



# **NEWSLETTER**

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#### "With the recent influx of refugees, clinicians are faced with emerging challenges not unlike those in South Africa such as language barriers and cultural differences"

For more information please see: https://www.kindergesundheit-info.de/themen/entwicklung/foerdernunterstuetzen/fruefoerderung

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## Partnerships pave the way in Germany...

In a formal partnership between the Western Cape Government and the Free State of Bavaria, HOPE Cape Town plays a significant role of facilitation and implementation of Early Childhood Development programs.

For the purpose of sharing best practice models in managing children with neurodevelopmental delays our Program Coordinator, Dr Izane Reyneke was invited by paediatrician/neurologist, Dr Christian Schropp to visit the Kinder Klinik Dritter Orden Passau from 20 to 24 February. Among Izane's observations

The patient load at the hospital is much lighter than any of the medical facilities in South Africa but the burden of documenting and recording every consultation is much more pronounced;

Izane reports that most clinicians in Germany have never seen a patient infected with HIV and or TB.



Dr Izane Reyneke presented HOPE CT to Dr Christian Schropp and his Team in Passau

"Although Germany is a first world country with good medical infrastructure and funding and the burden of disease profiles differ from that of South Africa – the principles of care remain similar, and in my opinion we can learn from each other and share knowledge and experience.

The vision, strong focus and movement towards preventative medicine and early intervention in patients at risk of neurodevelopmental disorders are shared by both Germany and South Africa – in particular the Western Cape with the focus on 1st 1000 Days" initiatives.

She concluded that strong professional bonds have been established at the Kinderklinik Dritter Orden in Passau, and that the Western Cape's Department of Health and HOPE Cape Town's vision and focus areas in terms of early childhood development are in line with that of Germany.

### ...and in the USA

HOPE Cape Town USA is an organization that was established to implement a 'Youth & HIV' program in Dallas as well as a fundraising plan for HOPE Cape Town.

Recently, Chairperson of HOPE Cape Town - Rev Fr Stefan Hippler visited the USA headquarters and partner chapters to strategize with the HOPE teams in New Jersey and Dallas with the aim to create a greater awareness of the global AIDS pandemic. While he was in Dallas, Stefan also participated in the AIDS Walk organized by HOPE Cape Town USA director, Auntjuan Wiley and the Martin Luther King Jnr Community Centre.



### Welcome back Dr Williams!



After an absence of five years during which she worked at Red Cross Children's Hospital and did her specialization in paediatrics, we are delighted to announce that Dr Sadeeka Williams has returned to HOPE Cape Town.

Sadeeka is responsible for the HOPE for Babies and HOPE to HOME programs at Tygerberg Children's Hospital.

"I've been drawn back to this organization because I can work where my heart lies – with children and working to address HIV in South Africa" she said. Welcome home Sadeeka, we hope your heart will stay with us for many more years!



### Breast is Best

"Less than 10% of
South African
babies are
breastfed
exclusively"

During the month of March, two of our staff members Kekeletso Lebeta and Sadeeka Williams received breastfeeding training at Tygerberg Hospital, a Mother/Baby Friendly Initiative (MBFI) accredited institution.

Diarrhoea and chest infections are less common in breastfed babies who have a six times higher rate of survival than other babies. Yet less than 10% of South African babies are breastfed exclusively. Breastfeeding counseling forms an essential component of the HOPE4babies program. HOPE4babies identifies women in labour with HIV so that all measures are put in place to try and prevent HIV infection in the new baby.

HOPE Cape Town thus provides essential support, care and

expertise during a critical period of the lives of mothers and their babies.





# Reading with Mum is fun...

World Read Aloud Day was celebrated on 16th February to share the enjoyment of reading with children.

While the literacy rates in South Africa have improved over the last decade, the harsh reality is that more than 80% of South African children have little or no access to books.

Often children with infectious diseases are admitted to the paediatric wards at Tygerberg Hospital for an extended period of time. Parents or primary caregivers are taught and encouraged to stimulate the development of their children.

On World Read Aloud Day HOPE Cape Town handed the children the most beautifully illustrated storybooks that they could read with their mums.

# Bringing education to children



The Class of 2017 kitted out by HOPE Cape Town with

Social Worker, Tannie Maria as she is affectionately known by the

children of Blikkiesdorp, has accomplished so much since the beginning of this year: She enrolled 21 children into the school system; she runs morning educational preschool sessions for 20 children, and individual sessions with 15 children who attend school but have recurring problems. She also provides services at Manenberg After-School Centre and has referred seven cases to the Child Welfare Department. Much of Tannie Maria's time is spent consulting with The Western Cape Education Department

and the Department of Social Development. She plans to start a support group for those affected by substance abuse in the second quarter of this year.

Social Worker Tannie Maria bids farewell to HOPE Cape Town volunteer Jenny Mueller as she returns to Hamburg, Jenny spent six months at the pre-school where she supervised learning and playtime. She is already sorely missed by the children



"This is not just a job for us, this is a vocation. We are called to do this work, to serve our people in our communities"

# Healthy Communities

HOPE Community Health Workers (HCHW) play a pivotal role in the provision of quality health services in their communities.

Their primary focus is on increasing wellness and improving the patient's experience in public healthcare facilities.

Currently we have 23 Community Health Workers who assist medical staff at Tygerberg Hospital and clinics situated in townships and neighbourhoods where the social needs of the communities are overwhelming.

In 2016, the HCHWs attended to 9,475 little patients at Tygerberg Hospital through our HOPE to Home project. 1,427 mothers were tested for HIV in the hospital's maternity wards, and 191,335 patients in total were assisted in the community clinics.

Every HCHW undergoes counselling training and comprehensive capacity building sessions. At a recent workshop they identified the following three values as critical in their daily duties and overall working experience:

Giving and receiving Respect

Taking <u>Responsibility</u> for all our actions

Good Teamwork.

# Elective students, sharing...

Every year, in partnership with KIDCRU (the Children's Infectious Diseases Clinical Research Unit) based at Tygerberg Hospital, HOPE Cape Town facilitates a program for elective students from across the globe. In the first quarter of 2017 we hosted students from Switzerland, Germany and the USA. Their conclusions were unanimous - this learning experience enriched both their professional

and personal lives.

The major strengths of the elective were described as "learning and experiencing HIV and TB in children", "being immersed among different members of the health care system" and "taking into account the medical knowledge and particular patient characteristics in order to provide the best care."



Elective students Otis (U Geneva), Mara (U Aachen), & Erinma (North-Western U)



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HOPE Cape Town strives to improve the quality of life and full potential of children and families affected by HIV, AIDS and related illnesses through its work in the Western Cape.

### **SATURDAY, 28TH OCTOBER 2017**

Save this date to attend the internationally renowned HOPE Cape Town GALA event in DRESDEN, Germany Miss it and you miss out!



## The Ball of HOPE 2017, another success story!

The **Ball of HOPE** is currently HOPE Cape Town's major fundraising event in South Africa and all proceeds are allocated towards HIV projects at Tygerberg Children's Hospital and outreach programs in the Western Cape.

The event is co-hosted with the **Southern African-German Chamber of Commerce & Industry** whose primary goal is to offer the best service for building bilateral business relationships between Southern Africa and Germany.

This prestigious event was held on Saturday, 13th May 2017 at **THE WESTIN**—one of Cape Town's most luxurious hotels.

The Masters of Ceremony for the evening were television and radio celebrities **Katlego Maboe** and **Kia Johnson** and, for 16 years musician and producer **Adolf Thelen** has enjoyed the role of musical director and provided the entertainment with many musical artists including the Holy Cross Convent School Choir.

The Western Cape Province Minister of Health, Dr Nomafrench Mbombo delivered the keynote address.









Save the Date for the 18th Ball of HOPE: Saturday, 5th May 2018