

Dr Buys as Speaker at an International Conference in Edinburgh

Our CEO, Dr Flip Buys, has been invited to do a presentation on *A Biblical Response to Poverty and Social Justice – a Post Apartheid South African Perspective* at an international conference of the World Reformed Fellowship in Edinburgh from 12-16 April. At the conference he was appointed as vice Chairperson of the Board of Directors of WRF.

WRF is an international networking organization with 49 denominations, 60 congregations, 89 organizations, and 466 individuals as members from all over the globe. It is also involved with the International Lausanne Congress and a member of the World Evangelical Alliance.

Dr Buys could also present the work of MCDC as an example of a practical Biblical response to poverty in post apartheid South Africa.

At the meeting a new Proposed Statement of Faith was accepted. It is a result of a study done the past 4 years by a committee with individuals from six continents around the world of which Dr Buys was also a member. He formulated the sections on poverty that was accepted to become part of the Statement.



Because of the volcanic cloud over Britain, Dr Buys was stranded in Edinburgh for 6 days. "It was a huge frustration and a lot of extra expenses that was not budgeted for. The uncertainty of not knowing when we would be able to fly, prevented us to go sightseeing or anything because we had to wait near a phone to be ready when they call. It was like being in prison," he says.

New hand at Foster Care

Anna-Marie Kruger took over the MCDC Foster Care Department from Volunteer Rose Finkbeiner. One of the first graduates completing an auxiliary social work certificate at MCDC is helping her.

Annemarie has an MA in the field of Mental Health. She has been a registered social work practitioner since 1972. She was chief social worker in Mpumalanga. In the last ten years she led workshops to pre- and post graduate Social Work students at Unisa.

"My first goal at MCDC is to get structures in place to work hand in hand with the government and to get MCDC registered as a child protection organisation." she says.

Her expertise in the field of Social Work will benefit all departments of MCDC as a whole.





Ge Drayer and Arjan Hilbers from the Netherlands sharing a moment with deputy CEO Simon Burdett and CEO Flip Buys.

Visiting donors

MCDC was blessed with visits from many of our donors and prospective donors during the past months.

Christa van den Berg of De Verre Naasten in the Netherlands visited us. DVN is one of the main sponsors for Nakekela, but Christa also represents the umbrella board of Dutch Donors, MFS.

Ge Drayer and Arjan Hilbers visited us in March. They are from the Dienstbureau van Christelijke Gereformeerde Kerken in the Netherlands.

John Mixon and a team from Bethesda Outreach in Hammanskraal also visited us. They shared their knowledge of running foster homes for orphans.

The vision of the new MCDC Christian School is to develop in due time, a children's village close to the

school campus, where orphans can grow up in a Christian family situation.

Mr Donray Malabie of Alexander Forbes visited us early in April. He brought good news that their donation was almost doubled, due to MCDC's good performance during the past five years. They are now focusing on OVC's, Education and HIV/Aids – the main focus area of MCDC too.

John and Mieke Beeke came on a fact finding tour from Ontario, Canada. They are from the Mission Board of the Heritage Congregations.

Three members of the Aalsmeer volunteer group, who has built sports grounds for the Thembaletu Centre last year, came back in April 2010 to help on some IT issues. They are Vincent and Christiaan Groeneveldt and Patrick Verkerk.

Volunteers helping out

Annelize and Hennie Carelsen from Sydney, Australia are working on a comprehensive asset list for MCDC.



New faces in the financial office



MCDC is strengthening the financial management capacity of the organization.

The financial assistance team has grown to 4 members. Dori Averink is a volunteer from Canada. She is training Thembi Mtsweni and Amos Msiza on data capturing and financial control.

The new Financial Manager, Wiebe van der Laan, a chartered accountant, will be starting next month.

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