

Thusanang OVC Program 2010-2011



In 2010 a boy named Khotsofalo Ndlovu 8 years old was identified by our HBC volunteers in ward 16. He has clubfeet and malformation of his knees since birth. He is not able to walk, but able to crawl.

Thusanang was informed by the HBC team leader about his situation and managed to secure a wheelchair with the assistance of Manama Hospital. Khotsofalo started school in January this year. His parents were happy that he is now able to interact with other children at school. His friends at school are assisting him in going to school by pushing the wheelchair. The teachers are happy about Khotsofalo's performance at school and are encouraging him. Life has changed positively for him and he is developing well. During our followup visit at his home and school we found that his fees had not been paid. The family has financial constraints since they are having 2 other secondary school going children and a small baby brother at home. The father has gone for goldpanning in order to help his family.

Because of the situation above Thusanang decided to assist in the payments of school fees. We assisted with a winter jersey and school books. It was also discovered that the home does not have a toilet. The plan now is to help the family in building a Blair toilet before the rain season starts. Provision of cement including payment of the builder will be done by Thusanang. The community will be engaged in providing labour, water and bricks.

We consider Khotsofalo as a vulnerable child and therefore he qualifies to be in our OVC program. It is also encouraging to see that the community is prepared to assist the family. Our HBC volunteers are the local contact between Thusanang, a service provider and the community including community leaders.

Khotsofalo is a happy boy with many friends at school. He likes learning and gets good results at school. The family now gets psychosocial support from teachers and community members in different ways.