



# SOS CHILDREN'S VILLAGES ESWATINI

**NEWSLETTER QUARTER 1**

**2019**



## Dear SOS Members

It is a pleasure to share with you, a titbit of our work in the first quarter of 2019. This has been a hectic quarter in terms of capacity building for co-workers. It has also been an eventful there months in terms of networking with critical internal and external partners. This brief newsletter will share with you some highlights from these events. We hope you will enjoy the easy read and the pictures.

We love sharing our work with you. We love collaborating with you to raise children who have been separated from their parents or families of origin and preventing family separation by strengthening families that are going through economical strife.

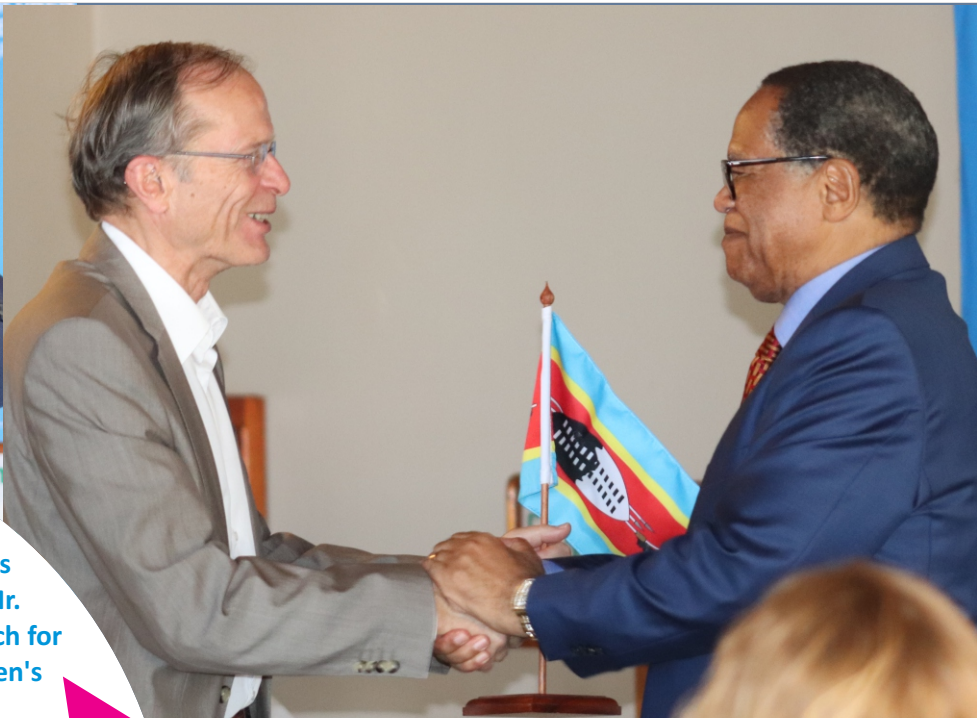
Therefore, please support what we do by paying your 2019 Membership Fee of Two Hundred and Fifty Emalangenani per year (**E250**). Your annual subscriptions go directly towards our childcare work.

The Annual General Assembly will be held on **15 June 2019**; we hope you will have paid your annual subscriptions.

Our bank details are:  
**MOBILE MONEY: 76400273**  
**FNB ACCOUNT: 62372140493**  
**BRANCH CODE: 280164**

Best regards always  
Dr Loretta Mkhonta – National Director





The Deputy Prime Minister's Office, His excellency the Deputy Prime Minister Mr. Themba Nhlanganiso Masuku hosted a lunch for the high level delegation from SOS Children's Villages Norway at Mountain Inn.

### High level Visit by the SOS Norway Board

On the 27<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> March 2019, the SOS Norway Board visited Eswatini. This is a one day visit (on 28 March) since the other two days are for travel. The SOS Norway Board came from the South Africa NA where they will be discussing issues of self-sustainability of that NA.

The SOS Norway Board had meetings with the ND and management and visited the Mbabane programme Location that is implementing the Grieg Gender project. Strategically, the SOS Norway Board also had a meeting with the SOS Eswatini Board and the Deputy Prime Minister's Office over lunch that will be hosted by that Ministry. This is the mother ministry for SOS Eswatini and the co-implementers of the Foster Care programme, Grieg gender project and work on Alternative Care for Children.



The Norway Board met and interacted with the members of the National Foster care Advisory body and the National Foster Care Technical working group, at the conference room of the Ministry of Economic Planning and Development.





During their tour, the Norway Board visited Sidwashini community in Mbabane to assess some family strengthening projects. They started off by visiting Sibambisene Kamnadi Child Care centre , where they were welcomed by the self-help group and children. They were shown different projects that are done by the groups to sustain themselves such as: kneating clothes, sowing school uniforms, producing Archa, liquid soap and stay-soft products. The community ensures the sustainability of these projects to generate income to support their families. Whilst, under the same community the Board visitors went to MS. Mkhali's homestead, who is also supported by SOS under the family strengthening programme. Dudu Mkhali has reached self reliance after 8 years of being supported with skills and finances to take care of her five grand-children.



She is now able to support her family as she owns a spaza shop where she sells fruits and some of her hand made products.

During the visit the ESWATINI Board Vice-chairperson, handed her keys to her newly built 2 bedroom house, where she will now stay with her family.

The Norway Board visited Nkwalini Ptrimary school, to assess progress of the Grieg gender foundation project, which assist young girls with sanitary pads, capacitate teachers on gender issues, human rights and child protection issues. The project has also built a new girls toilet at the school.



**Enhlanganisweni High School**

Girl's education is the core mandate of the Grieg Gender Challenge. This school was visited as there are nine girls who have been assisted through the Grieg funding to enrol back to school after dropping out. In total there are twelve girls that have been assisted to enrol back to school the other three are in other schools. Reasons for them dropping out of school varies from pregnancy and parents being reluctant to send them back to school, being neglected by parents. Socio-economic status of their families and passing away of their caregivers.





# FNB donates school bags and TV to their SOS family house

A BANK WITH A HEART!

**Mbabane**—As part of their back to school campaign, the corporate social responsibility unit of the FNB Swaziland knows what their customers need at the beginning of the year. The rush for school places and competition for school materials in shops is an endurance race for many parents. Sadly, not all parents can afford to get their children the most basic school materials. This is the plight of children from orphaned and vulnerable families as well as impoverished communities.

To ease this stress to its customers, FNB gave school bags and hampers to its customers during their back to school campaign early in the year. Among such loved partners, friends and customers, is SOS Children's Villages Mbabane, where FNB adopted and sponsored a family house. On Friday, 8 February 2019 they brought smiles to 50 school-going SOS programme participants. Not only did they give 50 school bags with school materials, they also brought a flat screen TV for the family house, a fun filled afternoon, with games, which ended in a big family braai.

Part of the reason SOS received this gift was truly because our work resonates with the ethos of helping at FNB. Supporting families and bringing a smile to customers is one of the banks founding pillars. Sharing in the development of families is encapsulated in their family-like team spirit.

Speaking during the official hand over, Zethu Dlamini of the FNB Foundation added, **"FNB is more than a bank. Our campaign redefines what help means in today's culture and the society. We know our brand must align and fit in with customers' lifestyles, and connecting with them is a two-way relationship, enhancing the best out of the many meaningful interactions."** She concluded by saying that **"where this journey is taking the FNB customer, is a place where all their needs are met – now, and in their future."**

The Mbabane Programme Director, Thokozani Maphalala thanked FNB for their kind gesture in walking this important journey with "our children whose bright future depends on the many helping hands available in society". "When corporate partners come on board, not only does this inspire our families, but it make us feel like very big family and together we can truly ensure that no child grows up alone", he added.

The 50 school bag were distributed among the SOS programme participants for both Family strengthening and family-like care families.







## SCORPION LEGAL PROTECTION'S COMMUNITY CONNECTION DONATES E 40,000 TO SOS CHILDREN'S VILLAGES SITEKI PROGRAMME

The Corporate Social Investment Unit of Scorpion Legal Protection South Africa donated R40 000 to SOS Children's Villages, Siteki. The donation was received courtesy of the Scorpion's community Connection office, which is responsible for selecting and supporting community projects in Southern Africa. For 2018-19, Eswatini was chosen among the recipients to expand reach. Present were Palesa Dwaba (Scorpion Legal Protection), Dr. Loretta Mkhonta (National Director, SOS Children's Villages Eswatini), Ezrome Magagula (Programme Director, SOS Children's Villages Siteki). When receiving the check on behalf of the Board of Directors, Dr. Loretta Mkhonta, graciously thanked Scorpion Legal Protection's Community Connection for its generous sponsorship. She emphasized that it was humbling for Scorpion Legal to choose Eswatini especially since we had not initially been connected. Speaking to support and echo Dr. Loretta's words, Sonic Dlamini added that SOS Children's Villages heavily relies on donor funding to reach and support well over 2,180 children in the country. These are in all three SOS Villages in

Mbabane, Nhlanguano, and Siteki KaLanga, including surrounding communities.

**"When economies tumble, when parents separate and families dis-integrate, when drought hit communities, children are the most vulnerable. In such situations, we put the protection of children and their families at the center of our actions. To do that we welcome a diverse pool of donors, friends and supporters to help us provide a loving home for children and ensure that No Child Should Grow Up Alone", she said.**

Speaking during the official handover, Palesa Dwaba mentioned that they searched on the internet for an SOS Children's Villages in the Southern Africa after failing to connect with SOS Children's Villages South Africa. During her search, SOS children's Villages Siteki popped up. She immediately contacted the programme and was well received by Ezrome Magagula. Scorpion's Legal Community Connection connected with Kalanga Community upon learning that SOS is a local organization working to protect and care for children who have lost parental care, or who

stand at risk of losing it. "In line the Community Connection, our work aligned perfectly because we work with communities, partners and local structures as an extension of Government to ensure that the rights of all children, in society, are fulfilled", Ezrome mentioned.

"We hope for a longer term relationship with SOS Children's Villages and Scorpion Legal Protection," she said. She concluded by saying, "Community Connection is Scorpion Legal Protection's corporate social investment, fundraising and employee volunteer department. Our aim is to support the communities in which we operate, to ensure that our staff gets the most out of the experience and achieves a great impact in the local community. Our Community Connection team is always on hand to support communities by offering financial and volunteer support, advice and guidance".



# FOSCHINI FEEDS 2500 CHILDREN FOR THREE MONTHS

MANZINI—Foschini, through their rise against hunger campaign donated 111 boxes of dried quick to prepare meals. With each box containing 36 packs and each pack capable of feeding up to 6 people per serving, this means at least 2500 people can nutritious meals for the next three months.

The meals provide much-needed minerals, vitamins, amino acids, proteins, and carbohydrates that rare to find

in one serving, particularly for families in drought-prone areas. The donation was courtesy of a string partnership between SOS and Foschini. Foschini extended its kind gesture to Eswatini through their partnership with Rise Against Hunger—an international hunger relief organization that distributes food and life-changing aid to the world's most vulnerable, mobilizing the necessary resources to end hunger by 2030.

For many families, these meals mean more than consistent nourishment, they also mean a chance for their children to grow up healthier, develop better and most importantly, a focus on school and education—they no longer need to worry about what to eat. Filled with enriched rice, soy protein, dried vegetables and 23 essential vitamins and nutrients, when a family cooks a meal bag, they're getting more than a portion of food, they're getting a chance at a healthier and more promising future.

SOS distributes these meal parcels to all families in our programmes, ensuring that they have adequate nutrition in the next three months. We hope this partnership with Foschini will go a long way and we cannot wait for the next batch of parcels to continue where we started. This for us means reducing a huge burden for all our family caregivers. They can now attend to our much more important child-development issues.



THANK YOU FOR READING!

DON'T FORGET TO PAY  
YOUR SUBSCRIPTION!

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**BRANCH CODE: 280164**

