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Cross Connect Community Outreach

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CROSS CONNECT
Community Outreach

Abstract

Cross Connect focuses to partner with local churches, organizations, government, businesses, and individuals to facilitate transformational change in communities by changing children's lives. We offer various programs for children and youth between the ages of 1-23 to create a healthy alternative to drugs, alcohol and crime.

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Transforming communities by changing children's lives



Table of Contents

I. BRIEF HISTORY.	3
II. MISSION AND VISION STATEMENT	3
III. OUR MAIN OBJECTIVES	3
6. HOLISTIC APPROACH TO SERVING CHILDREN	4
I. CROSS CONNECT COMMUNITY MODEL EXPLAINED	4
7. CROSS CONNECT BANKING DETAILS	5
8. OUR PROGRAMS AND PARTNERS	6
A. ORGANIZATIONAL NEEDS - DAY TO DAY OPERATIONS	6
I. ADDITIONAL NEEDS:	6
B. EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT NETWORK	7
I. OUR MAIN FOCUS	7
II. OUR CURRENT NETWORK	7
III. ECD TRAINING	7
IV. HOW YOU CAN HELP:	8
C. BIBLE CLUB	8
II. REACHING A UNIVERSAL AUDIENCE	8
III. CENTERED ON CORE ESSENTIALS	8
IV. HOW YOU CAN HELP	9
D. SCHOOL'S MINISTRY PROGRAMS	9
I. HOW YOU CAN HELP	9
E. MENTORSHIP PROGRAM	9
I. OUR MISSION	10
II. OUR VISION	10
III. WHO WE ARE	10
IV. WHAT WE DO:	10
V. OUR VALUES	10
VI. HOW YOU CAN HELP	10
F. HOLIDAY PROGRAM	11
I. HOW YOU CAN HELP	11
G. SPORTS AND MENTORSHIP PROGRAMS	11
I. HEALTHY DEVELOPMENT OF CHILDREN AND YOUTH	11
II. OPPORTUNITIES IN THE COMMUNITY FOR SPORT PROGRAMS	12
III. HOW YOU CAN HELP:	12



I. Brief History.

Cross Connect Community Outreach was started by Pastor Kyle and Nicole Tolman in 2017 after working in ministry and on the mission field for various years. While driving through the streets of Krugersdorp their hearts broke when they saw waves of children wondering the streets without a purpose while drug dealers and criminals were luring these children into a life of destruction. They knew they needed to do something to change the narrative. Cross Connect Community Outreach was born.

II. Mission and Vision Statement

Cross Connect focuses to partner with local churches, organizations, government, businesses, and individuals to facilitate transformational change in communities by changing children's lives. We offer various programs for children and youth between the ages of 1-23 to create a healthy alternative to drugs, alcohol and crime.

Our Vision is to see every child transformed by the message of Jesus Christ through exciting Christian based outreach programs.

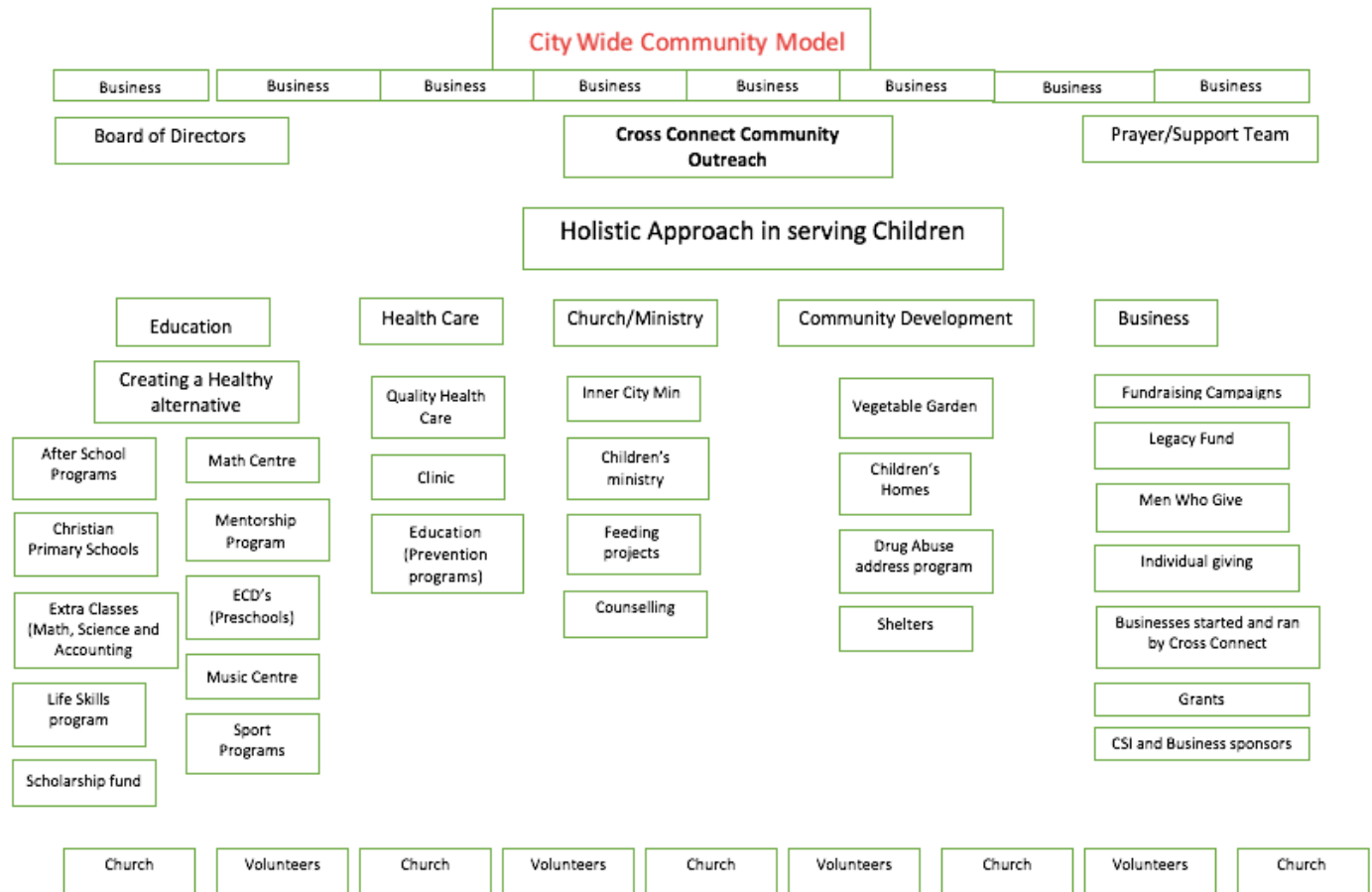
III. Our main objectives

1. **Train** - Cross Connect is committed to train children and youth through Life Skills programs, Scholarships, and internships.
2. **Educate** – Cross Connect is committed to educating the next generation through providing resources and supporting pre-schools, primary and high schools to provide quality education.
3. **Care** – Cross Connect is committed to offering specialized care for children and youth by providing a loving environment designed to meet the physical, emotional and spiritual needs of a child.
4. **Partner** – Cross Connect is committed to partner with the local community, churches, organizations and businesses to start and sustain relevant upliftment programs.
5. **Change** – Cross Connect is committed to changing children's lives through exciting Christian based outreach programs so that may serve in their God given calling.



6. Holistic Approach to serving children

Cross Connect strives to serve children and youth holistically in the local community by not only addressing one aspect of childhood development but addressing what the child needs to be successful in every part of their life. Our model tries to integrate various stake holders to contribute to one common goal of seeing children's lives changed.



I. Cross Connect Community Model Explained

We believe that God has placed us in a unique position where we can help bring various stakeholders like (volunteers, churches, organizations, government, businesses and donors) to work together to bring greater impact in the lives of children all over South Africa.

We partner with local churches, government and organizations to see what they are already doing in the community. We then identify their needs and see where we can support them better. Cross Connect only starts new programs when there is no other organization addressing the need that we identify in the community.

We involve businesses, churches and individuals to help us raise social capital to sustain various programs and fund new programs starting off in various places across South Africa. Cross Connect vets and regulates every organization that we work with through transparent accountability by getting financial reports and quarterly updates on program progress. Thus giving donors security knowing that their funds are being used for what it was intended for.

We also focus on generating sustainable income that helps us sustain current and future programs as the need arises in the community by integrating a business model into the organization.

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We start small businesses that are able to generate profit that can be ploughed back into the community programs we run and support. Our very first small business that we started was Cross Connect Coffee. We partnered with top Baristas to create a handcrafted Arabica coffee of the richest quality, consistency and flavour which is available in grounded and whole bean packs.

We also have various other initiatives like the Legacy Funds that targets retired people to invest in a legacy of hope for children by designating some of their resources to this ministry when they die.

We also have our Men who give initiative that focuses on getting 100 men once a month at an event to invest in the community by giving a set amount to the organization and choosing a vetted ministry organization to invest in that month.

Cross Connect focuses on 4 main aspects to help a child develop:

- 🎓 Education
- 🍲 Basic Needs (Food, Health Care and a stable family)
- 🙏 Spiritual Needs (Mentorship)
- 👨‍👩‍👧‍👦 Family Support (Care and Counselling)

7. Cross Connect Banking details

Thank you for prayerfully considering to partner with Cross Connect Community Outreach. We appreciate your love and generosity. Together, we will continue to do what matters most - reaching out with even greater impact to more children in local communities across South Africa.



South African Account

Name: Cross Connect Community Outreach
Bank: FNB Business Cheque
Acc No: 62697516866
Branch Code: 250655
Swift Code(Routing No): FIRNZAJJ

Zapper



Snapscan



Unz7dUrl

PayPal

Click on this Link

https://www.paypal.com/cgi-bin/webscr?cmd=_s-xclick&hosted_button_id=GZH9SQXXG26NQ

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8. Our programs and Partners



A. ORGANIZATIONAL NEEDS - DAY TO DAY OPERATIONS

We count it a privilege to be part of what God is doing to transform the community by changing children's lives. Cross Connect facilitates this by creating opportunities for donors and volunteers to get involved to do something in their community.

You can help us by:

		
Helping us to buy a building for our programs. At the moment we are looking at buying a house to expand more programs in Krugersdorp. For more info, Contact Kyle.	Supporting a staff member to do front line ministry work and start new programs in the community by giving: R250, R500, R1000 or R2500 monthly. (\$25-\$250)	Providing a scholarship for young boys and girls by giving a R1000 monthly to go to pre-school, afterschool or a local mentorship program.
		
Give to a specific programs monthly or with a one-time gift (Info provided below on all programs ran by Cross Connect and its ministry partners.)	Volunteer by giving your time and/or talent at any of our programs across Krugersdorp to help serve children.	Help us grow new programs by starting or leading a program for children. You can also start a fundraising campaign to sustain current programs.

I. Additional Needs:

-  Sponsor an intern to help Cross Connect grow by supporting their monthly salary of R5000(\$500).
-  Office equipment: tables, chairs, printers, stationary, furniture.



B. EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT NETWORK

One of our main objectives is educating the next generation. We quickly realized when we started working in the community that if we wanted to transform children in local communities that we needed to make sure that children start school at an early age.

Latest Stats in 2018 shows that only 47% of children between the ages of 1-5 attend an ECD (Early Childhood development centre). This means that 53% of children miss out at the opportunity to get educated to be ready to attend primary school.



We saw the need to educate and take care of the children who seemed to be abandoned by the community. When doing research in the community we quickly discovered that many families and children were in great poverty and struggled to survive. We realized that the only way we could break the circle of poverty in future generations was by helping children obtain a good education today.

The heartbreaking reality for most of the children whom we serve is that they are lucky if they get one meal a day.

We currently support more than 25 ECD's (1100 children) in the Westrand area by addressing these three key needs:

I. Our Main Focus

1. Teacher training
2. Food security
3. Hygiene initiatives



II. Our Current Network

1. Munsieville
2. Krugersdorp
3. Roodepoort
4. Magaliesburg
5. Mulderdrift

III. ECD Training

When we developed this training, one of our main concerns was and still is that most children attending a pre-school does not get adequately taught and developed as they should. The pre-schools in essence acts like a day-care. The problem with this "way of teaching" shows when the children start going to Grade R or start with Grade 1 and children lacks the capacity to understand what teachers are explaining.

"If we are to break the cycle of poverty, we need to educate the children of the poor." – President Cyril Ramaphosa, SoNA 2018

The first one thousand days in a child's life could hold the key to unlocking his/her life-long potential. By the age of 5, almost 90% of a child's brain will be developed. These are the formative years where factors such as adequate healthcare, good nutrition, good quality childcare and nurturing, a clean and safe environment, early learning and stimulation will, to a large extent, influence his/her future as an adult.



Our training focus to educate teachers to make things like educational tools, teacher training aids as well as ways how teachers can use their community to better teach the future doctors, lawyers and professors of the country.

IV. How You Can Help:

- ✚ Sponsor a Child for a R500 a month.
- ✚ Adopt a pre-school Initiative. As a corporate/church you can adopt a pre-school and build relationship with one pre-school.
- ✚ Maintenance on the building has to be done. If you can assist us with plumbing, electrical work, painting, woodwork, building, and our security needs.
- ✚ Provide us with a vehicle that will help us transport the kids as most kids cannot come here by their own means.
- ✚ Help us by providing healthy and nutritious food monthly by either buying it or donating funds to do so. **Request Shopping list**
- ✚ We are also looking for some sport equipment to facilitate our play with a purpose activity programs.
- ✚ We are desperately looking for a big printer that will be able to print masses work per day.
- ✚ Help us pay our teachers so we can continue doing this incredible work. You can request our monthly salary sheet.

C. BIBLE CLUB

Bible club relies on Jesus' method of teaching through telling stories combined with interactive experiences and meaningful discussions. These skills are culturally universal and fun to learn and share with others.

We believe transformation takes place in a relational learning environment where God's Word is spoken, His Spirit guides, and a child encounters the love of Jesus by becoming an active participant in God's story and not just a distant observer.

We call these environments, Bible Clubs. It's a place, like what Jesus created, where children feel welcomed, loved, and blessed by the leaders and ultimately the Lord Himself. It's where children have fun and are free to share what they are learning and experiencing; a place where God's presence is very real and evident. Children are not just learning from a book, but through relationships.



II. Reaching A Universal Audience

The methods used to tell and retell God's story are Bible Centered, fun and engaging. The questions posed by leaders are not just for retention, but for transformation of the heart and mind, leading to real life application. This gives leaders the chance to disciple each child by following up on the things that the Holy Spirit is teaching and revealing.

III. Centered On Core Essentials

Children are transformed by learning who God is, who they are, and how to have a real and personal relationship with Jesus. We believe this happens through the 5 core essentials of BIBLE CLUB:





Fun



Bible
Centered



Reproducible






Relational



Spirit Led

IV. How You Can Help

-  Become a Bible club facilitator in your local community.
-  Help support a Bible club in your area by donating food and drinks to make the experience more pleasurable for children.
-  As a church/corporate you can also adopt a Bible club and support them monthly with volunteers and goods.

D. SCHOOL'S MINISTRY PROGRAMS




We currently work in 12 schools in the Westrand. Our Life skills and schools ministry program runs throughout the year. The aim of this program is to help children and youth better understand themselves and to equip them to make decisions for their future.

During our program we talk about making good decisions, how to make the right friends, respecting your peers and fulfilling the calling God has for you.



We also offer group and individual counselling sessions to more than 100 children a month. These sessions focus to help children with behaviour modification and working through traumatic experiences so they can excel in school and life.

I. How You Can Help

-  Become a volunteer counsellor
-  Help pay a cross connect intern to facilitate this programs in more schools
-  Become a mentor to a young boy or girl.

E. MENTORSHIP PROGRAM

One of our newest programs we will be launching is a mentoring program for young boys with absent fathers between the ages of 5-10. In the light of the continued challenges that our society face as a result of the impact of absent fathers We believe that we cannot wait or waste time when it comes to stepping into the gap for our young children. If we do not invest into their lives, we will continue to pay the price and that will be our legacy.



I. Our Mission

Raising boys to be good men.

II. Our Vision

Positively impacting families, communities and society at large via a long term, activities based, 5-Values MENTorship programme for young boys growing up with absent fathers and/or positive male role models.

III. Who We Are

We are a group of men and woman, concerned about what is happening to our society and wanting to make a difference. Cross Connect Community Outreach in Partnership with the Character Co. is an activities based long term 5 values MENTorship programme for young boys growing up with absent fathers - raising boys to be good men so that we have a safer South Africa for all.

IV. What We Do:

To achieve our goals, we focus on long-term mentoring and relationship building, instilling 5 specific values - courage, kindness, self-discipline, honesty and respect.

We primarily work with young boys between the ages of 5 and 10 as an intake age, but our long-term mentorship approach means that we will continue to be part of their lives throughout their school career and beyond.



- We have weekly activities for age similar groups of no more than 5 boys at a time.
- We have weekend activities where all the groups and sometimes families come together.
- We have various camps throughout the year.
- We provide a support structure for single mothers.
- We advocate for the better treatment of women and children.
- We run long term mentorship programs for young boys with absent fathers

V. Our Values

A key part of our mentoring programme includes 5 core values which we believe are essential in helping a young boy become a man whose life is guided by the following:

- Respect - to treat others and their belongings the way you want to be treated.
- Honesty - to tell the truth even when it hurts.
- Self-Discipline - to do the right thing before someone tells you to.
- Courage - to face your fears and conquer them.
- Kindness. - to have a good heart.

VI. How You Can Help

- 🧩 Become one of our MENTor's to three young boys.
- 🧩 Become a support volunteer for when we go camping.
- 🧩 Sponsor activities that the children can attend like fishing or quads etc.
- 🧩 Become one of our Mom supporters who takes care of single mothers by checking in and supporting them.

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F. HOLIDAY PROGRAM

Our holiday program runs every school break at various locations like Burgershoop, Munsieville and Krugersdorp West.

We focus on developing children and youth by facilitating a Christian ministry program every day, educating children with education tools like puzzles and using sport as a way to experience what they have learned during the lesson.

I. How You Can Help

- ✚ Volunteer at one of our Holiday day programs during the holidays.
- ✚ Donate food for the week.
- ✚ Help prepare meals for the children.
- ✚ Come and facilitate an activity for the children.



G. SPORTS AND MENTORSHIP PROGRAMS

Physical activities are vital to the holistic development of young people, fostering their physical, social and emotional health. The benefits of sports reach beyond the impact on physical well-being, therefore the value of the educational benefits of sports should not be under-estimated. We run these programs in various communities in Krugersdorp and has been highly successful.

I. Healthy Development Of Children And Youth

Sport and physical education are fundamental to the early development of children and youth and the skills learned during play, physical education and sport contribute to the holistic development of young people. Through participation in sport and physical education, young people learn about the importance of key values such as:

- ✚ Honesty,
- ✚ Teamwork,
- ✚ Fair play,
- ✚ Respect for themselves and others, and
- ✚ Adherence to rules.



We run these programs because it also provides a forum for young people to learn how to deal with competition and how to cope with both winning and losing. These learning aspects highlight the impact of physical education and sport on a child's social and moral development in addition to physical skills and abilities.




In terms of physical and health aspects of child and youth development, there is an overwhelming amount of evidence that focuses on the (mostly positive) effects of sport and exercise on physical health, growth and development.



II. Opportunities In The Community For Sport Programs

We find that this is usually the first program we can introduce in the community when starting to do community development in new areas because this is a space that facilitates relationship with the community.

III. How You Can Help:

-  You can also help us by providing sport equipment like Bows, arrows, soccer balls, rugby balls, cones, jumping ropes, or any other activity equipment.
-  Become a mentor that can help by giving their time and talent weekly by investing time in these children.
-  We are looking for a Sports Director that is passionate about empowering young people and leading a team of mentors.

