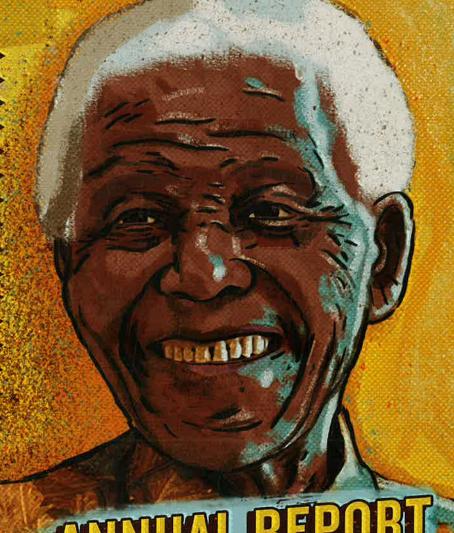
# HLOKOMELA



NNUAL REPORT 2013/2014

## WHO WE ARE

Hlokomela cares about the health and well-being of farm workers in the Greater Hoedspruit area. In answer to initial research findings, the director founded the program seven years ago. Guided by ongoing research and development, Hlokomela has become a prominent and respected HIV and Aids treatment and education provider in the area. Through all our projects we reach about 15 600 people annually.

We value a holistic approach and encompass other relevant health issues in our program. We do prioritize farm workers, which include migrant workers. Recent changes in business activities impacting our area have caused us to expand our focus to truck drivers and sex workers who frequently pass by and stop in the vicinity of the greater Maruleng area.

Hlokomela strives to have all its stakeholders shape and share its vision for a healthy farming community.

## AREA OF WORK

Hoedspruit is one of the main centers of the Greater Maruleng Municipality, situated in the Mopani District of the Limpopo Province. You'll find Maruleng in the north-eastern parts of South Africa, bordering the central region of the famous Kruger National Park and nestled in the heart of the Kruger to Canyon biosphere.

Local economy is driven by tourism, wildlife and commercial fruit farming. It supports a significant population of seasonal and migrant workers. About 15 600 farm workers and their families benefit directly from Hlokomela services.

## OUR VISION

Our vision is to support commercial farming communities towards stable and informed family units, empowered to take responsibility for health, spiritual and educational issues and improve their quality of life.

## **OUR MISSION**

Our mission is to empower the commercial farm worker in the Maruleng commercial farming municipality in respect to health, spiritual and educational issues.

## FROM THE CHAIR PERSON OF TRUSTEES

As we reflect on and commit Hlokomela's achievements and challenges over the past year to our collective memory, it seems appropriate to draw on the wisdom of our South African icon. Nelson Mandela.

The Mandela quote that epitomised Hlokomela's ethos the best for me is "As we let our own light shine, we unconsciously give other people permission to do the same."

Hlokomela has been a shining light over the past year — and indeed, it enabled others to shine as well.

As the Board, we are very proud of Hiokomela's performance: the successes and the manner in which the challenges has been dealt with.

We would like to encourage you to build on your very solid foundation.



#### Marie-Tinka Uys



## A WORD FROM THE DIRECTOR

The year under review saw rewarding successes and significant challenges. Our core programs have matured and we strive to build on the strong foundations, guided by constant feedback from our communities. Although people are benefitting greatly from anti-retroviral (ARV) treatments, HIV and AIDS still impact the greater Hoedspruit community.

More than 360 trucks travel the R40 between Phalaborwa and Mozambique on a daily basis, transporting minerals mined in Phalaborwa to the harbour of Maputo. With it has come a marked increase in prostitution and related activities in the area. Diseases such as HIV and AIDS and sexually transmitted illnesses have found new routes into the community. We have set a trucking wellness program in motion to counter this fresh incursion.

Adequate funding remains critical to our success. We have a solid relationship with major donors such as Right to Care, IOM, Discovery Fund, Global Fund, National Lottery Board and the Mopani District and Limpopo Province (High Transmission Area), which keeps our core service delivery systems in place. And while we have strengthened our own income generating projects, we are still reliant on the generosity and good will of our partners to ensure survival and success.

At the end of 2013 South Africa said goodbye to one of its greatest leaders. Nelson Mandela is a global inspiration and epitomise perseverance, courage and forgiveness. He inspired me and I am grateful to have seen his shaping of our history, first hand. Tata Madiba conquered many curves, cliffs, valleys and vistas while mapping his gift of South Africa's narrative.



DUR TEAM

Board of Trustees: Marie-Tinka Uys - Chairperson and Treasurer

Christine du Preez - (Ex-official)

Vicky-Lohanzi Jansen van Vuren - Secretary

Ernest Shai- Deputy Chairperson Doris Malepe - Member

Programme Director: Christine du Preez

Programme Manager: Antoinette Ngwenya

Health Manager: Lea Swart
Financial Manager: Marian Vilioen

Office Manager: Dineo Shubane and Sphiwe Mazibuko

Herb Garden Manager: Angie Rowles

Community Manager: Keith Rowles and Jackie Hills

Data Capturers: Jeanette Monyayi and Sindy Nkuna

Medical Officer: Dr L du Toit

Professional Nurses: Thalitha Mthethwa

Glenda van Wyk Hazel Nyathi

**Coordinator SBCC and** 

HTA Manager: Teenage Rapatsa

Coordinator IOM: Candy Nkgogo
Coordinator HCT: Bheki Malomola

HCT Councilors: Julie Malope, Tina Mashego, Maria Mthomboti

Faith Mawele, Brilliant Ndlovu and Chris Sebuyi

Lay Councilors: Constance Ngobeni, Lucy Maile,

Lunghi Mathebula , Junior Mogakane, Mirriam Ndlovu and Doris Malene

ART supporters: Refah Mogakane, Modern Mnisi

Office Assistant: Gift Nyambe
Shop Assistant: Wilna Mongadi

Driver and Financial Assistant: Solomon Ngobeni

Herb Garden Assistants: Tebogo Modipane, Maria Sekgobela, Amina Nkgogko,

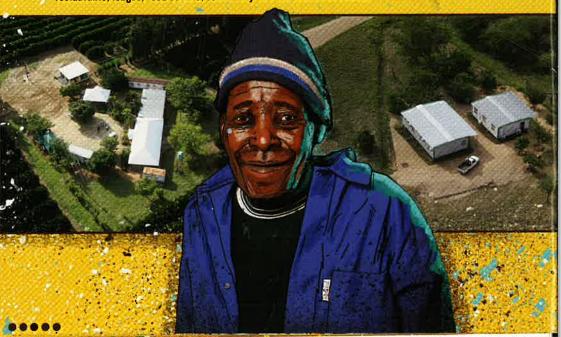
Lawrence Malapane, Mpho Malatji
Community Garden Assistants: Elizabeth Sekgobela, Jan Kobene, Melvin Makhubela,

Betty Makhubele, Victor Bango, Refilme Mahlakwane

German Rhon Biosphere Volunteers: Mona Bildhauer; Leah Holz

## **WHAT WE DO**

- We work with employers and management to develop a healthier work environment and to develop and implement work place HIV and Aids policies and programs;
- We establish and run wellness clinics to provide HIV counselling and testing, anti-retroviral treatment, condoms, health care services and referrals as well as health information;
- We provide primary health care through training, empowering and mentoring workers as care givers (Nompilos):
- We develop and implement an integrated social change communication program using focus and support
  groups and media, such as billboards, pamphlets and promotional items, to reduce high risk behavior.
- · We provide peer education;
- We sensitise, train and mentor male role models to address issues such as gender-based violence, transactional sex and reluctance to seek health advice;
- We cultivate and sell fresh herbs, run a charity shop and the HAT Tours
   (visits to our social development projects) for non-restricted income generation;
- We produce compost and cultivate fresh vegetables at our Community Garden, which is supplied to local restaurants, lodges, food outlets, community and our clients at clinics.



## PROGRAMS SERVICE DELIVERY

We facilitate access to health services, programs and products.

#### **WORKPLACE POLICIES & ENVIRONMENTS**

Hlokomela assists 69 enterprises – 55 small and 14 large – to develop and implement an HIV/Aids work place policy. This must be in writing and endorsed by management and the workers and include a peer education program. Last year we reached about 28 200 farm workers through this program.

Activities can include signing a memorandum of co-operation, setting up HIV/Aids committees, HIV counselling and testing (HCT) and social change communication initiatives to reduce HIV transmission.

#### **WELLNESS CLINICS**

A doctor and professional nurses provide health care services and referrals, information and condoms at wellness clinics. These are serviced on a rotational basis at Richmond, Bavaria, Hlokomela, Klaserie Private Nature Reserve, Ngala, Waterside, Phelwana, Singita Lebombo, Thornybush, The Southern Africa Wildlife College and Beretta School.

Hlokomela spread its wings by providing clinics at four farms in the Hazyview and Kiepersol area, Mpumalanga where 4000 individuals were counselled and tested for HIV.

During the	vear uni	der review	there were:
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16 769 clients provided with HIV counselling and testing (HCT)

552 patients on ARVs

HIV clients

Page smears conducted

referrals for clinical / medical, spiritual or social care that cannot be provided by Hlokomela

#### **SMALL DISCUSSION GROUPS**

Support group meetings are held at the clinics where patients can discuss issues such as living positively with HIV, safer sex and understanding HIV risks, stigmatising, acceptance and disclosure. In 2013, change agents reached 3 640 people through one-on-one or small group discussions.

#### **CONDOM DISPENSERS**

Hlokomela maintains condom dispensers, referred to as condocans, at 72 locations, including high transmission areas, such as truck shops, shebeens, taxi ranks, the hawkers market, hotels and lodges. In 2013 we distributed I 273 000 male condoms and I9 000 female condoms.

## CARE AND SUPPORT

#### **HOME BASED CARE (HBC)**

Care-givers, also known as Nompilos and change agents, look after patients on the farms. During the year under review, II of the 59 Nompilos took care of 79 patients. Interventions range from primary health care to disseminating social and educational information. Most of the patients are on ARVs and TB treatment. For the year, Hlokomela replenished 55 home base care kits. To date, we have assisted 186 farm workers with the HBC program.



## SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR CHANGE COMMUNICATION

# DIALOGUE THROUGH FOCUS GROUPS AND DAILY DISCUSSIONS

Nompilos "Mothers of life" and Gingirikani's (a Xi Tsonga word meaning "working with more effort") facilitated creative dialogue focus group sessions on farms to discuss health issues in which 149 962 workers participated. The dialogues explore quarterly themes with monthly topics in lively sessions where farm workers discuss relationships and interactions, as well as social and cultural issues that affect their health.

The sessions are underlined by strong efforts to build trust and confidence to deal with the impact of the issues at hand.

#### The themes were:

- "We are all responsible"
- "Better health for everyone"
- "Do not look away"
- "Farm workers know".

#### With some topics being:

- "My partner and condoms"
- "I'm proud to be a migrant"
- "Encourage a safer social lifestyle"
- "Hoedspruit community is a healthy working environment"
- "Keep safe"

## PREVENTION

#### **OUTREACHES**

Hiokomela reached more than 27 000 people through health promotion, awareness campaigns and health information sessions on farms.

#### MEDIA

During the year we distributed about 21 250 pamphlets and leaflets, as well as annual reports at events and activities on the farms. We have also developed billboards to be placed in strategic areas.



#### PROMOTIONAL ITEMS AND PREVENTION MESSAGES

Printed T-shirts and shopping bags go far when we need to advocate targeted messages. Last year we handed out 1200 T-shirts and about 5000 printed shopping bags.

#### **MEDIA COVERAGE**

The local newspaper, Kruger2Canyon News, continued its support of all Hlokomela activities with coverage of major events and other initiatives. Articles ranged from Hlokomela's drive to teach children how to swim, the sports and TB day and STI and Condom campaign to the Hlokomela Bush Party, a profile on employee of the year, Sister Lea Swart and the compost project.

## **EVENTS AND RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES**

#### **DURBAN VISIT**

HIV positive parents and their children visited Durban in January. For many, this was their first experience at the sea.

#### STI AND CONDOM WEEK

To coincide with Valentine's Day, Hlokomela ran a STI and condom campaign from Unifrutti - Portsgate Farm Hall. On the activity list was a soccer tournament and fashion parade.

#### **WORLD TB DAY**

In keeping with the international theme, "Stop TB in,my lifetime", we dedicated the day to TB screening, HCT and spreading related health messages.

#### **SWIMMING LESSONS**

Volunteer Charles Quibel taught five to seven year old children to swim. German visitors funded the activity and Sue Twose from the United Kingdom donated the swimming costumes.

#### **WORLD PLAY DAY**

Six rural creches collectively sent 8D children to the Gorutha Toy Library at Bavaria in celebration of World Play Day.

#### **CANDLE LIGHT MEMORIAL**

On 18 May, we held a candle light memorial and soccer tournament, attended by about 160 geople.

#### **ANNUAL GOLF DAY**

The annual golf day took place in October. Nompilos, managers, owners, wives and other community members teed off for a memorable team competition. The day is used to create awareness of breast cancer and other health issues.

# 16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM AGAINST ABUSE & VIOLENCE MARCHT

Some 800 community members marched from Kamogelo Centre in Hoedspruit to the Drakensig air-force base.

#### INTERNATIONAL AIDS DAY

Commemoration activities included speakers and a candle light memorial held in the community.

#### **ANNUAL AWARDS CEREMONY**



Last year's Nompilo of the Year, Sibongile Mashele, achieved a double, winning the award this year again. Saina Mafogo and Lennie Thibela achieved second and third place respectively. Maria Mahlako was awarded Gender Advocate of the year. More than 60 change agents attended the ceremony on 13 December 2013 at Blyde Wildlife Estate. A highlight of the event was the dance-off between the Pedi and Tsonga dance groups. The Tsonga team was crowned as the winners of the cultural dance competition.

## **CAPACITY BUILDING AND TRAINING**

#### **MONTHLY WORKSHOPS**

Every month, change agents discuss the challenges and progress of the wellness programme. This is vital to keep our activities relevant and effective. It is the platform where we dissect feedback on the quarterly dialogue theme, the monthly topic and group discussions.

Also included are data analyses and formal reporting tools such as patient records, referral and household, as well as home based and health promotion tally forms.

The groups discuss themes or issues ranging from Human Rights in South Africa, to good nutrition, child care and applicated regulations regarding treatment and diagnosis of HIV positive patients.





Christine du Preez



Antoinette Ngwenya



Lea Swart



Marian Viljoen



Teenage Aapatsa



Glenda van Wyk



Dr L du Toit



Constance Ngobeni



Gift Nyambe



Hazel Nyathi



Refah Mogakane



Thalitha Mthethwa





Lunghi Mathebula



Brilliant Ndlovu



Chris Sebuyi



Julie Malope



Wilna Mongadi



Junior Mogakane



Candy Nkgogo



Bheki Malomola



Maria Mthomboti





Mirriam Ndlovu



Solomon Ngobeni



Modern Mnisi



Jackie Hills



Lucy Maile



Betty Makhubele



Dineo Shubane



Angie Rowles



**Keith Rowles** 



Mpho Malatji



Lawrence Malapane



Amina Nkgogko



Maria Sekgobela



Tebogo Modipane



















## TRAUMA RELEASE EXERCISES (TRE)

Dr Erika Coertzen, a specialist in TRE, facilitated sessions for the change agents and employees as part of debriefing sessions.

#### FINANCIAL LITERACY

Hlokomela supports community savings groups to have regular financial literacy meetings. Group members pay a subscription and/or donation to the group, of which one member a month collects the monthly sum.

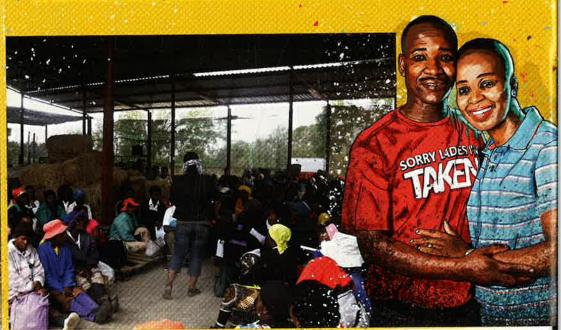
#### **GENDER TRAINING**

We facilitated regular gender and migration training to understand and manage gender and migration dynamics in the context of HIV/AIDS. The training targets both men and women and covers topics like norms about masculinity, gender based violence and legal rights and the protection of women and children. During the year 3287 people were reached.

In February 2013, Hiokomela facilitated a school gender awareness session at Thiele Primary School. Children aged 10 to 14 attended.

#### PEER EDUCATION WORKSHOPS

In October, four change agents attended a Department of Health capacity building workshop in Tzaneen. Hlokomela's social behaviour and change communication coordinator was one of the facilitators.



## ORGANISATIONAL EFFECTIVENESS

### **PARTNERSHIPS**

## INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATION FOR MIGRATION (IOM)

In 2005, Hlokomela formed a partnership with the IOM in answer to findings of an IOM study on HIV/AIDS vulnerability among migrant farm workers in the area. IOM committed financial support for the Ripfumelo II project, which is implemented by HTT to reduce HIV and TB vulnerability amongst mobile and migrant farm workers.

IOM, as other major donors, visits Hlokomela regularly to assess programme implementation, and provide technical assistance to ensure activities stay on track.

#### **GOVERNMENT - PROVINCIAL AND LOCAL**

Hiokomela entered into a service level agreement for home based care, high transmission area and service delivery with the provincial and district offices of the Department of Health. Ndlovu Medical Trust joined the partnership to manage the finances from government.

Hiokomela aims for an integrated relationship with all levels of government. At district level regular contact, workshops and campaigns ensure that programs such as condom distribution and HCT as well as organizational governance and management are in line with the partnership goals.

Partnering with government has enabled Hlokomela to extend relationships with other NGOs in the province and facilitate valuable peer review assessments and evaluations.

On local level, Hlokomela and the Local Aids Council for Maruleng Municipality work together on issues such as ARV treatment training and home based care workers. We are also part of the Maruleng initiative to establish contact and working relationships with other NPOs in the municipal area.



#### COMMUNITY

We do not operate in a vacuum and value our relationships with other organizations and effities working in our commonity. Our commitment include attending meetings like the K2C Network Coordinating Unit meeting to a Joint campaign with the Hoedspruit Air Force Base, Department of Health and the Maruleng municipality on 16 Days of activism against abuse.

#### **HOEDSPRUIT TRAINING TRUST (HTT)**

The Hoedspruit Training Trust (HTT) is our parent partner and keeps our activities on target. HTT evolved from the Rural Foundation community development initiative in the 1990s, which focused on the health of farm workers and their families. The Trust was registered as an NPO in 2006.

#### **HLOKOMELA EMPLOYEES**

Our employees drive our wellbeing, effectiveness and success. We have a committed team of 42 people whose passion guides their compassion and professional conduct.

Hlokomela prides itself in empowering our workforce. We invest time, money and effort in training, networking, enabling peer contact and building our team.

Hlokomela employees attended workshops, seminars and training throughout the year on LGBTIs (lesbian, gay, bi-sexual, transgender and inter-sexual) related topics, refugee rights and first aid courses. Hlokomela presented a poster at the sixth Annual SA Aids Conference in Durban.

Strategic planning: The HTT Board of directors, Hlokomela management and coordinators drafted a strategic plan for 2014 at a session held at Thornybush in December 2013.

Annual General Meeting (AGM): We combined the AGM with building our team culture during a session the day and night before the meeting. The AGM took place in November 2013 and was attended by lodge- and farm owners and managers, the Department of Labour and Department of Health officials.

Employees of the Year: Teenage Rapatsa and Lea Swart are our employees of the year. Teenage and Lea thoroughly enjoyed their rewards, spending a weekend at Motswari Game Lodge and Ngala Lodge respectively.

Fellowship nominee: The director has been nominated as an Ashoka fellowship candidate. We expect to hear the outcome in March 2014.



## FINANCE

Financial Report for the year ended February 2013.

Hoedspruit Training Trust (HTT) continued to use the services of the firm Willem van Wyk Professional Accountants and Daan de Kock (CA) to do their annual audit. The audit for the year ended February 2013, was thorough and in accordance with the International Financial Reporting Standards for small and medium sized entities and in the manner required by the Companies Act of South Africa. Income is generated through donations, funding, income generating community/social development projects, interest and fundraising.

#### **INCOME RECEIVED**

#### **MONETARY DONATIONS/FUNDING**

Funds were generated from the following sources:

- Department of Health and Social Development (DOH) Service Delivery (SD) Mopani District
- Department of Health and Social Development (DOH) Home Base Care (HBC) Mopani District.
- Department of Health and Social Development (DOH High Transmission Area (HTA) Limpopo Province.
- Right to Care (RTC/USAID/PEPFAR) / ANOVA (USAID/PEPFAR)
- Discovery Fund

**Global Fund** 

- National Lotto Distribution Trust Fund (NLDTF)
- i de la companya de l



#### OTHER DONATIONS / FUNDING

- Income generating community/social development projects (Herb Garden,
- · Community Garden, HAT Tours, HHH Shop)
- Timbavati Private Nature Reserve and Phelwana Clinic Nursing Services
- Private donations
- Own fund raising projects (Hlokomela Herb Bush Party)
- Interest capitalised on money market investment
- · Monthly farmer's fees towards service delivery

#### **NON-MONETARY DONATIONS**

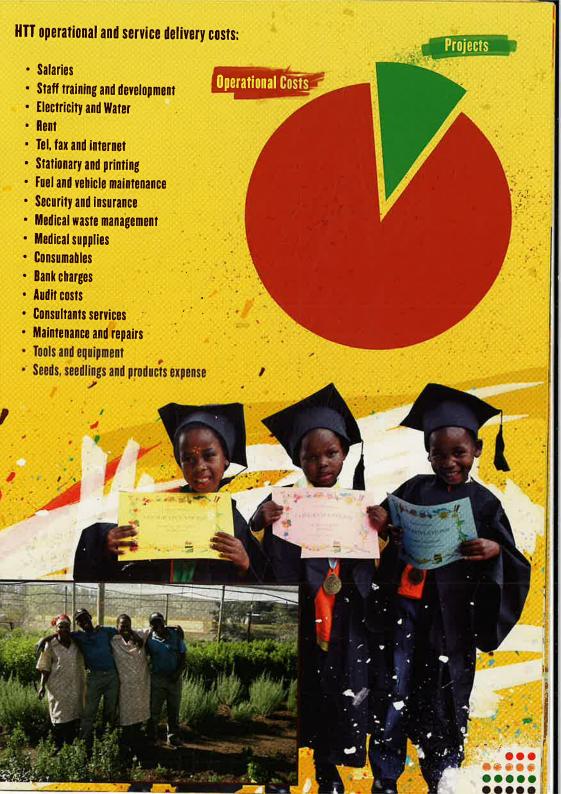
- Electricity and water paid by Unifrutti Blyderiver and Bavaria Fruit Estate (In kind donation).
- Fresh fruit and vegetables by farmers for distribution to community, farm workers and their families.
- Affordable rent negotiated by AB Burger Trust for Hlokomela Hospice Haven (HHH/Charity Shop)
- · ARV's and Primary Health Care Medicine from DOH (Accredited & MOU with DOH)

#### **OPERATING EXPENSES**

#### HTT projects/programs:

- HIV/AIDS treatment and primary health care service delivery
- Home Based Care (HBC)
- HIV/AIDS prevention, care and support
- · HCT Social development projects e.g.
  - The Herb Garden
  - HHH Shop
  - HAT Tours
  - Community Garden
- · Holiday programs for farm worker children
- · Training and capacity building
- Website
- Fundraising
- Awareness campaigns





#### **FUNDRAISING**

HTT continues to actively campaign for new donors to raise funds for on-going service delivery- and social development projects. HTT will also continue raising awareness of the work being done by the organization by means of awareness campaigns and marketing of income generating projects.

Detailed audited financial statements are available on request.

## **MAKING A DIFFERENCE**

Almero's story: Almero is a 44-year old senior supervisor on a mango farm in the Hoedspruit area. A positive HIV test last year changed his thinking and his behaviour.

"I sometimes think God won't forgive me for the women I have infected with HIV, the women who have died because of me," says the married father of seven. Almero's home is hundreds of kilometers from his work place. Away from home, he regularly seeked sex from female co-workers, often also newcomers far from home. He would have multiple concurrent partners and never used a condom. "Sex with a condom was like having a checolate without removing the paper," he believed.

In 2007 his health changed and he lost weight. He knew he should test for HIV, but it took almost a year before he visited the Hlokomela clinic.

"It was a very hard decision for me to be tested. I thought having HIV was to be dead. I saw other sick people and was scared of testing positive."

At the clinic he was councelled, tested and put on ARV treatment following the positive result.

"I promised then that I would prevent any more unnecessary deaths," says Almero whose story echoes that of many married male migrant workers.

Hlokomela has a comprehensive and integrated approach to HIV/Aids. In addition to HCT, Almero has been sensitised and coached as a male role model and mentor on issues such as gender based violence, transactional sex and poor health seeking behaviour in men.

"The big change people need to make is wearing condoms," says Almero. He did not only change his own behaviour, but is setting an example to his co-workers and does what he can to encourage people to know their status.

"It is not only the treatment and education, but also the good atmosphere at Hlokomela that make you want to change your heart," he says.

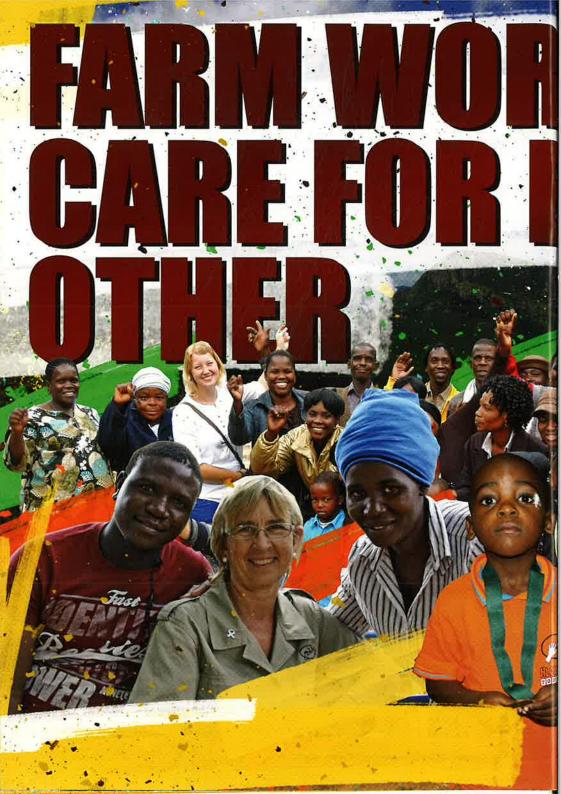


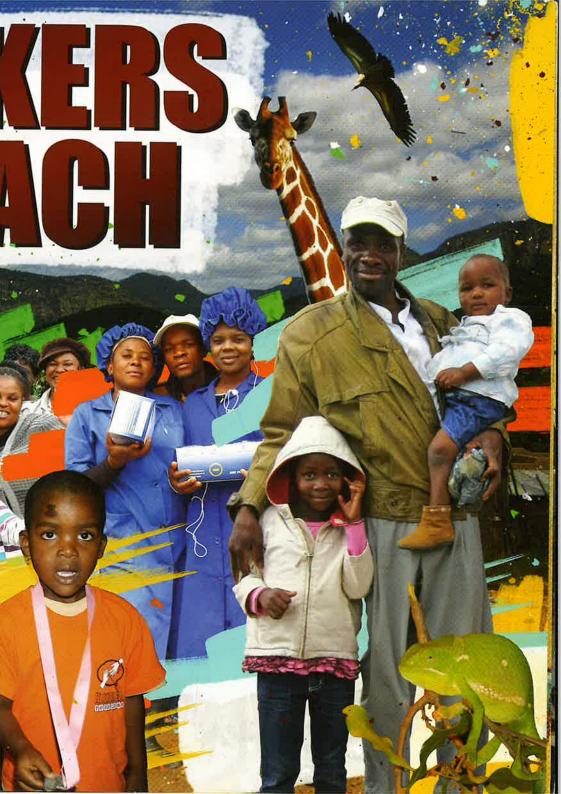


## HLOKOMELA'S RECOGNITION, AWARDS AND ACCOLADES

- 2007: An Independent study finds farm workers trust confidentiality of services offered:
- 2007: An Invitation for an Oral presentation at South African AIDS Conference in Durban.
- 2007: A Cash contribution from Shoprite/Checkers as Community Builder,
- 2008: Awarded Maruleng Municipality's Best Non-Profit Organisation in Mopani district.
- 2008: Christine du Preez is a finalist in The Southern African Trust and Mail and Guardian "Drivers of
  - Change Investing in the Future" awards.
- 2008: Poster presentation at the 17th International AIDS Conference in Mexico City.
- 2008: Poster presentation at the 4th Annual South African AIDS Conference in Durban.
- 2009: Cash award from the Mopani District Executive Mayor Charity Cup.
- 2009: Hlokomela received the "Investing in the Future" award from the Selection committee of Mail and Guardian. An award for its holistic innovative approach to medical and social service delivery for farm workers and their families.
- 2010: Hlokomela participated in the 2010 International AIDS Conference In Vienna with the generous financial support from its member farms and the Hoedspruit community.
- 2010: Silver Star Award from Impumelelo for innovations in government and the public sectors.
- 2011: Board member presentation on the Hlokomela Herb Garden at the US Peace Core, South Africa Health Symposium in Johannesburg.
- 2012: Denmark based television crew films an episode of a cooking series By the winner of Master Chef Den mark competition, using ingredients from Hlokomela Herb Garden
- 2012: Poster presentation at the 19th International Aids Conference in Washington DC, USA.
- 2013: The Director of Hlokomela were awarded- and announced as the winner of "SA's Most Influential Women in Civil Society Organisations and Related Services" Award.
- 2013: Poster presentation at the 6th SA annual AIDS Conference in Durban.
- 2013: Director nominated for an ASHOKA fellowship.









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#### **FARM WORKERS CARE FOR EACH OTHER**

















