

Refilwe Community Project Update:

I am pleased to inform you of the completion of phase 1 of this project. The Refilwe community, located near Lanseria airport in greater Johannesburg South Africa, now has two newly refurbished ablution facilities featuring a zero discharge eco friendly sanitation system, which will greatly enhance the health and personal hygiene of the community at large, while protecting the area's fresh water supply from further degradation. Your donation paid for 10 sanix sanitation systems two redeveloped ablution buildings, 8 showers with solar heating, two laundry facilities and a "Thomas The Train" playground for the children.



Refilwe Ablution Project Layout

A message from the Refilwe Project Leader

"I want to make use of this opportunity to send a very big thank you to every generous donor involved in this project. Your generosity is making such a difference at Refilwe and thanks to you we can now offer the people that we serve another great benefit. This "ablution center" has been a dream at Refilwe for a long time and to finally see it in front of our eyes is such a blessing. Many take for granted the fact that we can shower, wash our clothes and have access to decent toilet facilities – but for most people in our community this is just not possible. Thank you for making this dream come true."

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"Thomas The Train" Playground
Refilwe South Africa May 2007

The children see they have a new "train" in their playground, we see a sanix toilet system put to another good use. One might be more fun the other could save their lives!

Pictures of the project:



Derelict Ablution Facility before reconstruction
Brian LaTrobe in foreground – Nov 2006



Same building after reconstruction with sanix systems installed
May 2007



Interior view completed ablution facility
May 2007



Solar heating coils
March 2007

Our thanks to the sponsoring jewelers of the Private Collection of South African Diamond program and the GlobalGiving community, without whose generous support this project would not have been possible.

Brian LaTrobe
The Brian LaTrobe Foundation

We hope you will support our next Refilwe Project soon to be posted on www.globalgiving.com/privatecollection

Refilwe Project Phase 2 – Project Need \$13,500.



Help us create a new home and new life for 6-orphaned children.

Your donation will pay to refurbish an existing building with new electrical and sanitation systems along with a new interior with fridges, washing machines and furniture for 6 children and their caregiver. The children will be placed with a God Parent (house mother/father) who will play a direct role in their education, care, love and nourishment. The child will have access to further benefits that various programs at Refilwe offers – medical care, food, skills development, etc.

Refilwe's aim is not to recreate an orphanage atmosphere found in a traditional institutionalized program. They want to provide a place where these children can be "integrated" into family structures as far as possible. Although Refilwe does have orphaned children due to the devastating affects of Aids, most of these unfortunate children come from "vulnerable" backgrounds. These are cases where the children might have a father or mother, but the parent is unemployed, abusive, terminally ill, addicted to alcohol and/or drugs, etc. Children cannot safely grow up in these environments and Refilwe offers an opportunity to break their own cycle of poverty and hope for the next generation.

Refilwe currently provides an orphanage to children between the ages of 5 and 16. They do not take children older than 12 into the program, but once a child comes to Refilwe he/she will remain with them until they can stand on their own feet. Refilwe ensures that the child gets an opportunity to realize his or her dreams and become a "whole" person that can be self-sustained through further education and skills development. Refilwe hopes to one day provide a home for 40 orphans.