



# AMPNEWS



ADONIS MUSATI PROJECT

Providing humanitarian assistance to refugees  
068633-NPO

VOLUME 1 ISSUE 7

DECEMBER 2009

## NOVEMBER /DECEMBER NEWS

- **A WEEK AT SALTY**
- **EDUCATE, EQUIP AND LOVE**
- **HOMESICK**

## A WEEK AT SALTY:

Each week at the Salt river office is different and yet the same. Each man, woman and child an individual and yet so much in common, strangers in a hostile land often just hanging on by a thread. The weeks begin with a flurry of activity, Monday being the busiest of all. We begin with the women and children, their numbers increasing each week. The stories are heart wrenching and often one can see the pain and the hunger in the eyes of the infants carried on their mothers backs. We put our arms around them and allow them the freedom to weep. Often we end up weeping with them. Most times it is shelter, food and clothes they need, but it is empathy and a heart that listens to them that gives them hope for the future. We have assisted every woman that has ever come to us for help and we thank God for his provision to be able to do so. Among

the many people that come to us for help we seem to have more and more disabled refugees needing assistance including a wonderful dignified crippled man by the name of Jeremiah who survives by selling his little paintings that he paints with his one functioning hand. We also have Amos and Handsome, both blind musicians and they survive by singing and playing their keyboard (put together with sticky tape) on the trains. They are often harassed by metro police and would love to be able to work without begging and depending on charity. They are wonderfully talented and we appeal to anyone who would like to host them to perform at a function or in a church to contact us. We try to help everyone in whatever way we can such as Peter, a machinist with 22 years experience who lost the temporary job he had just gotten because of a car

knocking him over. He cannot walk properly and was struggling to find work. We were able to give him a sewing machine and lots of donated fabric. He immediately started making dresses and now has many orders. He is so grateful to be able to take care of his children now. Through the kindness of donors we have been able to send many young men and women on various courses including waitering. Many of them have been able to find fulltime employment and are now standing on their own two feet. It's a wonderful feeling to see young men that were once living under the bridge in town, homeless, hungry and hopeless now dressed smart and working at the Cape Grace Hotel, able to feed themselves and their families back home. What a privilege to hold hands with all these wonderful, brave people as they take the next step in the journey of their lives.  
AMP VOLUNTEER

"I urge you to celebrate the extraordinary courage and contributions of refugees past and present."  
- Kofi Annan, UN Secretary-General



We are all part of the human family and we should be about doing what all good families do  
- caring for our less fortunate brothers and sisters.  
- Dan O'Neill, Founder, Mercy Corps



## MUSATI HOUSE: EDUCATE, EQUIP & LOVE

Our aim at Musati House is to really assist all who stay there to make some of their dreams come true and to help them to build strong foundations for their lives. We have 19 refugees staying there at present, 3 of them staff. Of our 11 original teenage boys that moved in in September, the 5 youngest have been enrolled in High school next year and the other 6 will be attending intensive skills training including panel beating, carpentry and glass making. At the end of the skills training, once they have secured a job they those 6 will be moved into independent accommodation with our backup and support. We will then be in a position to take another 6 in and hopefully repeat the process.

In the meantime the boys have been working hard to earn pocket money by doing gardening jobs and selling their beautiful Christmas wire and bead decorations. (Thanks to the sponsorship of

JDI the boys received training in wire craft).

Part of our aim is to make each child there feel special and loved and our wonderful volunteers have taken them out to the beach, climbing table mountain and to church picnics and fun days. We are very grateful for all their input. The boys have also been thoroughly spoilt on their birthdays with cakes and prezzis. One of our boys, Anton (also called Pastor by the boys because he loves to preach) was recently treated to a wonderful party (see pics). The boys have grown in leaps and bounds and their self confidence is increasing day by day.

We have a few new additions at the house. Boniface, a high school teacher and qualified sports coach joined our staff as a relief worker to our houseparent's. Boniface has been a wonderful influence on the boys and apart from giving them Maths

and English classes each morning, he has really encouraged them with sport. 5 of our boys are part of a teenage refugee soccer club and they were very proud when they won the tournament against the other clubs in Cape Town. (We are very grateful to Simon Lloyd for buying all the boys boots) (see pics below)

Apart from Boniface we have recently taken in a single mom, Helen, and her 4 children as they had nowhere to go. Helen has also been a wonderful motherly influence on the boys and has helped with cleaning and cooking. Thanks to a sponsor we were able to send Helen for hospitality training and she hopes to secure a job soon. We have also enrolled her oldest daughter in High school for next year and we hope to get the 3 little ones age 7,3 and 1½ into school and crèche next year too.



## HOMESICK:

Its Christmas time and for many refugees it's a time of great pain as they long to be with their families back home. Unfortunately many cannot even afford their rent this month let alone bus fare to get home and see their loved ones. Thanks to the wonderful generosity of so many volunteers we have been able to give all those that have come into our office a "love pack" containing a few luxuries such as deodorant, lotion and biscuits etc. Their gratitude is tangible. We are planning to reach as

many as we can before Christmas especially those that are homeless and to give them something special too.

However the best gift we could give would be to help many of them find work. We have wonderful hardworking ladies who need jobs as domestic workers urgently. In addition we have Robson, a boiler operator with many years experience, Asend a plumber with 12 years experience, and many of our young guys staying in Salt River who would give anything

for a cleaning or gardening job this month until they find permanent waiting jobs. Please contact Gahlia at 0835577420 if you can offer anyone employment. Please keep all our wonderful refugee friends in your prayers this month



Asend

To all the survivors out there, I want them to know that we are stronger and more resilient than we ever knew. We survived, that should be enough but it isn't. We must work hard to become whole again, to fill our soul with love and inspiration, to live the life that was intended for us before it was disrupted by war and horrors, and help rebuild a world that is better than the one we had just left.  
[Loung Ung](#) (refugee)

### MUSATI HOUSE WISH LIST

1. School uniforms (Black or navy trousers & shoes & white shirts)
2. An old weed eater to cut the grass
3. Sponsors for monthly train/bus tickets for the boys for school & training
4. Old computers for training



You really can change the world if you care enough.

-- [Marian Wright Edelman](#)

### Salt River Office needs:

1. School uniforms
2. School uniforms
3. School uniforms
4. Large strong carrier bags
5. Old sewing machines, knitting needles, fabric, wool
6. Old Cell phones (a little airtime added would be great) URGENT
7. Old 2 plate stoves or any small stoves (8) crockery, cutlery, buckets etc
8. Non-perishable foods
9. Nappies (toweling or huggies)
10. Old or new bibles (always requested by refugees)
11. Blankets & towels (& fold up mattresses)



Contact Barbara 8.30am

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PROJECT BACKGROUND

The Adonis Musati Project, named after a young Zimbabwean who died of starvation on the streets of Cape Town while waiting to get his asylum papers, was formed at the end of 2010 to ensure that no refugee died of starvation again in Cape Town.

AMP provides food, clothing, shelter, and counselling. All this has been made possible due to the fact that AMP is a community-based project working closely with volunteers from all walks of life including scholars, students, teachers, business people and ordinary everyday people who have big hearts. AMP is run entirely by volunteers and we would like to assist.

CONTACT US:

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Fundraising:

If you have an idea or initiative for fundraising and are prepared to get involved please contact Gayle at: [gayle@adonismusatiproject.org](mailto:gayle@adonismusatiproject.org)

BANK DETAILS

The Adonis Musati Project  
Standard Bank, South Africa  
Acc: 072548398  
Branch: 02510901 (Claremont)  
SWIFT CODE: SBZAJJ



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