

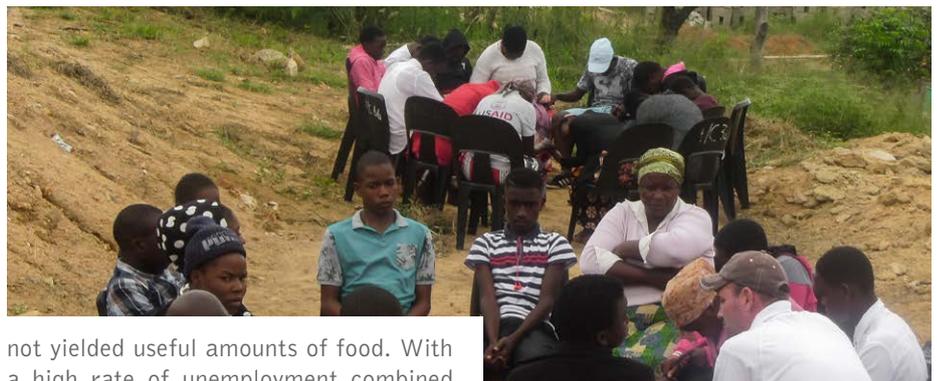


Report on

Mluti Community, South Africa

October 2016

HANDS AT WORK IN AFRICA *in partnership with*
Stichting African Hands



Snapshot OF THE COMMUNITY

Children currently supported: **35**
Number of Care Workers: **4**
Coordinator Name: **Senty**
Distance from Service Centre: **70km**
Basic services started in: **2012**

Hands at Work in Africa has always focused on keeping Africa's most vulnerable children alive and reducing their extreme vulnerability by providing access to food, basic health care and education through the local African church. Through Christian volunteers, children and those who support them are being cared for holistically in the poorest communities. As these children are healed from past trauma, they become a catalyst for transformation, spurring their communities towards growth and maturity.

“Mluti Community Based Organisation (CBO) sits on the edge of an urban community. Many people in this community are facing challenges due to the drought crisis that is gripping Southern Africa. Because of the lack of water, gardens and crops have

not yielded useful amounts of food. With a high rate of unemployment combined with failing crops, many families are left vulnerable with nothing to eat. However, there are 4 loving local volunteer Care Workers who cook daily for 35 of the most vulnerable children in Mluti. These Care Workers know each of the children by name and are committed to providing the 3 Essential Services – access to food, education, and basic health care – to each child. The local Hands at Work office is walking closely with the Care Workers, continuing to model what it means to build relationships and care holistically by providing services, as well as visiting children and their families in their home to understand their challenges and needs.

Visiting international teams have been able to visit Mluti, playing a vital role in being an encouragement to these Care Workers. Each and every visit from a team brings life and love to the Care Workers. It is hopeful that more caring local people will feel led to come and serve the most vulnerable children in Mluti.

A local pastor, Pastor Maseko, regularly visits Mluti CBO, which has made an extremely positive impact, especially on the youth. Recently, a Youth Gathering was held where Pastor Maseko spoke with 10 Youth Leaders, played games, and ate with them. Because of his continued support and encouragement, the youth in Mluti are meeting every Friday for a Bible study and have taken up the responsibility of caring for the younger children.

“Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.” — Isaiah 43:19 (ESV)

Naledi* is a 16-year-old girl from Mluti, who lives with 6 other children in a small one-roomed house. Naledi does not see her mother often, as she is away most of the time searching for work. Especially during this season of drought, food is extremely hard to come by for Naledi. Thankfully, the Care Workers at Mluti CBO have been able to provide Naledi with a hot, nutritious meal every day. Despite the difficult challenges she faces, Naledi is doing very well in school and is currently a top student in her class.

