

A Word from the Managing Director

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A Spotlight on:

OVSA Board Members 2010 | 2011

Thank you to everyone who has supported us in the last few months and we look forward to a successful 2010!

Dr Josianne Roma-Reardon
Managing Director

Schools Programme Update



Schools Programme: OVSA Staff Under the Microscope

The OVSA Facilitators play a critical role in implementing the series of 9 Schools Programme workshops and recognises the professionalism and uniqueness of each Facilitator. Here are some of their 2010 highlights that they would like to share with you:

KwaZulu-Natal: Nothile Sibiya

KwaZulu-Natal: Thabo Mbiko

Eastern Cape: Pamela Nongila

Ntonto Vezi
Schools Programme Manager

Communications Chatter

2010 is drawing to a close and for the OVSA Communication & Media Department this will mean 'out with the old' and 'in with the new!' Come January 2011, Communications & Media will have morphed into the expanded Communications & Fundraising Department.

The new portfolio, which includes communication strategies and material development, as well as publicity campaigns, also targets new funding and partnership opportunities that support the ongoing implementation of a quality educational Schools Programme and its associated projects.

From a Communications perspective, we aim to catalyse and welcome multi-stakeholder input and buy-in to the Schools Programme. We will further prioritise the use of Social Change Communication as a means to tackle the structural drivers of the HIV epidemic; with a particular focus on the drivers of gender inequality, stigma & discrimination, and human rights. Social mobilisation around the societal and behavioural, as well as biological elements that drive HIV risk and vulnerability, will form part of this strategy. None of this is possible however, without the ongoing meaningful participation of young people. We will be bringing out young people's voices using the FLIP Video Camcorder technology (with training from OXFAM International), to produce short promotional clips which can be used to support programme content development, as well as support further promotional activities. Please visit <http://www.theflip.com/en-me/> for more information on this amazing technology!

2011 will also see a renewed focus on Fundraising activities. OVSA will not only focus on accessing inter-governmental funding, but also prioritise engagement with Foundations and corporate sector stakeholders. We will also be revisiting the issue of 'donations' - either via an annual electronic request, or through the Facebook cause. A 'donations' area which has already met with steady success has been our inclusion as a donor recipient under the Woollies 'My School' campaign. In the new year, OVSA would also like to promote the ongoing development of partnerships with other like-minded NGOs, and hopes that this will prove a strategic way to elicit and promote continuing and sustained financial and technical aid for the programme.

MERRY CHRISTMAS and PLEASE GIVE US YOUR MONEY!!!

Marlijn van Berne

Communications & Media Manager



Funder Focus

A new funding partner has joined the OVSA family! We would hereby like to introduce you to our new partners: the Belgian Development Agency (BTC). Welcome aboard!

The Belgian Development Agency



The Belgian development agency (BTC) mobilises its many resources and its expertise, to eliminate poverty in the world. BTC contributes to the efforts of the international community and works towards a society that provides present and future generations with sufficient resources to build a sustainable and fair world.

Its staff members in Brussels and overseas embody the commitment of the Belgian State and other development partners to international solidarity. They support more than 300 cooperation projects in some 20 countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America.

Vision

The BTC commits to a society that provides present and future generations with sufficient resources to build a fair world. They support the initiatives of their partners to eliminate poverty.

Mission

Both in Belgium and in the developing countries it works, the BTC embodies the commitment of the Belgian State to international solidarity. In partnership with the governments of the countries where they are operating, the BTC contributes to the efforts of the international community to reduce poverty. The BTC works for the Belgian State as well as other development partners. They listen, give advice and put the expertise of their staff to the disposal of their partners. They look for innovative solutions to the challenges set by the complex environment in which they evolve. They do so with utmost professionalism. Transparency and integrity are the basic principles of their approach and their partners trust them for the quality of their actions – which the BTC takes full responsibility for.

Friends Focus

We would like to thank the following friends for their generous donations. THANK YOU!!!

- Astrid Stort - Lebanon
- Bruce Hepburn - England
- Catharine Steer - Canada
- Elly Brockbank - England
- Gerbert van Genderen Stort - the Netherlands
- Ismail Shaik - South Africa
- Jennifer Compton - England
- Jonathan Zeal - Hong Kong
- Marijke Spies - the Netherlands
- Marina Rifkin - South Africa
- Mike Woollam - South Africa

If you would like to donate, please visit our website www.onevoice.org.za or call +27 (0)31 202 0555

Quote from OVSA Learner

In commemoration of Human Rights Day on 21 March 2010, we would like to share the following quote from a learner participating in our Schools Programme:

"I am HIV positive; I sometimes get sick when I'm at school, but not very sick like when I'm at home. Being sick made me scared that I think I am the only one who is sick in the whole world. When both of my parents died I was afraid, thinking that I was going to be left alone and have no one to look after me, but my grandmother was there with the helper from Social Welfare who sorted my problem after the death of my parents. Till today I consider myself as a survivor because at home we receive food parcels from Hospice and I go to school having had food like any other child. At school I also learn from OneVoice that people with my illness are like all other people and they have human rights too."

Special Feature

OVSA & WhizzKids United Set the Pace!

[Africaid's WhizzKids United](#) (WKU), a dynamic youth programme that uses football (soccer) to educate young people on HIV prevention, recently partnered with us on a 2-day Skills Development Workshop in Durban.

The objectives of the workshop were clear from the onset; to better understand the purpose of each organisation; recognise our roles and responsibilities within our organisation; determine our strengths and weaknesses within our scope of work; share best practices to create a more effective and efficient approach within each department; and plan and develop an ongoing work strategy between WKU and OVSA.

Both days were filled with a variety of activities including group work and presentations. We also had the pleasure of welcoming two external presenters, one discussing the importance of a Child Protection Policy and the other about setting a goal and having the vision to achieve it. Finally, in a fun and relaxed atmosphere, both organisations shared how each engages young people in HIV and AIDS prevention (i.e., through football (soccer) and creative expression).



The workshop gave us all a chance to share ideas, talk openly and frankly with our counterparts, and look at ways we could learn from each other. All staff benefited greatly from the experience and one participant said: "It was great fun, very insightful and definitely to be repeated!". It is through such skills development workshops that OVSA hopes to learn from its partners and share best practices.

Ravind Sewpersad
Communications and Media Officer

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