


The Midwives' Tales



After an incredible year where we celebrated, mourned and fought the good fight, we'd like to report back that there were more victories than defeats. We saw God at work and we are so grateful to all of you who contributed financially, prayed for us and gave us of your time. Here are some of the stories that we'd like to share:

Topsy Jacks, "The first time I walked into the clinic, I had no appointment. Thandi said that they could help me immediately. Sister Laura did all my check-ups and the service was very good. These days you don't get helped anywhere else without an appointment. Every time I go there, I feel good and know that they won't just send me away. Thank you and well done to all of the staff. God bless this clinic."

Loretta's morning with Hope

Early one morning a lady (let's call her Hope) came to see me. Hope was dirty and ragged but what touched me most was the confusion and fear in her eyes and the slump in her shoulders. She is 24yrs old, lives in the bush with her father and two younger sisters. She was very worried as her partner had syphilis, and she had had sex with two other men when she was drunk.

As I spoke to Hope and suggested the tests we needed to do, the Holy Spirit led me to enquire about her relationship with Jesus. She told me that she knew about Him but had decided to rather accept Him at a later time. I spoke about the plans that God has for her life, plans for good, for a hope and a future. At this point I had a vision of Jesus banging on the door of her heart with great urgency, and shared that with her.

I performed the tests we had decided on: HIV, pregnancy and syphilis and they were all NEGATIVE! We rejoiced together and thanked God for His protection over her life. I then asked about her receiving Jesus again and she said that she was ready for it!

It was my privilege to lead Hope to accept Jesus as her saviour! I witnessed the change in her whole demeanor as she later left the clinic – bright eyes with hope shining, a beautiful smile and a spring in her step!

Jolene-a truly amazing team effort

Trudy, found a 5 month old baby girl (Jolene) at a crèche in the township who needed urgent attention. At the clinic we were shocked to see how dehydrated, lethargic and severely malnourished Jolene was, plus she had the worst nappy rash we had ever seen. She weighed only 4kg (instead of the expected 7.5kg at 5 months). We thought she was going to die right there in the clinic. Trudi took Jolene to the Pediatric unit in Humansdorp Hospital, where she spent about three weeks.

A month later, she'd gained weight and was eating well. After two months her weight was up to 6.1kg but the staff noticed that she was not using her left arm and that she would cry when being dressed. We checked her and suspected that her arm was either dislocated or fractured. At hospital; they found that that was the case and a small cast was applied. According to the family she had fallen off a chair two days prior.

When we saw her in November 2011 we could not believe that it was Jolene! The cast was off, her weight was normal and she is a beautiful, round happy baby! Her mother has truly stepped up all aspects of Jolene's care and I am so grateful that the life of this little girl has been changed by a truly great team effort. It is so great seeing her healthy and happy!

Anita Nagame, "I lost my baby, but I thank God for you, for saving my life. I am so glad that I passed Grade 11, because I didn't think that I could pass after what happened to me. I hold on to Ps 139: 1-2 as it reminds me that God knows me much better than I know myself and that He knows everything before they happen. I thank God for giving me you."



Meet some of the staff members: The Mobile Clinic...



Magreet Wibbelink - Advanced Midwife & Co-Founder

Magreet completed her second year of Honours in advanced Midwifery and Neonatology at NMMU. Most of Magreet's time this year was spent at Dora Nginza public hospital where they easily deliver six hundred babies every month. This is also the referral centre for all the neighbouring hospitals, giving her the opportunity to deal with problematic cases and exposing her to different complications relating to pregnancy and childbirth. Magreet worked in the NICU, Prem Unit, Obstetric High Care Unit, Labour Wards, High risk ante natal clinic, just to name a few.

"I am very excited to be back in the clinic full-time and expectant to see where God is taking the clinic in the coming year! I am more convinced than ever that we are on the right track with our clinic – not just as an occupation, but a sacred calling."

My Name is Thandi Platjie.

I am 36 yrs old and have been working at the clinic since February 2009. I am the Office manager and teenage counsellor. I welcome, assist and encourage visitors coming to the clinic. This year I got my driver's license and am thrilled to have finished my first year studying Social work at NMMU!

I have learned that what I am doing is not about earning a salary, but it is about fulfilling God's calling for my life. My goal for the future is to see the teenage program going into schools, to have a set program for the pregnant teenagers, to do more fieldwork and to be hands on in the community.

Trudy Zevenbergen, is a volunteer who runs the Mobile Unit for our clinic, weighing and assessing the health of babies throughout the community.

Last year we experienced a breakthrough in working with other governmental departments. We work closely together with several social workers, with the Hospital and with child welfare. We see an average of 190 babies and children per month, and we visit almost all the crèches in the township of Jeffreys Bay. We also visit the newborns and their families. We assist, help and encourage young mothers. We pray a blessing over the little ones and their families.



This year we have placed 6 children in safe-care (foster homes or families). I think it is amazing to see what we can achieve when we work together.

I especially love visiting the newborns and helping the mothers to take care of their little ones. There is definitely a lack of information given to new mothers. HIV infected mothers don't know what to do concerning breastfeeding and bottle-feeding and are often very insecure. What a privilege it is to be able to help and assist these ladies and tell them that God has a plan and a future for every one of them. That being HIV-positive doesn't mean that you are going to die.



Sometimes all the suffering that we see is too overwhelming, but with HIS love and strength we can do more than we can ever imagine.....

Clara Jacobs writes;

"I work at the Healthy Mom and Baby Clinic as a HIV & AIDS counsellor. My dream is to see this community transformed, people giving their lives to Jesus. I always wanted to be a psychologist, so my dream is to study trauma and family counselling. I enjoy my job very much as I love working with people."

Gugu Patience Ntshangase

"I am an assistant nurse and the second in charge of the Healthy Mom & Baby Clinic's mobile clinic. It is my life to work in the field, I love getting into homes and finding difficult cases where we know only God can bring change. The community that I am involved in has so many challenges and that is what makes me want to go out to find the people in need."



Loretta Nel

I am a qualified Professional Nurse and have been working at Healthy Mom & Baby Clinic for 18 months and loving it. God has impressed upon my heart how important it is to reach and teach mothers, because then you reach the family and generations to come!



The number of ladies attending the clinic for family planning and cancer screening has rocketed during the year. I know that they leave empowered with knowledge not only for themselves but also to share with their friends and family.

I was so blessed to be able to attend the IMCI course in September. The method of treating new born infants to children of 5 yrs, is truly mind blowing and as I put it into practice at the clinic, it is an amazing tool to have and use.

Florence Venge

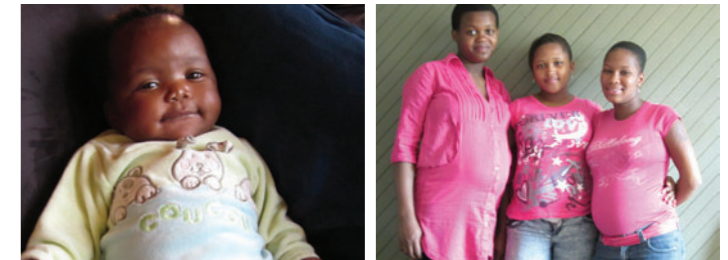
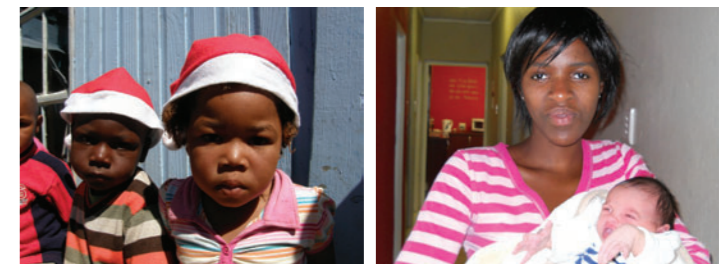
Working at the Clinic has showed me a

way in God. The people at the Clinic have showed me how to live life. I had a time I will never regret. They are like family to me. I want to thank them for all the words of wisdom and encouragement they have spoken over my life.

Michelle Visser – Volunteer worker

"When we moved to Jeffreys Bay from Johannesburg, I struggled to settle, going from my very busy Asset Management life to small-town living, so I signed up as a volunteer at the Healthy Mom and Baby Clinic and have LOVED every moment - from assisting with admin duties, making tea and coffee and going on home visits. The ladies at the clinic have become my friends and encouraged and supported me in my own walk with Christ & getting to know Him more.

I have learnt SO much about true servanthood, compassion and the Father heart of God for his people. I am humbled by the amazing people I see working tirelessly – not for a tangible reward, but for the joy of a healthy baby being born to a mom, especially one who wanted an abortion but found God and a new life and the promise of a beautiful future!"





Keeping account

Moore Stephens Chartered Accountants, the largest accounting firm in our area, is the firm that performs the audit service for us. We are required to have an annual audit by the department of social development and in addition to that we welcome the accountability it brings us as an entity and the professional advice that they offer.



Word from Louis Els

Senior pastor at Victory Christian Church

Over the last couple of years, the desire to help pregnant mothers has evolved into a very special Mom and Baby Clinic. From what originally was a few lectures, pre-natal, ante-natal and basic guidance for mom's concerning their babies, has now emerged into an amazing professional clinic. Now there are not only the basics that change lives, but also professional sisters, doctors, gynaecologists and volunteers that have created a great service to all in the community. Above all, their love for God and the value He places on individual lives has made this an extra-ordinary clinic .

I want to highly commend the excellent team of dedicated professionals for the way they serve the community and for how they reflect Kingdom principles and values. We as a church, as well as many businesses and other organizations in this area will continue to support you in any way we can. God bless!



Laura Birch

Clinic Manager, Professional Nurse and Midwife

At the Healthy Mom and baby clinic, we are committed to the well-being of mothers and their babies. We understand that many women are left with little or no financial and social resources to ensure they have good medical and emotional care during pregnancy. It can be a very vulnerable time and their health and the future health of their children is determined by the level of care they receive. We provide not only the medical care with professional staff but we aim to create a warm, encouraging environment where mothers are prepared for and supported through this time of their life.

Founded in the Victory Christian Church, our clinic is a faith-based organization that is motivated to offer our expertise and time to help anyone in need. We believe in bringing Jesus to the community in a practical way; from medical advice and assistance, milk formula and clothing for the babies in need, to words of encouragement and prayer.

We have approximately 1600 visits a month and a third of these visits are done in the community, using a Mobile Unit. The Unit travels daily into a variety of areas in the community, visiting and helping moms with their children. The cost of keeping the clinic open, amounts to R60 000 every month and therefore we are inviting you to partner with us. The clinic is a Non-Profit Organization and is a registered NGO. For companies that are in South Africa any donations made are tax deductible.

This is an opportunity to get involved and to make a difference – whether you contribute financially or give of your time to work with the mothers and their babies – every effort counts and will help to improve the community as a whole. For more information, please visit our website and watch our promotional video on Youtube.

Thank you for your support and kind consideration
 Laura Birch
 Clinic Manager

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