

The Dreamcatcher Foundation



Building Communities & Bridges of Universal Understanding through Intra-cultural Contact

A registered Non-Profit Organisation: NPO Reg: IT1675/2003

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**DREAMCATCHER
FOUNDATION SOUTH AFRICA**
Walking The Talking To End Poverty



Computer donation from Seyyadina Trust

DREAMCATCHER'S NEWSFLASH 03 - Dec 2007

Dreamcatcher Foundation & Traveldreamcatcher

1. Donations from The Netherlands

-As part of our mission to unlock the digital divide, Dreamcatcher needs 12 computers to facilitate our plans to set up and train our local site mentors in the various towns to be connected by efficient computer communication. We are happy to report that no less than 6 computers were donated to Dreamcatcher through the Seyyadina Trust in the Netherlands. The computers were donated to the Seyyadina Trust by Mondriaan Onderwijsgroep in The Hague with the aid of NCDO, Cordaid, Rotary Westland & Rotary Den Haag and several caring individuals. New software has been installed with the kind assistance of Michael Hendriks. The computers were transported to South Africa free of charge through Wings of Support of KLM. The 6 computers will be installed at the homes of our local site mentors and connected to broadband. All the local site mentors will receive computer training in 2008 and further mentoring and assistance via voice over internet phone. *Our gratitude and thanks to all donors and sponsors!*



Hans Mooren with the bedside lamps and Mama AnnaMaria who received one of the faxes

-Via the wonderful assistance and support of the Dreamcatcher Foundation Nederland and Martin Geurts, we received two donations from the Netherlands. R1000 was donated by Mrs Lina Geurts, mother of Martin and mother-in-law of our Dutch PR consultant Wilma Lankhorst. R2000 was donated by Ineke Eisenburger from the Afrika Instituut. For the R3000 we bought 3 fax/phone machines for Kamammas AnneMaria Mayekiso (local site mentor Stutterheim), Ina Smith (local site mentor Worcester) and Evelyn Swartbooi (local site mentor Stellenbosch). The entrepreneurs are very thankful for this precious gift as it will help improve the communication with the Dreamcatcher Home Office tremendously. But even more important, it will save these Kamammas a lot of telecommunication and transport costs! *Thank you so much for your support!*

-At the moment we are distributing the bedside lamps for the homestays throughout the country. The lamps were beautifully made by 3 of our crafters at SEED in George after they received welding training with the support of BikeTours.nl. We would like to thank Hans Mooren & Greet Plekker of BikeTours.nl and the Dreamcatcher Foundation Nederland who also provided funding for this project, for their great support .



Anthea Rossouw en Wilma Lankhorst with our Knysna Kamammas Magda and Magdalene



Mamma Swartbooi and RTL Travel presenter Beau van Erven Dorens in Kayamandi



Hans Mooren, Rutger van den Hoofdakker, Anthea Rossouw and Martin Geurts during the bike tour



Leliefontein Kamammas Lila, Vera and Amanda at Augrabies Falls National Park

2. Shamina Shawena, it's mine, it's yours!

Dreamcatcher developed a ground breaking tourism development plan called CHANGING LANES. Tutorial methods –and material and manuals are being developed which are not only relevant to the needs of the tourism industry, but enable the community based entrepreneur immediate access to global tourists income potential, while it is simultaneously, in a sensitive manner, developing the entrepreneurs, in a multi-dimensional, holistic manner. During the last few weeks of the year we offered an interactive and very important communication training for the 50 entrepreneurs:

-Dreamcatcher Anthea Rossouw did an extensive assessment of the homes and tutored Communication 2 (communication in your business, community, family and your home) in Kayamandi, Worcester, Albertinia, Riversdale, Stillbaai, George, Knysna and Oudtshoorn. Our Dutch PR Wilma Lankhorst joined in on these trainings.

-Together with our staff member Pascale Melissen she also tutored the Qua Qua and Stutterheim Kamammas Communication 1 (media & operations) and Communication 2.

-Pascale Melissen tutored the Communication 1 & 2 trainings in Upington for the Kamammas from Leliefontein and Upington.

Pascale comments: *"It is a wonderful experience to see our ladies grow and gain more confidence with every training!"*

Next year we will continue with our extensive training programme, which will include Health & Safety and Computer Trainings.

3. We were on Dutch TV!

With the kind assistance of South African Tourism Amsterdam and their Dutch PR agency BrouwerBetist, the Dreamcatcher Kamammas were featured on Dutch TV during a broadcast of RTL Adrenaline on Sunday the 9th of December. Dreamcatcher hosted the RTL camera crew in November with RTL's popular TV personality Beau van Erven Dorens. During a one day shoot, including overnight, they visited the Lookout Point in Kayelitscha, Bloemendal in Durbanville with the stunning views over Table Mountain and Robben Island, and Kayamandi in Stellenbosch. Beau van Erven Dorens assisted Mamma Swartbooi in the kitchen during a Cook Up with Kamammas and part of the crew stayed overnight at the Kayamandi Homestays for an interactive intra cultural accommodation experience. The whole crew felt it was a very special experience!

4. More news from the Media

Dreamcatcher has undertaken a pilot test tour for bike trips in South Africa recently. Several professionals assisted us with the development of various types of bike tours: Hans Mooren from BikeTours.nl (for the more adventurous and serious bikers), Wilma Lankhorst, our Dutch PR agency and Martin Geurts (for the leisure bikers). With the assistance of South African Tourism and their Dutch PR agency BrouwerBetist, bike journalist Rutger van den Hoofdakker, who travelled the world on his bike, joined the group to give us his professional input on these bike tours.

The pilot test tour followed a circular route from Durbanville to Kayamandi Stellenbosch, to Nuy, Worcester and Hermanus back to Durbanville and is meant to target a new market for the Kamammas. The Dreamcatcher bike tours will now be further developed to address this important market with great potential!

Rutger will give a general presentation about biking in South Africa during the Vakantiebeurs on Friday 11 January 2008 at 13h30.

5. Fieldtrips — You are a tourist!

As an important part of our Shamina Shawena training programme, and as an opportunity to meet their peers in other communities, we invite our Kamammas to go on a fieldtrip to experience to be a tourist themselves.

In November the (Sotho) ladies from Qua Qua (Golden gate/Freestate) went on a tour to Stutterheim in the Eastern Cape. They joined the (Xhosa) Stutterheim Kamammas for the communication training and undertook a tour in the area to experience Xhosa heritage and culture.

The (Nama) ladies from Leliefontein in Namaqualand visited the (Coloured/Xhosa) Upington Kamammas in the Green Kalahari. They also joined in the communication training and visited Augrabies Falls National Park and the Orange River Valley. They also went on an Orange River cruise!

Most of our Kamammas have never been outside their own community and these fieldtrips are very exciting and a very motivating experience for them. It will enhance their understanding of tourism and service delivery and also strengthen the group as a whole: facilitating intra cultural understanding between our various South African cultures!



Our Kamammas Esmá and AnnaMaria in Madurodam in September 2007



Updating brochures for the Vakantiebeurs for tour operators STG Reizen and Sawadee



Volunteer Aneeta Permaul in Oudtshoorn



Relax at Nuy Valley during the bike tour

6. Vakantiebeurs Utrecht 2008

Dreamcatcher will represent authentic community based tourism at the consumer holiday show Vakantiebeurs from 8 to 13 January 2008 at the Jaarbeurs in Utrecht, the Netherlands.

Three Kamamma's Vera Engelbrecht (Leliefontein), Katriena Solomon (Stilbaai), Manini Xaba (Upington) and Bhuti Yellow Eiman (Klapmuts) will represent the Homestays and Cook Up Kamamma's and Crafting with Bhutis during this important tourism marketing show.

Our gratefulness and thanks to enable our Kamammas and Bhutis to travel overseas, market their country and products and participate to this consumer show is to our sponsors CBI (stand), Dreamcatcher Foundation Nederland (general support & funding), Joke Roozenburg (accommodation), Hans Mooren (day tour) and Wilma Lankhorst PR (media functions).

Once again Madurodam has invited our Kamammas and Bhuti to experience Holland in miniature at their exhibition in The Hague AND the group of excited entrepreneurs will present their crafts and cuisine at the Afrika Instituut at Nijmegen from the 2nd to the 5th of January 2008.

A very BIG thank you to you all!

7. Dutch Tour Operators STG Reizen & Sawadee

2008 will start for us in The Netherlands with a new cooperation between Dreamcatcher and the Dutch tour operators STG Reizen and Sawadee, via Abang Afrika, to enhance their current packages with an authentic lifestyle community experience as opposed to the "staged" cultural experience. For this purpose we have adapted our Dreamcatcher brochures with their contact details, which will be distributed on the Vakantiebeurs. Yellow the Wireman and his children assisted us to update the brochures.

8. Where would we be without our precious volunteers?

During October/November two volunteers truly made a difference in the community of Oudtshoorn. Michelle Leonard from the USA and Aneeta Permaul from Canada stole the hearts and minds of Oudtshoorn's street children by stimulating them to participate in all kinds of activities to keep them off the streets.

Aneeta wrote to us: "While in Oudtshoorn, I got to work with amazing children. At first, I was overwhelmed, wondering "what can I do in just 2 weeks?" Many of the kids are addicted to different substances, but they are the warmest and loving kids you'll ever meet! All they need are hugs and attention and LOVE! A lot of them don't get love at home. So it was really easy hugging them and patting them on the shoulder, and telling them that they're doing a good job! A little acknowledgement and listening went a long way! I got to play games like catch and checkers with the kids, but also got to use my social work skills and work on anger management. After that, the kids were able to express their feelings better through words, and not physical attacks. By the end of my volunteer experience, it seems like I was with a new group. The kids were calmer and they knew that they felt love from me. The little time I spent with the children DID actually go a long way, and I know I made a positive imprint on the children. Maybe I did teach the children something... But in the end, they taught me a lot more. That love, hugs, and a smile can go a long way". Aneeta continued about Dreamcatcher: " Well, I just wanted to thank you for providing me with such great care and for welcoming me! I really appreciate your love and care, especially since that was my first time soooooo far away from home! You are all so loving and I really appreciate it. I had such a great experience that I continue to share with everyone here. They are so awe-struck of my endeavors".

9. MERRY Christmas and a HAPPY New Year

The year has almost come to an end and we are thankful and grateful for everything that happened in 2007. We had a wonderful and prosperous year with lots of challenges and achievements.

From all our Kamammas and Bhutis and the Dreamcatcher Team we wish you a **MERRY CHRISTMAS** and our very best wishes for a **HAPPY NEW YEAR**. Once again to all our very important volunteers, sponsors, donors, trainers and everyone else involved:

THANK YOU!

Please note the Dreamcatcher Home Office will be closed from 24 December 2007 to 07 January 2008

Please direct your emails to arossouw@btinternet.com between 24 December 2007 and 4 January 2008