

stAnne's@home

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Overview of 2010

St. Anne's Homes **celebrate our 106th year** this year! That means 106 years of **providing shelter, care and support** for abused and destitute women with young children. If we think that, in the past 15 years **we've taken care of more than 2000 women** with children and assisted them to become self-reliant, can we even begin to imagine the numbers of women we have helped over the past century! That we have survived as an organisation – and become stronger – is evidence of **God's grace and the generosity of individuals and our funders.**



Vuyelwa, Faith and Sugendrie: employed & independent

St. Anne's Homes have played a significant role in the sheltering world and it was quite an achievement for us to be **nominated as a finalist in the category of 'Institutional Good Practice'** by the SADC Gender Justice Summit which was held in March 2010.

Like many other NGO's, we still feel the brunt of the global economic crisis as funders have had to tighten their belts in order to survive. This has just meant that we've had to be more stringent with keeping costs down, and **find innovative ways to raise funds** – for example our monthly fund-raising breakfasts; as well as being available to speak at functions, where the spin-off may not be financial, but often leads to in-kind donations.

Many thanks to our volunteers and interns who have given so much of themselves, and who often become 'St. Anne's Homes Ambassadors' in their own worlds. And to those companies that provide employment to our women, thank you for enabling them to become economically independent. Because of you, their futures can only be brighter! (see our credits on pg 5). I would like to **acknowledge the board and staff** for ensuring that we enrich those who seek our help. Your passion and dedication is reflected on the faces of the women and children that we work with daily.

And finally – you too can make a meaningful difference to St Anne's by giving of **your time or resources** – give me a call to see how you can get involved!

**Much gratitude and blessings!
Joy Lange, Director**



Save the date for 26 February 2011!

We are hosting a **special Valentine's fund-raising breakfast.** We'll keep you informed; or check our Facebook site for details. Tickets cost R120 each. **Please contact Zieta at St Anne's** if you'd like to reserve a table.

A Valentines Day outing to Kirstenbosch Gardens was arranged by Projects Abroad Students for our residents. Special gifts were given to each woman by a wonderful friend of St Anne's, Michelle Armstrong.



A toast to women everywhere!

Celeste's story

I am 33 and a single, working mother. Recently I completed an Office Administration Short Learning Programme at Rosebank College, and I share a house with other single mothers and their children. **I am self-sufficient.** For me this is a great achievement. **Just over a year ago, my 22-month old son and I were living in an abandoned building.** I was 6 months pregnant, roaming around in the day, searching for food, hungry all the time. There are many reasons I landed up there.

I came to St Anne's Homes in October 2009. On the evening of 2nd October, **I slept in a warm bed,** after having a hot meal and a hot shower for the first time in about two months. I arrived here with nothing, but **St Anne's provided everything** for me and my son. My son attended crèche during the day. I attended workshops, teaching me various skills, but most of all, **rebuilding my self-worth.** The staff is sensitive to each woman's needs. By the time my baby was born, I had received counselling that helped me deal with the traumas of the past; and realise that **I am capable of achieving my goals.** St Anne's Homes offered me a job, and I am now at the second stage home,

'Peace Haven', which is for working moms and their children. **I am proud of who I am today.** I could never have done this without the **opportunities and guidance given to me by St Anne's Homes.** They believed in me, and now so do I.

For a full video interview with Celeste, see our Facebook site (www.facebook.com).



Vuyelwa's story



"My boyfriend used to beat me in front of our 3 children, and he infected me with HIV. I felt so

helpless. I needed to get away but didn't know where I could go, until my sister found out about St Anne's Homes. When I first arrived here, I was not a happy person as I was worried about my eldest daughter who I had left behind, but St Anne's allowed her to visit me during the school holidays. **I was scared, but the staff made me feel OK.**

Through the workshops I attended, I managed to learn more about self-esteem and about positive living. **St Anne's helped me find a job.** I started to earn and save money so that I was able to buy a shack. St Anne's gave me a fridge, a double bed, a bunk and couch set. I am so grateful for that. I started as a cleaner at work and was promoted to work with the food now. **I am able to stand on my own feet** and take responsibility for myself and my family. St Anne's Homes has made a big difference.

For a video interview with Vuyelwa, see our Facebook site (www.facebook.com).

All things are possible!

"Welcome to St. Anne's – please take a seat."

The armchair disclosed that a board had long replaced its springs and I couldn't help noticing that one leg was propped up on a pile of bricks. But the welcome from the Director, 13 years ago, was warm enough. Tutu's picture on the wall gave me the assurance that **the home was "kosher"** and that a further Anglican presence would be well appreciated. Would I attend the next AGM and serve on the Management Committee? Owen Hendrick's slick presentation and stylish formality at the first of many St. Anne's public events was **enough to convince me** that here was an organization that meant business. I was in!

Elizabeth Petersen, the then-director's desire for a new profile and **a serious makeover** for the home resonated with my employment of creativity in marketing and ambitious refurbishment. The slogans, the tea shirts, the pictures, the website and of course – the corporate colour (not my idea!) – all came together as we prepared for our centenary year. As we reached out, more **friends and donors helped us** to develop the work further. Why not

remove a couple of walls and you've got a skills training centre? That tiny dormitory that opens on to the street – why not a St. Anne's Charity shop? Why not a little garden and bring in a jungle gym? Why not change the crèche into a reception area?

And through it all the women and the children, the **hugs and the smiles** – damaged lives being remade – 'holding the space, finding the grace' – a **journey of self-discovery** both for staff and for the women and for the children. That's what makes **St. Anne's so special**. We all learn. We learn about what is possible. We learn that we have extraordinary personal power. **We learn the strength of true compassion – divine grace.**

After 13 years on the Board of St. Anne's I am **delighted to be elected as Honorary life member**, simply because wherever I travel from here St. Anne's will always be part of my life. My heartfelt gratitude to my colleagues who have served on the Board and all who have shared my journey at St. Anne's.

Fr John Oliver



Best practice

St Anne's Homes stands out in 1st SADC Award nominations

The first SADC showcase of best practice by community activists and local councillors to end gender violence and empower women saw St Anne's Homes receive recognition in the category of Institutional Good Practice – heavyweight recognition for an institution that is 106 years old!

The Gender Justice and Local Government Summit hosted by Gender Links in March this year **brought together approximately 200 journalists and representatives** of ministries of gender and local government, municipalities and NGOs from the SADC region. **It featured 103 entries from ten**

countries in a variety of categories including prevention, response, support, individual innovation, institutional good practices, specific GBV campaigns and innovative communication strategies, under the banner **"Score a goal for gender equality, halve gender violence by 2015"**.

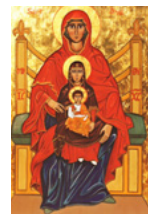
Witzenberg Municipality in the Cape Winelands category won the award in the Institutional Good Practice for its work in encouraging the participation of women in empowerment programmes in Witzenberg Municipality.

Well done Witzenberg Municipality!



Who is St. Anne?

St. Anne is the mother of the Blessed Virgin Mary and patron saint of homemakers and minors.





womens

SHELTER MOVEMENT

Joy Lange presented a paper titled **"Victim Empowerment Model for Women's Shelters"** at the International Conference on Victim Empowerment in Polokwane this October, an initiative of the national Department of Social Development in partnership with United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and European Union.

In her capacity as **Chairperson of the Western Cape Women's Shelter Movement (WSM)**, which represents 9 shelters for women, Joy spoke to the minimum standards for shelters for victims of domestic violence. "As women's shelters offer short-term care and support, it is imperative that we engage with a model that is **specific, planned and executed in an effective manner** that ensures maximum benefit to the victim", she emphasized.

The model used by the WSM elicited a lot of interest, in particular from the Deputy Minister of Social Services and Labour from Zimbabwe, who was particularly impressed by the presentation and the manner in which the WSM operates. She observed that this model could definitely be replicated there. In her words, "why do we have to go back and reinvent the wheel?"

South Africa's Deputy Minister of Social Development, Ms Bathabile Dlamini, wrapped up the conference with a call to action. **"I urge the victims to report their aggressors, I entreat women to claim what is theirs and I encourage decent, law-abiding men and women of our country to work together to wage and win this war against gender-based violence and human trafficking."**



Delegates from the conference



Soul Food

Our monthly fund-raising breakfasts are heart-warming, delicious and fun events!

Many thanks to our dedicated caterers (L-R) Beaty Sickle, Avril Cooke and (far right) Hilda Mackrill who serve up breakfasts that are equal to the best restaurant fare.



Shared Blessings

Kevin Gerlach of Villa Zest Boutique Hotel arranged a visit to the Tygerberg zoo and a yummy lunch at McDonalds for the children. Crèche staff and volunteers accompanied them.

Kevin said he wanted to share his many blessings from God with others less fortunate than he.

A word from Chance...

2010 has gone by so quickly. Maybe this is because of its many challenges that have affected our work both positively and negatively. In all this, though, we can look back and say **we have survived because God is with us** and would like St Anne's Homes to continue doing its wonderful work, started in 1904. The staff is to be saluted for their **commitment to offering the world a model of care** and social development, where women with children live free from abuse, poverty and discrimination. Our partnerships with other NGO's and government greatly contribute to the difference that we are making in the lives of those we serve. To the board, donors, staff, the Director and our Patron – the Most Reverend Dr Thabo Makgoba, Anglican Archbishop of Cape Town – **I thank you.**

Chance Chagunda, Chairperson of the Board

Our Thanks

Employment

Our endless gratitude to these companies for your willingness to provide critically-needed employment to our women:

- Altitude Workforce Solutions
- Berco Cleaning Services
- Cape Thyme Catering
- Checkers Kloof Street
- Don Pedro's
- HSN Nursing Services
- Individual families for domestic work opportunities
- Westin Grand

Newsletter And Facebook Video Interviews

- Penny Gaines – media and marketing volunteer

Volunteer Agencies

- Cross-cultural Solutions
- Dancape
- Marquette University (USA)
- Projects Abroad
- VA Corps
- Volunteer Centre

Assistance with graphic design

Opechee Design Studio

Contact

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Visit to Table Mountain and the Mount Nelson Hotel



Sleeping Angels