



**Golder Trust
for Orphans**



SNAPSHOT

Name of the Project:

KwaSizabantu Schulzental Orphan Crèche

Type of Project:

Grant Equity Project

Location:

South Africa

Number of Orphans Being Supported:

30+



with the personnel from KwaSizabantu Schulzental, will be able to deliver the necessary services specified by the Department of Education.

KwaSizabantu Schulzental has an existing operational facility, which includes fencing around the property, housing units, storage for equipment, a water tower, sleeping facilities, and electrical and telephonic connection. A number of projects have already been started using these facilities, including a chicken project, a small dairy, a maize mill, a shop, a bakery and a vegetable project. The orphan crèche will be incorporated into these projects as a community upliftment project for the people of Schulzental. The plans for the crèche have already been drawn up and fundraising has begun to facilitate its establishment. Plans are also being made to support the local economy and community through the building of the crèche, through obtaining all material and workmanship from the Schulzental area. Ensuring that the orphans will be taken care of within a safe environment, and developing their skills, knowledge and attitudes, will have a positive effect on the community. The Golder Trust for Orphans will be a significant contributor to the crèche.

The main aim of the KwaSizabantu Schulzental Orphan Crèche is to provide quality pre-school education to HIV/AIDS orphans in Schulzental, a settlement within the Nkomazi Municipality, South Africa. The area is characterised by a very young population, with 54% under the age of 19 years old. While education is a priority in the area, there is a lack of funding to provide adequate school facilities, particularly for the very young. Currently, early childhood development centres experience challenges such as poor governance, lack of classroom space and facilities, poor educators and poor education programmes that incorporate the different components of child development.

HIV/AIDS is also a serious problem in the area, with an estimated 40% of the population suffering from the disease. It has been estimated that 40% of all children in Nkomazi have lost at least one parent and more than 20% have lost both, result in an increasingly high number of orphaned children within the area.

While there are people within the community attempting to care for these orphans, few of them have adequate knowledge about children’s development and the importance of play in stimulating learning. AIDS orphans are often ill-prepared to enter the formal schooling system and do not have the necessary foundations in place to begin schoolwork in literacy, numeracy and life skills.

In Schulzental, it is estimated that there are more than 200 orphans between the ages of 1 and 6 years and there is great need for an orphan crèche that seeks to address some of the educational and developmental challenges faced. In response to this need, KwaSizabantu Schulzental is planning to start a crèche for 50 children, with plans to expand facilities to accommodate more orphans as funds become available. It is envisaged that the crèche will meet the minimum standards for registration with the provincial Department of Social Development, receive conditional registration and be eligible for subsidy from the Department of Education. There are plans to recruit two qualified teachers from Cedar College of Education to help with the crèche, and working



Where to Find More Information

Send an email to goldertrustfororphans@golder.com.