
RUGBY AND SOCCER-PLAYING STUDENTS DO THEIR BIT FOR MANDELA DAY



Members of UKZN rugby and football clubs.

Members of UKZN rugby and football clubs got their hands dirty when they cleaned the Jes Foord Foundation Mariannhill Multipurpose Counselling Centre as part of their contribution to Mandela Day.

Project Manager for the Foundation, Ms Trish Buchanan, said they had been impressed by the response from the UKZN students. 'The boys worked hard and made such a big difference to the place.'

The Centre provides counselling and other services to rape victims, adults and children. The facilities include a play therapy room, a conference room for training and meetings, and two counselling rooms.

UKZN Student Health and Sport Manager, Mr Mark Bashe, said: 'Participating in this year's Mandela Day was an eye opener for the students, especially those from the Edgewood Football Club who were involved for the first time.'

He said the students were told about the valuable advice they could provide to rape victims and were given information on the centre which has been open just over a year and has already become a beacon of hope to many in the area.

Buchanan said the students learned about the importance of counselling. 'We can't take the pain away but we can teach you how to deal with it.'

The Foundation has spent the year visiting surrounding communities to create awareness, with special focus on high schools that serve the eight different communities.

Buchanan said the Foundation relied on donations from companies and individuals.

For more information on the Centre, visit the Jes Foord Foundation website

<http://www.jff.org.za> or the Facebook page

<https://www.facebook.com/jesfoordsa?fref=ts>

Sithembile Shabangu