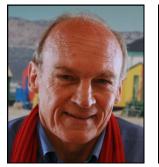


together for women and children at risk

# **Annual Review**

March 2009 - February 201

## **Network Steering Group 2009**



Jurie Serfontein

**HR** Director



Erica Pippert Member Representative



Kenny Groenewald Member Representative



Jenny Patchett Accountant



Peter Williams Fundraising Director



Ps Colin Van Wyk Chairman Member Representative



Dee Moskoff Director



Maryanne Sangster Administrator



Ruth Droomer Office assistant



Justine Demmer Champions for Children Project Manager



Norma Trautmann Equipped to Serve Master trainer



Linda Walters Women at Risk Co-ordinator



Nadia Rinquest Youth at Risk Co-ordinator



Ricci Marshall Children at Risk Co-ordinator

# **CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT**



Firstly, I want to congratulate the Steering Group and the staff as well as all the Networking Team Members, for an outstanding job during the past year. Without the effort of these individuals, we would not have achieved our goals.

Many Non-Profit Organizations were really hit recently by the tough times of recession. Due to a lack of finance and resources, many had to down-size and others even had to close completely.

Connect Network were not exempt from the challenges of the recession. One of the greatest blessings was to observe how the Steering Group prayed and trusted God completely, to provide the necessary finances and resources. God came through every time. God is so good.

Connect Network is committed to serve and make a difference, in the five biggest issues facing women and children in our community. These issues are:-

- Orphans and Vulnerable Children
- Sexual Exploitation
- Limited Education
- Crisis Pregnancy
- Violence

Connect Network has established a very good reputation as a serious player in the protection and advancement of women and children.

We also wish to express our sincere appreciation to all the members of the Network. Connect Network exist for its members. We consider all the networking members valuable and will continue to seek creative ways to develop and support our members.

#### Governance and Finance

Connect Network has always prided itself as an organization of good governance. Our structures and organisation are of a very high standard. The quality of decision making is also very sound. Much deliberation and debate precede decisions. Competence and accountability are hallmarks of our Steering Group.

Financial Management and accountability ensure the integrity of our organization, we have statements to prove sound fiscal discipline. Funds received are always allocated to the intended purpose or project.

The next year will be testing as the demands on the Network will continue to increase. The same God that carried us during the last year will carry us again. May we continue to trust in God's ability and faithfulness to provide and sustain us.

Lastly, I hereby want to thank Dee Moskoff for her unselfish commitment and sacrifices. She is leading the team in an exemplary manner.

Yours in the Masters service Colin van Wyk



# A NOTE FROM THE U.S CONSUL GENERAL

The U.S. Consulate in Cape Town applauds and appreciates the work of Connect Network. As we support more than 35 Community Grant organizations in communities throughout the Northern, Eastern and Western Cape Provinces, the services, direction and guidance that your organisation provides to such projects is invaluable. We commend the founders and the staff for dedicating their time, talents, and energies to build the civil, non-government, and faith-based organisations in this area.

With the number of orphans and vulnerable children at a critical mass in South Africa, the work of NGOs and faith-based organisations is essential. Connect Network raises the overall service competencies of these groups in several meaningful ways. The most meaningful of all, believe, is the bringing together of like-minded, dedicated individuals and groups who have a similar interest in Connect Network follows three principals that we adhere to when working with our PEPFAR grantees and our Community Grants projects. They are:

- Cooperation working together for the greater good gets more done for more children
- Collaboration sharing thoughts, ideas, and best practices adds to efficiency and productivity
- Communication speaking with and listening to people with similar a purpose gives that positive boost of confidence and stamina when it is needed most.

While networking is a primary function of this organisation, individual and project management is another highlight of Connect Network. Each project must develop managerial skills that add to its sustainability as an organisation. Developing the directors, staff and volunteers, improving budgeting and financial record keeping methodologies, and improving the program aspects of projects build stronger projects.

Based on the successful implementation of the two elements cited above, I have recommended that several of the Community Grants projects in the Western Cape consider joining Connect Network. I have also come to know some excellent project directors who are members of Connect Network. I have learned about their projects' efforts, and recommended that they seek PEPFAR or small grants funding through the Consulate. We commend Connect Network and wish this organisation and its leadership continued success and a lasting impact.

Respectfully, Alberta G.J. Mayberry Consul General U.S. Consulate Cape Town, South Africa

# **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**



It is my hope that the stories, provided in this review (as well as the facts and figures) will give you some insight into the life of the Connect Network community, where individuals and organisations collaborate at many levels to make a difference in the lives of women and children at risk in greater Cape Town.

Each actively participating member plays a vital role in the Network's success, whether working directly with women and children at risk or providing essential services 'behind the scenes'.

Dee Moskoff Director

Reflecting on 2009 we continued to see the combined efforts of Connect Network members making important inroads into the plight of women and children at risk, by continuing to build strong working relationships between members, stakeholders, and those being served.

We also developed an effective virtual presence via our website and online database. The Network hit the news during the Child protection week, with one newspaper article receiving a notable response - see middle page of this report.

Preparation and planning to keep children safe during the 2010 soccer world cup was high on the agenda. Up to 150 children benefited from Connect SuperCamps and more than 500 benefited from the Kayamandi Network Superclubs.

Through our ongoing collaboration with Viva, our (often 'invisible') members are now linked to 150 other networks around the alobe, thereby attracting the growing interest of some the world's largest charities.

During our strategic planning Indaba in November, the Connect staff and Steering Group agreed that compassion and a desire to help women and children is simply not enough. To be truly effective we need to improve what we do and how we do it. Notwithstanding our funding constraints, it was agreed to redirect the energies of current staff by concentrating on Quality Improvement (QIS) training as our primary activity. If we want to make a difference in the lives of women and children at risk then we need properly trained staff, well structured leadership, sound long-term planning and financial and organisational accountability.

While delivering Project Planning and Design training as Part of Viva's Quality Improvement System, we realised the need to do some planning around our own fundraising in order to continue delivering quality service and trainings to our members at low cost. We welcomed Jane Bodin and Peggy Chishimba as part of a fund development team.

It is indeed an honour and a privilege serving among such a passionate community of people.

I salute you all!

# Together addressing the issue of Orphans and Vulnerable Children



**Focus Groups:** Organisations in the network are forming a focus group to start addressing their common issues, and actioning collaborative solutions. Together they are hoping to stretch those valuable resources further.

**Quality Improvement:** 22 of the projects have participated in the 'Child Protection' module of the Quality Improvement Systems (QIS) programme and have subsequently been working on their Child Protection policies and put measures in place to protect the children in their care.

**SuperCamps and SuperClubs:** A collaboration of Scripture Union, UCSA, and SCAS developed the SuperCamp and SuperClub camping programme to expose children served by the network members to new experiences and develop new lifeskills. In 2009, 200 children attended residential camps and 500 children benefitted from the day camp programme in the Kayamandi Township, which aimed to keep children safe during the school holidays.



Story of Success: This story of one tweyear old little girl on SuperCamps broke our hearts: ~

"She has full blown AIDS with sores all over her face, she does not know her birthday, she has no mommy and never met her dad. She lives with her old granny and has never been out of the township where she lives. The group leader used the opportunity to explain HIV to the whole group; what it is, how you get it and how we need to support each other. She arrived at camp with nothing but a little "evening" dress on and no shoes, and no other clothes for the week. The leaders went shopping and kitted her out with an entire new wardrobe. She told us she wishes she could be on camp forever because this has been the happiest place she has ever been in her whole life."

#### Did You Know?

"The magnitude of orphans due to HIV/AIDS is so large that an institutional response besides not being in the best interests of the child - will never be the answer. Orphanages for more than 14 million orphans simply cannot be built and sustained." (UNAIDS, The Framework, 2004)

The Western Cape has one of the lowest infection rates among the nine provinces. For a long time it was lagging 5 to 6 years behind the average, but sadly this has changed over the past few years. Some communities are now recording infection rates of 19% (Heidelberg and Stellenbosch), 27% (Khayelitsha) and 28% (Nyanga and Gugulethu). The trends indicate that by 2010 we will have 44 000 orphans in the Western Cape. (careforkids.org.za)

Churches offer an extensive, viable and well organised network both locally and nationally to care for orphans, however, they are limited in the required skills and resources.

Foster Care, Medical Care, Home Based Care, Food Parcels, Child Sponsorships, SuperCamps, Play Therapy, Street Children programmes, Care for Children with Disabilities

Collaborating, Improving Quality, Changing Lives

# To- gether addressing the issue of Limited Education



**Early Childhood Development Focus Group:** Established in 2009 and made up of 3 township ECD networks, the purpose is primarily on equipping pre-school careers. As a result, Deborah Gregory went to Zimbabwe to become equipped to be a trainer in Viva's 'Let Your Light Shine' training.

Let Your Light Shine: This is a training for those working with children infected and affected by HIV/AIDS.

"I used the DVDs with my staff during our end of year training to instigate discussion on how our school response to HIV could be developed. This was very successful and watching the 2 presentations really made my staff open up and share their heart for children in our community, resulting in a renewed interest in our school HIV support group and more support for the teacher running it."

"We have used some of the community sections as part of parent training and support so far this year and this has led on to us inviting a local HIV trainer to hold open parent sessions where she has answered parent's questions and provided practical support and information in the wider area of HIV and AIDS."

We have planned a specific' Let Your Light Shine taster day' for September 2010 as part of a year long Connect training programme. This follows on from a Child Friendly Church conference and the QIS Child Protection training.

**Resources:** 'Champions for Children' managed the distribution of 20 educational toy boxes to the pre-schools that take part in Sikhule Sonke's teacher training programmes. These edu-toy boxes were awarded to deserving schools at Sikhula Sonke's 2008 Graduation Celebration. They work with 40 pre-schools. The selection criteria included schools with no equipment at all but a dedicated teacher, as well as the schools showing the most improvement in teaching. These edu-toy boxes will assist more than 400 preschool children every year in the most progressive way.

**Story of Success:** "We have started with a school for disabled children in the community. One of our children, aged nine years old, cannot walk and his father carried him every where. He is a beautiful child and is so happy to have a wheel chair. Thanks to Connect Network "Agape Family Ministries—Grabouw

Early Childhood Development Training, Nursery Schools, Crèches, Day-care, Primary School, High School Peer Education, Adult Basic Education, Skills Training, Job Placements Resourcing, Collaborating, Training

#### Did You Know?

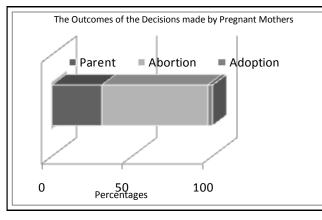
The Cape Times (Aug 11 09) said that shocking new test results show that most first-year students at universities across the country do not have the literacy skills, and only a tiny proportion have the mathematical skills, required in higher education.

These children need support, and encouragement to be able to create a viable future for themselves. This support is not found at home for most children at risk, and they rely heavily on the social projects in their communities for that support.

# Together addressing the issue of Crisis Pregnancy



#### Connect Members Crisis Pregnancy Statistics 2009 –2010



The crisis pregnancy organisations within the network are doing outstanding work and have built up good working relationships with all the clinics and even the abortion clinics in their areas. They run crisis pregnancy training called "Equipped to Serve" that the Network highly recommends for anyone working with people in crisis.

Story of Success: A Biological mom came to a Connect Network members Pregnancy Counselling centre when she realized that she was 36 weeks pregnant, she was very distraught. It was impossible for her to keep the baby because of very strenuous personal circumstances. At the centre she found comfort and a place to find a possible way forward, and so through counselling she came to choose adoption. However, after a scan the pregnant mother was told that her baby had no legs and they thought she had Robertson's Syndrome, leaving her with very little chance of living. A caesarean section was scheduled, but there were complications when the mom bled excessively, and there was no life support machine at the birth as the doctors expected baby Chloe<sup>\*</sup> to die. Thankfully some children just have to much life in them to die and baby Chloe is one of these. She was born ALIVE and beautiful that day, but with no legs. Chloe went to stay with one of the kangamoms (a network of moms who foster newborn children until they are released for adoption), she stayed there for seven months while the pregnancy centre and adoption agency put out their feelers, faith and hope for miracle parents for Chloe. As it happened a family from an overseas country came upon Chloe's profile and fell in love with her. She is alive and well and thriving in a "forever family." (Story used with permission of adoptive parents ~ \* name changed)

#### Did You Know?

Crisis pregnancy in South Africa affects women of all childbearing ages and is due to poverty, HIV/AIDS, high rape prevalence and because birth control is culturally shunned.

Many of these women turn to abortion, abandonment or abuse of their child due to the pressure that the child puts on their already difficult life circumstances.

The most salient social consequences of teenage pregnancy include: school drop-out or interrupted education; vulnerability to or participation in criminal activity; abortion; social ostracism; child neglect and abandonment; school adjustment difficulties for their children; rape, abuse, and incest; adoption; lack of social security; poverty; repeated pregnancies before age 20; and negative effects on "domestic life."

Advocacy and Lobbying , Crisis Pregnancy Counselling, Prevention Programmes in Schools, Homes for Pregnant Girls and Women, Short term Foster Care (Kangamoms), Adoption

Referring, Training, Advocating, Impacting

# Together addressing issue of Violence



Women's Shelters: Seven members working with women's shelters came together regularly to share resources and exchange best practice. As a result of this all women's shelters have had skills training in basic jewellery making, including small business development and marketing of their wares, this empowering abused women in their care towards independence. Members worked together on delivering counselling services to two new needy communities.

**Women in Prison**: Site visits to Hope Prison Ministries, introduced Connect to the issues facing members working with women in prison. Needs such as staff capacity and counselling training were identified as key. Youth awaiting trial were referred to homes in the network after their release from prison.

**Equipped to Serve Training:** is aimed at people working with people in crisis, seven Connect Network member organisations put 17 of their staff through the Equipped to Serve Training during August. Connect Network also equipped and trained two new trainers. Our dream is to develop and train Xhosa speaking trainers.

**Story of Success:** The police found a little girl wandering alone on Salt River station. She was taken to a place of safety and after six months Social Services found her mother who joined Village Care Centres family reunification programme which was improved as a result of Connects Child protection training, mom and daughter are sheltered from the dangers of a violent society, in a place where staff and volunteers are equipped and able to care for them sufficiently.

#### Did You Know?

Violence in South Africa takes on many forms: domestic, criminal and sexual violence; and among the youth there is a high level of gang violence. This can occur in their neighbourhoods, homes and in schools.

As many as 60% of youth who graduate from school in South Africa cannot find jobs, and gangsterism is one of only a few life choices left to them.

A local government study which assessed 80 indicators from each of 52 metropolitan and district municipalities. Western Cape municipalities also recorded a high murder rate with a low poverty rate of 27.5 percent. Poverty rates varied across municipalities, nationally and within provinces.

Restorative Justice in Prisons, Police Support, Shelters for Abused Women & Children, Life-Skills & Prevention Programmes in Schools, Post Prison & Gangster Restorative Programmes, Social Welfare Services

Collaborating, Training, Synergising, Referring

# Together addressing the issue of Sexual Exploitation



Focus Group: An alliance was formed in 2009 between Justice Acts, Straatwerk, World Hope, La Bri D'Dieu Safe House, Matla a Bana, Interoutreach Ministries and Stellenbosch Municipality to combat Human Trafficking in South Africa. They call themselves STOP trafficking of People. Some members who attended Connect's Quality Improvement System, Project Plan and Design module were able to put together a two year plan to combat human trafficking. As a result:

- STOP produced national media and awareness campaians, which were successfully viewed on television and at big events, raising awareness among 1000's of South Africans.
- Members were challenged to start planning holiday safety clubs for children during the 2010 world cup period.
- World Hope's FAAST Training trained members in caring and counselling trafficked victims.

Valuable to Jesus Campaign: 15 Connect Network members implemented Straatwerks campaign which empowers children to understand sexual abuse and know how to report it, using knitted dolls to convey the message that:

- $\Rightarrow$ You are lovingly handmade by the Almighty God of the universe (the little dolls are handmade with love).
- There is no-one like you (every doll is unique—not one is the same as the other)  $\Rightarrow$
- You are extremely valuable-no  $\Rightarrow$ money can pay for you (the dolls are not for sale)
- God wants to keep you safe in the  $\Rightarrow$ palm of His hand. (the dolls fit in the palm of your hand)

Story of Success: One little girl told her grandpa that he must stop touching her he way he does her because she will have to

100 000 people could be trafficked into country for 2010

the Trafficking of People to reduce human trafficking.

like the World Cup created the transportation and sale of

Linde said the World Cup would attract about 400 000 peo- for safety and security J P ple to the country. The safety of Smith said the prevention of children, on school holidays for human trafficking formed part five weeks during the World of the city's crackdown on

Human trafficking included programmes were being tution or domestic labour. Men were likely to be left alone at

> Mayoral committee member anel.lewis@inl.co.za

Did You Know?

Girls are kidnapped in broad daylight at schools, shopping malls and taxi ranks. They are frequently gang-raped, forced into prostitution and drug abuse. It is not easy to escape, as they are beaten and held captive. Sometimes the girls even get killed.

After the girls have been recruited, they are often persuaded to invite their sisters and friends into prostitution. It happens that communities know of child prostitution, but justify it as a "necessary evil".

( Information taken from findings reported by Molo Songololo)

STOP Trafficking of People in 2010 Campaign, Police Support for Child Protection Units, Comfort Packs, Valuable to Jesus Campaign, Legal Support, Ministry to Prostitutes, Counselling Centres, Safe Houses/Foster Care, Advocacy

## Mobilising, Advocating, Educating, Preventing



This week is Child Protection Week, seven days set aside to promote a culture of respect for childrens' rights in South Africa. How effective are campaigns such as this, though? Do they make a difference?

If Child Protection Week causes us to stop and examine the issues surrounding the vulnerability of children in our country, then it has limited value. But if it stirs us to move beyond shock and despair and motivates us to take action, it is worth every second of air time and centimetre of newsprint that the media will allow. Because if we manage to get it right and live up to our collective responsibility to provide for and protect our children, South Africa has a bright and promising future.

When promoting the cause of children in South Africa, we have to audit ourselves. And in doing so we cannot but face the fact that as a nation, we're failing to protect our children from abuse, neglect and extreme poverty.

- A child is assaulted every 15 minutes and raped every half an hour in South Africa;
- The number of orphans is increasing at an unprecedented rate, by approximately 250, 000 a year (77% AIDS related);
- 66% of children in South Africa live in poor households;
- Roughly one quarter of children in South Africa have access to registered early childhood development facilities;

## Cape Times May 2009

#### Connect Network Protecting Cape Town's Children

More than 75% of children in South Africa are without the stimulation necessary for mental, physical and social development.

Clearly, a progressive Constitution and comprehensive legal framework is not enough to protect children nor meet their most basic needs.

Unless we have a culture of compassion, a culture of respect for human rights and the capacity to implement the law, our children will continue to suffer from abuse and neglect.

The brokenness endemic in our society will be carried from this generation to the next.

Only by healing the brokenness can we stop the abuse. But how?

A great deal of good work is being done in the NGO sector to protect and support children in need, and these organisations could use all the help the public can offer.

Apart from resourcing and supporting these great organisations, there are other practical things that concerned citizens - particularly teachers and parents - can do:

- You can be informed and vigilant in your spheres of influence - within your families, social circles, schools, churches and communities.
- You can empower your children to know what abuse is and to say no; and you can insist that schools adopt and implement a child protection policy.

## NGO's such as Connect Network can help you do this.

To raise awareness of the prevalence of child abuse in our country, Connect Network, Friends of Child Protection and Matla A Bana invite all South Africans to join in the Go Green for Our Children campaign.

The campaign calls for concerned citizens to show their support by wearing a green ribbon or hosting a prayer service or a service of blessing and hope for abused children.

It is based on the Blue Ribbon Campaign which originated in Virginia, USA, after grandmother Bonnie Finney tied a blue ribbon around her car aerial in remembrance of her three year old grandson who was beaten to death by his mother's boyfriend. The colour blue represents the bruises on the bodies of battered children.

Finney's gesture captured the attention of her community before spreading throughout her state and eventually inspiring a nationwide movement made up of citizens committed to fighting for the protection of children.

Protecting children is the responsibility of all citizens. Our communities could be safe places for children if adults were looking out for the wellbeing of children. We all have a role to play in the safety net of care for the children of our country.

# go green Ma for our children

Seven local churches across Cape Town were mobilised to pray for Children at Risk on 31 May 2009





## **Connect Network Community March 2009-February 2010**

Together serving more than 80 000 Women and Children at Risk

**ACVV** Bright Lights ACVV Adaliah Care Aids Resource Centre Anointed Ministries **Baby Safe** Beauty for Ashes **Bell Valley Initiative** Breakthrough Adventures Bridges of Hope Carehaven Salvation Army Choices **Common Good Foundation** Community in Action Ethel's Place Family Outreach Ministries Faure Care Fikelela Aids Project Friends of Child Protection Gemeenskaps Ontwikkeling Helderberg Development Centre Home from Home Trust Hope Prison Ministries Inter Outreach Ministries Ithemba Labantu Izandla 7ethemba Jabulani Legacy Community Development Lerato's Hope

Lighthouse Ministries Little Angels Mater Domini Matla-A-Bana Metro Evangelical Services Nadezda Job Centre Nceduluntu Sanctuary Trust New Life Rescue Mission Options Place of Hope Pneumatix Procare Rainbow of Hope Rape Crisis **Rock Crisis Centre** SA Cares for Life Saints in Christ Church Seasons Senecio SHARF Siphosenkosi Sisters Incorporated Soul Action South Africa South End Community Centre St Anne's Homes The Child Witness Centre The Kina's Smile Thembalitsha Foundation Ukuthasa

Connect members in Quality Improvement process Beautiful Gate Ministry **Beautiful Gate International** Bethesda Church Care for Kids: The Warehouse Emyezweni School Immanuels' Haven L'A Brie De Dieu Safe House Living Hope Community Centre Metro Kids New Day Philippi Trust Pregnancy Help Centre Prochorus Sarfat SCAS Scripture Union Sikhule Sonke Straatwerk Tereo Mission School Think Twice Tzadokah Home UCSA Umnqophiso Village Care Centre 360 Transformation

# **CONTACT DETAILS**

## Address:

First Floor Alexandra Building 147 Main Road Somerset West 7130

## **Postal Address:**

PO Box 1005 Somerset West 7130 South Africa

## Telephone: 021 852 9900

Fax: 021 852 9900

Email: info@connect-sa.net

Website: www.connectnetwork.org.za

### **Connect Registration Numbers:**

NPO 40-987 PBO 930017425' Section 21 2006/012058/08

## **Operational Bank Accounts:**

Account Name: Connect Account Number: 1060 191 113 Nedbank, Somerset West Branch Code: 106012 Swift Code: Nedszajj

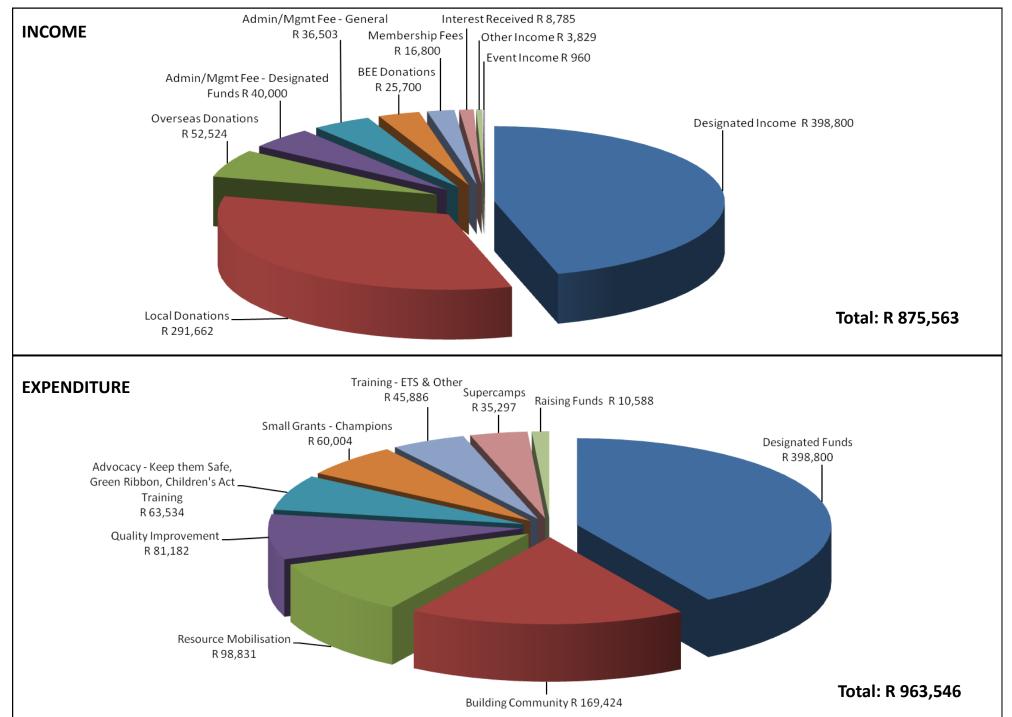
## Fund Bank Account:

Account Name: Connect Network Account Number: 1060 201 623 Nedbank, Somerset West Branch Code: 106012 Swift Code: Nedszajj



## **FINANCIAL REVIEW**

## Financial year March 2009— to February 2010





## **Friends of Connect Network**

#### Donors

#### Sponsors

Adri Punt Boston Laundry Cebano Champtex Coirtex Colgate Corli Opperman ECHO Imibala Iquad Forma Jean Rossouw Kids4kids—Christmas gifts for children Le-Rie Basson Lone Wolf Designs Mrs Honey bun-Wheelchairs Mr. Price Home Pragma Holdings Shane Hoffman Strand Signs **Top Carpets** Volunteers Westin Grand

Baratz Fishing (Pty) Ltd Children's Campaign Trust Des & Pat Leatt Forma Garnet and Virginia De La Hunt Global Kinetic Software Engineers (Pty) Ltd GP Koning (Pty) Ltd Greenwood's Chartered Accountants HT Gormley Trust Ivan Moskoff Financials Jennifer Lopes Marais Muller Yekiso Nutwood Forest pre school Stowe Holdings South Coast Sea Products (Pty) Ltd St Amands college SuperCamps UK Viva

#### **Champions Donors**

Housley Bequest Distance for Difference Mustard Seed Foundation





Thank you for your generous contribution in growing Connect Network