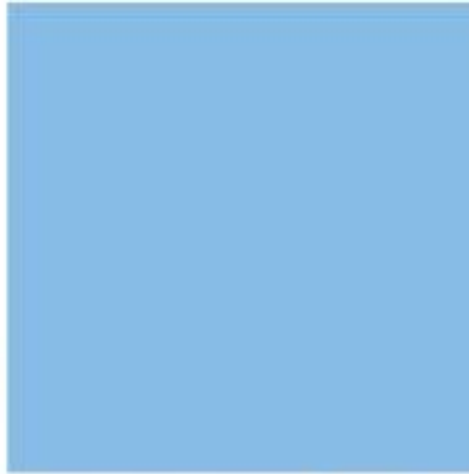




Noah

Nurturing Orphans of AIDS for Humanity





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Nurturing Orphans of AIDS for Humanity

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE PERIOD 1 MARCH 2006 TO END FEBRUARY 2007

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1. Noah (Nurturing Orphans of AIDS for Humanity) Summary

Section 21 Reg. No. 2002/021668/08 · NPO 021/901 VAT registration number: 4860213513

Background to Noah:

- By 2015, it is predicted that there will be 2 million OVC (orphans and vulnerable children) in South Africa
- An OVC is defined as a child who has lost either one of their parents, or who has both parents but those parents are incapable of taking care of their child

Noah's guiding principles:

To find and rollout across South Africa, a solution that

- We could reasonably imagine every child in South Africa having access to
- Would provide a "fall back" position in the case of external resource failure / NGO failure
- Would be scaleable

Noah's model: A community based model that uses minimal resources to work with communities to empower them to support and care for the children in their community

Noah's mission: To empower communities with the knowledge, skills, strategies and self confidence to care for their own orphans and vulnerable children.

How?

By building Arks

- Arks comprise 2 things – community leaders and trained volunteers providing the following services:
 - Registration
 - Home visits
 - Accessing grants
 - Starting food garden
 - A feeding scheme
- Arks are networks, **not** buildings. However, some Arks do have **centres**, manned by staff and which are an additional component to an Ark and which provide additional services
 - Day care
 - After care

Statistics December 2005: December 2006

- | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------|
| • Number of Arks: | 74:110 |
| • Number of OVC registered: | 16 127:26 720 |
| • Number of Feeding Schemes | 31:74 |
| • Number of centres: | 31:70 |
| – Providing day care: | 9:29 |
| – Providing after care: | 25:67 |

Financial statistics

Ratios of 1 staff member: 25 OVC used at centres

Cost to feed a child: R2.50 per child per day is allocated to grocery budgets

2005 Audited Financial Statements:

Expenses R 6 991 214





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% allocated to project costs	79.9%
% allocated to cost of raising funds	7.3%
% allocated to overhead costs	12.8%

2006 Audited Financial Statements:

Expenses	R 14 869 133
% allocated to project costs	82.26%
% allocated to cost of raising funds	5.93%
% allocated to overhead costs	11.81%

2. Executive Summary

Noah (Nurturing Orphans of AIDS for Humanity) was conceptualised at the end of 2000 in response to the realisation that South Africa will face an 'epidemic of orphans' following the AIDS pandemic in the country. Its role is to 'franchise' a community based model of orphan care which aims to help the children orphaned by AIDS to grow up into emotionally and psychologically stable adults capable of forming lasting relationships and of being good parents to their own children and good citizens of South Africa. The overall goal therefore is to support communities to sustainably improve the quality of life [health (nutritional/psychological), education and economic status] of orphans and vulnerable children and their families. Noah is an organisation that has grown extremely quickly and it is our stated intention to always keep looking at what we are doing, how we are doing it and if we could be doing it better.

Noah has developed a 10-step programme allowing motivated individuals and leaders from a community to be guided to set up their own network of care for their orphaned and vulnerable children (OVC). This network is known as an Ark. Each Ark consists of an elected community committee of stakeholders who then recruit a team of volunteers and both undergo training in the core Noah modules. These volunteers are equipped with the skills and confidence to provide a network of care within their communities. Finally the model provides for the possibility of a community-owned resource centre in order to expand the access to services available to these OVC. The model is designed to be cost effective, sustainable and capable of being rolled out throughout South Africa and within every community.

Orphan numbers are currently 1 500 000 in South Africa¹. Predictions for peak numbers of orphans in 2015 exceed 2 million. These children will make up ten (or more) percent of our total population by 2020. What is important to note when considering these statistics is that the majority of children are not HIV positive themselves and will thus need care into adulthood.

Noah's cornerstone is that there will never be enough money or trained professionals to care for all orphans in formal orphanages (even if this were desirable). Care based on handouts is too expensive, too difficult to administer and highly corruptible. More importantly; handouts create dependency. The Noah model focuses on empowering each community to create sustainable networks of care for their orphaned and vulnerable children and the 10-step programme makes it adaptable and replicable in communities for scale-up.

3. Noah Strategy for the year commencing March 2006 to end February 2007

2005 was a year when, as an organisation, Noah spent a significant amount of energy and time reviewing our model to ensure that we continue to stay consistent with the guiding principles that motivated Noah's conception, namely, to find and rollout across South Africa, a solution that

¹ Source: Actuarial Society of South Africa





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- We could reasonably imagine every child in South Africa having access to
- Would provide a "fall back" position in the case of external resource failure / NGO failure
- Would be scaleable

At the outset of 2006 we had a number of Arks at various stages of development in place across the communities in which we operate; these consisted of four types of Ark:

- Arks with no centre that consisted of a Committee and volunteer network and provided a minimum of three Noah services to children. i.e. registration, access to grants, counselling and home visits and food gardens.
- Arks with a satellite office (usually a container or something similar) from which volunteer activities are coordinated. These provided the same services as abovementioned Arks and were important, based on feedback that the existence of a Satellite Office allows communities to feel that the project really does "exist".
- Arks with offices and feeding schemes that provided the additional service of nutritional support to children.
- Full resource centres, i.e. ones which are housed in a building of sorts and which coordinate volunteer activities, provide nutritional support and a day care / after care programme.

2005 proved that long term, Noah's emphasis has to continue to be on building **Arks** as opposed to Resource Centres to allow as many OVC's to be reached. Given that Arks can provide at least 3 services to children, these are not only far reaching in impact, but far more sustainable. Centres consume huge resources and require significant, ongoing mentoring and management of staff. They also directly contribute to a massive drop-off in volunteer activity as soon as they are active, since staff are seen as "winners" in a context of huge unemployment and volunteers as "losers".

Despite the move away from centres, the experience of our own staff, as well as external research indicated that

- Arks needed to have a physical "place" for the committee, volunteers and community to feel that work is being done. As such each existing Ark would be set-up with a satellite office and any new Arks would set-up a satellite office six months into operation.
- The trauma suffered by OVC's before a parent dies, is far greater than the trauma after their parent / caregiver has passed away. As such, the criteria for evaluating new Arks included existing Noah criteria, i.e.
 - A community response of some sort, already in place at the community level, to care for the OVC
 - Sufficient infrastructure – human and physical – to drive the project
 - Proximity to existing Noah Arks so that existing Arks can mentor new Arks
 - Capacity and willingness of local Department of Social Development (DSD) / Department of Social Welfare (DSW) to work with Noah volunteers to process grants;

and was expanded to include the existence of a home based care organisation that Noah volunteers can work with, in terms of referrals of children of terminal parents. This already worked well in a number of instances in successful Arks.

The strategy presented a plan that focussed on attempting to limit the cost (human and financial) of establishing Arks while still ensuring that we roll out even more Arks. As such, the main aims were to:

- Identify and establish 40 new Arks in areas close to existing Arks;
- Convert all existing Arks to functional satellite offices;
- Add 1 feeding scheme to the 12 already existing at Arks;
- Build a maximum of 6 additional resource centres





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The strategy also ensured that each child in Noah would only be counted as having been served if they were receiving a minimum of 3 Noah services

During the course of the year, as we secured additional funding, this plan was further refined so that all Arks were able to offer feeding from inception. This has allowed for a significant improvement in the nature of care that can be provided by Arks and was certainly a step in the right direction to ensuring improved services, while still containing costs.

Currently and going forward, the model is such that

- All Arks, through a combination of staff (maximum of 3) and volunteers, now offer the same basic services to OVC, i.e. registering of OVC, accessing grants, starting food gardens, conducting home visits **and** providing feeding.
- All Arks are provided with an initial capex budget of R35K, to purchase kitchen and basic office equipment.
- The only difference between Arks and centres is that the latter provide structured day care and / or aftercare at a centre / building that is specifically for that purpose. The distinction between an Ark and a centre is a moot one though and has started to fall away, as the emphasis remains increasingly on the provision of services, rather than the infrastructure that facilitates the provision of such services.





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4. Noah progress report

	Objectives (broad actions)	Programme Activities	Progress for the financial year March 2006 to end February 2007
1	To continue to offer services and support at all existing Arks and resource centres across Gauteng & KZN	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All existing Arks to have a feeding scheme in place by November 2006. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Of the 74 existing Arks 56 were operating a feeding schemes by the end of November 2006. An additional 13 existing Arks set-up their feeding scheme in December 2006 and started operating in January 2007. After months of discussions and formal interventions with the Ark and lengthy talks with the Ark donor partner, in December 2006 Noah closed the Cullinan Ark as a result of significant divides within the community. (see Appendix 1 for further details) The remainder 4 existing Arks will set up and start operating a feeding scheme in January 2007.
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6 additional Resource Centres to be set-up by October 2006 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5 new centres were completed by December 2006. These were Shakashead, Maphumulo (Emantanjeni), Ncemanini, Groutville and Ekungobeni. Ncemanini and Maphumulo are fully operational and the other three are providing feeding whilst in the process of setting up the requisite equipment.





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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monthly review meetings • Ark of the month programme 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The implementation of monthly Review Meetings has significantly improved the quality of reports and accountability of both Ark Managers and Ark Builders for the numbers that they report. • The Ark of the Month programme was initiated in KZN in May with the first Ark of the month acknowledged in June 2006. • The Ark of the Month programme has not yet been implemented in Gauteng.
2	To identify and mobilise local community networks/initiatives to support and protect orphans and vulnerable children resulting in the establishment of 40 new Arks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop criteria for the development of successful new Arks • Identify communities that fit such criteria. • Establish a committee that will drive the project • Mobilize a volunteer network that will deliver and monitor services to OVC's within the community • To train new Arks in the Noah model • New Arks to set-up and start operating a feeding scheme from inception 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Noah developed criteria that assist us to identify those communities that are most likely to establish a successful Ark • By the end of October 2006, Noah had identified 13 New Arks in Gauteng. • 26 new Arks were identified in KZN by the end of December 2006. • Training of the new Gauteng Arks took place from 28 to 30 June and from 4 to 6 December 2006. • A total of 25 New KZN Arks were trained from 29 to 31 January; 5 to 7 February and 12 to 14 February 2007. • Of the 39 new Arks the 13 new Gauteng Arks started operating and reporting during the latter part of 2006; the other 26 new KZN Arks will start operating in the new financial year commencing March 2007 once they have opened their bank accounts.
3	To expand services at all existing and new Arks and ensure that each child receives a minimum of 3 Noah services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Re-registration of all children on the Noah database • Improved reporting procedure 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Operation Re-register commenced in March 2006 in both Gauteng and KZN. Every Ark was required to evaluate every OVC





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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training of Noah Committees; Volunteers and Ark Staff 	<p>registration form to assess that the information thereon was correct and up to date and that children were still receiving a Noah service. Gauteng completed the re-registration process by end of May and KZN by end of July .</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Operation Re-registration also helped with reporting in that it gave Ark Managers who were not keeping track of their databases a better understanding of how many children they were supposed to be providing services to and allowed for corrections if they had registered children who did not strictly qualify as OVC's, or children who had moved away etc. • A total of 15889 children received a minimum of 3 Noah services in the month of January 2007 out of a total of 25 238 children registered at Noah Arks. This number is an increase of 3 301 children receiving 3 Noah services in July 2006 • Ongoing training of Committee members; volunteers and Ark staff (see appendix 2) • Through the month of November 2006, Noah designed and carried out an Impact Study to assess a range of indicators concerning the impact of Noah programs on the ground for both OVC and Volunteers. The data collection process has been completed in Gauteng. Data entry is underway and it is intended that data analysis will commence by the end of February 2007. Data collection in KZN
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			commenced in early February and will probably extend into mid-March 2007.
4	To sustain and improve community volunteer commitment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of Volunteer Support Programme • Pilot of Volunteer support project at two Arks in Gauteng • Role out of Volunteer acknowledgement programme • Secure government stipends for Noah community volunteers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As part of the development of a Volunteer support programme, in March 2006 Noah commenced with the pilot of a Volunteer psycho-social-income-generating project in two Arks in Gauteng. The pilots have been completed and have had a significant impact on the development of an effective Volunteer Support Programme. • In January 2007 David Khoza was appointed as HR Manager for Noah and will continue to oversee the development of the Volunteer Support Programme. • On 13 December Noah hosted our first Volunteer Acknowledgment Day for volunteers of our Gauteng Arks. This was followed with similar events held in KZN during the month of February 2007. (see Appendix 1 for further details) • Noah secured government stipends for 65 community volunteers at 5 Gauteng Arks.
5	To ensure continued and expanded donor support by developing relationships with donor partners as well as individual employees of the donor partner.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation of Volunteer programme • Increase employee volunteer involvement with Noah projects • Improve relations with government at all levels (see appendix 1 for further details) • Improved reporting • Redesign and update Website 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In April Noah launched a Volunteer Programme in Gauteng for individuals who would like to give of their skills and time in a personal capacity to an Ark or to Noah. The programme has had limited success and going forward in 2007 we intend to further develop the Volunteer Programme so that we can better utilise this valuable resource. • During the period 1 March to end December 2006, 20 donor partners participated in 23





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Activity Days at Noah's Arks in Gauteng.

- Noah was selected to participate on a task team to develop the National Action Plan and Implementation Plan for the National Action Committee for Children affected and infected with HIV/Aids (NACCA) an initiative driven by the Chief Aids Directorate for the National Department of Social Development.
- Noah secured repeat funding from the Gauteng Department of Social Development for 5 Gauteng Arks in 2006.
- An improved bi-annual reporting system has been implemented with quarterly reports submitted on request.
- The Noah website continues to be updated.





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5. Ark summary report (KZN)

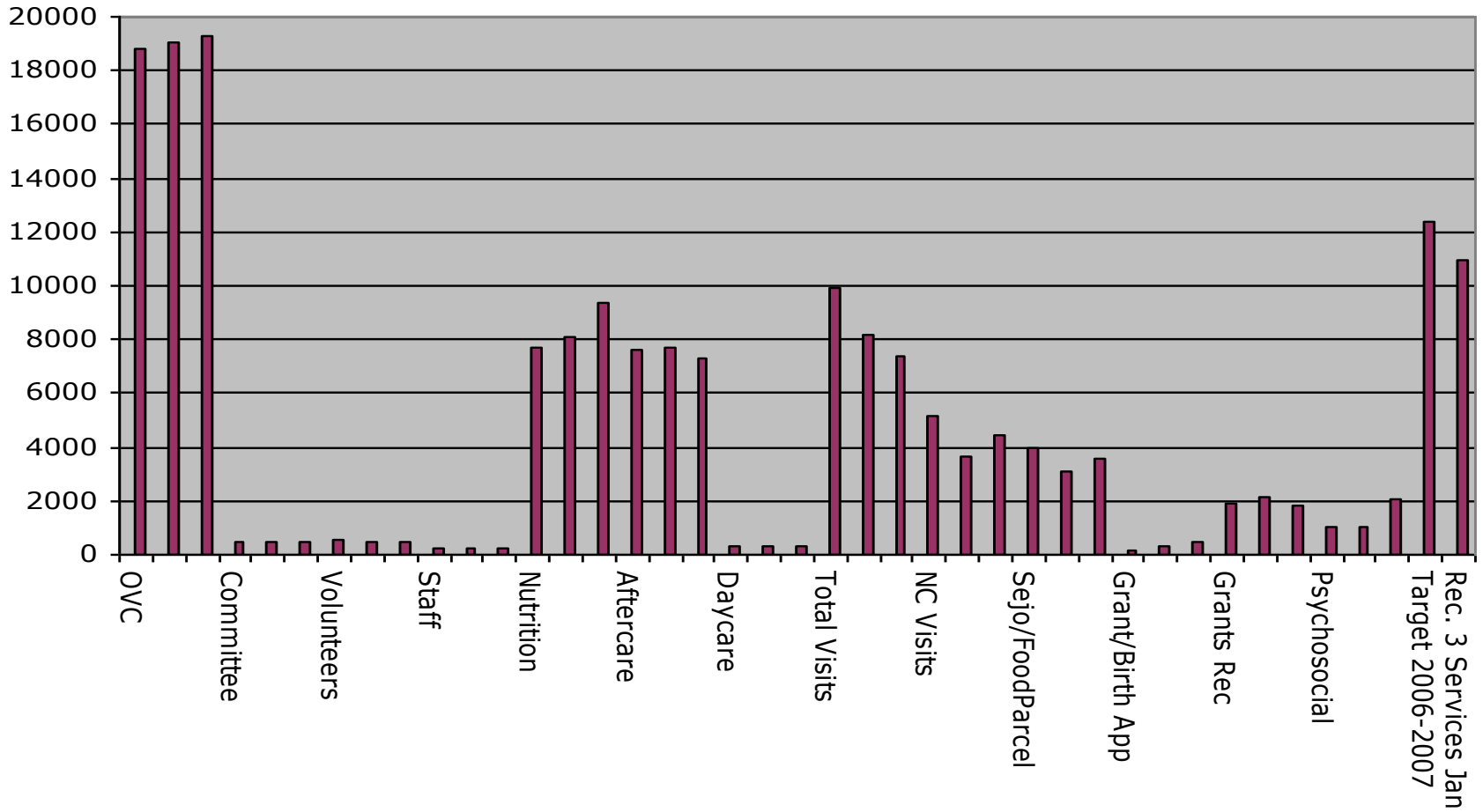




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KZN Arks Nov 2006-Jan2007





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Ark summary report (Gauteng)

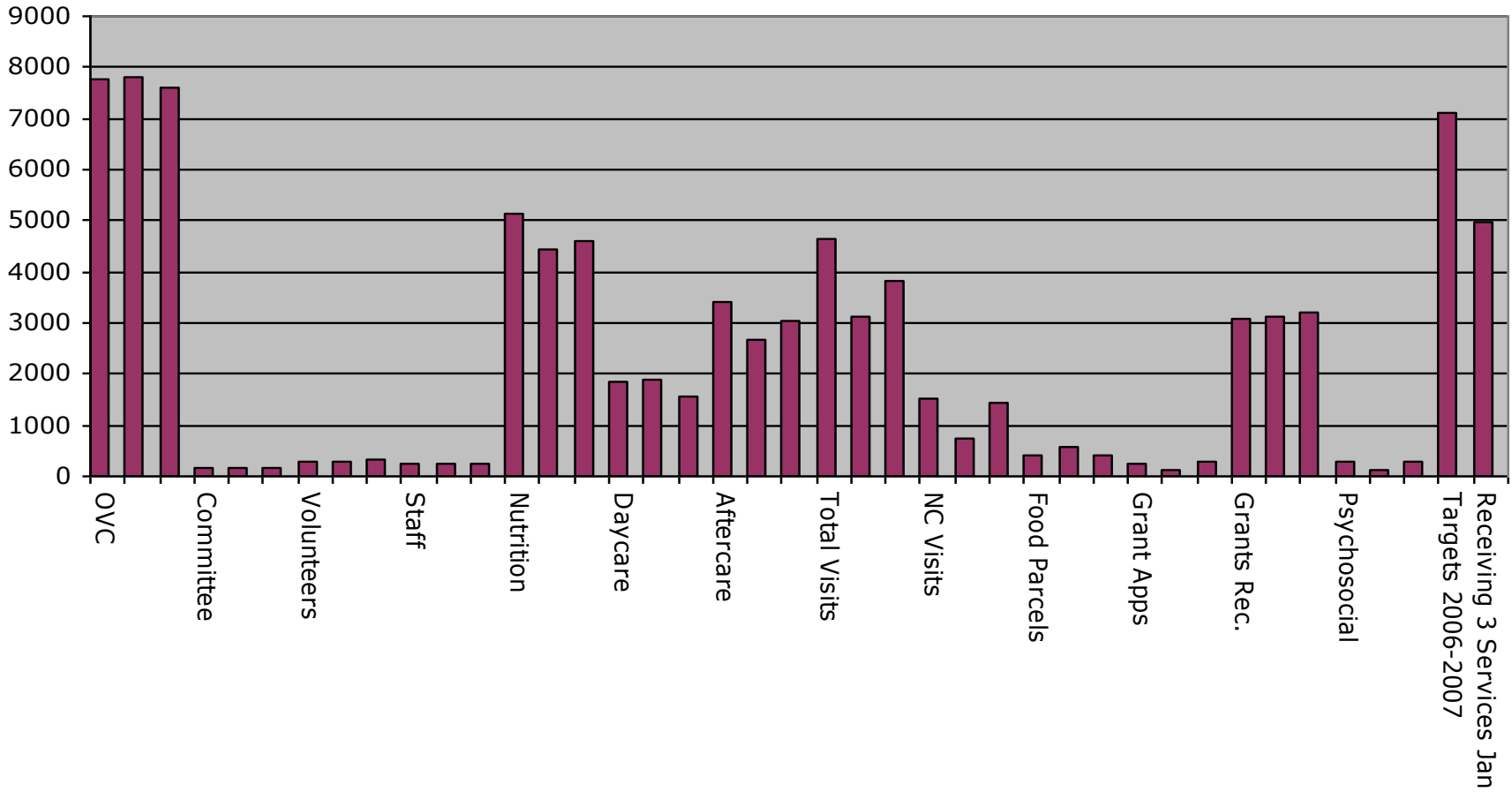




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Gauteng Arks Nov 2006 - Jan 2007





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Service delivery by Arks for the month of February 2007

Services	KZN	Gauteng	Total
No. of Arks reporting	47	29	76
OVC Registration	18 498	7 222	25 720
Committee Numbers	459	171	630
Volunteer Numbers	477	312	789
Staff Numbers	212	241	453
No. of children receiving Nutrition	9 333	4 603	13 936
No. of children receiving Aftercare	7 291	2 943	10 234
No. of children receiving Daycare	289	1 635	1 924
No. of children receiving Home Visits	7 413	3 595	11 008
No. of children for whom grant applications sent this month	500	278	778
No. of children receiving grants through Noah	1 262	3 323	4 585
No. of children receiving Psychosocial support	2 036	273	2 309





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Comparative of service delivery by Noah from February 2006 to February 2007

Services	February 2006	February 2007
OVC identification and registration on Noah database	21 158	25 720
No. of Committee members across all projects	786	630
No. of volunteers across all projects	1 185	789
No. of Ark staff across all projects	201	453
No. of OVC's receiving Nutritional support	8 418	13 936
No. of OVC's attending Noah After care facilities	5 586	10 234
No. of OVC's attending Noah Day care facilities	1 998	1 924
No. of OVC's receiving home visits from Noah volunteers	7 584	11 008
No. of grant applications submitted	594	778
No. of children referred for additional psycho-social support	275	2 309





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6. Highlights of 2006

So far, 2006 has been a very busy year for all Noah staff and volunteers, as they have all dedicated themselves even more to the improvement of the lives of South Africa's orphaned and vulnerable children. Some of the highlights of the year include:

- We have welcomed additional staff members on board this year including a new Bookkeeper, an Activity Manager to monitor and support Resource Centre activities as well as a Report and Proposal writer in Gauteng. Changes in job profile have also seen Tshepo Moraka, a Gauteng Ark Builder promoted to Operational Manager and Malebo Sesane, Gauteng Ark Mentor promoted to Gauteng Ark Builder. To ensure we are able to keep pace with the 40 new Arks we have bought on board over the past year, Noah has hired 11 additional staff members, including an HR Manager, 5 Ark Builders, another bookkeeper, a Clamber Club Manager and 2 data capturers.
- Continued support and goodwill from local and international donors and sponsors, allowing for a significant increase in Noah's budget and consequent operations. The operating budget for 2006 was initially set at R13 440 830, a 92% increase on the 2005 expenses and allowing for a more than 100% increase in the number of services given to OVC. This budget was then further increased in November 2006 to R25 113 349 to ensure the roll out of feeding schemes to all Arks.
- Dr. Greg Ash was invited to speak on Noah at the global plastic surgeons conference in the US. He received an overwhelming response and has subsequently been invited back to speak on Noah at further conferences.
- Noah's fundraising dinner on the 12th of July once again raised over R1 million for Noah. The evening was a great success with guest appearances from Evita Bezuidenhout, Nataniel, David Kau and Al Prodggers. We reached a record attendance this year with some 700 guests.
- The popularity of the Swaneville Ark children's choir continues to improve and within the year the choir has performed at Noah's Gala Dinner as well as for international guests at the International Diplomatic Spouses Association (IDSA) Gala Dinner and the Gauteng Premier's office.
- Pre-school children of the Olievenhoutbosch Ark delighted guests at the Noah Gala Dinner with a performance of their Clamber Club exercise programme. Last year Noah in partnership with Clamber Club piloted an exercise programme for young children that promotes learning skills and health, at five of Noah's Gauteng Arks. The programme has proved to be a great success with extraordinary results and improved confidence in the children.
- Robert and Kim Kiyosaki visited South Africa to raise funds and awareness for Noah as they promoted their new books around the country.
- Several Arks in Gauteng have been featured on both SABC TV programmes as well as radio, including Noah's Moletsane Ark that was featured on SABC 1 "Shift" that featured the Ark's success accessing government grants.
- Noah was invited to exhibit at the XVI International AIDS Conference in Toronto and received scholarships for three staff members to attend the conference in August 2006.





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- Noah's working relationships with key partner NGO's were further developed and strengthened during the course of a very busy year. These include Ntataise, Project Build, Clamber Club, Woza Bona and The Rob Smetherham Bereavement Services for Children, all of whom helped us further improve the skills and services Arks are able to provide.
- High profile visitors to Noah included the Countess of Wessex and Dr Wendy Luhabe, Chancellor of the University of Johannesburg who were delighted by Noah's children's performance. The Countess of Wessex commented that "My children also sing the same song at school" when children of the Olievenhoutbosch Ark performed for her.
- We hosted our first Donor Open Day at Vosloorus Ark. The day was such a success that we will continue to showcase our Arks in this manner through the course of 2007.

And other such stories...

We have tried to keep these stories as verbatim as possible. Notes in italic are comments by Noah





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7. Financial report

NURTURING ORPHANS OF AIDS FOR HUMANITY

INCOME STATEMENT FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 25 DECEMBER 2006

	2007 ACTUALS	2007 BUDGET	VARIANCE (OVER)/UNDER
INCOME	23,129,200	25,654,738	2,525,538
Noah donations	8,518,603	7,832,373	-686,230
Ark donations	6,097,123	6,830,325	733,202
International government donations-Arks	6,592,968	9,781,040	3,188,072
International government donations-Admin	630,842	0	-630,842
Local government-Arks	1,101,000	1,101,000	0
Other Income-Arks (Income Generating Projects)	768	0	-768
Other Income-Admin	894	0	-894
Interest Received-Arks	740	0	-740
Interest Received-Admin	186,263	110,000	-76,263
LESS: TOTAL EXPENSES	19,584,146	25,113,349	5,529,203
ADMIN EXPENSES	5,145,895	6,208,957	1,063,062
Advertising and Promotions	99,040	30,000	-69,040
Bank Charges	23,849	19,000	-4,849
Cleaning and Consumables	9,961	10,000	39
Computer Maintenance and Expenses	35,673	33,017	-2,656
Conference and Workshops	65,564	75,000	9,436
Courier, Postage and Deliveries	22,721	21,032	-1,689
Depreciation	181,724	233,180	51,456
Electricity and Water	6,851	8,771	1,920
Insurance	23,169	30,659	7,490
Interest and Penalties paid	6,688	0	-6,688
Legal Fees	0	5,000	5,000
Monitoring and Evaluation of Arks	31,408	41,000	9,592
Placement Costs	46,851	105,608	58,757
Printing and Stationery	100,583	90,000	-10,583
Rent Paid	221,703	266,390	44,687
Repairs and Maintenance	5,136	5,000	-136
Salaries			





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- Salaries Admin	3,603,758	4,478,688	874,930
- Staff benefits UIF etc	51,236	98,010	46,774
- Cell phones Admin	90,464	136,929	46,465
- Workmen's Compensation	13,130	13,130	0
Security	2,479	4,716	2,237
Staff refreshments and Welfare	42,557	48,173	5,616
Subscriptions	9,689	15,100	5,411
Training	32,009	40,500	8,491
Travel and Accommodation	222,036	173,798	-48,238
Telephone, Fax and emails	192,972	216,256	23,284
Vehicle Maintenance/Fuel and Toll	4,644	10,000	5,356

ARK EXPENSES

14,438,251

18,904,392

4,466,141

Advertising and Promotions	0	0	0
Art Materials	29,628	147,090	117,462
Bank Charges	106,227	142,226	35,999
Children's Entertainment and Outings	240,278	238,362	-1,916
Cleaning and Consumables	128,735	133,729	4,994
Conferences and Workshops	0	0	0
Computer Maintenance and Expenses	11,448	26,562	15,114
Courier, Postage and Deliveries	17,224	90,783	73,559
Depreciation-Set up costs	3,590,917	6,656,665	3,065,748
Electricity, Water and Gas	214,342	304,711	90,369
Groceries	3,183,439	4,675,099	1,491,660
Income Generating Project Expenses	2,762	7,500	4,738
Interest Paid	208	2,143	1,935
Legal Fees	11,772	10,000	-1,772
Motor Vehicle Expenses	106,404	108,194	1,790
Medicines	6,507	9,960	3,453
Monitoring and Evaluation of Arks	53,388	133,340	79,952
Placement Costs	1,345	0	-1,345
Printing and Stationery	106,633	213,543	106,910
Rent Paid	79,124	113,825	34,701
Repairs and Maintenance	50,386	72,467	22,081
Salaries	4,313,492	3,002,811	-1,310,681
Uniforms (Staff & OVC's)	284,949	210,802	-74,147
Security	12,260	40,925	28,665
Vegetable gardens, Seeds and Fertilizers	68,718	181,732	113,014
Subscriptions	5,447	8,285	2,838
Staff Refreshments and Welfare	15,097	5,000	-10,097
Telephone and Fax	156,483	256,092	99,609
Training Community Leaders / Staff	580,578	513,506	-67,072





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Training/meetings/workshops	713,410	909,689	196,279
Volunteers			
Travel and Accommodation	278,271	338,296	60,025
Transport costs	68,780	351,055	282,275
NET SURPLUS/(SHORTFALL)	3,545,054	541,389	-3,003,665

ACCUMULATED FUNDS AT BEGINNING OF YEAR	3,800,714
NET SURPLUS/(SHORTFALL)	7,345,768

NURTURING ORPHANS OF AIDS FOR HUMANITY

**BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 25 DECEMBER 2006**

	2007
ASSETS	
NON CURRENT ASSETS	404,449
Fixed assets-Noah Admin	804,253
Accumulated depreciation-Noah Admin	-399,805
Fixed assets-Noah Arks	3,590,117
Accumulated depreciation-Noah Arks	-3,590,117
CURRENT ASSETS	7,175,777
Petty cash-Noah Admin	7,005
Petty cash/Monthly floats on hand-Noah Arks	31,662
Cash at bank-Noah Admin	4,103,620
Cash at bank-Donors	2,353,553
Cash at bank-Noah Arks	277,700
Vat control account	398,189
Receivables	4,049
TOTAL ASSETS	7,580,225

EQUITY AND LIABILITIES

Accumulated funds beginning of year	3,800,714
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Current year profit/(loss)	3,545,054
Accumulated funds end of year	7,345,768
NON CURRENT LIABILITIES	233,773
Balance of funds allocated to DSW funded Arks	233,773
CURRENT LIABILITIES	685
Accruals	584
Bank overdraft-Noah Arks	101
TOTAL EQUITY AND LIABILITIES	7,580,225

Appendix 1

Cullinan Ark

Cullinan Ark has experienced major problems in the last few months, culminating in threats against Noah's Ark Builder when the Ark Manager was suspended from duty. Months of discussions and formal interventions, beginning in July last year, have not yielded results – the community members working on the project remain divided and continue to pit their energy against each other rather than to the benefit of the children in their care. As such, we have been left with no option but to close the Ark down.

Progress (such as it was) was being reported to the donor partner on an ongoing basis and a meeting was held with them on the 19th of February, at which copies of all paperwork, as well as an income statement for the funds received, were discussed and delivered. The grant manager seems satisfied that Noah did as much as possible to try to rescue the situation and the Ark.

Gauteng Volunteer Acknowledgement Day

The backbone of all of Noah's Arks is the community volunteer network. In many instances, they are the primary delivery channel of services and support to the children in communities. At Noah, we are constantly working to find ways to acknowledge, thank and support the volunteers, including making budgets available for monthly "thank you" workshops at every Ark, working with the Department of Social Development to try to get as many of our volunteers onto the Expanded Public Works Programme as possible and piloting income generating and community volunteer support projects in both Gauteng and KZN. In December last





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year, with the further generous support and help of donor CBF (Co-operative Baptist Foundation) we hosted our first Volunteer Acknowledgement Day on the 13th of December at Gold Reef City.

The day was a great success and one that will live in many people's memory for a very long time. Attended by 376 volunteers from all over Gauteng, and 65 guests who the volunteers had invited to enjoy the day with them, the day was one of celebration, entertainment and unqualified enjoyment.

Volunteers were treated to a slap up lunch with speeches and entertainment by the Noah staff, Annemarie Houser of CBF and the Noah Clamber Club group from Ivory Park. They were also serenaded by the Iscathamiya choir from the Melusi Ark in KZN and the reaction from the volunteers as they screamed, clapped and ululated fit to take the roof of the Oppenheimer function room off, left no-one in any doubt how much they were enjoying themselves! At the end of the day each volunteer also received a personalized, laminated certificate of acknowledgement and a goodie bag which included a Noah uniform, 2007 diary, toiletries and a bag to use during the year.

Even as the formal festivities drew to a close, the day still provided hours of fun, as the volunteers and guests alike spent hours on the theme park rides. Noah office and Ark staff have been unanimous since then, in their praise for a quite wonderful event, with Ark Managers reporting from all over the province how their volunteers were still talking about how much they relished every part of the day, for weeks afterwards. Following the success of the Gauteng Volunteer Acknowledgement Day, 2 Volunteer Acknowledgement Days were hosted for KZN Arks during the latter part of February 2007. We shall report on these events in the 2007 bi-annual report.

Department of Social Development and Welfare

We continue to strengthen relations with Government across all levels of the Department of Social Development and Welfare. For the FY 2006/07 the Department of Social Development has funded 5 of Noah's Gauteng Arks to the total amount of R1,631,000. A total of 37 volunteers from Wattville, Daveyton and Muldersdrift are currently receiving EPWP stipends with another 28 expected to start receiving their stipends in March 2007 at the Kingsway and Putfontein Arks. In December 2006, we submitted applications for continued funding for FY 2007/08 for these five Arks.

In KwaZulu-Natal the Department of Social Welfare has pledged to fund four Arks with running costs to an expected value of R500 000. These Arks are, Umlalazi in Eshowe, Etsheni, Trustfeed and Utrecht.

At the CKT Golf Day held on the 27 October last year, the Office of the Premier pledged an amount of R250 000 to Noah.

At a national level we continue to attend and actively participate in NACCA (National Action Committee for Children affected and infected by HIV/Aids). In a NACCA meeting held from January 25 to 26, a review of NACCA's operational plan was undertaken, as a result of which increasing emphasis will be placed on business participation in, and partnership with, NACCA. The Capacity Building Working Group, of which Noah is a member, is also making significant progress – several research studies to identify capacity gaps are underway; an audit of training materials for caregivers and youth workers is almost complete and another service provider is working on the development of additional or new training material that will address issues pertinent to OVC (Orphans and Vulnerable Children) such as succession planning, psycho-social support etc.





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Noah is also part of the Child Care Forum Reference Team that is going to oversee the roll out of Child Care Forums Training in all 9 provinces. The Gauteng Department of Social Development has invited Noah to participate in the Steering Committee that is going to co-ordinate structures at regional and ward/community levels to optimize service delivery to OVC within the guidelines of the National Policy Framework. We see this as positive progress at the provincial level as we strive to strengthen our relations with government across all its tiers.

Noah has also been invited to the SANAC Children's Sector Network Conference happening in Durban from the 21 -22 February 2007.

Department of Education

A meeting was recently held with Noah, ARK (Absolute Return for Kids) and the Special Needs Directorate of the KZN Department of Education (DoE). The aim of the meeting was to secure a formal MOU with the department and so doing ensure that DoE committed to taking over full responsibility for the running and funding of the 2 pilot centres that have been initiated with ARK at schools. After a number of discussions with various stakeholders in DoE, we seem finally to have reached the correct department and there was considerable excitement about what Noah is doing in the pilots, given the fact that Noah seems able to provide more cost effective alternatives to other projects currently being piloted.





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Appendix 2

Training

- 6 – 10 March SOS House Mothers Workshop for 23 Volunteers from KZN Ark.
- 13 – 17 March SOS/Grey's Hospital HIV/Aids Education for 47 Volunteers from KZN Arks
- 13 – 17 March Play Therapy training for Child Supervisors from 8 Gauteng Arks. The training was presented by two Noah Ark Managers whom had themselves completed training in Play Therapy
- 22 March Clamber Club training for Child Supervisors from 5 of Gauteng Arks
- 27 – 31 March SOS House Mothers Workshop for 23 Volunteers from KZN Ark.
- 3 – 7 April Ntataise Early Childhood Development (ECD) training for Ark Managers from all of Gauteng Arks
- 3 – 7 April RSBSC Train the Trainer – Foundation in Play Skills Workshop for 6 Child Minders from KZN Arks
- 4 – 7 April, 8 – 12 May, 23 – 26 May The Valley Trust Vegetable Garden Workshops for a total 35 Volunteers from KZN Arks
- 10 – 13 April Review training on the Noah model and procedures for Ark Managers from all Gauteng Arks
- 18 & 24 May follow-up Workshops for all Child Supervisors who attended the Play Therapy training in March.
- 28 May – 2 June Child Minders trained by RSBSC above give workshop in Play Skills to 30 Volunteers from KZN Arks
- 26 – 30 June Ntataise ECD training for Child Supervisors from all Gauteng Arks
- 26 – 30 June NACCW training in module 1 for 4 Gauteng Arks
- 1 July Committee Imbizo
- 10 - 14 July Ntataise ECD training for Ark Managers of all Gauteng Arks
- 17 – 21 July Ntataise ECD training for Child Supervisors of all Gauteng Arks
- 25 – 28 July Social Security and Health (HIV/Aids and ARV's) Workshop for 18 Volunteers from KZN Arks
- A Committee Imbizo was held on 1st of July and 07 October 2006 with all Gauteng Ark Committee members and focused on the Noah model and improved service delivery to orphans and vulnerable children.
- 34 Ark managers and 67 Committee members in KZN attended finance management training, dates were: 3 – 5 November, 10 – 12 November, 17 – 19 November and 8 – 10 December.
- Phase 3 vegetable gardening training for 9 Arks staff members. Dates: 12 – 13 September 2006.
- New Arks Training 04 – 06 December 2006 (Katlehong 2, Ivory Park 2, Mohlakeng, Meadowlands, Orange Farm and Actonville)
- Advanced Play Therapy refresher course for 8 Child minders (KZN) and 2(Gauteng). Dates: 12 – 16 February 2007

