



INTRODUCTION

St. Joseph Care and Support Trust is an NGO that provide Holistic care for people living with life threatening illnesses and their families through promoting quality of life, dignity in death and supporting in bereavement.

There are different departments under St. Joseph's Care and Support Trust, one of the departments is Social Services which deliver services to Orphans and Vulnerable children in different areas such as Ekangala, Dark City, Roodepoort, Sokhulumi and Onverwacht.

- St. Joseph's Care and Support Trust is participating and committed in the fifth of flattening the curve of COVID 19. We are committed in educating our vulnerable communities around Bronkhorstspuit. We take care and we make sure of the safety of our consumers and taxi commuters, school children, etc. around our small town and surroundings and to help reduce the spread of Covid- 19 through awareness campaigns.
- This pandemic has made us come together (Msamu, BYAA, DOH, WRHI, RTC, BHS clinic and ST JOSEPH) to rally our greatest strength the human spirit. Through all of this, we are re - emphasizing what is most important- our communities, our team members. Building people's knowledge and awareness is one of the most effective ways we can help fight the spread of COVID-19
- Our Health Team has extremely COVID 19 Training and covers all Bronkhorstspuit communities. The Team works hand in hand with the Provincial Government to curve the spread of COVID 19, since our Gauteng Province is the Epic of this virus and affecting thousands per day.
- Campaigns and education are being conducted to empower the unaware communities about the pandemic

(Insert)- Clients waiting patiently to screen and test for Covid-19observing the COVID 19 Regulations.





(Insert)Registered Nurses and Screeners are well trained for COVID 19 Testing and Screening

SOCIAL AND BEHAVAVIOUR CHANGE PROGRAMMES' ACTIVITIES

- Facilitate Adult Girls and Young Women (AGYW) Clubs in the vulnerable communities
- Facilitate support group for People Living with HIV in Dark City, the group is for AGYW who are living with HIV and it consist of 8 members.
- Continue with TB, HIV and STI, COVID 19 screening, testing and referral.
- Arrange Community Dialogues
- Establish Steering Committees

ACTIVITIES

We facilitated the AYGW Club and the turnout was amazing.

The topic of the day was: COVID 19, HIV AIDS Stigma and Discrimination Reduction

The Clubs (Roodepoort and Dark City) consists of 93 i.e. (Adults 25; Girls 37; Women 62



(Dark City Centre AGYW Club in session with the team)

We had teenage mothers, teenage pregnant women, young girls and boys. The Club is getting larger by day and we hope to reach a bigger number in July.

- **Facilitated support groups for PLHIV**

The group is for AGYW who are living with HIV and it consists of Men too.

The support groups are well established, the challenge is that most beneficiaries are back to school and it is difficult to meet them during the week days. We suggested meeting them on weekends.

- **We conducted TB, HIV and STI screening, testing and referral.**

We conducted TB, HIV, and STI's screening, and HIVSS (HIV SELF SERVICES/TESTING)

COVID 19 screenings are conducted daily

TOTAL COVID SCREENING target 251 a day

We also referred patients for HTS

- **Community Dialogues**

Now that the lockdown restrictions have been prohibiting us a bit, this activity has been postponed due to the availability of beneficiaries, most are free on weekends.

- **Steering Committees**

- We have spoken with various stakeholders around Region 7.
- The proposed date is to be communicated. It will be a virtual session/meeting
- Our team will be meeting with other local stakeholders to discuss how to go about safety and preventative measures for our communities at large regarding the COVID 19
- To also discuss and plan how as stakeholders can make a difference around our areas.
- To discuss how to assist in eliminating Gender Violence amongst our communities and find out the root cause. Plans of implementing this program to be discussed too.

Other activities conducted with AGYW:

- **Sexual Reproductive Health education:**



(The organization has distributed pads to all girls and young women attended the session at Dark City Centre)

- **Family planning**

We have reached beneficiaries for family planning education, ages 12 to 24. The attendance was satisfactory
We also distributed pads to all the girls and young women.

Behavioral change and Psychosocial Support (PSS)

We revised the behavioral change signs and continued to warn girls of risks and how to approach such situations in future on their own.

The following issues were again discussed with them:

- Substance Abuse
- Developmental stage
- Types of Abuse: Sexual Abuse, Economical Abuse, Physical and Emotional Abuse
- Gender Based Violence
- Domestic violence
- LGBTQI+ violence
- School violence
- Unemployment

(Insert) **FOOD PARCELS FOR THE SUPPORT GROUPS:** Daily cooking is needed for our beneficiaries and vulnerable communities.



AYGW SUPPORT GROUP IN SESSION: DARK CITY ORPHANS AND VULNERABLE CHILDREN CENTRE



STEERING COMMITTEE COMPRISED OF PARENTS OF OUR AYGW AND YOUNG BOYS AND MEN: ROODEPOORT CENTRE



ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Seeing the established Clubs/Support groups up and smoothly running and the beneficiaries growing in numbers. It is such a big achievement to the team especially during the COVID 19 Era.
- The rising number of young people in these support groups is unexpected and the interest these boys are showing is out of this world, it is so encouraging and motivating. Most were those who are unemployed young men, young women, teens and school drop outs.
- Covering Gender Based Violence, Stigma and Discrimination
- Establishment of teen boys and young men's Clubs.

- Keeping all staff protected from stress during this time means that they will have a better capacity to fulfill their roles.
- We're ensuring that all the messages we share are not only accurate, but also culturally appropriate, gender responsive, available in local language languages, and accessible.



(Insert) Staff wellbeing and team work and commitment are our priority.

OTHER ACHIEVEMENTS

-CLASS OF 2018/19 HEALTH PROMOTION OFFICER COURSE.

The organization has achieved 100% pass with the class of 2018/19. There were 15 Learners and are all have been absorbed by the organization since June 2019. They work as Community Health Care Workers assisting in the communities during this pandemic era.



COVID 19 SUPPORT FOOD PARCELS

One of the areas called Roodepoort was assisted with food parcels. Roodepoort farm consist of few plots and informal settlement community which is called Roodepoort informal settle

started in 2003. There are +/- seventy families that reside in this neighborhood. The residences are from surrounding farms in Bronkhorstspuit.



FUTURE MONTHS PLANNING AROUND COVID 19

- To continue with TB, HIV, STI and COVID 19 screening, testing and referral.
- To facilitate Community Dialogues in all our Centres
- To arrange virtual meeting for the Steering Committee with other stakeholders.
- To reach more beneficiaries to add on our support groups/Clubs
- To extend our services to all areas around Region7

ISSUES AND CONCERNS

- **Our main challenges:**
Food parcels for our beneficiaries and the communities we are continuing to serve during this pandemic year of COVID 19.



P.O. BOX 2016, PLOT 59/60 ROODEPOORT FARM, SIZANANI VILLAGE

- The decline of funding from internal and external donors due to the status co of the world caused by the pandemic.
- PPE's for our Orphans and Vulnerable Children and Health and Social services staff members
- COVID 19 Printed uniform for St, Joseph's staff members as a symbol that we are participating to assist the Government in fighting this COVID 19 spread in the communities.
- Transport to carry staff to reach far and beyond our working areas. We need transport to can share the areas to be serviced daily.

COMPILED BY:

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COVID-19

PATIENTS WITH COVID-19 HAVE EXPERIENCED MILD TO SEVERE RESPIRATORY ILLNESS

If you have been in a country affected by COVID-19 or in close contact with someone with confirmed COVID-19 in the past 2 weeks, and develop symptoms, call your doctor.

* These symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure.



Call the COVID-19 Hotline: 0800 029 999

Send 'h' on Whatsapp to COVID-19 Connect: 060 012 3456