

June 20, 2008 – email update from Khama Chibwana

The centre is up and running with an average of 120 children attending regularly. We are still running the feeding program and Home Economics is still providing the monitoring services weekly.



From the funds that you did send recently, the money has been spent on the feeding program and the allowances to the caregivers. Some of the funds have been spent on materials such as hard covers for

the teachers' and committees' records as well as for some learning and play materials.



We have been working on building up the sustainability bit of the project by consulting the community to come up with viable alternatives as source for sustaining income generating activities, however, we are almost coming to a point of resorting back to the issue of a maize mill. Other than that, most of the activities that have been proposed can only be carried on individual basis. We

are cautious of not imposing on the communities the kinds of activities that they should embark on for income generating.



The women of Magalasi have been mobilizing to meet every Thursday at the centre to discuss and share ideas and experiences that would lead to uplifting the quality of childcare in their homes. We (Home Economics Department) are looking at the modalities to best facilitate these aspirations.



We are anticipating to have a volunteer early childhood educator/student come over in early July from the US by the name of Josh. We hope that he will do some work on comprehensive documentation of the activities that are currently going on in the center along the evaluation that Homec students will be doing.

There is a new committee that is in place that is supervising the management of the centre. One of the innovate ideas of this committee is to repair the three bicycles that belongs to the centre and hire them out at a fee per day to members of the community and use the money to support the activities of the center.



Finally, we will be making some maintenance work on the play equipment of the centre during next week as some of the swings and the see-saws need to be repaired.

That is it for now. As a project we are continuing to make progress in the right direction.

My regards to the entire Saanich family,

Khama

