



# SUNRISE ON AFRICA'S PEAKS

## ANNUAL REPORT

MARCH 2006 - FEBRUARY 2007

## **Our Vision:**

To create a better Africa by positively impacting on the lives of underprivileged children and the environments they live in.

## **Our Mission:**

To connect children with nature while fostering a caring environment in which they can experience love and personal growth.

## **Our Purpose:**

Our aim is to promote and cultivate environmental awareness amongst previously disadvantaged, underprivileged and abused children of Africa. This is done through various outdoor activity events such as orienteering, hiking, mountain climbing, alien plant eradication, cycling and tree planting. These activities teach the children about communication, team work, trust, kindness, sensitivity, courage and the importance of having a sense of humour. All in all we hope to foster a respect for the environment, for one another and for life in general thus equipping them to make good decisions and help them confidently take their place in society.

## **Operations:**

During the past financial year, SOAPkidz has taken 526 children from disadvantaged backgrounds and introduced them to the environment on 18 different occasions. These children come from various places such as children's homes, places of safety, Aids orphanages and previously disadvantaged schools and ranged in age from 6 to 18 years old. The events included overnight hikes and 5 camps that were held for teenagers.

## **Detail:**

- Non-Profit Organisation Nr. 054-940-NPO
- Public Benefit Organization Nr. 930021192

## **Contact Details:**

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2006-10-28. On top of Faerie Glen Nature Reserve

- Contact persons:

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### **Committee:**

- Robert William Bentley (Member) / P.O. Box 1436, Hartbeespoort, 0216
- Margaret Jane Britz (Member) / P.O.Box 2243, Silverton, 1024
- Theodorus Ignatius Coetzee (Director)(Vise Chairperson) / P.O.Box 28429, Sunnyside, 0132
- Dirk Cornelius Dannhauser (Chairperson) / P.O.Box 37885, Faerie Glen, 0043
- Karen Hauptfleisch (Director/Founder) / 209 Amos Street, Colbyn, 0083
- Hester Helena Louisa Schoeman (Treasurer) / 710 31<sup>st</sup> Avenue, Villieria, 0186
- Yvonne Amanda Vos (Member) / 187 Goshawk Street, Montana Park

### **Meetings and Reports:**

- The AGM was held on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of March 2006
- Quaterly Committee Meetings were held with a 80% attendance by the committee members
- Event reports were sent to the volunteers and main donors after every event.

### **Media:**

- Several articles about SOAPkidz appeared in the Beeld, Rekord and Zambi



2006-06-10. Orienteering at Pelindaba

## **Kinds of Events:**

The children are introduced to nature through various kinds of events, these include:

- Adventure Camps: These camps are mainly targeted at teenagers from children's homes. By taking these children out of their comfort zones they learn more about themselves and how they interact with others. Environmental activities are always incorporated into the camps.
- Environmental Clean-Up Days: Various types of activities are done at these events e.g alien plant eradication, tree planting, water testing, Picking up litter, re-using litter
- Orienteering events: SOAPKidz usually partners with RACO on orienteering events. The children are divided into different teams and taught basic navigation skills and there is always an extra prize for the team that collects the most rubbish while doing the orienteering.
- Hikes: On these hikes the children learn valuable skills such as: cooking in the wild, identifying animal tracks, navigation and stargazing.

## **Educational Aspect:**

Through these events, the children learn about issues such as: Preservation of the environment, Finding their place in society, First Aid, HIV/AIDS etc.

## **Message to the SOAPKidz volunteers from the founder:**

Dear Volunteer

Being a volunteer requires a certain amount of selflessness and dedication but I have found that being a SOAPKIDZ volunteer requires someone special. Someone who knows that no matter what obstacles life throws at you; it can be overcome through perseverance, a positive attitude and a healthy sense of humour. Someone who understands the importance of giving back. Someone who is willing to teach these important life lessons to a tough little kid, with patience and love, even when it feels like you are going nowhere slowly.

Then there are those of you who work tirelessly in the background from planning, organizing, preparing scrumptious meals in the kitchen, arranging sponsorships or sponsoring items yourself to creating magic out of herbs, beads and footscrubs. You too have transformed weary faces into beaming smiles.

Some of you have taken time out to teach these kids your passion or craft, from snakes, belly dancing, birding to shooting an apple with a bow and arrow. You too have boosted confidence levels and created highlights not only in the kidz lives but also in some volunteers' lives as well. You have made the difference in whatever role that you have played in SOAPKIDZ events, even if you were pretending to be a bear on a night hike. Your efforts together with Mother Nature has contributed towards the healing process for SOAPKIDZ kidz.

Without you, SOAPKidz would not have been able to achieve the following during the past 12 months

- More than 822 people were exposed to nature and more than 261 bags of litter were picked up during the 18 events
- Our teenage camps were a huge success and we truly made a difference in 227 teenager's lives.
- We exposed our first toddlers to nature
- We involved children from the following new Provinces/Towns/Suburbs/Informal settlements: Free State (Senekal), Hammanskraal, Nellmapius, Eersterust and Stanza Bopape

We look forward to welcoming you to all the action and drama that we have planned for 2007/2008. Besides our usual orienteering events, Bush Camps, day hikes, deweeding sessions in the mountains, we have the following major events lined up

- The Moreletta Spruit Environmental Education day in September
- The African Child Day the 16<sup>th</sup> of June

Karen Hauptfleisch  
Founder and Director SOAPkidz.

### **Donors:**

#### **Donors**

- Armand Van Tonder
- Digiprint
- GPN SA
- Heerenct
- Internet Solutions
- Luis Costa
- Madge Care Village
- Marianne Fassler
- Martin vd Merwe
- Nicola Consani
- Oranje Drukkery
- VA Deakin
- Zahrah Sauls

#### **Donors in Kind**

- Africa Wild
- Bosch
- Checkers Hyper Centurion
- Cornell & Martie Schuster
- Cradle Project
- Cross Clothing
- FNB Rietfontein
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- Kaya FM
- Kualani Civil North
- Maria Garcia
- Media 24
- National Geographic Kids
- Netcare 911
- PETCO
- Pretoria Birding Society
- Roche
- Scooters
- Standard Bank Gezina
- Telkom
- Thorntree Conservancies

During the 18 events that were held during the financial year, 822 people were exposed to nature and 261 bags of litter were picked up.



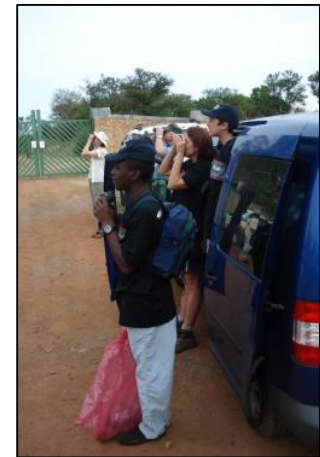
Children from Bramley children's home having fun during the hike at Fonteinedal.



Children from Jacaranda Children's home having hot dogs in Groenkloof Nature Reserve



Children from various children's homes abseiling during a night hike in Irene



Birding at Premier Mine



The All Girl team in the cave at Groenkloof Nature Reserve



Stargazing at Roodeplaat Nature Reserve



Bush Babe Camp - Cleaning the Roodeplaat Dam