

**PROGRESS REPORT FOR THE NUTRITION PROJECT – EASTERN CAPE
APRIL TO SEPTEMBER 2009**

1. STATISTICS

Activity	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept
Total number of children seen				157	203	156
Admissions	17	12	18	4	9	3
Discharges	22	34	29	16	10	3
Referrals to Clinic	0	0	0	5	7	19
Referrals to Hospital	10	5	4	0	0	0
Referrals to Dept. of Social Dev	0	0	0	1	1	0
Individual (home) food gardens	0	0	1	27	38	38
Workshop Attendees	98	81	114	99	132	16
E-pap given out	14	14	5	19	15	17
Medicines given out	19	18	14	12	3	5

2. ACHIEVEMENTS AND CHALLENGES

Objective	Achievements	Challenges
Psychosocial Intervention	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Psychosocial needs are addressed by counselling primary caregivers in their own homes, and facilitating support groups where mothers have the opportunity to share experiences and socialise. - Only two mothers needed referral to the Dept of Social Development for child support grants in the past six months. Community members have been well informed about the procedures and requirements to apply for grants, and are able to access this service independently. - A support group for pregnant mothers was initiated so that could be educated about infant feeding prior to their children being born. This is a proactive step to prevent early occurrence of malnutrition. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Some of our families from Second Creek – the informal settlement around the city’s rubbish dump – lost all their belongings in a fire. The municipality is now trying to find them alternative accommodation and they remain hopeful that they will receive an RDP house in the future.

Objective	Achievements	Challenges
Health Care	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - We are providing 13 children who are infected with TB but on treatment are provided with meals at lunch time. Ndende clinic is used as the service point. - We continue with the health information workshops every alternate week, and attendance remains good. The most recent topics were: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Food gardens o Child Health Clinic, and o Breastfeeding - The feeding scheme at Khanyisa ECD centre is doing well and the children are in good health. 	
Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Thando and Nomfundo continue to visit the ECD centres linked to Cotlands to offer them support and guidance. - We have installed two containers which are used as kitchens at two of the ECD centres. - On request of a donor we are supplying one of the ECD centres with groceries. They are using their supplies responsibly and have good stock control measures in place. - This same school is also up to date with the implementation of the Grade R curriculum. - The toy library was supposed to be established in July but we are challenged by the spate of burglaries that are taking place. This has resulted in funds being used to repair damages rather than renovate the property. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - We have had 5 break-ins since we moved into the house and this is hampering efforts to implement our plans.
Sustainability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The food garden at our centre consists of 12 plots and the vegetables were growing very well. We have already harvested spinach, carrots and beetroot. Our plan is to sell surplus vegetables. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Last month the food garden at our centre was vandalised by thieves when they broke into the property.

Objective	Achievements	Challenges
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Agricultural Research Council (ARC) conducted demonstrations at the food garden in September. A number of stakeholders attended, including government officials and community members. Cotlands has been chosen to serve as an experiential learning centre for agricultural students by ARC. We hope this relationship will help enhance the gardening skills of our workers and community members. - The Buffalo City Community Chest trained some of our clients to make candles, soap and perfume. These are activities aimed at giving our clients skills that will enable them to earn an income to sustain themselves. - Support group meetings take place regularly according to schedule. Members make beaded jewellery, jerseys and pillow cases. Products are sold to the local community. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - There is only one toilet and this poses a problem when we have many guests. - Lack of a sustainable market for finished products.