

Black Community Programmes

1974 **REPORT**

RESEARCH UNIT
OF THE
SOUTH AFRICAN
INSTITUTE OF
SOCIOLOGY
AND
POLITICAL
SCIENCE

86 Beatrice Street
Durban - Tel. 67558

INTRODUCTION

1974 was a year of Testing for the Black Community Programmes — Testing new programmes. Testing our capacity to survive a year of uncertain financial support and rising costs and most of all Testing our ability to continue without the guiding presence and spirit of our first Chairman Curnick Ndamse — Testing also our ability to continue our work with the key Executive Staff including the Executive Director, working under heavy personal restrictions imposed upon them by Government action. Testing our ability to overcome the financial squeeze that hurt some of our plans.

FOR RESEARCH PURPOSES ONLY

The exceptional vitality of our programmes therefore makes us feel optimistic about the year ahead.

Our organisation is young — only entering its second year of existence but in that time it has proved its viability and we are certain that as we develop we will conserve Mr. Ndamse's spirit in programmes that will always bear his imprint.

Our present Chairman, Mr. H.J. Bhengu has inspired us all with his leadership and dedication.

It is this dedication that has enabled us to carry on in the belief that difficulties and problems are not enough excuse to avoid the necessary task of developing our community to the limit of our human and material resources.

In this our 1st Annual Report since Registration we take you on a tour of our branches around the country and show you some of our activities, and projects, introduce you to our staff and tell you something of our plans for the future.

We hope that you will agree that our efforts in 1974 have given us the reason for our existence and have shown that our faith in our people, its leadership and their ability to respond to community needs has been well founded.

PERSONNEL



We introduce you first to our staff, upon whom falls the task of implementing the varied programmes of the Company.

Below: The Executive Director Mr. B.A. Khoapa who, under the general guidance of the Board of Directors administers the business operations and programmes of the company in accordance with the provisions of the Articles of Association of the Company.

Under his general direction are the following Branch and Programme Administrators who are responsible for the development, supervision and administration of the different projects of the Black Community Programmes Limited.



Mr. B.S. Biko
Branch Executive
Eastern Cape



Mrs. H. Joseph
Executive Director
Head Office

PROGRAMME STAFF



Mr. Malusi Mponimwana
Programme Assistant
Eastern Cape



Dr. M.A. Ramphofe
Medical Officer
Zemweni Health Clinic



Mrs. A.N. Ndlovu
Programme Officer
Durban



Mr. Aubrey Mokoena
Programme Assistant
Durban



Mr. L.M. Moxosi
Sales Executive
Mazeni Industries



Miss V. Mphahlele
Project Supervisor
Nobela Lethu
Pretoria Authority



Mrs. N. Mshaga
Clinical Assistant



Miss C. Mafalala
Central Assistant



Miss L.T. Sibisi
Central Assistant

PROGRAMMES & PROJECTS

Consistent with our programme approach of initiating, Promoting, Co-ordinating, Enabling and Co-ordinating, our programmes continued to make headway during 1974 and much of what was achieved during this period is reflected in the structures and lives of people whose lives were affected one way or another by the activities. As we take you along with us we hope you will see something of this in the pictures.

A. INITIATING PROGRAMMES

1. COMMUNITY HEALTH PROJECT

The beginning of 1974 saw the start of work on our Community Clinic at Enyoka near Kanyilliamtown.

Enyoka Mission is 9 Kilos North of KIMB-WILLIAMSTOWN. The land available to us measures about 1000 sq. yards and belongs to the Church of the Province, and is leased to us on very reasonable terms.



The area is rural, populated mainly by women since the men go to the mines to earn a living for their families. The need for health services is very obvious in anyone visiting the area.

A general education enabled us to proceed with the building to house a Community Clinic, and work on the site started at the beginning of 1974.



The initial expenses involved prospecting for water. A lot of searching, water was struck very near the site and piping was laid on in time for construction to start on schedule.

By December 1974 the building was completed and we were able to start looking for suitable staff for the clinic. Equipment is a heavy but important shopping item at the moment. We are hoping our interested donors will take an interest particularly in helping us in this regard. The first patients will be handled on the 1st February 1975 and when that happens, a significant step shall have been taken by a Black Voluntary Agency which we hope will be followed by other similar efforts.



ZANEMPILLO COMMUNITY HEALTH CLINIC (above) was the final achievement after 2 year of hard work. The clinic will combine curative with preventive medicine, with major emphasis being placed on preventive medicine. Curative medicine will give attention to paediatric, general medical, obstetric and minor surgical problems.

Preventive medicine will take the form of an education programme through which information regarding health matters will be given to the community by means of personal contact and through lectures and demonstrations.

The completed building houses a Reception Room, Dispensary, Examination Rooms, Maternity and Labour Wards, Preventive Medicine Lecture Room, Staff Room, Kitchen, Shower, Toilets, Incinerator Room and a General Waiting Room.

The initial Nursing Staff has already been appointed to start work on the 1st February 1975. The staff consists of the Medical Officer, Two Nursing Sisters (one with special training in Public Health) Two Nurses and an Administrative Assistant.

We hope that the clinic will be able to pay its way through after 12 months as a basic fee for consultation and treatment will be fixed, except in cases of obvious destitution where our staff may consider free treatment.

B CRECHE DEVELOPMENT: NATAL, AND CAPE

One of the aims of our Women and Welfare Programme section is to help create institutions dealing with Welfare problems in needy areas. Often this takes the form of aiding local groups to realise their potential in meeting relevant needs in their communities.

During 1974 the Black Community Programmes completed plans to set up a pilot creche scheme in the Umhazi - Durban area. Funds being available, the idea is to design a model creche which can inspire the women into starting and running similar schemes for themselves. Once started, our staff will concentrate in training voluntary workers in the skills required to run and manage a creche centre.

In the Eastern Cape, the Black Community Programmes helped to revise a creche for the Gistberg community in King Williams Town. The creche started operating in April. Our staff offers constant help and advice where necessary to the staff and officials of the creche. Consultations cover fields like Administration, Bookkeeping and Maintenance.

As a matter of policy the running of the creche has been left entirely in the hands of the local people and we are represented on the Management Committee of the creche by their invitation.

Investigations currently being carried out by our staff on behalf of the creche are in the area of medical care for the children, diet patterns and kindergarten tuition and the use of the creche as a depot for cheap nutritious foods that will be sold to the community at cost prices.

III HOME EDUCATION SCHEME: TRANSVAAL AND CAPE

In an effort to create educational facilities for members of the Black community, who for one reason or another cannot afford to attend "day schools", the Black Community Programmes set up during 1974 a scheme known as (H.E.S.) Home Education Scheme.

In Swazeti - Transvaal, 500 people were enrolled and 25 voluntary teachers were recruited on a part-time basis.

Rapid progress in this school programme was not down by delays in registering the "school" with the Department of Basic Education. Approval of the school programme was given only

towards the end of 1974 which now means that our teaching job will only start in earnest in 1975.

Our involvement as Black Community Programmes is purely initiatory and as soon as a competent community-based Board of Trustees for the school is set up, we shall withdraw into other uncharted areas and allow the community itself to get on with the job.

In the Eastern Cape and Umkazi in Natal, attempts are being made to develop the H.E.S. idea as well. In these two areas the scheme has been modelled more along the lines of "Study Centres" where students, engaged in private studies, are encouraged to come together, share problems and discuss their subjects with the help of specially qualified people in various subjects.

In Umkazi, suitable premises are now being furnished to enable this idea to take root during 1975.

II. PROMOTING PROGRAMMES

1. HOME INDUSTRY PROJECTS: NATIONAL

During 1974 the Black Community Programme invested a great amount of energy and money in the promotion of Home Industries whose goal is to develop a sense of collective black entrepreneurship.

These programmes have shown us that they are a better way of helping destitute areas because they not only train people in skills, they also offer jobs to people who would otherwise live on relief. Also, through a carefully worked out worker participation programme, the schemes offer opportunities to the workers to learn management skills.

These miniature industries are designed to be eventually owned by the community where such schemes operate.

In this development we worked closely with the Board of Deputies of Churches who have established Home Industries at Dunbar, St. Matthews and Alton. The Black Community Programme helped to establish a new Home Industry at Nkwana near Middelburg - Cape.

In so far as the Dunbar, St. Matthews and Alton industries are concerned the role played by B.C.P. so far has been in promoting the sale of products. We acted as a Sales Agency for the factories, buying products in bulk and distributing them through several outlets throughout the country.



Of particular importance is the fact that our staff participated on a consultative basis in the management of Home Industries which are, for all practical purposes, run as independent units.

Especially the Home Industries at Dunbar and St. Matthews manufacture cloth garments and handbags such as those shown in our showroom in King William's Town.

THE VARIOUS GARMENTS PRODUCED
BY HOME INDUSTRIES ARE MODELLED



Above:
The Old and the New Xmas women's dresses
modelled. These dresses are products of the
Home Industries.



Even a Minister of Religion can find some-
thing to suit him for his pulpit work.
Above: A Priest's Robe is modelled specially
for the Theological Seminary at Alameda at Alton.



Beautiful isn't it?



Above:
The humble beginnings of Nyack Leather Home Industry. This was some time in July 1974.

Below:

A few months after July some skills were beginning to show. Here one of our staff helps a worker master the use of an instrument.



E. GENERAL

I. FINANCE

Like all other voluntary organisations we are heavily dependent on grants and donations for our work. We have been fortunate to receive support from individuals, Churches, Foundations and other funding bodies in this country and overseas.

In 1974 we faced a very difficult year as far as finances are concerned with the result that we finished the year with a budgetary deficit of R20 000,00. This figure would have been higher if we had not cut down on some of our plans and effect some budgetary savings.

We are happy that in spite of these difficulties we were still able to achieve some good work and we are grateful to those friends that enabled us to do this work.

The cost of living has gone up tremendously in the past year, so that we do not expect the position to be any easier this year, but we carry on in faith believing that the work we are doing is especially important at this time in the life of the nation and will receive the support that it needs.

The Board of Directors have decided that efforts should be made to develop projects which have the capacity to produce revenue to support our ongoing programmes which in many cases require heavy subsidy.

We are presently looking at possibilities of developing at least one capital project in the form of a block of residential flats, provided we can raise the necessary capital.

If the scheme materialises during 1976 we estimate that we can reduce our dependence on grants by about 50% in 18 months after the completion of the building.

II. STAFF

To maintain the high level of efficiency required for our kind of work, we need to increase our Programme and administrative staff in the coming year. We have need for highly qualified staff which is not easy to come by and we compete with business bodies for such staff and unless we have adequate resources to support our staff our work is bound to suffer.

III. RELATIONS WITH OTHER BODIES

During 1974 we have continued to have very good relations with organisations in the Black community as well as other church and religious bodies.

We applied for membership of the S.A. Council of Churches during 1974 and we look forward to a fruitful participation in the work of that body as well as all others who have affiliation to it.

Our thanks go to all our donors and other friends who supported us in 1974.

— The United Congregational Church of S.A. — Natal Region and the United Congregation of the UDESA for providing us with office accommodation.

— The Church of the Province — Diocese of Grahamstown for providing us with office accommodation for our Eastern Cape Regional Office and for agreeing to lease a site for the Zanempho Clinic at Zinyuka.

D. COMMUNICATING PROGRAMMES

The goal of our Research and Publishing programme is to establish meaningful communication in the Black community

In these programmes we act as an information bureau for the benefit of the community and as far as possible provide publication material which can assist the Black community understand itself, its environment and the role that individual members can play in building sound values.

We also aim through our Research programme to co-ordinate the efforts of the cultural and education projects through the publication of material developed by these groups.

1974 was not a good year for us in that this section of our work is concerned. We experienced a constant staff turnover and reshuffle because of handicaps placed upon our previous efforts. We were however able to publish our "1973 Black Review" which continues to serve a very useful purpose not only in informing the Black community about itself but also informing other people about the kind of life the Black man leads in his community.

During this year, in addition to seminars and workshops, we aim to produce "Leaflets for Leaders" which will act as resource material to individuals and groups. These will be available to leaders as guide material covering the areas of special importance to them.

Resource Centres: We intend to go a step further this year and

establish Resource Centres where:

- Information regarding life in the community can be found and used by residents.
- Black cultural artefacts can be collected and displayed and discussed by members of the community.
- Readership of general material - newspapers, magazines and other publications can be encouraged through the provision of places with an atmosphere for study.

These centres will also be open to a number of groups, professional groups like Teachers, Doctors, Social Workers, Nurses, Lawyers etc.

for informal tutoring. They will also be used as "After school study centres" for students in Secondary and High Schools as well as for tertiary students doing private studies.

Our sixth centre will open in Durban during this year if money is available for equipment. It will be a Day-Centre where people can come and read, refer, borrow and discuss material on a variety of subjects, but especially material which is concerned with Community Development.



Above: Some main publications of the Black Community Programme



Above: A demonstration of some of the products of the Njwaxa Leather Home Industry.



Of particular importance is the fact that our staff participated on a consultative basis and advised on management, production and sales for the various industries. Here our Branch Executive in the Eastern Cape consults with one of the Production supervisors of the Industries.

C. CO-ORDINATING AND ENABLING PROGRAMMES

I. WOMEN AND WELFARE PROGRAMMES. NATIONAL

These programmes aim to co-ordinate the work and activities of Women's Groups, and in a consultative capacity we attempt to encourage the women's groups to see more clearly the importance of joint planning and the advantages of co-operation and also demonstrate that pooling of resources can be done without loss of identity and autonomy of the co-operating parties.

In the context of this Programme, contact work has been made with women's associations such as Zenzele and Y.W.C.A.'s and other similar organisations.

The main idea of this contact was to explore possibilities of having regularly co-ordinated conferences which can act as springboards for more specialised skills seminars.

Two main skills seminars were conducted at Umata by our Women's Programme Officer and other similar seminars are planned for Buterworth, and other parts of the Transkei. In addition to this, the Programme Officer was invited by other groups such as W.A.L.C. in Port Elizabeth and other parts of the Eastern Cape.

In the coming year more work will be done with women in other provinces.

The staff person in charge of this aspect of our work acts as a

resource person and accumulates material dealing with subjects like Child care, Nursery school administration and many other subjects of interest to women's groups.

II. YOUTH LEADERSHIP PROGRAMMES

The Black Community Programme continues to offer its staff offices for consultative work to youth organisations across the country. From time to time Leadership Training activities are organised in the same way as the Women's Training Programmes.



Above: A staff person prepares one of our conference rooms for a Training Seminar. Several such skills seminars were held during 1974 and the feed back from those participating in the seminars indicates that these were very helpful in improving their understanding of the dynamics of organisations and service programmes.

- Dr. D. Laewazi for providing us with office accommodation for our Women's Division.

- The Directors of Diakonia House in Braamfontein for office accommodation.

- The Director, Staff and Board of the Christian Institute for their help in many ways.

- Ruvan Press for helping us with our publications.

- The S.A. Council of Churches for their co-operation in many matters.

And all those other individuals and bodies that expressed confidence in us by supporting our work and staff in so many ways - we express our thanks and appreciation.

As for the Board and Staff, we rededicate ourselves to continue to serve the Black Community, for we know that the vitality of our organisation will be measured by its efforts to be creative in responding to changing needs and opportunities.

We conclude by stating once more that in its work the job of the Black Community Programmes is not to do someone's job better but to mobilise all available human resources in order to get the job done.

H.J. Shesgo
Chairman

Board of Directors

DURBAN.

31st December, 1974