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INTOUCH REPORT ON CHANGEX, KIDS COLLAB AND LEGO FOUNDATION 2023

Intouch Youth Development and Community Justice is a non-profit organization operating in South Africa since 2016. Intouch focus is developing programs that (a) promote behavior change, rehabilitation and reintegration for young and adult offenders and (b) support disadvantaged youth to undertake community service/development initiatives.

The youth development Centre was established in 2016 in response to the needs identified among youth. This was in order to provide a critical link between personal development and job creation in order to promote a sustainable livelihood. Intouch Youth Development and Community Justice utilize the Uniting Reformed Church to execute all of its activities.

The establishment of the Youth Centre in the Orange Farm will provide a critical link between personal development and entrepreneurship skills in order to promote sustainable development. The Centre's needs based approach will ensure responsiveness to the needs of out of school youth, through relevant basic training like life skills and computer skills in order to increase chances of employment and marketability.

Youth Development is essential to helping the youth of South Africa succeed in life. There are far more prospective workers than there are jobs available for them, and many youth are not able to afford to study further and become more specialised. This is where youth development programmes come in. Offering young people work readiness programmes, opportunities to advance their education and make a difference in their communities are just some of the ways that youth development can change South Africa for the better. Positive youth development is a framework that guides communities in the way they organize services, opportunities, and supports so that young people can develop to their full potential. Positive youth development is not just another program.



Focus on strengths and positive outcomes. Rather than taking a deficit-based approach, communities intentionally help young people build on their strengths and develop the competencies, values, and connections they need for life and work.

- Community involvement and collaboration. Positive youth development includes but reaches beyond programs; it promotes organizational change and collaboration for community change. All sectors have a role to play in making the community a great place to grow up.
- Long-term commitment. Communities provide the ongoing, developmentally appropriate support young people need over the first 20 years of their lives.
- Youth voice and engagement. Youth are valued partners who have meaningful, decision-making roles in programs and communities.
- Strategies that involve all youth. Communities support and engage all youth rather than focusing solely on "high-risk" or "gifted" youth. Communities do, however, recognize the need to identify and respond to specific problems faced by some youth (such as violence or premature parenthood).

Demand for follow-up, expansion and replication of In-touch programs is high and growing. Unfortunately, as a non-profit dependent on donor/funding we are often unable to meet this demand, since funding agreements are usually limited to a particular project in a particular location and time period. But social development is an ongoing dynamic requiring a longer-term perspective and investment of time and resources. We depend on the added support of our friends in the business and or NPOs who goes all the way to make these kinds of initiatives successful. We rise by uplifting one another. Our organization's ability to continue to operate is due in large part to the generous support of individual donors who believe in our mission.

Take Fitness Together

o We aim to build healthier, more inclusive and sustainable communities and nurturing the lives of young ones. It is never too early to encourage a love of physical activity in kids by exposing them to fun fitness activities and sports. Doctors say that participating in different activities develops motor skills and muscles and reduces the risk of developing overuse injuries. Children are usually able to hit and accurately throw a baseball and make solid contact with a golf or tennis ball. It's fine to encourage competition, as long as you don't put all the focus on winning. Regular physical activity contributes to a child's physical development and promotes overall well-being. It may help if parents and caregivers can encourage them in active play, playground activities, and sports



where possible. Understanding the extensive benefits of exercise for children empowers parents, caregivers, educators, and healthcare professionals to prioritize physical activity in children's daily routines. Most experts advise that children engage in some form of physical activity every day, whether structured or unstructured.

A Centre Mini Golf activity

- The Intouch Play Parks has offered an hour program that includes putting, neargolf swinging and an on-course adventure (riding in carts safely, cleaning golf balls at the ball washer, raking bunkers with small rakes, putting a ball into a hole, putting the flag back in the hole, looking for red/yellow/white sticks or animals that live on the course).
- The aim of mini-golf is to get your ball through the course with the lowest number of attempts (shots). Mini-golf is also known as putt putt, goofy golf and crazy golf. It started in England in the early 19th century and very quickly increased in popularity. Still popular today, mini golf is particularly fun families as its joy and simplicity appeals equally to adults and children.
- Mini golf is suitable for anyone old enough to hold a golf club, which makes it perfect for families and children of all ages. As well as being a fun family and kid's activity, there are plenty of reasons why mini golf might be great for your kids. Mini golf can:
 - Improve hand-eye coordination
 - Help develop logical thought
 - Increase spatial awareness
 - Improve concentration
 - Teach patience

Make Friendship Bracelets

There are so many cute and unique friendship bracelets that kids can make. You can use different types of beads, embroidery thread, yarn, up cycled items, the possibilities are endless. Making jewellery is such a fun activity for kids of all ages and making friendship bracelets is such a wonderful kid-made gift idea. Friendship bracelets also make a great activity for summer camps, playdates, and birthday parties.



- Friendship bracelets are so fun for kids to make and give to their friends! I used to love making friendship bracelets for my friends when I was younger, I must have made dozens of different types over the years. It was always fun to exchange my jewellery creations with my friends.
- These beaded friendship bracelets are just so cute and so easy for kids to make themselves! The beads are so colourful, and I love the positive messages that we included in them with the letter beads. My daughter and I had a lot of fun coming up with the words and phrases to use in her bracelets.

Tea Party Time and Story Telling

o Throwing a tea party is a fun way to teach kids about tea, and they can learn important life skills too. Children benefit from all forms of play where they're able to use their imagination and get creative.

Cultural activities and performances

A child's development is a dynamic process. Unique cultural influences, to which children respond from birth, include eating habits and beliefs, artistic expression, language and religion, influence how they develop emotionally, socially, physically and linguistically. The cultural context gives children a sense of who they are and who they can become. Every child interacts differently with the world around them, and what they receive from the people in their vicinity and environment shapes the way they think and behave.

Solve Puzzles; Play Cards and other Games

 These kinds of activities are so important for kids to do because it helps them learn how to think analytically and solve problems on their own. It is a great way to get kids to use their imaginations and be creative.

Brainstorm an Idea (Critical Thinking and Logical Skills)

 Brainstorming and critical thinking have the same goals—problem solving. Critical thinking is how we arrive at informed judgments or decisions through a sequenced and disciplined process. Brainstorming, on the other hand, is more spontaneous. Brainstorming relies on group participation (or single contemplation) in a relaxed, non-threatening environment.



Organising a Charity Event

The donation you make from hosting a charity event will help to provide essential support to vulnerable children, families & communities. We are dedicated to creating a world where all children have a happy and safe childhood. Children have come through with second hand clothes to offer to those that are coming from historical and disadvantaged backgrounds. This has showed and taught kids the spirit of Ubuntu.

A Water and Sponge Game

a bucket of water a big sponge for each team a container to squeeze the sponge into Playing the game: Each player gets their sponge wet and then runs to the other side and squeezes their sponge into the container. This continues until one team fills their container or you run out of water.

A wheel barrow game

O Have the kids get into pairs and line up at a starting point. One child is the wheelbarrow and the other child is the driver. The wheelbarrow puts his hands on the ground and then the driver holds the child's legs in the air. The wheelbarrow walks on his hands while the driver supports his legs and drives him to the finish line. The first group to the finish line wins, or just play for fun and everyone wins.

I am now in a space where I can really and truly play a role in finding solutions to the real problems in our community, where the solutions are most needed and where the impact of doing so is felt most. I have been trying to find a satisfying way in which I could spend time and give back to the community, taking cognizance of the fact that I have been privileged in many respects as an Activist in this community. This has come at a very appropriate stage of my life and a very exciting and important stage of In-touch development. The organisation is result orientated and the results speak for themselves. Its output are scientifically measured, every rand donated goes a long way towards addressing the real social needs of our society.

This appointment speaks to me because the organisation is run on solid business principles and foundations. It is very important that our expenditure on programmes and events is measured from a business perspective. We can be absolutely sure that not only are the outcome and results of our interventions effective, but we can also report on them as one would expect to report to shareholders, showing how the company has performed and measuring and accounting in a monetized manner and with strong corporate governance principles.



With the prevailing economic crisis that is dominating in the country currently, the price fluctuation that are affecting both individuals and the business fraternity, the socio-economic development sector has also been affected as they mostly rely on funding, donations from the government, corporate world as well as individuals who are people centered within the community. Even though at Intouch we believe even tough money is involved in the social upliftment, it has to find us somewhere as proven by the results of our 2022 - 2023 financial year.

The dedication and passion of our staff is the driving energy behind In-touch. The success of our organisation is resultant from the love we have for our work and living our purpose. I am so privileged to be surrounded by and working with people who support us in accomplishing what we do in the realization that 'nothing great was ever achieved without enthusiasm'.

We appreciate the ongoing contribution of our enduring sponsors and partners and we look forward to welcome new initiatives. Our relationships with our donors not only encompass the provision of material support but represent the forging of partnerships and collaborations.

Below are some of the pictures taken during the implementation of the Play Parks:-







































