



## NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER 2016

Dear Partner

We are thrilled to share with you our new electronic newsletter. Hope you like the layout and most importantly, the content. We are building on our skills in this area, so feel free to give us some input or feedback on where we can improve. For the articles which interest you, you are able to click on the Read More link which will take you directly to our Website where the full article is posted.

An important theme in this newsletter is that of "Living Justly" - inspired by the Learn to Earn Associates workshop, we recently attended. I will entice you with an extract from that article: "It is our strong belief that inequality is largely rooted in the absence of relationships across social and racial divides – leading to destructive ignorance about the reality the majority of our South African brothers and sisters live in. Through our work at FCD, we have the privilege to experience first-hand how shared stories break down false perceptions & harmful ignorance - building relational bridges which comfortably cross the historical racial and social divides. We firmly believe this is vital in order to rescue and restore the future of our beautiful country.

Hoping you will be left inspired to roll up your sleeves and help us in any particular area of the centre's work, where your unique gifts can be applied. You are welcome to give us a call or pay us a visit to connect about volunteer or partner opportunities. However there is one thing you absolutely have to do after reading this letter, and that is to LIKE our Face Book page for regular doses of hope.

Blessings  
Jane Gelderman



As an Associate Member of Learn to Earn, we were privileged to attend their [Living Justly conference in July](#) – and what an experience it was.

What is living justly? Could it be as simple as helping people who are living a life of dependence and struggle to one of independence and dignity? ***Is it not time to stop teaching people what to think but rather teaching them how to think?***

Brett “Fish” Anderson, one of the keynote speakers, who was a true inspiration, said this about himself and his vision : “I am passionate about loving God and people with a heart for South Africa and Africa with a dream to see us eradicating the gap between the haves and have not's”.

[Read more](#)



## CELEBRATING SUCCESS

There was lots of excitement at the Bergsig DRC as approximately 170 guests (students, parents, staff, volunteers, donors and other friends) arrived for the bi-annual Fisantekraal centre for Development certificate & awards ceremony on the 22nd of June. All dressed up and very proud, students gathered for a cup of delicious home-made soup (made with love and care by a number of Fisantekraal centre volunteers) and freshly baked bread (of which the freshly baked rolls were donated by local PnP Graanendal store) before proceedings started.

In her opening words, Jane Gelderman praised the students for their commitment, perseverance and achievements. "We know that being unemployed, simply getting to class every day, was often a challenge for many. We also know that the stretching nature of the different programmes often put you out of your emotional, spiritual, relational, social and intellectual comfort zones and that can be a tough growth process, requiring 100% commitment." [Read more...](#)



## TRAINING & PLACEMENTS

In the past financial year, 273 unemployed people completed training at FCD, a growth of 28% on the previous financial year. The training resulted in 65% of students becoming economically active after completing their courses, they

are either employed or self-employed. The placement rate grew significantly compared to the previous financial year ending at 45% of students becoming economically active. Taking into account the growing unemployment rate, it is encouraging that our ongoing efforts to partner with local businesses for employment opportunities, is paying off. The continuous evaluation of course content, facilitation approach and course offerings, also contribute greatly to the increased rate of economic activity over the last 12-18 months. In this current financial year we are planning to train 340 students and maintain (where possible raise) the economic activity rate between 65%-70%. Contact us when you need staff relevant to the skills we offer - this way you can help us eradicate unemployment. [Read more](#)

## IT'S GREAT TO BE ABLE TO SUPPORT MYSELF

Stephanie Basson completed the Job Readiness and Office Basic courses at FCD during the first half of the year and has since been employed by Baroque Hair Design in Goedemoed.



“Going to FCD was one of the best things I ever did. I learnt self-esteem and became more confident. [Read more](#)



## I THINK FCD IS DOING EXCEPTIONAL WORK IN THE COMMUNITY

Says Margie Josephs, Care Manager of the facility, “We are delighted with the two of them. They completed their 6-week in-house training with us and we had no doubt that they would fit in with us. They

adapted very well and we are proud of the fact that they are still with us. I think that FCD is doing exceptional work in the community and I would 100% recommend them to anybody that I know.

Claudette du Plessis and Angeline Bezuidenhout both completed their Frail Care training at FCD and are now employed at Green Pastures Retirement Home for the Elderly in Durbanville.

[Read more](#)

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## **BEFORE I HAD NO MONEY-CONFIDENCE, BUT NOW I KNOW HOW TO WORK WELL WITH MONEY**

One of the graduates from the Bake for Profit course, Wilhelmiën Schwarz from Eersterivier, is running small a business from home. “I bake flans, tarts and confectionary which I sell to the community, friends and family. My little business is doing well and I am very happy.” [Read more](#)



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## **BEING AT FCD GAVE ME THE COURAGE TO FINISH MY MATRIC**

Monique Mentoor completed the Office Basics course in August 2015. She says that “being at FCD gave me the courage to finish my matric”. [Read more](#)





## COMMITTED BOARD STRENGTHENED BY ADDITION OF NEW MEMBERS

[The Board of Fisantekraal Centre for Development \(Aug2016\)](#) Top from left Francois Bruwer, Louis Meiring, Johannes Mpo, Grant Hopkins, Desmond Barry, Neels Oosthuizen, Chris Laubscher and Jane Gelderman (Director); Front row from left Linda Oosthuizen, Dale Blom and Danielle Jones

The newly elected chairperson for FCD is no stranger to the organisation. He has been involved with FCD since 2010.

He closed by referring to the Prayer of Jabez from 1 Chron 4:9, requesting God to grow our territory for His work and His glory. [Read more](#) Upon accepting his role as Chairperson, Neels said he was looking forward to his new role. "It is quite daunting to have to walk in Linda's formidable footsteps now. Luckily she is not jumping ship, but just stepping down." He acknowledged Linda's significant contribution stating that she truly carries the institutional history of FCD.

Outgoing board members, Verna Esterhuizen and Leon Huishamen, were thanked for the valuable contribution they have made over their years of faithful service since the formation of the organisation, Neels welcomed [Danielle Jones](#), [Desmond Barry](#) and [Louis Meiring](#) onto the board of FCD (click on their names to find out why they are involved at FCD). He reminded everyone that we are all called to play a significant and meaningful role within the team.

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On average it costs us between R3500 to R5000 to train

one student. Hence every donation towards this cost is of great value.

Being a NPO, donor funding is key to our ability to continue our work and to make a positive, sustainable impact on unemployment.

Partner with us and make a difference in the vulnerable communities on your doorstep. Your donation will qualify for relevant sections of the BBBEE scorecard as well as Section 18A tax deductible benefits.