

www.ikhaya-loxolo.info

iKhaya Loxolo a home of peace for people with special needs

P.O.Box 349
Elliotdale 5070
Eastern Cape
e-mail: admin@ikhaya-loxolo.info
cell: 072-5454318

A little 'what's been happening so far in 2008'?

In January of this year 6 mentally disabled youth and adults joined our 'home of peace'.

This is a great achievement for Ikhaya Loxolo, since it does not only mean we have finally received the full trust of the very uneducated people of our community (who initially couldn't imagine and understand why the 'mentally disabled' need to be cared for and educated at all. Which stands to logical reason, seeing that even the 'non disabled' are hardly given a chance of decent education in these rural areas), but also that we have managed to reach this aim without any support from the government's side, which seemed impossible in the beginning. As a result of the government's 'non-support', the whole of Ikhaya Loxolo has been established and is running through the financial support of many countries, especially Germany; South Africa can't as yet ,be counted amongst them.

Here three of our youngsters: Sicelo, Nandi and Nosiphentahi



Many more developments have taken place:

- We received a donation from Germany to buy an eight year old Toyota hilux 4x4; which is especially for Michael, a great relief, since he doesn't need to spend most of his time fixing the old (26 years old!) Range Rover anymore! Meaning, he's got time to do other things.....

www.ikhaya-loxolo.info



.....which leads me straight to our next development:

- In the last 2 weeks Michael and our men have been building a toolshak with goat stable.



AS ALWAYS, IN SCHOOL HOLIDAYS HALF THE NEIGHBOURHOOD IS WORKING AT IKHAYA LOXOLO! THIS TIME MOST OF THESE STUDENTS HELP IN BUILDING THE TOOLSHAK AND GOATSTABLE.

Registration Number:032-852-NPO
Contact: Michael+Alexandra Gunther
Cell: 072 5454318

www.ikhaya-loxolo.info



PLASTERING THE GOATSTABLE. THE WHOLE BUILDING, EXCEPT THE CORRIGATED IRON ROOF, IS MADE FROM NATURAL MATERIALS SUCH AS MUD AND FRESH COWDUNG.



THE GOATS HAVE ARRIVED!

Registration Number:032-852-NPO
Contact: Michael+Alexandra Gunther
Cell: 072 5454318

On basis of a donation from Solheimar Community (Island), last week (25TH OF April) we have purchased 8 pregnant Saanen goats (milk goats), which, if it works according to plan, will change our lives at Ikhaya Loxolo as well as the lives of people in our community:

Milk and Milk products in excess- presently we almost have to count the 'drops of 'long life milk' that are allowed to go into a tea- it has become so expansive! Not to speak of our neighbours, who live on even less money than we at Ikhaya Loxolo do!

Furthermore we will make, sell and consume sour milk, yoghurt, butter and cheese, products that are as good as unavailable in these remote places!

- In February of this year we were joined by our first male volunteer- Thandisizwe. He comes from a bit further away, from Nkhanya. He arrives here at the project Monday mornings, sleeps (covering the nightshift) and works here until Friday when he goes back home by bicycle. Although he is as uneducated as most other locals, we were very lucky to have found an all around able, skilled and interested co-worker! He is almost too good to be true, he has a great feeling and understanding for working with people with special needs as well as farming, building and gardening. We must always be careful not to overload him with too many duties, since indeed he is good at everything!



THANDISIZWE, VUSUMSI AND MICHAEL PREPARE THE GOAT'S OUTSIDE AREA

- Since March we are also joined by a 'plasterer', who is busy putting cement floors into bathroom and sleeping rooms as well as plastering the flat and the bathrooms outside.
- In April 2008 the big rondavel at Ikhaya Loxolo was put to another use: Kari Gude, an adult based education programme, has been started in our village. Different sub areas of Hobeni have divided their learners into different groups, so that one teacher has a class of about 15 learners. One of these classes is accommodated by us, which suits the teacher/learners and ourselves likewise: most of our own volunteers are joining the class, Michael and myself are participating for a half hour a day, when the teacher gives isixhosa lessons!
- All in all Ikhaya Loxolo is running smoothly, every single worker/disabled/volunteer etc. is well and happy!

LEARNING HOW TO PLANT ONIONS



AN OUTING TO THE NEARBY
INDIAN OCEAN, TOGETHER WITH
A VISITOR: MY MUM!

www.ikhaya-loxolo.info

P.S. I would like to remind every reader that we are still looking for sponsorships to take on more people with special needs. For more info please contact me or have a look at our website: www.ikhaya-loxolo.info

Alex Gunther