discussion on the theme, “Rise Up” in Drakensberg where issues such as these will be discussed.

- What is discrimination from your perspective?
- What community assets can help us stop discrimination?

The final workshop will be held at Michaelhouse on 13 August.

PARTNERS FOR POSSIBILITY

After two very successful rounds, next quarter we will be launching another round of Partners-for-Possibility. Partners for Possibility is a flagship programme offered by non-profit organization, Citizen Leader Lab. It is an internationally recognized, multi award-winning leadership development initiative with a difference. Through Mildands1 and Midlands2 rounds, we have seen improvements by capacitating school principals from under-resourced schools and enhancing their leadership skills through partnerships with business leaders. Before the official launch, there will be a community building event on 21 July 2022 for those who have been on the journey and for those who wish to join the journey. Please email cpt@michaelhouse.org if you require any further information.

EDUCATION

EDUHELPERS

Eduhelpers are passionate qualified teachers or student teachers, who address two major needs within our community. They provide access to quality education and the provision of teacher training, as well as improving unemployment and assisting in providing young teachers with a meaningful and fulfilling purpose to teach those in need. Our goal is to partner with our community for effective education and augment teaching capacity to provide meaningful learning and improve literacy and numeric skills. The

Edu-helpers are the key role players in this endeavor.

Twenty three Edu-helpers are working in 11 schools. The feedback remains positive regarding the role that the Edu-helpers play in the schools. The study fees for a few select Edu-helpers have been paid where required.

We asked the Edu-helpers what they had achieved through the Edu-helper program in the last three months- their answers were as follows:

“ I have been able to ascertain my position in the school and find a place and purpose with my teaching.

“ I have been happy to just improving every day, becoming a better person and a teacher to my learners.

“ I achieved level 7 in my subject (ns. Tech).

“ My biggest achievement in the past 3 months has been helping the children to be confident, especially when speaking and writing in English. I have gained confidence in myself and my ability to teach and no longer living in fear that I cannot do this well.

“ I have got better at preparing assessments, conducting assessments, identifying my weakness and strengths after looking through the learners’ work.

“ I obtaining my post graduate diploma in inclusive education

“ I have successfully prepared and completed my own projects. I have become more involved in sporting events and learnt to coach netball.

“ My biggest achievement is that, in this term I managed to capture all marks in a short period of time and managed make exams and tests on time even though we had a problem with our photocopiers. I have learnt to manage my time better and work through problems better.

“ I have learnt more about how robotics work

“ I have managed to maintain a good pass rate amongst my learners.

“ I have the opportunity to always wake up and go to work and work as an admin clerk. I always learn something new each day



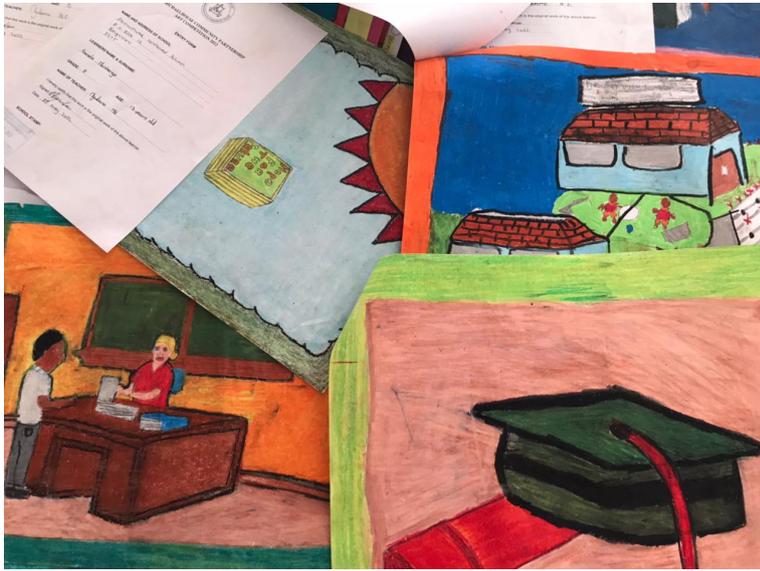
David Allan addressing the Eduhelpers

In May our Edu-helpers had the pleasure of attending a session that was led by David Allen - Professional Speaker & Author. David’s session focused on Body Language and Leadership. It was a fun and informative session, as many of the Edu-helpers hold a variety of roles at their schools. Independent reviews of all Edu-helpers are under way by Dr. Sandy Stewart. She will be reviewing their workload and capabilities. Our goal remains to enroll 30 Edu-helpers across our partnership schools. Our partner schools support the Edu-helpers and we offer a hand up, and not a handout, as the Edu-helpers are gaining skills, that can assist them to move on to full time employment.

ART AND CHOIR COMPETITION

The annual art and choir competition was launched in March with the theme “Hope for the Future”. The art works are varied and beautiful. They are being judged and the winners will be announced and prizes awarded in August. The top art entries will be included in an Art exhibition at Michaelhouse later in the year. A teachers’ art workshop was held on 18 May at the Art department and was well supported. In May we had an Art workshop with teachers from our partner schools. They spent the afternoon with Mrs Jenny Clinton - Parker Michaelhouse HOD of Visual Arts. The teachers learnt about different colour combinations and were given the opportunity to explore different colour blends. It was a fun and very informative session that was enjoyed by all.





A selection of Art pieces from learners

MICHAELHOUSES' CULTURE WEEK

In the last week of second term, the two winning choirs from the 2021 CPT Choir Competition performed as part of Culture Week at Michaelhouse.

Thank you to Hlanganani Primary school and Dabulamanzi Secondary School for their outstanding performances. We look forward to their participation in this year's competition in August.

LITERACY: READING FOR MEANING

In South Africa, 78% of Grade 4 Learners Cannot Read for Meaning. Literacy interventions are a vital part of the educational foundation. We continued with the DG Murray Trust Reading for Meaning project that continued from 2021. The project reached over 200 Grade 6 learners. The majority of the learner's confidence has improved, and they have a few sessions left before their assessments. A special thank you to the Reader Leaders who led the 30 sessions with their group of learners. The majority of the results showed improvement and we are exploring how we can continue to support literacy in the foundation phase in the future.



Reader Leaders handing over their Reading for Meaning certificates

HEALTH

ST RAPHAEL'S

Report from Dr Kendon

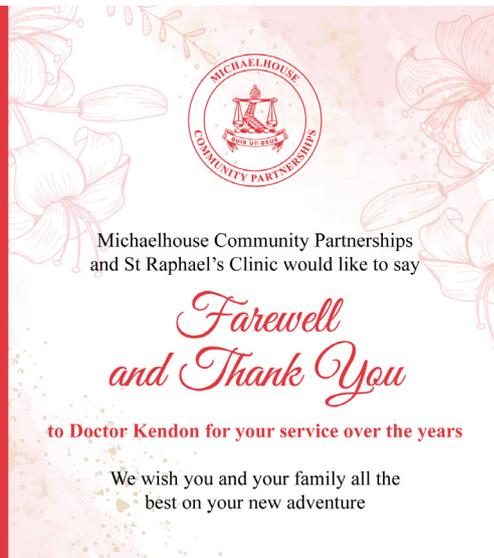
The St Raphael's staff have been as busy as ever this quarter. We have stuck to our mandate of house visits and running clinics in underprivileged areas.

36 home visits were done, with 36 blood pressures and 9 blood sugars recorded. In addition 2 pensioners clinics, 1 staff clinic, 1 farm, 1 factory and 1 organizational clinic were done. We were able to offer Pap smears with the help of Balgowan Primary Health Clinic at the staff clinic which was very well received and contributed to the wellness week programme at Michaelhouse.

A total of 63 patients were seen at these clinics. 9 patients were

referred to the doctor at Balgowan clinic, 2 were referred to the physiotherapist that consults at Balgowan clinic. The care givers also transported 35 patients to the clinic and collected and delivered medication to 35 patients and booked the planned patient transport to the Pietermaritzburg complex of hospitals for 16 patients. The community care givers also followed up to patients for Balgowan clinic in their homes. The partnership between the Balgowan Clinic and St Raphael's is working well with each organization helping the other and supporting each other.

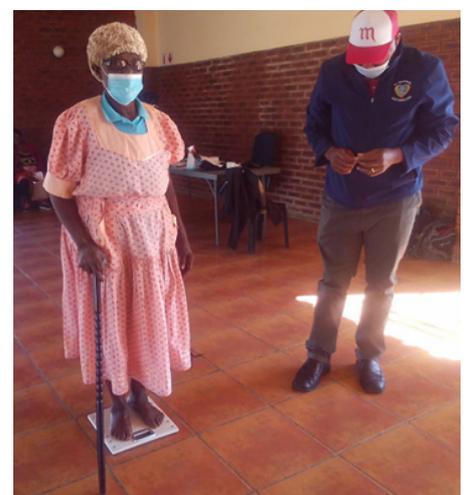
Unfortunately, I will be leaving St Raphael's at the end of this quarter. I have loved my time with St Raphael's learning from the care givers and the community and providing care for them. I feel confident that Dr Sam Lindsay will continue to guide the care givers and support the community in accordance with St Raphael's mission.



Clinic at Zenzani Village where a visiting student from Kenya joined us.



Addressing the patients before the clinic at Lidgetton Hall



Weighing a patient

COMBINED MUSICAL

Audrey Mbuyazi, in collaboration with The Schlesinger Theatre, Michaelhouse and Shea O'Connor, presented "The Signs" in April. "The Signs" was the first of its kind musical in the midlands, with script, music, direction, and choreography by the multi-talented and award-winning Gospel singer Audrey Mbuyazi. This Hip-hop Gospel Musical will have your feet tapping and your soul rejoicing! "The Signs" is the story of Jesus, as told by the devil. If you were unable to watch it live, please view it online here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VMyKg2sv-W4>

The show was sold out for its final performance! Over 200 learners were able to enjoy a Theatre experience for the first time. Some feedback from those who attended.

“

Wow! Wasn't that worthwhile and what a VIBE. How we all enjoyed it. It was also a first class Community Partnership project.

“

I am still completely overwhelmed by the experience of last evening's show. I have so many emotions about it ranging from absolute joy and delight to anger at the inequality that makes a school show (brilliant school show!) an act of social justice. All I can say is THANK YOU for your huge part in enabling one of the most powerful and beautiful (theatre) experiences we have ever had. It was incredible! Let's do more work that humanizes, ignites, dignifies and always functions to close the gap.



A scene from The Signs rehearsal at Shea O'Connor

EXTRA PROJECTS

ASITHUTHUKE COMBINED SCHOOL

Stuart Pennington has been fundraising and working closely with the school to support them in improving their marks. A weekly boarding facility has been under construction and is nearly completed, ready to accept first group of Grade 12 learner on the 19th of July 2022. The accommodation will allow learners to sleep over during the week so they can attend extra afternoon classes while saving on time and transport costs.



Progress of the building at the school

MAINTENANCE UPDATE

Many of the schools require urgent repairs and maintenance support with regards to infrastructure. Trafalgar's maintenance team has spent two weeks in the KZN Midlands assisting with maintenance.

They have been fixing doors and windows as well as attaching



wall heaters which has been an important winter focus.

Michaelhouse intern Banele Madoda Mlangeni has hosted two Saturday workshops for the life sciences Grade 12 of Dabulamanzi Combined School as their teacher has not been replaced during her maternity leave.



MICHAELHOUSES' NATURE RESERVE

The Shea O' Connor Environmental club learners visited the reserve in May lead by Mlibo Tyala. Mlibo has started an outdoor educational program consisting of an outdoor educational lesson of the Grassland region. The focus is on an in-depth identification of the most common alien invasive species and how to get rid of them, also tapping into the reason why we should not poach and why we protect the endemic species on our reserve. We look forward to coordinating future events with more schools.

BEANIE DONATION

In early winter the Grade R -2 learners from Hlanganani Primary School were given hand knitted beanies which were made by Imbizo Knitting managed by Gratitude Mlotshwa from Lidgeton. Each beanie is unique with Safety reflective tape knitted into each one. As winter is approaching the learners will be able to wear the beanies, making them more visible if they are walking near roads.

WAYS TO GET INVOLVED:

1. Join MySchool AND SchoolDays
2. Donate via EFT or Zapper
3. Partner with us on a project



BANKING DETAILS:

Standard Bank
Branch: Pietermaritzburg
Branch no: 05 75 25
Account no: 05 22 86 525

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MOOIRIVER TRUCK STOP



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