



ACTIVITY REPORT for **Projects Abroad Human Rights Office**

September 2013

NAME OF PROJECT: **Projects Abroad Human Rights Office**

TYPE OF PROJECT: **Human Rights**

NUMBER OF INTERNS THIS MONTH: 17 Interns

SOCIAL JUSTICE PROJECTS

Name: **Bonnytoun**

Description:

Bonnytoun is a place of safety and secure care centre for male juvenile offenders.

Schedule:

Bonnytoun is visited every Wednesday from 13:30 to 15:00.

Age of Youth

Between 13 -18

Number of Boys

The number of Boys is +-90, depending upon whether Bonnytoun is full or not.

04th September - We started with a series of ice breakers to acquaint the interns and the boys. In many prisons it is common to fight your way up to a higher rank. We showed the boys a documentary about a guy in prison who used his energy and strength in gym. The result was that he was really muscled and that a lot of people looked up to him. The idea behind this was to show the boys that they can use their strength to achieve things instead of only fighting their way up to a higher rank.

11th September - The program for Bonnytoun was cancelled this week as the boys were late with lunch and didn't finish it before 15:00.

18th September – We started with two ice breakers to break the ice between the interns and the boys. After that we split the group into four smaller groups. Each group had to draw a puppet on a piece of paper and at every limb they had to write an aspect of their lives they could improve. Things that were being mentioned were for example: don't use your body to rape, but use your body to play rugby. After fifteen minutes, the groups had to present their drawings to each other. We wanted the boys to think about how they can improve their lives and how to prevent themselves from returning to Bonnytoun after they go back home.

25th September – As usual, we started with some ice breakers before we started with our workshop. Thereafter, we showed them a documentary about notorious drug dealers in Cape Town, who were

either murdered by other drug dealers or by citizens who were tired of living in an environment of gang and drug violence. The idea behind it was to show the boys that making money quick and easy and living a life filled with crime will only put yourself and family in harm's way and that it will not benefit or secure your future.

Name: **Ottery youth care and education centre**

Description:

Ottery Youth Care and Education Centre is a rehabilitation centre for male juvenile offenders who have committed petty crimes.

Schedule:

Ottery is visited every Tuesday from 15:00 to 16:30.

Age of Youth

Between 10 -17

Number of Boys

The number of Boys we work with is 60.

September We no longer have Ottery Youth Care and Education Centre as part of our program.

Name: **Vredelus**

Description:

Vredelus House is a secure care centre for young female offenders located in Elsie's River.

Schedule:

Vredelus is visited every Monday from 15:00 to 16:30.

Age of Youth

Between 10 -18

Number of Females

The number of females we work with often varies from 50 – 70.

02nd September – For today we had a couple of trust-games. In the first game, the girls had to fall backwards and were caught by other girls. In the second game, couples were made and one person per couple got blindfolded. The one who was not blindfolded then, had to guide the blindfolded one through a trail with obstacles. The message of these games was that someone should always listen to and trust the right persons.

09th September – We split the group into three smaller groups. Each group had to draw a puppet on a piece of paper and at every limb they had to write an aspect of their lives they could improve. Things that were being mentioned were for example: don't use your hands to abuse people, but rather give a helping hand. After fifteen minutes, the groups had to present their drawings to each other. We wanted the girls to think about how they can improve their lives and how to prevent themselves from returning to Vredelus after they get out of Vredelus.

16th September – The spirit of today's workshop was freedom of expression. Therefore, we taught the girls how to dance the Salsa and the Waltz. We also did the ChaChaSlide and let the girls show us their freestyle moves. This was a really fun energy filled workshop, which we have been requested to do again.

23th September – There was no workshop at Vredelus today due to National Heritage Day.

30th September – We did role playing games. We split the girls in three smaller groups and every group was appointed to four interns. Every role playing game contained (1) gangsters (2) bad guys (3) good guys (4) police. Furthermore, the girls had to include a lesson on either STD's, AIDS or Rape in their play. The message of this workshop was that you can better be a "good guy" and get education instead of dealing drugs and living a dangerous life.

Name: **St. Anne's**

Description:

St Anne's is a non-governmental organisation in Woodstock. St. Anne's offers services to destitute, abused, rejected and disadvantaged women and their children from throughout South Africa.

Schedule:

St. Anne's is visited every Monday from 11:00 – 13:00.

2nd September – St Anne's was cancelled as all the women were working.

9th September – St Anne's was cancelled as all the women were working.

16th September – St Anne's was cancelled as all the women were working.

23rd September – St Anne's was cancelled as all the women were working.

Name: **Sisters Incorporated**

Description:

Sisters Incorporated is a private welfare organisation in Kenilworth, founded in 1959. Sisters Incorporated aim to help every women, teenager and child who comes to us in crisis to heal physically, emotionally and spiritually.

Schedule:

Sisters Incorporated is visited every Thursday from 10:00 – 12:00.

5th September – Leonie van Bruggen, Line Kappel, Lisanne Peeters, Marte Klausen and Miriam MacDonald attended, and there were four women present. As none of the interns had been to a workshop in a women's shelter before, we made it an informal session wherein everyone could get to know each other. The ladies at Sisters are always very open and friendly, and a lot of valuable discussions took place. The interns told the women what they do at home, what they have picked up on during their short time in Cape Town so far, and what they hope to achieve. The women, in turn, shared their life stories with the interns, and told them of how each ended up in the shelter.

12th September – Sisters was cancelled as there were only two women, one of whom was sick with the flu.

19th September – Kristine Bagger, Line Kappel and Marte Klausen attended with Miriam MacDonald. We had decided to hold a discussion on the disparity between how people live in Cape Town, as this is what the journalists were interested in, and so we went along with this plan. There were five women there, two of whom were new. Three of the ladies became very involved in the discussion and were very interested to hear about the interns views on the situation, as well as how the social struggles are different where they are from (Denmark and Norway). In turn, the interns found it very eye-opening to hear the ladies' opinions experiences, especially when it came to race-related issues and the circumstances pre- and post-Apartheid.

26th September – Sisters did not run as they were preparing for their AGM the following day.

Capricorn Primary School

Capricorn Primary School– We have started a new project where we work at a primary school and teach life orientation classes for grades 5, 6, and 7. This project will occur on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays with set times for each class (5a, 5b, 5c, 6a, 6b, 7a, and 7b). Monday and Wednesday interns will be picked up at Heathfield station at 8.15 to reach the school on time.

09th September – Grade 5C. Line Kappel and Marte Klausen, the interns for today, started with introducing themselves to the class to get the students energized and to break the ice between themselves and the students. Then they gave a presentation about healthy food. They began with explaining what healthy food is (carbs, vitamins, protein, dairy, grain) and then they explained why everybody should eat healthy. They administered a quiz to see how much the students learned after the presentation and corrected their papers. The students were very interested and participated very well.

10th September – Grade 7. Bella Aquilini, Elise Nadeau and Anna Lena Goll gave a presentation about mindmapping. They first showed a powerpoint explaining what a mindmap exactly is. Afterwards, the students had to make a mindmap on studyskills: where did they have to study, when did they have to study, with who did they have to study, etc. Afterwards, the students had to present the mindmap to eachother. All students were really eager in making the mindmaps and some of them had really detailed mindmaps as well. We think they really learned something from this workshop.

11th September –.Grade 5A. Ulrika Gillquist and Leonie van Bruggen gave the same presentation as the one on 09th September.

12th September - Grade 5B. Ulrika and Leonie gave the same presentation as the one on 09th September. However, as this class has the most ADHD- and problematic children, we shortened the presentation and played a few ice-breaker games.

16th September – Grade 5C. The spirit of today's workshop was freedom of expression. Therefore, we taught the girls how to dance the Salsa and the Waltz. We also did the ChaChaSlide and let the girls show us their freestyle moves. This was a really fun energy filled workshop, which we have been requested to do again.

We wanted to show them that everyone has the right to freedom of expression. However, the expression has to stay appropriate to others. The children were really enthusiastic to learn the dances.

17th September – Grade 7. The theme of today was role playing. The class was divided in three smaller groups (appointed to Ulrika Gillquist, Lisanne Peeters or Bella Aquilini). The groups could choose one of the following subjects: caring for animals, caring for people, South African National days, human rights, culture, gender stereotyping and children's rights in South Africa. They all had fifteen minutes to come up with a play and to practice it. Thereafter, every group performed its play on stage for the other groups. The idea behind it was to make people aware of all the rights they have and that they must always try to use all these rights.

18th September – Grade 6. We did the same dance workshop as on the 16th September.

19th September – Grade 5B.. We did the same dance workshop as on the 16th September.

23rd – 30th September – We didn't teach life orientation classes this week as the children had a week off.

Heritage Day – We celebrated National Heritage Day at the office on the 23rd of September. First we made all kinds of salads for the braai we had at Shuan's place this day. We left the office at 01:00 pm and went to Shuan's house in Vrygrond.

Shuan first gave us a tour through the township and gave us a lot of information about the history of this Vrygrond and the current situation in the township. We also encountered some of the children of the Capricorn Primary School.

After the tour we had a braai, which was a real "coloured" experience, with the different salads, braai bread, snacks and entertainment. We also got to interact with the interns, the PAHRO staff and members of the community, which was an amazing experience.

LEGAL SERVICES

Sherwin Daniels – Currently working on a program with Pollsmoor prison.

Legal Clinics

Lavender Hill

We had a lot of returning clients in Lavender Hill, and some new clients. We only attended on the 10th of September, as the 24th was a public holiday.