

**ETAFENI DAY CARE CENTRE TRUST
FOUNDATION DOCUMENT
for purposes of replication**

VISION:

The Etafeni Day Care Centre Trust has developed a replicable model of holistic sustainable community-based care for AIDS-affected and vulnerable children and their caregivers. We hope that the model, when it is complete, will be of use to South Africa and to all AIDS-affected developing countries in their struggle to address the needs of vulnerable children.

The Trust, in partnership with the local community, has built a multi-purpose Day Care Centre in Nyanga which takes into account the needs of vulnerable children, the needs of those who care for them and the needs of the community who will, of necessity, be their safety net.

Growing out of an understanding of the attachment needs of children, the Etafeni Trust provides a non-institutional alternative to what is all too often a disrupted childhood, coming on top of traumatic loss, for an AIDS-affected child.

Our success depends on the way that the Etafeni community habitually responds to vulnerability, our own and others'. For this reason, the important work at Etafeni is unseen and involves a slow but consistently loving response to the needs of all the role players.

The physical structures and services on site are a metaphor, as it were, for what we hope to see happening inside everyone: the gradual growth of trust, of softness, of creativity and of enjoyment of self and others.

PROCESS:

- * The process starts with the request from the community in which the centre is to be developed or from an organisation representing the interests of the community or representing the interests of AIDS-affected and vulnerable children and their caregivers
- * The title deed to the land must be in the possession of the organisation that has requested the centre
- * A Memorandum of Agreement is signed by the Etafeni Trust and the partner Organisation
- * the partner organisation signs agreement to the Etafeni Statement of Values
- * Plans are drawn up and agreed upon
- * A viable Funding Plan is in place for the construction of the centre
- * Community builders are recruited and supervision and site management agreed upon
- * Attention will be given to greening and landscaping: trees, grass, watersaving and solar heating
- * The milieu of the centre is to be welcoming, serene and natural with natural materials to be used wherever possible

* When the centre is ready, local community members will, wherever possible, be recruited and trained for the positions in the project

MODEL:

- The Centre will have space, at least, for:
- infant care
- a preschool
- afterschool care
- a food garden
- an income generation programme for HIV+ women
- the Fit for Life, Fit for Work programme
- a nutrition programme and
- a community care worker programme

VALUES:

- Every person is entitled to dignity and respect
- Every person has the right to be treated and spoken to courteously
- Difficulties are to be processed with care and without resort to threats
- The services offered to AIDS-affected and vulnerable children are situated within a larger concern for the development of the community in which we work
- Wherever possible, local community members are trained and employed
- Staff members are consulted about their career paths
- All the programmes will be integrated, with managers meeting to discuss ways in which they can work together, refer clients and add value to one another
- Attachment theory is respected – in being mindful to keep children and their attachment figures together where possible and to promote attachment
- The interests of AIDS-affected and vulnerable children and their caregivers are paramount
- No other interests of individuals or groups can override the interests of AIDS-affected and vulnerable children and their caregivers
- Due consideration needs to be given to State strategies and policies so that the centres can support the government's efforts, at local and provincial level, to better the situation of AIDS-affected communities
- We aim to learn from our work and share knowledge gained