

FEDTRAW PRE-SCHOOL PROJECT ' .

Motivation for Funding

WW

crf5.630euye.lno ;3c 54411 (%104 QQ.

Johannesburg

August 10, 1991

FEDTRAW PRE-SCHOOL PROJECTS

F

Postal Address : P.O. Box 260638

' 2 ' . Excom " ' "

2023 '

18 Bamboes Berg

'Extension 2

' Eldorado Park

Johannesburg

Phxsic51.Address

Contacts ' - : ;Shirley Simons

' . Tel: 342-3928

I ' : Diana Nkobo .

NBA? .Tel: 982-6225

RQ-Bax\$\$q-

(?Nagdo- Pita? . 50d670- (19.4-

Table of Contents

1

Item 2 Paragraph

- ,tlntroduction ' . '1

- Spher2 of Operation 2

- .8ltuational Deta;ls 2 3

-, Why Early Pre Schdpl Programmes. H A

- Carriculua I V 5

V- .Venues ' ' 1: - .6

i - Training ' I . 5

, - .Events over past year IL 5

5 Workshop with Parents A 9

1-3 Future Activities - - ' 1'0

- Condlusions_ ' . 4 ;11

- Projected Finance Budg2t 2 IL2

1. Introduction

Previously our project fell under the auspicious of the Federation of Transvaal Women who were affiliated to the MDM (Mass Democratic Movement) - after the normalisation of the political situation, the project has decided to become independent and apolitical. It is to afford as many children as possible in our community an opportunity to enjoy a preschool education. Fedtraw-identified this need and started this programme approximately five years ago. The project has as its objectives the following:

- (1) To create an awareness amongst our women of the importance of education, primarily that of a preschool education.
- (2) To establish pre schools for our children, a facility which is non-existent in South Africa for black children.
- (3) To create work opportunity for our women in a community plagued by unemployment.
- (4) To develop latent skills in women who were never afforded an opportunity.
- (5) To develop a relevant pre school curriculum that will satisfy the needs and aspirations of the majority of the people of South Africa.
- (6) To create a forum where parents can meet and discuss the future of their children.
- (7) To prepare the children for a future non-racial, non-sexist, democratic South Africa.
- (8) To challenge abuse of the rights of children as set out in the United Nations Declaration on Children's Rights.
- (9) To develop Stories and rhymes that tell about the struggle of the people.

In keeping with our policy of working towards a non-sexist and non-racist democratic society, one of the areas we found lacking was stories for pre school children. Most of the stories available for pre school children reflect the view of the white middle class and are of a capitalist nature, and do not teach our children real values. It also

2; Sghefe of Operations

2.1 The major area of operation of the Pre School Project is essentially the PWV (Pretoria, Witwatersrand, Vereeniging) area and more recently at Tafelkop - Lebowa in the Eastern Transvaal.

2.2 In total the project presently serve 52 schools situated in 'sub-economic areas' where the need for a compensatory education and supportive programmes are felt the strongest. A combined staff of 147 operate in the various areas as detailed below and makes it possible that in excess of 7800 children between the ages of 3 and 7 years enjoy a much needed preparation for formal education. A hidden advantage of the project is that the pre schools make it possible for these otherwise undernourished children to enjoy a controlled diet.

" 3.

Situational Details

The schools are situated in the following areas:

3.1

3.2

3.3

3.4

3.5

Soweto. Acronym for South Western Township is the largest residential area in Transvaal. Its estimated population is approximately 4 million people. The reality of the social economic situation in Soweto is that three quarters of the population lives below the poverty line. There are pre schools operating in seven different areas ie: Dlamini, Pimville, Emdeni, Duhe, White City; Meadowlands, Diepkloof and Umzimhlope. There are approximately 2500 children catered for at these pre schools run by the Soweto Womens Group. '

Noordgesig is situated 32 km from Central Johannesburg and is adjacent to Soweto. There are 11 000 housing units. According to statistics there are approximately 5 people per unit but in reality, because of the housing shortage, a realistic estimate of 8 people per unit which will put the amount of residents conservatively at 88 000. The same socio economic conditions exist as in Riverlea. Noordgesig's Womens Group runs a pre school for 100 children. The children come from Noordgesig and some from Horse Shoe. They currently have a waiting list of 155 children.

Evaton is a sprawling township situated 57 km from the centre of Johannesburg in the Vaal region. Most of the houses were erected from corrugated iron sheets by the people living there. The Evaton Womens Group operates a full day care centre for 120 children aged between 2 and 6 years of age. 'The socio economic conditions can be compared to that of Soweto.

Eldorado Park is an ever expanding township situated 22 km from the centre of Johannesburg. The residents comprise by and large the poorest section of the "coloured" community. There are approximately 300,000 residents in Eldorado Park. The unemployment rate is currently at 40%. The spade work for the project was started in Eldorado Park in 1984. There are six pre schools operating in Eldorado Park, five of them operating from houses. Eldorado Park caters for 200 children and has a staff of 16. '

Tafelkop is a rural area in Lebowa. The vastness of the area can be compared to that of Soweto, though much more densely populated. We started with 9 pre schools which were operating under the auspices of the Tafelkop Womens Group but because of the vastness of the area we had to expand. There are currently 13 pre schools run by our project and only recently did one government pre school come up. The minimum number of children in our schools are 60 and the maximum 150. This area needs more support due to various difficulties which are unique to certain rural conditions e.g (1) one or both parents having to be away from home most of the year to work in the mines or live in domestic; (2) Distance between schools (3) Sanitary conditions being almost zero (4) Transport costs to and from work are very high.

I

...../3'

3.7"

' Y

4. WHY EARLY PRE SCHOOL PROGRAMME?

M

4.1

4.2

t'493.h

14.4

Wk

w 4- I Homeless selflcwaj

Whealersfarm is an everexpanding(squatter)area near the Vaal with almost the same problems as in the rural areas with the health conditions being very poor, high unemployment rate and malnutrition. In this area we saw the birth of our first pre school with assistace of teachers and co-ordina-
tor from Evaton (3.4). The population is difficult tq es-
timate be(ause new shacks are being erected daily. i
Orangefarm is an area very similar to Wheelersfarm. Here
we try to help children of school going age (6 and over up
to 15). These children are unable to get to a formal,school
because of no transport and not enough finance available. The
nearest formal school is approximately 5 kms away. 'We have
currently one informal school, qsing self erected rooms with
i 160 children. 2 Here too, we are constantly being asked for
more assistance:

-h.

Firstly we want to set out why education before formal school
entry is vitally important, particularly for poor children.
This is not an extension downwards of the schooling system,
but is something completely different. It is providing an
environment in which children learn through active, stimula-
ting and developmentally appropriate play; an environmeht to
to meet childrens socio emotional, intellectual and physical
needs.

It is not because of academic gains that we will be asking
our new government to invest in prevsechool educare, but'from
the experience we have after running this project. We feel
that people must be made aware that this is a foundation for
all and'we feally need support on this. A positive pre school
educare experience does ease the transition of children into
formal schooling, and their enhanced self-concept does heigh-
their chances of coping well with it.

children who i

- thihk for themselves.

I

- listen, share and take turns.

- cope with feelings like excitement, fear, anger and frus-
tration.

- know, accept and like themselves.

- are secure and independent. .

- iare physically strong and well.

5.

Curriculum

I

5.1 It is a known fact that racism and sexism are exposed in . ' many of the teaching material presently utilised in our . teaching. Black golliwogs are always bad. The heroine ' is always blond and blue eyed. The child's perception-of a physically disabled person is distorted in that the hunch back is always portrayed as evil. . Learning material thus need replacement and in this respect Fedtraw's pre schbol publication "Our Mama - Rhymes and Stories" has gone far to address this problem.

5.2 Games, an important inclusion in the programme, are selected L. with circumspection in order that co operation and sharing replace competitiveness as the primary aim. '

5.3- Speaking - ie communication skills,.aemand attention in a ' community inhibited by years&of oppression and discrimina- tion. ' ' h

5.4 . Listening skills cannot be overlooked as even adults seldom know how to listen.

5.5 In addition to this the curriculum also comprises of prepa- ratory reading and maths activities as well as muscle deve- lopment and creative activities.

6. iVenues

6.1 Winds of shange are blowing all over South Africa for all to see and the promise of better facilities is a very real-pos- sibility. But it would be over optimistic to think that the request for sufficient structures for pre school would imme- .diately be acceded to in a new South Africa. Housing, health, primary and secondary education will vociferously make their demands. '

6.2 I Fedtraw's answer to the problem is to make any available space which can be utilised for this purpose. '

7. Training

7 7.1 L For the past three years a number of women by and large women who were not privileged to receive a formal education, armed only with a strong commitment service have attended training courses for a period of three months.

7.2. ' They were instructed in the fundamental aspect of pre school ' teaching. The results have exceeded all expectations.

Those who have completed their course can hold their own with the best in the field. Because of the demands we also have a baby programme being given to teachers and interested parents. The prbgramme covers all aspects on baby care. We have a qualified nursing sister instructing women in this; Results have been favourable.

8. Events over the Past Year

8.1

International Childrens Day were highlighted through activities with pre schools. National Health Day was commemorated to draw the various communities attention to health issues. Teachers were elected and given a mandate to sit on a Violence Prevention project in different communities. We hosted this Event and endorsed the project involving all community organisations.

9. WorkshoEs with Parents

A number of workshops with parents were held around

1)

11%

iii)

iv)

health in an apartheid society. .

alternative curriculum for children to prepare them for a future South Africa.

racism and sexism.

abuse of children. '- 't

10. Future Activities

10.1

L "-10.2

10.3

10.4

11 Conclusions,

Presenting Zulu and English classesffor teachers.

'Provide training in management forvco ordinators. 1

Working hand in hand with pre primary health units, social workers, other early child care units to set up a united curriculum for our children. 11 '

Workshops with teachers and parents; to make them feel good about themselves and others (build up self esteem). '

.

11.1

'11.2'

The Pre School Project committee is'presently looking fhto the question of-registering as a fuh6,non profit making organisation and in terms of requirements will need to appoint a "Board of_Trustees" whose duty among others would be to oversee the administration of funds as well as provide general direction to the grouping. '

We also ihtend appointing auditors to audit the financier affairs of the organisation as soon as the "Board of Trustees" have been appointed.

FEDTRAW PRE SCHOOL PROJECT

12.. I Prbjected Financial Budget for Period August 1991 to July 1992

Notes ' 1992 1991

Fee Income (12.1) 561 600 360 000

Deduct Eernditure ' ' 2598 980 1864 380

- Salaries to teaching staff (12.2).

- Running cost (12.3)

- Equipment Needs (12.4)_

- Resource/Administrative x 1 1

Centre ' (12:5)

External Funding Needed 2037 380 1504 880

Notes to Projected Financial Budget

PrE School Fee Income

150 children per school (150 X 52 X R6.00 X 12):

R561.600

Notes

(12.1.1) Photocopier, typewriter, desks & shelves

not required as same are available

(12.1.2) Fee income incorporates the additional

income from the 12 new ppe'schools

established at Tafelkop 1 Lebowa.

(12.1.3) Fee income per child increased from

R5.00, to R6.00 per: month? "

Salaries 144A 860

3 trainers (172 5 X 3 X 12) 62 100

10 co ordinators (138 0. X 10 X 12) 165 600

I

147 teachers (69 Q X 147 X 12) ' 1217 160

Notes .

(12.1.1) Salaries increased by 15% over period of year;

(12.2.2). An additional 33 teachers added to payroll

following establishment of pre schools at

Tafelkop - Lebowa 4 being a very underde-

veloped area in terms of very inadequate

health and education facilities - The near-

est industrial area is 3% hours drive by bus.' -

(12.3) _ Running costs based on 52 schools . 677 820

. ' . Rental for 52 Premises (28 1- X 52 X 12) 175 500

Transport (34 5 X 52 X 12) 215 280

Food Cost (46 Q X 52 X 12) 287 040

Notes

(12.3.1) The following escalation factors have been

provided for:-

- Rentals - 12%

- Transport - 15%

- Food Costs - 15%

(12.3.2) An additional 12 schools have been added

to the project following the establishment

of pre schools in the Tafelkop - Lebowa area.

(12.4)

.(12.5)

Notes to Projected Financial Budget

Equipment Needs

Play and Training Equipment

- Prior years unfulfilled Needs (8.000 X 40)
- Needs for New schools established (9.000 X 12)

Notes

(12.4.1) Prior year budget needs for equipment was not fulfilled 7 hence brought forward for new year.

(12.4.2) Need for 12 new pre schools at Tafelkop - Lebowa incorporated with a 12% escalation of cost factor for equipment.

. #-

v a.

Pre- School Resource/Administration Centre

- S&lary for Administrator (1725 X 12)
- Salary for Receptionist (600 X 12)
- Telephone Cost (500 X 12)
- Stationery & Petties . (600 X 12)
- Rental (600 X 12)

Notes

(12.5.1) _ An organisation hopes to establish a central office in Johannesburg to co ordinate the activities of the Pre School Project.

(12.5.2) In this direction the South African Council of Churches have been app-
; reached and a tentative arrangement
' to occupy a section of their office
space has been obtained.

428 000

320 000

108 000

48

300