IRFF UK: Starvation in South Africa, Donate to us so that we can pass it on, 100%

Tadeo Buyinza May 22, 2022



IRFF UK has long been working on projects associated with the Joe Slovo Township and also the Walmer Township in Port Elizabeth, South Africa.

This area has an extremely bad food supply problem which has only been made worse by Covid-19. Children are literally starving.

Just one month ago a Walmer Township representative explained to us:

"In South Africa the needs are so great, anyone can take their pick of really dire scenarios. What is alarming in my province of late are reports of starvation among children. There are social grants and child grants and social workers, so this should not happen, but it does! A starving kid doesn't think about who is the source of his problems!"

A local teacher added "Seeing the children getting only a scoop of samp / pasta / pap with NO visible flavourings or veg or meat, is so sad".

Then just yesterday IRFF UK were contacted by a mother who confirmed what we are hearing. She wrote:

"Does IRFF UK accommodate those in South Africa who are in need? There are three kids who are in desperate need of food, cloths, school uniforms, blankets etc. My son of 10 years old is the one who is doing an initiative campaign to collect since these kids go to his school and it is an extremely sad situation they are in, and he would like to help them."

IRFF UK wrote back that we are already supporting the Walmer Township and the Joe Slovo township both in P.E. - but that we would not forget her, and that she must be proud of her 10 year old son!

She wrote back:

"The family in need is the only white family in that township. If I could and had the funding I would adopt all 3 but times are tough, especially with covid effecting everything. I'm very proud of my son - he has collected a few things but is short on some.

We do understand that you have a major project on your hands and well done for your efforts towards that. An act of kindness goes a long way. At any stage, if you are able to help raise at least R5000 to buy them a school uniform and food for a couple of months it would be greatly appreciated.

Take care of yourself and loved ones and be safe."

Our heart goes out to her, her son and the people they want to help. Shall we help them?

IRFF UK will do its best to find a way to get that R5,000 (£250) to her. None of us can help everybody but we can do what we can.

Can you help as much as you can? - it all adds up!

If you would like to donate, please click here

Shine - South Africa

What?

Shine is a project IRFF UK support in Walmer Town, South Africa. This is a very poor area. Shine operates from two bright yellow containers in a primary school ground. It is a quintile school, which means no fees are paid.

The Problem

South Africa is now the most unequal country in the world. Among 50 countries, South Africa faired the worst in literacy. The stats of 2016 Progress in International Reading Literacy (PIRLS) discovered that 8 out of 10 Grade 4 (9-10 year olds) learners in South Africa cannot read for meaning.

Since the pandemic, learners have lost a year of school. Most are too poor to afford smart phones or wifi for online learning, and the school cannot photostat hundreds of sheets of work.

Solution

The only way out of poverty is education. The South African government recently said that children who do not learn to read properly, will likely not finish school.

This is what we are determined to change. These school kids learn so quickly that we are left hoping that they will continue to read and haul themselves out of their poverty. We feel we have good tools to help them get there.

What is offered

According to the curriculum, learners must be taught in English from Grade 4. We take the Grade 3 learners and immerse them in books and reading, with comprehension, in English. Many kids have not heard any English.

For one hour at a time, one volunteer sits with 2 learners. The hour has 4 parts:

- 15 mins an educational game (with anything using dice being the favourites)
- 15 mins they read to us (the books reflect their lives)
- 15 mins they write sentences (we use phonetic methods and we never correct their work but instead praise their brave efforts),
- 15 mins they are exhausted now, so we read a book to them.

How does IRFF contribute to this project

IRFF UK sends monthly funds to help cover the costs of several needed items such as school books, ink cartridges for printer as well as school shoes for children.

