

**The Beatrice Project :**  
**restoring dignity and opportunity**



**THANK YOU FOR GIVING: you have helped to change lives already.**

Since our last visit in Oct '16, the 300 girls in our target group have been given monthly supplies of sanitary towels from Harare. They have been attending the regular workshops being run by Joy and Q, and the local adult and peer educators, and we've received some encouraging testimonies:

- The sanitary pads have brought a big difference in my life...now I can even play with my friends and do all the school activities... (schoolgirl)
- Absenteeism because girls are having periods has been reduced by over 88%....The training is very relevant as it equips the girls for life.(Headteacher)

Having pursued the idea of importing a machine to make disposable sanitary towels, it now seems this is probably not going to be the way forward for us. We have been looking at alternatives (including menstrual cups) but are currently working on a model of reusable pads. The sewing machine we bought is already being used at one of the sites and we are hopeful that the reusable pads will offer another choice for the girls.

**YOUR SUPPORT IS VITAL: we could not continue without it.**

We are hugely grateful for every single donation, however small, but particularly important are the regular gifts some of you have set up. Thank you so much. Your gifts make possible what we are able to achieve and help us significantly in our planning. Equally important are the events, notably this year the Line Dancing night put on by a wonderfully generous group of ladies, which brought in over £420. Our next fund raiser is planned for July.

**The Beatrice Project could not exist without you: we are so grateful for all your prayers, encouragement and support**

## QUIZ NIGHT- July 21<sup>st</sup> 7.0pm

**St Mark's Church, Oliver's Battery, Winchester SO22 4EU**

Why not make up a team of six, or just come along on the night and join in? Tickets cost £10, and include a light supper. For further details or to donate, please contact me, suebeatricep23@gmail.com, or get in touch through The Beatrice Project facebook page.

One amazing contribution to the project has come through my good friend Lou Sanders (Fashion Course Leader at Solent University), who invited me to give a short presentation to her students about The Beatrice Project: their response was to setup The Panty Project, designing and producing knickers for our girls, (over 160 pairs so far!) which we shall be taking out to Zimbabwe .



My next trip to Zimbabwe is planned for September this year and I shall be joined by not only Karen but her husband, Barry, who is also a doctor with years of experience in voluntary medical work overseas. We plan to spend some time with our friends in Bulawayo and will be delivering further training workshops in the rural areas as well as following up the various leads we are pursuing in the country. We hope to be taking a number of kits, each containing reusable pads, shields, knickers, soap and a flannel. We are confident of a warm welcome from the girls as well as their peer educators and the community leaders. Please consider whether you might be able to give a gift towards the funding of the project for the coming year.

**We are in the process of becoming a charity, so will have new bank details but, until then, please use these ways to donate:**

- Online transfer to New Community Network, CAF bank plc, sort code 40-52-40, account number 00005807 Mark your gift : Beatrice Project
- Send a cheque to New Community Church, Central Hall, St Mary Street Southampton SO14 1NF clearly marked Beatrice Project
- Text NCNB44 (amounts up to £10) to 70070

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