

DAGBREEK PRIMARY SCHOOL

Dagbreek Primary School sits a stones throw away from Arise. Many of its children attend Kids Club, Junior Youth and homework clubs; more are referred for therapeutic services at our centre. It is a typical Cape Flats school— hugely resourceful, massively under-resourced, high numbers of vulnerable children, committed staff.

Over the last two years Arise has established a good relationship with the Principal and Staff of the school. What had resulted is an opportunity for gospel work on a number of different levels. Below are some of the ways that Arise is working with and at Dagbreek.



Christian Assemblies:

Every Friday morning when I enter Dagbreek Primary hall to teach boys and girls from God's Word, I'm aware of the great opportunity and privilege we have to be able to teach the gospel here. When we initially met with the principal with our request to teach weekly, he immediately wanted to know when we could start. The teachers at the school have also been very supportive and some believe whole-heartedly that the teaching of God's Word is what the kids in this community sorely need. During my teaching time the teachers also get to hear the gospel message because they remain in the classroom during my lesson to monitor the kids.

Every Friday morning the kids look forward to our time, together and if I'm not there I get asked by the kids where I was! Many have said they especially enjoy the song-time. The 1st half hour I teach grades R-3 and after them grades 4-7. The teaching for this term started off with the "The King, snake and the promises" series but because we want to start a children's prayer group in the 3rd term, I will do some talks on "Prayer" in the last few weeks of term.

Since I've started teaching at the school we have seen an increase in numbers at our weekly Kids Club (Grade R-5) and our Junior Youth (Grade 6&7) groups. Many of the children attending our after-school programme are now from Gugulethu. They go home after school, cross the railway line and busy streets and return back later the afternoon for club.

I enjoy the ministry at Dagbreek school and am grateful to God for the open door we have to teach His Word there. Join us in praying to the Lord of the harvest to raise up many more helpers/ volunteers. I especially need a male volunteer to join me on Friday mornings at Dagbreek.

Praise God for the continued open door at this school and for the principal's enthusiasm!

Brigitte Benjamin—Children's Worker



Arise is on Facebook!
Arise-Ministries, Cape Town

Group Work with Grade 2 and Grade 7 learners:

Following consultations with teaching staff it emerged that many of the older learners were struggling to deal with difficult emotions, particularly angry feelings, resulting in frequent arguments, fighting and upset. Many children do not have a language for the way that they feel; they are aware that they do not feel 'good' but cannot describe if they feel disappointed, angry, sad or lonely. 'Emotional literacy', being able to describe and talk about emotions, is a feature of good mental health and positive development and equips us to process and deal with emotions. Many children see violence and aggression modeled as the way to respond to feelings of anger, and do not have any other strategies with which to cope with such feelings. We have developed two groups to address this issue; one group is run with G7 learners in response to the difficulties they are already exhibiting and the second is run with G2 learners, in an attempt to proactively address the issue and reduce future problems. The teachers have reported a positive effect of the groups, with fewer arguments and fights seen between learners.

Prayer Meetings with Staff

At the beginning of March, Arise partnered with Dagbreek Primary School to host weekly prayer meetings at the school to pray for the learners, parents and teachers. These meetings have grown in an incredible way, with new staff members joining us each week. As a result of the growth, we extended our invitations for prayer requests to the learners at the school, and have been overwhelmed by the response! We have been encouraged by the awareness that has been created around the need for prayer, and humbled by the way in which God is continuing to answer the prayers presented to Him. Please continue to pray for strength for the teachers, for concentration for the learners as they work through the difficulties they experience in learning and for peace and safety in their homes.

Play Therapy

Play Therapy is a specific counselling approach in which play (including art, music, drama, puppets, clay) are used to help a child or adolescent to express their emotions, thoughts, wishes and needs. While adults can talk about what is troubling them children use play to communicate at their own level and at their own pace. The focus at the beginning is on building a relationship with the child, so that they feel safe to share their feelings and concerns.

Children are either brought by their parents/families or referred by local Heideveld Schools or organizations. Commonly the children being seen at Arise have experienced past abuse, many are in foster care (with many past challenges and emotions to work through) or are experiencing emotional and or behavioural challenges. Children attend sessions on a voluntary and weekly basis and teachers and parents have expressed seeing marked improvements in the children. The biggest challenge in working in Heideveld is the number of children requiring therapeutic support and the myriad of issues each child needs support with. It is however extremely rewarding to see the development in a child as they learn that they can express themselves and their emotions in a safe place, and I feel very privileged to be afforded the opportunity to serve them in this way.



aDOPTION cOnference

An Opportunity for Christians to understand Adoption Issues



DESIGN: christina.ettef@gmail.com

Workshops led by professionals and testimonies by adoptive parents

ST. STEPHEN'S CHURCH, CLAREMONT

WEDNESDAY 17th AUGUST 2011 09:00-16:00

R50:00 per person*

Ministers/Church Workers fee: R35:00

Register by 31st July 2011 by email info@arisecapetown.org.za
or telephonically at 021 633 4058



*working to create local churches that value adoption

ADOPTION AS A VALUE

It is not surprising any longer to hear the statistics of vulnerable children in our country. We are used to hearing that thousands upon thousands of children are abandoned, neglected, orphaned or neglected annually in our country. What might surprise you, however, is just how few adoptions took place in 2009-2010. 2478 is the official figure.

Social workers realize that this is absurd and it would seem that the writers of the latest Children's Act are seeking to push adoption more and more. It seems that both the changing legislation combined with the increasing needs, gives us a new context in which to be Christian: the arena of Adoption and Foster-Care.

As Christians, the adoption of children can perhaps make us conscious again of our own spiritual adoption. Dwelling on the wonderful truth that a sinner's status, identity and inheritance can and is gracious and beautiful alters because of Christ's work on the cross, helps us to think through some of the practical possibilities and opportunities to promote the adoption of children. Cross cultural family can be a small glimpse of what God's family is like.

Yet adoption (and foster care) is life changing for all involved; for birth parents, adoptee and adoptive parents. Whilst there is immense joy and hope, there is also pain and need for support. Arise is committed to advocating for Christians to adopt. It is also as committed to providing ongoing support to families who have adopted. The upcoming conference is a first attempt to bring together ministers, church workers and other Christians to think about adoption biblically, contextually and practically.

Why is the conference relevant for ministers and Church workers?

- To be convinced themselves that adoption can be one legitimate way to live out the gospel in our context where the number of vulnerable children is at an epidemic level
- To aid them with knowledge to help in pastoral situations where pregnancy crisis or infertility issues often present and where adoption might be a good option
- To encourage church workers to make adoption a value of their congregations—through their preaching, mercy ministries programmes, prayer groups and cell groups etc...

Why is this relevant for prospective adoptive parents?

- To learn more about the legal process and issues surrounding race, grief, loss and biological children
- To hear testimonies of adoptive families

Stalls and resources providing information about key service providers in the city that help with pregnancy crisis, adoption agencies and post-placement support.

For more information and registration forms, please contact: info@arisecapetown.org.za

We look forward to seeing you at the Conference!



HIGH SCHOOL HOMEWORK CLUB

Maths can be a tricky subject! The High School Homework Club has dedicated every Monday afternoon during school term to understanding and practicing mathematics. Our goal for this term has been to learn the times tables off by heart. The girls attending the club are in grade 8 & 9 and they have been tutored and tested weekly in order to ensure that those times tables are becoming second nature. We are also working to ensure that the basics of algebra, geometry, exponents and other core areas of the curriculum are explained and reinforced through worksheets. It is a joy to hand the marker to one of the students and ask them to be our teacher. Through listening and explaining, we hope to encourage each girl towards understanding and confidence. It is our hope and prayer that they will persevere through these final years of high school and attain a matric pass. Once a month we take a break and enjoy baking together, there is always loud chatting and spoon licking as the food is cooked and then enthusiastically devoured. Onward and upward times table champions!!



Contact Information:

Tel: 021 633 4058
Fax: 086 555 2512
info@arisecapetown.org.za
www.arisecapetown.org.za

Physical Address:
Arise Family Centre
Groenberg Road,
Heideveld, 7764, Cape Town

Postal Address:
Arise Children's Ministry
PO Box 2644,
Clareinch, 7740, Cape Town

Bank Details:

SA Account

Bank: Standard Bank
Name: Arise
Account: 081 465 610
Branch code: 026 209
Kromboom
Reference: Your name

UK Account

Bank: Nat West Bank
Name: Arise
Sort Code: 60-15-42
Branch: North Farnborough
Account: 70070008

CROSSWORD KIDS CAMP 2011

Rocklands in Simon's Town was the venue for this year's Crossword Kids camp that took place from the 1st - 3rd April 2011! Twelve children from the Arise Clubs attended and thoroughly enjoyed themselves. The theme of the camp was 'Gladiators' with the bible study focus taken from the book of Romans. We tackled questions like 'What is the gospel?' 'How do you live out the gospel?' We learnt that Jesus is the great rescuer promised from long ago. As well as quality bible teaching, there were many activities for the children to keep them busy. The game Gladiators, cricket, basketball, netball and swimming. It was an encouragement to see the children spiritually grow and their willingness to learn about God. Their spiritual growth is slowly growing everyday as they learn more and more about the word of God.

You can make a difference

www.arise.givengain.org