



Non-Profit Organisation

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"No problem can be solved from the same level of consciousness that created it." - A. Einstein

INTRODUCTION

As an organization focusing on the mental and spiritual well being of the youth, in particular the African youth, a big part of the mission of The Spiritual Council in Africa is to set up a youth educational center in different townships across South Africa, starting with Alexandra Township.

From July 2021, alongside a local community project called "Indoni Beautiful Seeds", we have provided educational and daycare support to the youth of this community. This ongoing project, aimed at teaching the youth from a young age that they are not victims of their environment and current circumstances but that they can be the creators of their future , is called "**Alexandra Youth Empowerment Project**"

The existing daycare support has been run with love and dedication by Noni , of Indoni Beautiful Seeds, at her own private residence. Our wish is to create a seperate space for learning and healing activities so we can expand our reach exponentially in a safe , structured and supervised environment.



PROJECT OVERVIEW

Our Educational Center will focus on the Youth in the Alexandria community aged between 4-25 Years old.

We will initially look after a total of 50 Children every given day, offering them a safe space to grow and nurture their talents and individuality.

We will provide the Youth groups with various activities, meals and programs that will enable them to develop their true inner-power in order to overcome the obstacles in their lives.

These activities will take place on a daily basis through the help of volunteers.

The Center will consist of primarily 3 Shipping containers that have been converted into fully functioning “Edutainers” or Early Childhood Development Centres (ECDC’s)



The Edutainer® is an 'instant classroom' made from a 12 meter (40 foot) shipping container, ideal for pre-school classrooms, taking up to 25 children.

The conversion process ensures that the Edutainer® is fitted with windows and doors, insulated, electrified, furnished, and then delivered to a community and installed on prepared concrete footings.

The extensive conversion transforms the container into a bright, airy classroom which includes: insulated ceilings, large windows, a heating fan, soft-board, chalkboard, sheet vinyl flooring, electricity, burglar bars, a lockable cupboard, shelving, and coat-hooks.

The Edutainer® is decorated on the outside with durable weather resistant paint, and filled with school furniture and educational toys. The Edutainer® is also adapted for disabled children with a wide door, ramp, and support bars.

Created by **The Bright Kid Foundation**, after assessment of the site, they build the Edutainer® footings and then delivers the container to the designated site.



All Bright Kid Foundation container conversions are Agrément certified

Legally, container conversions and prefabricated buildings are classed as temporary structures. Unlike brick buildings where plans have to be approved by the local municipality, container conversions are manufactured off site and delivered. Non Agrément Certified container conversions do not conform to National Building Regulations, and cannot be installed for permanent installation. Ventilation, insulation and fire hazard prevention have not been inspected. Agrément is affiliated to the Department of Public Works and does a rigorous inspection of container conversions before providing certification. All Bright Kid container conversions are Agrément Certified and conform to National Building Regulations. Over 620 containers have been delivered since 2000. Bright Kid Foundation Early Childhood Development infrastructure can be registered with the Department of Social Development and the Department of Basic Education for registration for the per child subsidy.



The first two containers will function as classrooms for the children and young adults, which will be fully equipped with audio/visual facilities as well as books and educational toys.

Because it is no secret that a full tummy creates a better environment for learning activities, In addition to providing a clean and safe space for afternoon care , we are also envisioning an additional container set up as a kitchen and storeroom facility.

Ablution facilities with running water and garbage collection will also be provided.

Plants will be added, as well as grass, so the kids can release their energy in nature as they learn how to look after their environment.

With time it will be our goal to add an additional container , set up to accommodate group meetings for teenagers and older youth .



PROJECT ACTIVITIES

“By unlocking a child's creative capabilities and right to self expression we open multiple doorways to a better life”.

Led by this vision, with our team of volunteers we are planning activities around the following areas :

Yoga & Meditation: It has been proven scientifically that practices such as Yoga & Meditation can help the mind and body experience peace and a greater sense of self awareness. Not only can these practices boost a greater sense of self, but help individuals to be more focused with overcoming obstacles and achieving goals. The numerous benefits can be greatly increased if practiced from a young age.

Youth Counselling therapy: It is important for the children to be heard, for them to speak to people who listen to their needs, feelings, fears, wants and visions for the future. If they remain in silence, they would not be able to learn how to fully express themselves in a healthy manner when they become older, and this could have dire consequences in their lives. Speaking is healing and the first step to a healthier mind. This will help steer their lives into a more positive direction.

Arts & Creativity: Helping children explore their creative potential from a young age will help them stay on a path of self-fulfillment and positive self-expression and away from activities such as drug use, prostitution or crime. The creative activities planned is painting & musical practices with Guitars & Piano's.



BASIC NEEDS PROVISIONS

We will be providing our youth participants with daily snacks and easy to prepare meals such as various fruits, bread and soup to name a few. We will acquire this through donations received by Major South African food suppliers.

Our goal is for the children to experience a clean and healthy environment, as such we would like for them to have clean toilets and drinking water. There will be 4 flushing abolition units (one of them will be adapted for disabled use)

There will also be a wash station. The Soap and Wash Stations consist of a roof area to trap the rain water, a tank to store the water and a Soap and Wash station structure that has a number of flow control taps and soap dispensers, ranging from two to eight. After washing the soapy water is led into a French drain which removes the soap, and the water can then be used to irrigate community food gardens.

Refuse bins will be allocated to ensure a clean learning environment.



WASH STATION

The 4 tap Wash Station designed for larger preschools and smaller schools. They have a 1 x 5000 liter tank and can also provide about 90,000 hand washes with soap annually



Bright Kid Foundation Health and Hygiene ECDC Wash Station [PERSPECTIVE] - child washing hands

STAFF OVERVIEW

Our Educational Center will primarily have 5
Permanent Staff members:

2x Teachers

1x Office Administrator

1x Cleaner

1x Security Guard

To assist the permanent staff, we will have a variable amount of volunteers who will participate in the mentioned activities, helping the children with Yoga, Meditation, Therapy, Arts & Creativity, Food Planting , maintenance of the herb garden , watering plants , cleaning and keeping the grounds tidy, etc.



SAFETY & SECURITY

We will be working closely with private security companies to ensure the safety of the children and the container facilities. We are planning on having a permanent day & night shift security guard.

The containers are fitted with windows that have burglar bars as protection. The premises will also have fencing to ensure that no vandalism, property theft or destruction can take place, but most importantly that the children are safe at all times.



SUMMARY

Children are the most incredible gift to humanity and it is our job, as adults, to provide fertile ground that ensures their development into the very best version of themselves, as they are our future.

The goal of the Spiritual Council , through the Alexandra Youth Empowerment Project, is to invest time, resources and knowledge into that vision for our Youth today.

Helping us achieving this goal is a shared responsibility , as such we look forward to your invaluable input and collaboration.

Neo Brendon and Valentina

“Be the change that you want to see in the world” - Mahatma Gandhi

