

Hilltop Empowerment Centre

Bicycle Project News Update

Spring Season

June 18th to September 21st 2016

Swiss Bicycles Arrive

On June 18, 2016 Hilltops team welcomed the arrival of the Merek, Swiss container of Bicycles. It took a team of 8 people, 7 hours for the bikes to be unloaded, stocked in and secured in the storage rooms at Hilltop. Joy and excitement has been brought to many people with the arrival of the bicycles

Special Meaning

A village mother came to Hilltop with her 12 year old son who desperately wanted a bicycle. The son choose a bike from our show room at Hilltop extremely happy and pleased. His mother was so deeply touched that she cried at the time, due to her love for the boy and her sacrifice to give him the bike, a dream come true for him. The youth in our area are thrilled that they have a chance to purchase a bike and are now coming daily to the farm to see the bikes. Bush telegraph is running and the word is out that the bikes are here and very beautiful!

The Student Technicians

Bike education and technical training has taken place with five of Hilltops students Phumzile from Bunlungula, Jade and Aidan from Kimberly and Carlton and Shadley from Cape Town.

Technical Trainer for the months of June and July: Glenn Van Heerden

Over-seeing the training and projects services has been supported by Glen Van Heerden a Mechanical Engineer and college lecturer from East London, South Africa.

Education and Training

Since the bikes arrived, on a part time basis, Glenn has gone through a process of training in the types, models of the bikes, troubleshooting the problems with gears and brakes and how to change and patch tires and other procedures relating to the mechanics of the bikes.

Our Customers

36 Bicycles have been sold to our local youth living Hanover Village, young boys thrilled to own a bike! Sales have been to adults and others living in the surrounding rural locations. It has been winter so sales have taken some time to get started.

Planning and Distribution

The communities of Platfontein and Sterkspruit in the north of South Africa will also be beneficiaries and receive bicycles to expand the rural transport service offering more opportunities for mobility and tremendous joy to the riders, as clearly seen in the pictures below.

Many thanks to the friends of Hilltop who have made this possible for the people in the Eastern Cape! Your efforts are making a huge difference in the daily lives of so many!

From all of us at Hilltop Empowerment Centre











