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WOZA MOYA

— NEWSLETTER —

MAC AIDS FUND

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FREEDOM MONTH

April is Freedom Month in South Africa. On Freedom Day, the 27th April, President Ramaphosa spoke about creating more educational and employment opportunities, especially for young people, for them to start realising their socio-economic rights and freedom.

Here in the Ufafa Valley Community, we too are endeavouring to create a better and brighter future for young people. There has been a lot happening in our Early Childhood and Youth Development programs in April.

Sun Xa Experiment, a band from Soweto, consisting of 8 talented young band members, spent a week at Woza Moya in April. <https://www.sowetanlive.co.za/entertainment/2018-03-24-band-hope-ancestral-sound-will-bring-healing/> They ran workshops for the young people of Mashakeni Village, during the school holidays. Introducing various musical instruments, song writing, dancing, sharing their creative passion and vision of using music as medicine, “umculo umuthi”, they inspired young people to embrace ancestral sounds for healing. This week-long program culminated in a local Talent Show in the Mashakeni Community Hall

Five Early Childhood Development (ECD) Practitioners from Woza Moya and the Ufafa Valley Community are studying towards their NQF Level 4 ECD Qualification, travelling to Underberg every Saturday. They are enrolled with **Asifunde Sonke** an ECD Training Organisation, which partners with **Family Literacy** who generously sponsored part of the training costs for our 5 ECD Practitioners. Woza Moya hosts, one day a month, ECD capacity building workshops, arranged by ECD Consultant, Mari van der Merwe, from Durban. These workshops are open to all ECD practitioners in the 6 ECD centres operating in Ufafa. **Every Word Counts** forms part of this monthly program, addressing the importance of early maths and literacy from 0 to 5 years. In April, Woza Moya Child & Youth Care Worker, Thembelephi Chiliza, attended Every Word Counts training at the Valley Trust Centre. Thembi in turn, imparts her knowledge, training the Ufafa Valley ECD team.





The highlight in April was undoubtedly the Children Living with Aids outing to *UShaka Marine World* in Durban, sponsored by MACAIDS <http://www.macaidsfund.org/> Children between the ages of 12 and 18, accompanied by their Care Givers, and Woza Moya Staff, left Ufafa very early morning, for a one day trip to Durban. UShaka Sea World Education Staff met the excited Woza Moya group at 10am at the entrance, and accompanied them for 2 and half hours through uShaka Sea World. The tour began in the penguin rookery, followed by a Dolphin show and finally through the world renowned Aquarium. The children (and adults!) were overwhelmed, thrilled, amazed at all they saw and experienced on this fantastic and memorable day. After a picnic lunch on the beach and a dip in the warm Indian Ocean everyone piled back in to the taxis, returning to Ixopo, exhausted and elated. Thank you to MACAIDS for supporting this very happy and unforgettable day!

OTHER NEWS IN APRIL

- In April we bade farewell to long serving Community Care Giver, Auntie Phumlile (Dlamini), who has been with Woza Moya for 18 years, since we began.
- Thank you to Dr Marion Spence and the Rotarians for once again supplying our local schools with Sanipads, ensuring that girl learners stay in class
- Read more about Sylvia and Sphehile here. [New Leadership at Woza Moya](#)



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