

the butterfly press

NOVALIS HOUSE

DECEMBER 2016

Dear Parents, Guardians, Family Members and Friends,

Welcome to our newsletter for the year 2016. Please enjoy reading our news!

GENERAL WORKSHOP NEWS:

The workshop has been very busy throughout the year, with everyone giving their best efforts to meet the deadlines on our contracts. We have been blessed enough to have a steady supply of work this year to keep all our beneficiaries stimulated and busy. Under the expert guidance of Sina and the workshop supervisors, we are happy to report that this year has been a success and we have fulfilled all our deadlines regarding our contracts for Calibre Plastics, Kia and Hyundai Motors, Plastpro Scientific, Davies Diagnostics, Premier Housewares, African Sales and other smaller contracts.

We would like to say a huge thank you for their ongoing support in supplying us with work!

To all the workshop employees and diligent workers, who have continued to give their best efforts on a daily basis, we thank you all for your hard work throughout the year. The workshop will open next year on the 4th of January 2017.

We hope that everyone will enjoy a well-deserved break and a safe festive season after the busy year!

BLUE HILLS RESIDENCE

The Blue Hills Residence continues to run successfully and is being steadily improved and upgraded. One of the improvements was the renovation of an old store room, which was rebuilt to provide a temporary workshop.



Building started on the amphitheatre, which is an NLDTF funded project, under the Arts Sector. The funding for this project was received in 2013, but due to planning permission from the City Council being delayed, the project could only be started in August 2016.

Sincere thanks to Johan van Staden, a long-time friend of Novalis, who has overseen both these projects!



Further projects will continue next year, as the drawings for the new buildings, which include a recreational centre and workshop, are at council awaiting approval.

Special thanks to Warren Green and Facet Architecture for their assistance with our building plans and council submissions.

New Laundry

We sincerely thank Paul Thompson and Puleng Technologies for the incredible efforts in raising the funds for our new laundry which was installed on the 5th December. We thank everyone who so generously donated towards this project. We also thank Gregg Macfarlane and Lead Laundries for their generous discount on the laundry equipment, and their professional installation and training.

Charity Shop

As we continue to receive many household items and clothing, a charity shop has been started on a very small scale, using an existing container. We hope to expand this project in the New Year to provide an income generating opportunity in which our beneficiaries can participate in work activities and which will bring in much needed additional income for Novalis. Please think of us when clearing out, we would love to receive your items.

SPECIAL EVENTS:

Some of the Special Events attended included:

SPECIAL OLYMPICS SPORTS DAYS:

Special Olympics sports events took place throughout the year. The teams enjoyed playing soccer, volleyball and bocce. The Novalis Bocce Ball Team were placed 7th overall and all involved received medals and certificates.

MANDELA DAY:

Our Blue Hills residents were invited to Novartis Pharmaceutical Company on Mandela Day, where they enjoyed a lovely tea that was served to them, whilst interacting with the Novartis staff.

MONTE CASINO BIRD GARDENS: All our beneficiaries took part in an outing to the Bird Gardens at Monte Casino earlier this year, which was sponsored by Glenda Rodd. They enjoyed a guided tour of the gardens, interacting with various species of birds and finally a bird show. Everyone had a great time, and even got to see some other animals that are housed at the bird gardens such as snakes, lemurs, turtles and monkeys.



AGM - 27 AUGUST 2016:

We hosted our annual AGM on Saturday the 27th of August at Linden workshop.

Thank you to everyone who attended and who so generously contributed to the eats which were much enjoyed. If you weren't able to attend, the Manager's report is available on the website - www.novalishouse.org.

DISABILITY GAMES and EISTEDDFOD - 10 NOVEMBER and 17 NOVEMBER:

During Disability Month (3rd November - 3rd December 2016), we were invited to participate in the Regional Disability Games in Ivory Park, as well as the Provincial Disability Eisteddfod in Krugersdorp. The Department of Social Development organised both events and ensured that all who attended were fetched, fed, and dropped off afterwards. The Regional Games featured a variety of games such as Soccer, Bocce Ball, Netball, Hula Hooping, Hop Scotch, Sack Races and many more. Our beneficiaries enjoyed participating in all the games, but flourished especially at Bocce Ball, with many of them competing and winning against other organisations.



The Novalis Choir also participated in the Disability Eisteddfod at Krugersdorp City Hall on the 17th of November. Beneficiaries from all organisations in Gauteng had the opportunity to showcase their talents in front of an audience of their peers. Our Choir consisted of 14 members, all of which enjoyed the event thoroughly and sang beautifully. Our Choir members were awarded medals during a special assembly at the Linden Workshop.



HORSERIDING AT SHUMBA SHABA

7 of our residents have enjoyed horse riding on a fortnightly basis throughout the year at Shumba Shaba in Midrand. They really enjoy this and look forward to their lessons every 2nd Wednesday. We hope to see more of our beneficiaries participating in this fun filled activity, which also gives them an opportunity to interact with animals.



CHRISTMAS PARTY AT BLUE HILLS

Our Christmas Party was on the 9th of December 2016. It was an enjoyable day filled with games, fun and dancing. Thank you to all the families who attended the Christmas Party with us, we trust you enjoyed it as much as we did.

Once again, a big thank you to Midrand Lions Club for always providing a delicious braai and lunch, we really appreciate all you do for us during the year. Thank you also to Charles Ferreira for the delicious fruit salads and boxes of fruit and vegetables donated for the day!

Another thank you to Paul Thompson who donated lovely gifts for all our beneficiaries!



THANK YOU'S

CHRISTMAS CAKE RAFFLE

We say a **HUGE THANK YOU** to **Marion Rodd** who baked and iced the beautiful Christmas cake for our raffle prize.

Another **HUGE THANK YOU** To everyone for your enthusiastic support for this fund raiser.

AN AMOUNT OF R 3400 WAS RAISED!!

A BIG CONGRATULATIONS TO THE NOLAN FAMILY WHO WON THE RAFFLE DRAW ON THE 14TH OF DECEMBER!



My Village

We thank our My Village supporters for swiping their cards when shopping at Woolworths, Altech Netstar, Flight Centre, Loot.co.za, Power24, Tafelberg Furniture, Bidvest Waltons, Engen Quick Shop. Please keep shopping and tell your family members and friends about this very easy way to raise funds! Funds raised - **April 2016 to December 2016 - R 4 565**



Volunteers

A very big "Thank you" to all our **volunteers** who continue to support us with our various projects. We sincerely appreciate all your time and efforts in assisting Novalis House with maintenance of the gardens and buildings, collection of food donations, lending a hand with work contracts, donating items and services and offering support to our beneficiaries.

We have also partnered with Art students from Wits, who come to the Linden Workshop on a weekly basis to do various creative, colourful and fun activities with our beneficiaries. We thank them for their efforts in ensuring that our beneficiaries participate in art-related activities, as well as for assisting us meet deadlines in the Workshop if need be. Please see their Facebook page for more information about their work with us: ***Novalis House Community Project***.

We also thank the Grade 8 boys from St Stithians College who come to our workshop on a weekly basis to spend time with our beneficiaries and assist with the workload. The boys also play games with our beneficiaries during their tea time

Another thank you is for Casa Do Sol School, whose programme allows for a few of their students to attend our Workshop weekly and gain work experience before their schooling career ends.

Food Donations from Woolworths Verdi Centre, Woolworths Crowthorne Shopping Centre and Carlswald SuperSpar. We say a special thank you to these stores who greatly assist us to meet our foods costs and help us to provide good quality meals.

Funders, Donors and Sponsors

We thank all our **funders, donors and sponsors** for their generous financial contributions during 2016. Your kind support enables us to continue with our work, and to achieve the goals and objectives of the organisation.

The Department of Social Development

We thank the Department for the approval of funding for three years - 2016/2017, 18, 19.

Board of Directors

We sincerely thank all our **Board Members** for their on-going commitment to our work at Novalis and for giving their valuable guidance, time and support. It is immensely appreciated!

Families

To all our **Families**, we sincerely thank you for you continued support.

The staff of Novalis would like to say a very sincere "Thank You" to everyone who contributed to the generous gifts which will be distributed during December.

We wish everyone a Blessed, Safe and Happy Festive Season, and hope that our relationship with everyone will grow stronger, as we continue on our journey in the growth, expansion and consolidation of our organization during 2017.

Management and Staff - NOVALIS HOUSE INCORPORATED

