

Case study: Social and Community Development
Eskom helps protect a special children's home

After a series of talks and negotiations with the Huttington traditional healers authority in Bushbuckridge, the Swa Vana children's project finally managed to secure another piece of land for their operation assisting vulnerable and orphaned children.

Swa Vana will soon open its fourth centre to add to its branches in Lilydale and Justicia, to continue and expand their work of assisting the children of Bushbuckridge.



Since 2004, Swa Vana has been responsible for the care of vulnerable and orphaned children by providing two meals every day, clothing, personal hygiene items, arts and crafts lessons, counselling, regular home visits to assess the children's needs and challenges, as well as a supervised after school programme to name a few.

In addition to a fence for the Huntingdale branch of Swa Vana, Eskom has also donated a brick making machine, a container, a jungle gym, various

kitchen utensils, steel cupboards, chairs and tables.

A volunteer at the Swa Vana Lilydale centre, Verne Busbee, says: “It’s important for the kids to know that there’s someone who loves them, because it’s just them, and seeing you take an interest in what they do makes a difference. I teach them arts and crafts and they are very eager and enthusiastic to learn. With the skills they acquire here they might be able to earn an income.”

The Eskom Development Foundation’s CEO, Haylene Liberty-Nel, says: “The Eskom Development Foundation aims to assist impoverished communities by supporting community projects with donations for the purchase of necessary equipment and materials. It is with pride that we note the continued growth of the Swa Vana community project. Selfless work is invaluable to communities such as Bushbuckridge where levels of unemployment, child-headed households and vulnerable children are said to among the highest in the country.”



