

SETHULE ORPHANS'S TRUST

GIVING HOPE TO CHILDREN IN ZIMBABWE



ANNUAL REPORT 2019

Sethule Orphan's Trust gives hope to orphans and vulnerable children through a supportive holistic approach to both children and their foster parents.

www.sethuletrust.org

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Our purpose is to transform the lives of the most vulnerable children in rural Matabeleland Zimbabwe. Part of our vision is to ensure that no child is without a home and that no child is turned away from school.

Sethule Trust is legally registered as a non-profit organization in Zimbabwe, Switzerland & Britain.

We seek to give hope to children in need by promoting the following:

- ❖ Advancing their right to education
- ❖ Enabling them to obtain birth certificates
- ❖ Encouraging new family unity through Positive Parenting workshops
- ❖ Arranging bereavement counselling where it is needed.
- ❖ Promoting family health

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In 2019, Sethule Orphans Trust received recognition from district schools for persistent hard work in child development.



MESSAGE FROM THABBETH



The Sethule Project was set up in 2004 initially to assist families, in particular orphans, vulnerable children and women. Though some problems have changed, the need remains. My recent visit to Zimbabwe has brought home to me, in no uncertain terms, how catastrophic the situation now is in the country, making the task of trying to alleviate poverty in Zimbabwe increasingly challenging. It was against severe economic instability that Sethule Trust had to conduct its activities in 2019, and the year 2020 promises to be equally difficult. A severe drought during the 2018/19 farming season, described as the worst dry spell in a century, contributed to power cuts and economic decline. It is feared that another impending drought during the current so called “rainy season” will further cripple the economy. Despite all these problems that we face in Zimbabwe, I see positive ripples caused by the helping hand of Sethule Orphans’ Trust. The smile of a child is a promise of a new life, a life full of hope for a better future. The smiles of many children warm the heart. Thank you to you all who have given to Sethule. Your generous donations have indeed brought hope and joy to many children and families.

OUR PROGRAMMES



1. ORPHAN CARE

BIRTH CERTIFICATE PROGRAMME

Over 1,6million children in Zimbabwe have lost the care of their parents. Some steps have been taken to protect orphans and vulnerable children, but much more needs to be done.

A high number of orphans and vulnerable children do not have birth certificates and thus they are not documented as really existing. They cannot take exams, engage in sports, and so suffer from social exclusion, quite apart from serious future issues as a result of being a “non-person”. Sethule Trust continues to demonstrate its commitment to essential children’s’ rights. To advance in life, a birth certificate is mandatory; most important things in life require a Birth Certificate. Sethule Orphans Trust not only aims to make children in rural communities happy by giving them an identity, a home and a source of belonging, but establishing their personal value in society, their primary identification of themselves.



2. REACT

Reject & Expose All

Child Trauma

equips children with the knowledge on child sexual abuse & educates them on how to , “No!”

Children are also encouraged to report sexual abuse cases.

In 2019, 1325 children benefited from the react programme.



3. BEREAVEMENT COUNSELLING

Through grief, orphans tend to shy away from other children and struggle with concentration at school and in some cases exhibit negative attention-seeking habits. In the counselling workshop, we not only give them a platform to express their fears, feelings and pains, but we also teach them that they are special and that people around them are special too and have to be treated with respect and care.

We help children move from grief to acceptance. Our “Tree of Life” & “Emotional Logic” programmes have been immensely successful and have been adopted by other organizations, including the Anglican Church.

We have seen notable changes in children who went through the 2 day bereavement counselling sessions this year in behaviour, attitude toward school work, interaction with their peers, school grades and their outlook of life as a whole. *130 children received bereavement counselling in 2019.*

4. POSITIVE PARENTING WORKSHOPS

The main theme for 2019 discussions was the thorny issue of ensuring that children had birth certificates. For orphans, as their relatives disperse or die off, it becomes more and more difficult to obtain witnesses to the details of their birth. This need has reached crisis level for many.



Hearing about the renewal of our birth certificate efforts

5. EDUCATION

a. SCHOLARSHIPS



Our Scholarship Fund has benefited many children from rural villages. The photo above is of girls who have excelled in schools and have been awarded a scholarship to a very good boarding school.

← Through Sethule donor parents, orphans & vulnerable children can attend Primary school right up to university.

b. PRESCHOOLS



Our Sethule Preschools, the first in Matabeleland, offer a unique environment where children begin to learn: an early start in a clean, happy setting, with basic English thrown in, is a major boost vital to their development. We have now seen children who were at our preschool enter University: a fact of which we are very proud! The preschool also provides nutritious food for children to supplement their diet.

c. RIDE FOR EDUCATION



The Edu-ride Project makes education possible for many students who live too many miles away from school.

← These two girls had been on the bike waiting list for a year. They smile as they finally received their brand-new bicycles.

52 more pupils benefited from the bicycle project in 2019

6. YOUTH & CHILD DEVELOPMENT

a. DARE TO BE DIFFERENT (D2BD)



D2BD equips youths with timely information to help them make informed choices on leaving school that enable them to tackle life's modern challenges wisely & positively.

Computer skills & alcohol abuse were the main topics in 2019



Teenagers are encouraged to lead **D2BD** discussions and to come up with positive life changing solutions.

565 teenagers attended D2BD in 2019



b. CLICK

Learning how to support each other in love was the main focus for the **CLICK** social club for 11-12-year-old children

c. ATTIC



ATTIC

Teenagers are encouraged to compete in sports, drama, song, and dance, as well as challenge each other in Bible knowledge.

In 2019, a new venue at St James's school in rural Nyamandlovu allowed us to have all sports events in one place, to have cooked meals on site, including fresh bread, and the use of a magnificent large school hall. We could easily accommodate everyone & hope to have an even greater camp in 2020. Teenagers so look forward to this event, that they beg to join in!!

120 teenagers attended ATTIC in 2019.



Special visiting leader Nigel Marshall is here with winners!

7. ENVIRONMENT

a. SETHULE GARDENS



All villages rely almost entirely on seasonal rain for their crop production. Few have access to irrigation. With global warming and persistent drought reducing amounts & regularity of the rain supply, the Sethule gardens provides fresh vegetables for children and their families.

Most villagers rely on digging into the dry riverbed to get drinking water but the Sethule gardens has changed this. From our garden boreholes, potable water is easily available.

Sethule has also helped a remote rural community near Tsholotsho with drilling of a borehole, which provides potable water and the opportunity for growing vegetables locally

b. KEEPING IT GREEN

KIG's main task is to bring awareness of the human impact on the environment to rural villagers. We have equipped several village communities with relevant techniques how they can use their land to provide for themselves and yet still preserve & conserve nature. This is done through environmentally friendly educational workshops, and is combined with litter clean-up campaigns and tree planting initiatives. Our aim is to GET RID OF THE RUBBISH THAT CLUTTERS THE COUNTRYSIDE!

8. SELF-HELP PROJECTS

a. SETHULE QUEENS CLUB



The “Queens” are an independent, hardworking and foresighted group who, through sustainable skills training, have used their own hands to create different income generating items.

They have made beaded jewellery, sewn school uniforms, started chicken rearing and learnt bee keeping.

The club also discusses practical skills and this year’s theme was Conflict Resolution. The ladies use their time together to bring into the open various social issues, and to meet socially.



9. ADMINISTRATION

a. OUR PARTNERS

- All Saints Church, Vevey, CH
- Calsto Care, Bulawayo, ZW
- Däster-Schild Stiftung, Grenchen, CH
- EE Brian Smith, Dorton, UK
- Emarika Foundation, Geneva, CH
- Emotional Logic, Tavistock, UK
- First Church, Wenham, USA
- Friends of Sethule Worldwide
- Greendale Foundation, Geneva, CH
- Leysin American School, CH
- Living Well Church, Rotorua, NZ
- Lowes Wong Junior School, Southwell, UK
- McCabe Charity, London, UK
- Mudgeway Community, Plymouth, UK
- Riverside Church, southwell, UK
- Reformed Churches of Bern-Jura-Solothurn, CH
- Rotary Club, Aigle, CH
- Rotary Club Chablais, Bex, CH
- Schellenberg Foundation, Frauenfeld, CH
- Swiss Friends of Sethule Orphans' Trust
- Three Kings Church, Zurich, CH
- Westlake Church, St Sulpice, CH
- Whitelands Ladies, Roehampton, UK

b. BOARD OF TRUSTEES

- Director: Mrs Thabbeth Cotton, BA
- Chair Person: Dr Noma Ndiweni, PhD
- Treasurer: Mr Thulani Ndlovu, BAccSci
- Community Advisor: Rev Clopas Ncube, BA
- Education Advisor: Mrs Gladys Njaya, Med
- Legal: Bheki Nhliziyo, LLB,LLM
- Trustee: Prof Michael Cotton, FMH
- Trustee: Mrs Thembi Ndiweni, MBA
- Trustee: Mrs Michelle Cummins, LLB
- Trustee: Mrs Stephanie Johnson, MEd
- Trustee: Mrs Nicola Bull, MTheol
- Trustee: Mrs Lis Seeley, BS



Executive staff members

10. INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT

a. BUILDINGS

For us every year has its own achievements, be it big and small. 2019 was another year in which Sethule Trust took strides of achievement in operations and spheres of influence through the under listed projects and programs;

- **Emarika Classroom Building.**

Through our friends from Leysin American School (LAS), Sethule Trust was able to build a second classroom at Emarika Pre-School that now accommodates the second year Early Childhood Development (ECD) learners.

- **Teachers Cottage Renovations.**

A room formally used as a library was converted and renovated into a teacher's cottage. This was done in order to bring teachers close to school since the cottage is located in the same parameters as the school.

- **School Dormitory Renovations.**

Our use of St James School in Nyamandlovu revealed to us the lack of maintenance that has been carried out over the last 38 years! Although the facilities were wonderful for our camp, it was obvious we could help with improving conditions in the girls' dormitories (which now accommodate twice as many pupils as 20 years ago!). With help from LAS, this work will start in March this year, together with a major inter-schools meeting.

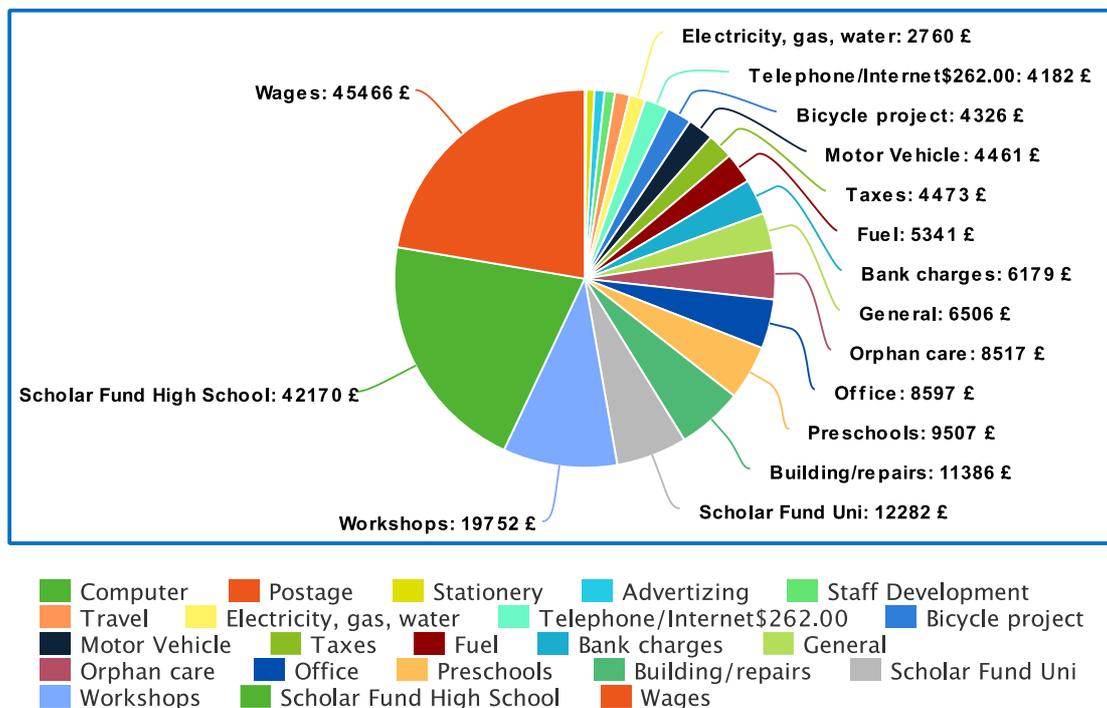
b. GARDENS

The tank and pump which service our gardens have been refurbished, and are now functioning very well. We hope for a bumper crop after the pruning of our guava trees.



2019 Financial Report

The pie chart shows amounts expended in 2019. By far the greatest expenditure has been on educational support. Administrative costs remain far lower than most European-based NGO's. Our strict auditing precludes any laxity with funds. Our accounts are readily available for inspection on the UK Charities Commission website. Substantial increase in income is attributed to the sterling work of the new association of Swiss Friends of Sethule, led by Mrs Anne-Marie Saxer.

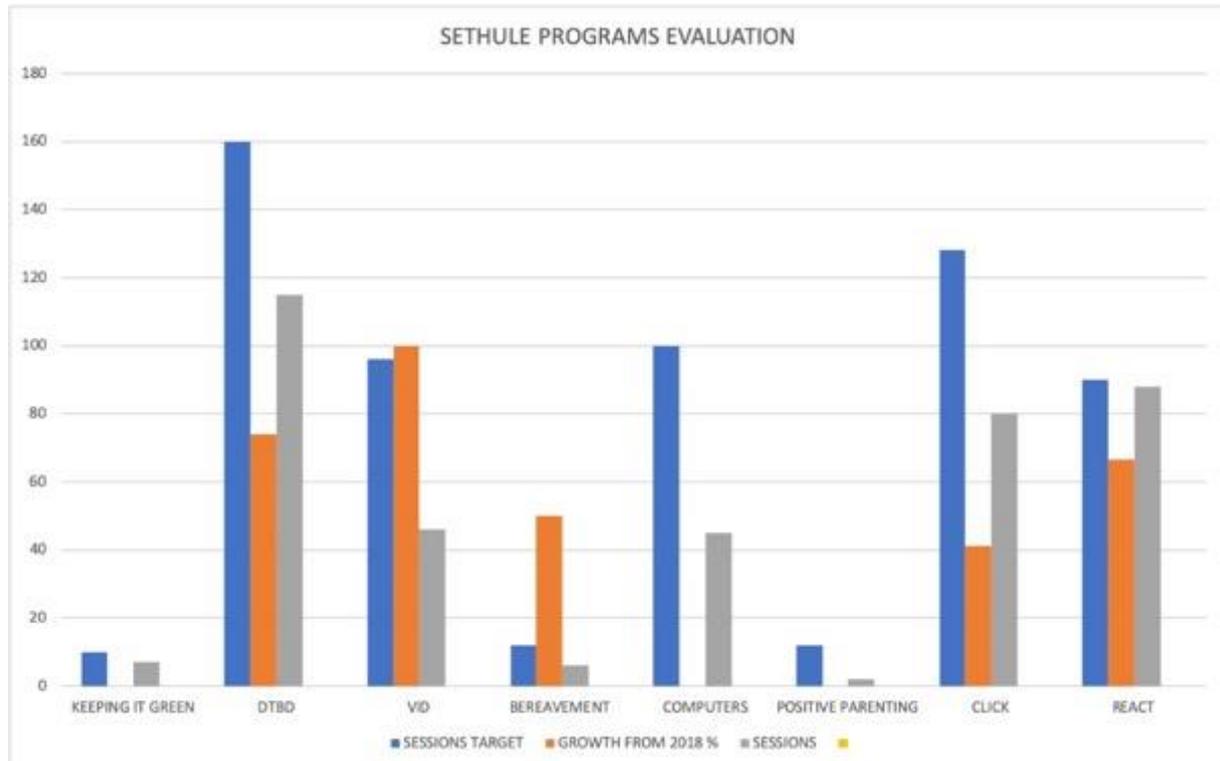


meta-chart.com

The total expenditure for 2019 came to **£204,821**. The total income was **£188,833**.

With an initial balance in January of **£35,751**, we came to a final end of year balance of **£19,763**

2019 EVALUATION



The chart is an evaluation of the Sethule Trust programs, the variables tested include the intended sessions or programs, the growth of the programs in the program officer's attendance from the year 2018. It compares the growth in percentage (represented by an orange line, and goes further to address the discrepancies in the targeted programmes and the executed ones. Thus, it easier to determine what was the intended goal.

OUR 2019 ACHIEVEMENTS

Other achievements include:

- ❖ Introduction of a new Young Adults vacation camp. WAGES
- ❖ Moving of ATTIC Summer Camp Venue & addition of more teams.
- ❖ Acute drop in Child Sexual Abuse cases. The Reject, Expose All Child Trauma (REACT) programme challenged children to expose a lot of sexual abuse related cases that saw most perpetrators being brought to justice between 2017-18. During this time over 5 cases were reported either through Sethule or straight to the police. In 2019, Sethule received notice of only one case of child sexual harassment. The decline suggests programme is indeed very effective. It has been spread to over 1000 children in Matabeleland.
- ❖ Official Registration of Emarika as a Private School: Sethule successfully registered as a private school with the ministry of Primary and Secondary Education.
- ❖ Growth in programmes: Attendance has improved and engagement as well. In 2019 Sethule was delivering programmes to 13 Schools (6 primary schools, 5 secondary schools and 2 pre-schools). The organization was also able to work with community members of villages in Matobo and Umguza.
- ❖ Relationships with other NGOs and official bodies were established at various Workshops and Meetings throughout 2019.



REPORT COMPILED BY MRS THABBETH COTTON, 05/02/2020

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