CRISIS CENTRE
ABUSED WOMEN & CHILDREN
HIV/AIDS HOME-BASED CARE
PRE-SCHOOL EDUCATION
GENERAL COUNSELLING
FEEDING SCHEME
BASIC SKILLS TRAINING
& HUMAN TRAFFICKING

Umgeni Community Empowerment Centre
Empowering people to become self sustainable

16 Mona Road Durban, 4000 Tel/Fax: 031 3370 819 Tel/Fax: 073 114 8969 Postal Address P.O Box 38354 Point, Durban, 4069 Web address: www.ucec.co.za **NPO-(034-250) / PBO – 30013167** Email: ucec@telkomsa.net

January to March 2012 - UCEC NEWSLETTER

Basic Skills Development:

Sewing classes:

Sewing classes are given to beneficiaries every Monday at UCEC. UNISA donated the fabric to start the class initially. Started in August 2011 and has 8 people who attend class. UNISA donated the fabric to start the class initially. They have made cushions and aprons which they sold and the money they made was used to buy more fabric to continue the training.

New Basic Skills training programmes:

Canvas Construction

UCEC have spoken to Kim and Allen who own Canvas Construction to ask if they would be interested in developing a training programme for our beneficiaries at Canvas Construction and they considering this. We proposed to them that if they train some of our beneficiaries, at the end of the training, they will be able to employ the ones that they feel will be good permanent staff.

Basic Computer Skills training

We are in the process of finding a suitable company to assist us with a training program.

Job placements:

- Thabisile Ngomzulu – Canvas Construction
- Roelof Euvrard - Canvas Construction
- Patricia Lawrence – Health and beauty Spa
- Sthembiso Nzimande – Umgeni Community Empowerment Centre
- Eve Mthathwa Sikhakhane – Umgeni Community Empowerment Centre
- Matthew – Canvas Construction

We have assisted the following number of people with regards to Grants / CV's / ID's:

Curriculum Vitae's: 21
Identity Documents: 5
Grants: Child and disability - 12
8 members belonging to our HIV/Aids support group which takes place every Tuesday and Thursdays are in the process of applying for grants and ID's

2012 Internship at UCEC:

UNISA Interns:

We have 2 social workers doing their 4th year internship at UCEC

Abafundi Institute of Health and Technology Interns:

We also have 3 Social Auxiliary Learners – accredited by Health and Welfare SETA (Work level 4)
All interns and volunteer counsellors are supervised by our head Psychologist - Dr. Welly den Hollander M Med SC (SW), D Phil (SW)
Interns are involved with support group for HIV/Aids victims; they are also tasked to do 22 counselling sessions with 6 case studies each during the course of the year.

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Placements in Rehabilitation and places of safety:

- We took 2 pregnant Human Trafficking victims to a place of safety and rehabilitation
- 19 Human Trafficking victims aged 12 to 22 years old (black females) were also placed
- 33 year old coloured sex worker who is recovering from Sugars.
- 38 year old coloured sex worker, she is recovering from crack cocaine.
- 27 year old white male, he is recovering from a heroine addiction
- 18 year old coloured male - recovering from crack cocaine.
- 18 year old black male was placed in rehab, he is recovering from sugars.
- 23 year old black male – recovering from sugars.
- We placed a 30year old white mother and her 4 children aged 4 to 10 yrs in a place of safety, this family are victims of domestic violence
- We sent 2 young coloured girls back to their families in the Eastern Cape, they were in a brothel in Musgrave
- Re-united a baby girl with her mother and they are now both in a Witness Protection program

UCEC Networking - New organization we now network with is:
Emanuel's Wish Foundation which is a Canadian initiative based in Richmond S.A. – they have a rehabilitation centre / hospice for HIV/Aids as well a community crèche.
Youth for Christ – is a safe house for youth aged 7 to 18 years
Operation mobilisation – Pinetown Christian Fellowship – wants to help us with regards to our Human Trafficking cases.

Thank you:

- S.A. Home Loans – we wish to give a special thank you to S.A. Home Loans for your generous donation to build Impumelelo Creche out in Amatikwa, Inanda.
- **Hoppers Crossing United Church in Australia** -shipment of 31 boxes of donated goods
- Woolworths, Prime Cut meats, Kwa Zulu Minolta, Assegai Health Care and East Coast I.T.,
- Sue Davids, Sally Foxten, John and Delores Du Waal and Elleanore Peterson
- Pie City – Neville – provided a meal and cool drinks for the Human Trafficked victims
- Emanuel's Wish Foundation – food hamper for UCEC
- Food bank – food supplies
- Kevin Naidoo – for donating some money towards our website
- Open Door Crisis Centre – for giving us a few ladies toiletry packs
- We would like to say thank you to Richmond Super Spar owners, Mr. John Da Jesus and store manager Peter James who kindly put together a food hamper to assist our cause.
- Spec Savers – for doing voluntary eye screening for 87 of our beneficiaries – March
- Edwin and Joy Volson for helping with collecting donated Woolworth's food on Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays and Sunday.
- Damian from DCB Logistics who bought tea / coffee / sugar, etc. for the office
- Faizel Hassan owner of Tasata Shop fitters who assisted us by giving us 2 guys to help with the building in Inanda
- Visual Intelligence (Nick de Gee) – use of his bakkie as UCEC is currently running its entire operations without a vehicle, we would also like to thank Nick Conradie for assisting us with regards to transport.
- UNISA – for allowing us to make use of their offices to conduct counselling sessions and to have board meetings, also for donating fabric to start our sewing classes.

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Prayer requests:

- Sally Foxten – for good health
- Jerene's dad – thanks to all who have prayed for Chin's recovery from a heart by pass, he is recovering well.
- Eve Mthathwa – in need of building materials for her house in Inanda which was ruined by the recent heavy rainfall
- Human Trafficking victims – that they will be fully rehabilitated and never have to find themselves being exploited ever again
- Jordan Lee – New born premature baby boy in hospital– for good health and a loving, stable environment for him to grow up in

Impumelelo Creche':
Launch of new crèche building is planned for May 2012

Shiloh House: - temporary relief crisis centre for abused women and children
Umgeni Community Empowerment Centre has accommodated 19 abused women and children at our temporary relief shelter from January 2012 to date.

New Volunteers:

- Psychiatrist - Alicia Rawlins
- Sewing class instructor – Joy Volson
- Sewing class co-ordinator – Mbali Nene
- Social Auxiliary Learners – Cele Phumzile, Ncani Sindi, Ngema Thabile
- UNISA Social Workers – 2 students
- Food Collection – Edwin Volsen
- Fundraising Manager – Verinia de Gee
- Eve Mthathwa – HIV/Aids support group / daily feeding and food parcels / kitchen and cleaning duties - volunteering at UCEC until such time that we can afford to pay her a salary

HIV/Aids Support Group:
8 members belonging to our support group are currently being assisted by the UNISA intern students with grants / CV's and ID's

Human Trafficking:

- 16 Feb 2012 – Raid – 16 victims rescued all of whom are in witness protection s
- 01 March 2012 – 5 more victims came forward – witness protection
- Mother and newborn baby rescued from a syndicate of Human Traffickers
- 7 newspaper articles creating awareness around Human Trafficking in our country
- Television broadcast - Fokus – 6:30pm, SABC 2 – Sunday 18 March 2012
- Television broadcast - Cutting Edge – SABC 3 – Thursday 29 March 2012
- Re-united a baby girl with her mother and they are now both in a Witness Protection program

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New Season Global Ministries:
On Sunday 18 March 2012, Pastor Rodney de Gee baptised 7 of UCEC's beneficiaries and we would like to congratulate all of them on their baptism and we wish them all the best with their new walk in life with Christ. We pray for God's favour and richest blessings upon each of them.

Feeding Scheme:
Between January and March 2012, we have provided food parcels to 400 underprivileged families per month, amounting to approximately 4800 family members in 3 months.
Through our daily feeding scheme, we also have been able to provide lunch to approximately 1800 poverty stricken beneficiaries between Jan and March 2012.