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Association not for Gain (Reg 21/2007/025) Welfare Organisation (WO348)

Bank account details: MSR (Namibia)

BANK WINDHOEK MAIN BRANCH ACC NO. 8001384357

BRANCH CODE: 481 972

If you want your donation to be used for training, please use this account:

MSR training account

BANK WINDHOEK, MAIN BRANCH ACC NO:8002323840

OUR CORPORATE MEMBERS, DONORS AND PARTNERS

MSR can only undertake their work with support from corporate Namibia, other organisations and philanthropic individuals. We are grateful for the support we have

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Progress Report January 2011



**Men on the
Side of the
Road
(Namibia)**

W O 3 4 8

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MSR WELCOMES DR HYLTON VILLET AND MR JOHNY SMITH

We are pleased to announce that Dr Hylton Villet and Mr Johnny Smith have joined the board of MSR.

Dr Villet, managing director of Gijima Information Technology Services Ltd said that he had decided to join the MSR board because he would like to make a positive contribution to the lives of the marginalized and unemployed. "I cannot see these healthy young men sit idle by the side of the road and not feel compelled to want to do something", states Dr Villet

Mr Smith, the CEO of the Walvis Bay Corridor Group, decided to join the MSR board because 'he believes that this effort put in by Men of the Side of the Road could change the life of individuals no matter how small it maybe.



We are looking forward to gaining fresh ideas and insights from our new board members, who are pictured with Mr Johan Swanepoel, the chairman of MSR.

**Please
remember to
use the
service we offer
and call us if
you need some
casual help.
305892**



WELCOME TO SHARON

We would like to welcome Sharon Körner to the MSR team. Sharon will be working 8am to 1 pm, Monday to Friday, and will be taking over some of the administrative functions, as well as undertaking more rigorous reference checks and evaluations on our members. She will also be available to help our members with their CV's, and will be the friendly voice on the other end of the phone if you call for workers.

BRIDGING THE ECONOMIC GAP IN NAMIBIA WORKSHOPS

The workshops were delivered by Jackson Mwalundange of Forum for the Future Economic Justice Programme whose activities are focused on how to economically empower grassroots communities, and especially the unemployed and the poor. They are guided to look around their surroundings and identify any natural resources and business opportunities that would require negligible or no monetary investment. The exercise assumes availability of energy, time, and manpower, all of which unemployed and poor Namibians should have in abundance, since they are looking for work. It also requires willpower and some rudimentary entrepreneurship, both of which can be enhanced. The workshops, which ran in November 2010 and January 2011 were attended by 23 of our members, and were very well received.

After the workshop one of the delegates thanked MSR and our donors for giving him the opportunity to go to KAYEC and develop skills, and recognised that he now had a saleable skill, which it was up to him to make the most of. He has since been accepted at the Windhoek Vocational Training Centre to further his studies.



SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Creating training opportunities for the unemployed
- Creating job opportunities for the unemployed

Working towards a better Namibia

We are keen to create opportunities for our members. Please contact us if you can help.

Welcome back, we trust you had a restful break.
Watch this space for some exciting campaigns we will be running in 2011.
Our website address: www.msr.org.na.

PINNACLE METROPOLITAN EMPOWERMENT TRUST CONTINUES ITS SUPPORT

The Pinnacle Metropolitan Empowerment Trust have agreed to continue their support of the MSR training scheme, which will enable 8 of our members to undergo training with The KAYEC Trust. This is the single biggest intervention we can make in the lives of our members, and gives them the best opportunity for finding employment once they have successfully completed their training. Thank you PMET for making a difference. In addition this year PMET have decided to give overalls to their candidates. Recruitment and selection for the places will start soon, and the chosen participants will begin their courses over the next few months.

CREATIVE HELP FOR OUR MEMBERS

The over riding question asked by MSR is 'Will it help our members get work?' When we were offered reading glasses late last year, we felt the answer was a resounding "YES" and so in January we took delivery of 30 pairs of reading glasses of various strengths. And we discovered that Tomas, the reliable and dependable MSR fieldworker underwent a revelation in suddenly being able to see clearly when he tried a pair out. We will make the spectacles available on a first come first served basis to those members who need them when they come to the office to use the computers. We would like to thank Medicine World and Imago Dei for this exciting donation.



Some of the reading glasses before they were distributed

JOB SEARCH STARTER PACK UPDATE

Late last year MSR put out an appeal for pens etc to put together a 'job search' starter pack. Many thanks to Avril Payment Solutions for donating pens, rulers, plastic pockets, laminating pouches, neckties and scrap pads; and Silke von Seydlitz for donating folders and plastic pockets. These items are very sought after, and are going fast: a good sign as they are only distributed after some-one has been in to write their CV. If you have any stationery items spare, please let me know and I will collect them. Particularly suitable are outdated corporate gifts which may be cluttering up your stationery cupboard.