



NEWS LETTER SPRING SUMMER 2014

AFRICA EQUIP CONTAINER FINALLY ARRIVES IN SWAZILAND

The Container shipment went fine as far as the inland port at Matsapha in Swaziland arriving last December, but then the problems started. Unfortunately there was a long delay and the container was not delivered as planned to the Choir's house. Without our authority the transport agent delivered the contents separately to the container. So tons of goods arrived at the Choir's home and were piled ceiling high and the empty container positioned on the adjacent land. As you can see from the photos this caused chaos for the Choir as they are all either totally blind or have very limited vision.



However they set to and made a human chain from their front door to the container and passed hundreds of boxes from one to another relocating them back in the container. Even then there was so much in the house the Choir contacted Project leaders to come and collect goods promised to them as soon as possible. This was a major task! We had sent the container with partitions between goods for each project but it was now completely jumbled.

DISTRIBUTION IS NOW NEARING COMPLETION

Despite the problems many Schools, Orphanages, and poverty stricken groups have benefitted from the goods distributed. These included the following items and recipients.

Books

The Evusweni Nazarene Primary school, situated in the mountainous northern part of Swaziland many kilometres from the nearest town received a white board and many books for their library/resource centre. The photos show children enjoying their new books and games.



Mlindazwe Primary School situated in the Eastern part of Swaziland is a community school run by parents. They do not have a proper library but receiving the books from Africa Equip motivated the Principal to set up a mobile library that can be moved from class to class as required. Learners from the lower grades were excited to play with bubbles and to use coloured pens to draw in their exercise books.

Little Angels Academy is a pre-school and was in the process of establishing a library so the Africa Equip books, exercise books and games arrived just at the right time

Audio books, Enid Blyton novels, and encyclopaedias were sent to Matsetsa Nazarene High School and to Endzingeni School. Matsetsa is situated in the Lubombo region, a rural region with limited access to libraries and information sources. The nearest library is fifteen kilometres away. Endzingeni is a rural school in the North-West part of Swaziland. It is a very old school (100 years) and because of its remoteness, access to teaching aids is a problem. Their teacher said the audio books will improve their listening and communication skills (written and spoken English).

Celiphilo Busisiwe Maziya (11 years old)

is a very bright girl who enjoys reading. However she lives at Nginamadolo, a rural area in the Northern part of Swaziland, far away from the nearest library facility.

Her Primary School, is a rural school and she lives with her grandmother and two other siblings, probably because her parents died of Aids.

The photo shows Celi with one of the books she received. She recited a poem at school and her teachers commented to her Grandmother that her reading skill is greatly improving.



Football kit

We have received a letter of thanks from the team manager of the Sunrise Football Club based at the Lugongolweni community at Siteki. The Soccer Kit we sent came at the right time, when they were looking for an extra kit. The club includes boys aged between ten and twenty and was established to ensure that young boys stay away from trouble.

Sewing Machine

A women's group at Lugongolweni were given a sewing machine for which they are very grateful, as it will help them earn a living.

Piano

A piano was presented to the Lwandle Orphanage which caters for boys and currently has sixteen boys ranging in age from eight to eighteen. They have a keen interest in music and a music teacher has been engaged to teach them to play the piano.

Bunk Beds

We sent some bunk beds for the Choir. They have been erected in the Choir's home by Josiah Matsebula, a carpenter and preacher, who is one of our contacts in Swaziland.

Other items

A set of school desks was given to Dlangeni Primary School.

Josiah Matsebula, mentioned earlier, was given two woodworking machines.

A set of saucepans, shoes and knitwear were provided for a soup kitchen run by Nomsa, who we met when we visited. Knitwear and blankets were distributed to widows in Mlindazwe.

The photograph shows Mrs Mpapane, a community Health Motivator, receiving the dinner set. Her role is to assist families to take care of the terminally ill & bed ridden. When presented with the set she broke down and cried for joy and requested that her sincere appreciation and God's blessings be conveyed to Africa Equip and its supporters.



There were many more beneficiaries but we can not mention them all. The only group yet to collect is Kgabalatsane Church in South Africa. They were having some difficulty in raising the funds to pay for hiring a lorry to make the long trip from Pretoria to Swaziland and back, so Africa Equip has agreed to support the cost. They are now expected to collect the last of the shipment in the next few weeks

Choir News

Africa Equip continues to support the Choir with the cost of their rent and food.

You may remember from the last News Letter that Mhlonishwa, nicknamed Ncifie, pictured, one of the totally blind members of the Choir, had qualified to go to University. The Swazi government pay his course fees but we appealed for help to fund his accommodation. We are very pleased to report that one of Africa Equip's supporters is doing that and he has had a very good first year.

Sku the Choir leader is also attending college. He is taking a part time Theology and Leadership course so that he can better represent the Choir's interests.



Africa Equip thanks you for your continued support

**Giving the People of Africa
A Hand Up
Not a Hand Out**

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