



Bana Ba Letsatsi

— SUNSHINE CHILDREN —

Our future. Our children.

BBL

July & September School Holiday Report

Bana Ba Letsatsi Rehabilitation Centre has many people to thank for its continued success over the past 15 years of operation. In 2015, BBL had to scale down on some of its major activities due to financial constraints and devised a guiding instrument called the BBL Implementation Plan.

In 2016, BBL started scaling up again due to support from its few donors. One of the programs which was badly affected yet it is very essential in the lives of OVCs was the school holiday program. It was revived in 2016 with funding from Simply Wild and Tuscookany. Many eventualities such as glue sniffing and teenage pregnancy are prevented through life skills empowerment sessions held during the school holiday program.

We would like to take the time to show appreciation Simply Wild and Tuscookany for the support you have rendered BBL over the years. This document is for you, Simply Wild and Tuscookany for the past two school holiday programs you sponsored. We have compiled this report, in conjunction with the pictures that precedes it, to give each of you a snapshot of the impact of your funding. With this report, we hope you review and critically analyze our work and help us to continue to provide the standard of service that our children deserve.

Faithfully Yours,

Taboka Rotsi

Executive Coordinator

INTRODUCTION

While many children eagerly anticipate the school holidays, for orphans and vulnerable children its a different scenario as they have to go back to environments where they had traumatic experiences as children. Secondly, families on zero/low incomes face additional financial pressures over the holiday period and can find it challenging to occupy children on a tight budget and source appropriate childcare whilst at work. This is where Bana Ba Letsatsi school holiday program comes in to provide OVC's with an environment of safety, learning, relax and have fun. Consequently, relieving low income households from financial contraits and other challenges. This program runs for 2 weeks.

School Holiday Drivers and Responsibility

The School Holiday is run by 3 departments as stated below;

Department	Responsibility
Operations	Providing meals and daily transport
Psycho-social	Counselling, Life skills training & Educational trips
Adolescents Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights	Girls kit, Life skills and Mentorship

JULY School Holiday Program

A total number of between 60 and 65 children participated during this school holiday program.

METHODS

Life Skills

- 20 life skills were conducted reaching out to 65 children recieving training in various topics such as Stress management, leadership, Personal hygiene, decision-making among others.
- Sessions lasted between 60 and 90 minutes. Questions were posed but participants generally responded in terms of their own experiences, sharing their opinions,suggestions and ideas.

Group Counselling

- A total of 10 group sessions were conducted reaching out to 60 orphans and vulnerable children.
- Sessions were interactive, using flipcharts and spider diagrams to support children to contribute their thoughts and ideas. Questions, discussion and length of session varied according to the age of participants, their existing

relationships with each other and the extent to which they engaged with the session.

Individual Counselling

- 25 counselling sessions were conducted out of 65 children. That is about 16.25% of all children. This number was affected by the complexity of the cases and priority was given to extreme cases.

Educational Trips

- 2 educational trips were conducted.
- 1 to BOFWA where children learned about Youth friendly services.
- 1 to Nhaba Museum where children learned about our culture and history of Botswana.

September School Holiday Program

This school holiday we experienced an increase in number of children participating in the school holiday program. We had between 70 and 80 children and we anticipate the number to increase again in December as we come towards the end of year.

METHODS

Life Skills

- 20 life skills were conducted reaching out to 80 children receiving training in various topics such as communication and interpersonal skills, resilience and coping with emotions, assertiveness, self awareness among others.
- Sessions lasted between 45 and 60 minutes. Questions were posed but participants generally responded in terms of their own experiences, sharing their opinions, suggestions and ideas.

Group Counselling

- A total of 10 group sessions were conducted reaching out to 70 orphans and vulnerable children.
- Sessions were interactive, using debates, visual aids, role play, flipcharts and spider diagrams to support children to contribute their thoughts and ideas. Questions, discussion and length of session varied according to the age of participants, their existing relationships with each other and the extent to which they engaged with the session.

Individual Counselling

- 46 counselling sessions were conducted out of 80 children. That is about 34.5% of all children. This number was affected by the complexity of the cases and priority was given to extreme cases. However, we had more staff resources to help with counselling sessions.

Girls Kit

These sessions are aimed at addressing the widespread marginalization of adolescent girls during their menstrual cycles, lack of menstrual health resources and misinformation regarding reproductive health for young girls and women. Bana Ba Letsatsi Rehabilitation Centre packages toiletry bags filled with necessary reproductive and menstrual health items/resources, reproductive health and hygiene tips, and inspirational quotes to empower and educate the adolescent girl before, during, and after her menstrual cycle. During every school holiday, the Girls Kit initiative gathers 22 BBL beneficiary Girls for sessions.