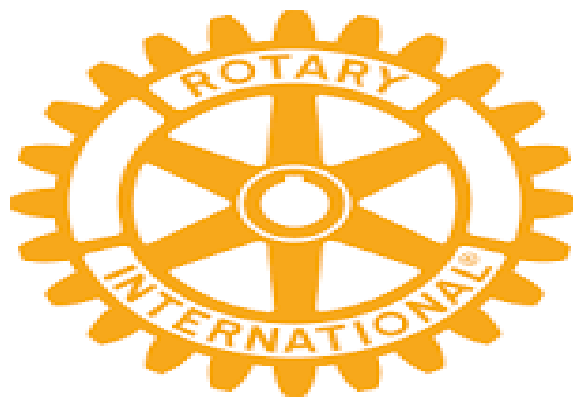


**ESWATINI ROTARY
BOOK CENTRE**

REPORT FOR 2019



DISTRICT 9400

A. SUMMARY

The Eswatini Rotary Book Centre Project, in the year 2019, inspired and motivated more children in Eswatini to read and improved students' learning experience by providing furniture and other school supplies. Schools sent written letter requests to the Book Centre and were invited to select and transport the books, furniture and other supplies to their various schools.

The school supplies for the Book Centre are funded by the Secondwind Foundation, a non-profit organisation based in Texas, United States of America and the Rotary Club of Grand Bend based in Ontario, Canada. School supplies from the four container loads received in 2017 and one container in 2019 from the U.S.A and one container load from Canada were distributed to schools in 2019.

B. OUR TEAM

The Book Centre has one assistant to work at the Centre to help the interested schools in the selection and packing of the donation items. Administrative support and secretariat management of the project is provided by Akua G. Agyei of Kobla Quashie and Associates. Contact information is as follows: call +268 2505 4974 or email akua@kq.co.sz. PDG Kobla Quashie and PDGA Koekie Makunyane-Quashie are the Rotarians in charge of the Centre, while club oversight is provided by Director of Service Projects PAG Harry Nxumalo.

C. BENEFICIARIES OF BOOK CENTRE PROJECT

1. Blessed Avenue Academy

This is a relatively new school located in Mafutseni in the Manzini region and more specifically in the rural community of Ka-Bhudla. The total enrolment is **141**, which includes a pre-school/kindergarten and an elementary school (Grade 1-7). The school requested for books and furniture and below are some pictures of our visit to the school and the items received. They received 10 tables, 40 chairs, 3 round tables, 2 basket ball hoops, and boxes of books.



PDG Kobla Quashie is in the red golf shirt.



Grade 1 classroom



Students playing basketball

2. St. Andrews Anglican Primary School

Total enrolment for this school is **699**. The school was in desperate need of furniture for its computer lab and library. They received 4 tables, 25 desks and 52 chairs. The school is found in Malkerns in the Manzini region. See pictures of their library and computer lab below.



Computer lab



Library

3. Mafutseni Roman Catholic Primary School

Also situated in Mafutseni in the Manzini region, the school has about **400** students. The Central Bank of Eswatini promised to provide the school with computers however, the school lacked the resources to purchase the necessary furniture for the lab. Consequently, they made a request to the Book Centre and received 28 tables and 32 chairs for their computer lab. Please see pictures below.



School computer lab.

4. Salesian Primary School

The student population is about **700**. It is also sited in the Manzini region. PP Busisiwe Manana organised a reading day and supplied books to the learners. This is one of the first schools to have received a container from the Book Centre.



School container library



PP Busisiwe Manana in the blue cap.

5. Mpatheni High School

This school is situated in the outskirts of Hlatikhulu, which is in the Shiselweni region. It is a newly established school and opened its doors in January 2019. It currently has **21** students. It has the capacity to grow very fast because the nearest high school is about 10 kilometres away. The distance of the nearest high school is what led to the establishment of this school as there is no transport and many students get to school very late. They received books for their library, 1 cabinet and 2 boards for their classrooms. Please see picture below of their book shelves.



The school does not have a library yet, so books are stored on shelves in the staffroom.

6. Lusoti High School

This school has a total enrolment of **502** students. It is found in the sugar mill town of Simunye, which is in the lowveld in eastern Eswatini in the Lubombo region. They requested for books to replenish their library and below are some images of the library and students making use of the it.



7. Emthonjeni High School

This High School came to know about the Book Centre only this year. It has a student population of **400** and is located in a town in central Eswatini called Matsapha, also in the Manzini region. Below are a few pictures of their school library since collecting books from the Book Centre.



8. Mbalenhle Christian Academy

This is another High School situated in the Manzini Region with **612** students. Here are a few pictures of their school library with books received from the Book Centre.



9. St. Philomena R. C. Primary School

Also in the Manzini Region, this primary school requested for furniture and was given 60 desks and chairs. Some of their furniture was damaged and there was a shortage due to the high enrolment in the school. The student enrolment is **725**. Please see before and after pictures of one of their classrooms.

Before



After



10. Phocweni Primary School

This school was faced with a similar situation as the one above (St. Philomena). They receive 50 desks and 70 chairs. This school's enrolment is **1,175**. See below the before and after pictures.

Before



After



11. Mbabane Central Primary

Located in the capital city of Eswatini, Mbabane, this primary requested for books to fill their newly established library. The student population is **469**. Below are pictures from their library launch.



12. Siphumelele Primary School

This school is found in the outskirts of Matsapha at Mhlaleni and has an enrolment of **800** learners. To promote reading in their learners, they requested for books and below are some pictures of a reading session in one of the classrooms.



13. Entuthukweni Primary School

Also situated in the capital city, Mbabane, this primary school has **419** students. Below are pictures of the items collected from the Book Centre, which included mats, books, LEGO kits and school bags.



14. Nazarene High School

A reading day was hosted by the learners at this high school. It has a student population of **900** learners. Students from all schools around Manzini were invited to participate in the event. They were each given books to read for about an hour, and thereafter given the opportunity to present a brief summary of the books in the presence of judges. The best pupils were given the same books as prizes. The purpose of the initiative is to inculcate the culture of reading in the students. PDG Kobla Quashie gave the opening remarks on the importance of reading and the partnership between the donors and the Rotary Club of Manzini. See pictures below.



15. St. Michael's High School

This is an all-girls high school based in the Manzini Region. Through the Rotary Club's partnership with Family Life Association Swaziland (FLAS), an organization that exists to provide sexual and reproductive health services to people in Eswatini, the school became aware of the Book Centre and was able to collect books to restock their library. The student enrolment is **750** and below are some pictures of some students and a teacher collecting books from the Centre.



16. Somntongo, Shiselweni Region, 2, 823*

This community learnt about the Book Centre, through its partnership with AMICAL, an organization that exists to serve the needs of people living with HIV/AIDS. One of their programs is to establish community resources centres for young people, especially those who have not completed their education. The centres will provide community members with books to build and boost their literacy. Along with Somntongo, Zombodze and Matsanjeni South communities were able to collect books and below are some pictures from Somntongo.



NO.	SCHOOL NAME/ ORGANIZATION/COMMUNITY	ENROLMENT / POPULATION
17.	St. Paul's Methodist High School	700
18.	Mantambe High School	210
19.	Manzini Central High School	700
20.	Nyatsini Primary School	335
21.	Manzini Seventh-Day Adventist Primary School	91
22.	Lanjani Primary	320
23.	Duze Primary School	700
24.	Sibovu High School	300
25.	Mliba High School	497
26.	Little Miss Eswatini Pageant	10
27.	Malindza High School	530
28.	Mponono AME Primary School	249
29.	Dinga Primary School	183
30.	Indumiso Music Academy	33
31.	Inkhanyeti School	200
32.	Southern Africa Nazarene University	2, 200
33.	Mountainview High School	150
34.	Peacefield International School	200
35.	Mdzimba High School	465
36.	La-Mawandla High School	705
37.	Ntjanini/Mhawu High School	540
38.	Etjendlovu High School	250
39.	Litsemba Lakusasa Lutheran Primary School	85
40.	Ndzevane High School	503
41.	Big Bend High School	412
42.	Magubheleni Alliance High School	460
43.	Mazombizwe High School	265
44.	Vuvulane High School	250
45.	Mpatheni Primary School	265
46.	Siphofaneni High School	406
47.	Khetsiwe Primary School	263
48.	Mkhuzweni Primary School	565
49.	Mizpah Primary School	700
50.	Mkhweli High School	400
51.	Siphocosini High School	600
52.	U-Tech School	750
53.	Saim Christian High School	450
54.	Edwaleni High School	700
55.	Ngwane Park High School	1, 200
56.	Buhlebayo Academy	100
57.	Hillside High School	890
58.	Madulini High School	300
59.	Mhlabuyaduma Primary School	185
60.	Valley Orchard Primary School	107
61.	Ka-Zakhali School	600
62.	Bosco Study Centre	200

63.	Kwaluseni Infant Primary School	720
64.	Bradford University College	600
65.	Zombodze	3, 213*
66.	Matsanjeni South	1, 870*
67.	Mbukwane SDA Primary	413
	TOTAL	38, 576

*About 20% of Eswatini's total population is youth from ages 15-24. Since the resource centres are aimed at the youth, these figures represent the youth population in each community.

D. THE YEAR AHEAD

Partnerships

1. Family Life Association Swaziland (FLAS)

In association with FLAS, the Book Centre will be able to reach more schools and communities in the year 2020. In 2019, only nine (9) schools were able to collect books from the Book Centre through their connection to FLAS. Distribution lists have been shared between organizations and plans are underway to ensure that the content of future containers is distributed to the needy in all the regions in Eswatini.

2. Municipal Council of Mbabane (MCM)

A Memorandum of Understanding between the MCM and the Rotary Club of Manzini has been drafted. The MCM has a program focused on youth empowerment, where about 30 young people have been trained to fix wheelchairs and bicycles. The Book Centre will be donating the remaining bicycle parts from previous containers to the MCM for the young people to repair damaged wheelchairs caused by the rough roads and uneven terrains in some areas of the country. Additionally, the MCM has agreed to assist the Book Centre with assembling and repairing bicycles for the rural-school-bicycle project at no cost. The MCM will also be repairing wheelchairs received from the donors in Canada where necessary.

3. AMICAL

AMICAL aims to establish 28 resource centres and this year we were only able to assist with three (3) centres, which need to return to collect more books. There are still 25 centres that are yet to collect books in 2020.

4. MRC LEGO Educational Programme

Through this programme, 5 primary/ elementary schools listed in section C received LEGO kits. In first quarter of 2020, we hope to deliver the LEGO kits to another 30/35 schools.

Other

5. School Furniture

More schools are requesting for furniture, however, we are not able to meet the demand as the need is great. Funding for school furniture is very low or non-existent in most schools. On average a school requests for 100 desks and chairs for the students and at the moment we have 26 schools on our list, which is seven (7) schools less than we had at the beginning of the year. We have made some progress however; there is still room to do more in 2020.

6. Container Conversions

In 2019, we were unable to convert any containers to libraries as we were focused on emptying the containers and raising funds for the conversion. We have made some progress and we hope to convert a few in 2020. We received one more request this year, which brings the total requests to 13 containers for 10 schools.

E. CONCLUSION

The Book Centre continues to serve an increased number of schools in Eswatini thanks to the knowledge of the project being spread by the Regional Education Offices and the mentioned partners listed in Section D. A population of over 38, 000, which is more than double the beneficiaries in 2018, have benefitted from this project in 2019. In 2020, we expect the impact to be even greater as there is an increased participation of

stakeholders in the project. Special thanks go to the Ministry of Education and Training for their support in this initiative, particularly in their role in acquiring the rebate certificate. The Rotary Club of Manzini also deeply appreciates the continued support and assistance it receives from the Secondwind Foundation and the Rotary Club of Grand Bend.