

El Shaddai Ministry Overview

Introduction

From the beginning ESM has “walked by faith and not by sight,” knowing God’s ways are higher than our ways. ESM’s desire is to walk in complete obedience to God, taking God’s command to help orphans and widows in distress (James 1:27) very seriously. We count it a great privilege to join Him in the plans He has already set in motion long before we came to be, and we invite others to join us in this vision

ESM History

El Shaddai Ministry (ESM) is a non-profit, non-denominational Christian organization that was started as a call from God to Kallie and Charmain Coertzen (Founding Directors) in 1995. After receiving a confirmation from God to enter the ministry Charmain trained for four years to complete a counseling degree at Sarel Van Der Merwe in South Africa. Kallie was working as a boilermaker and farmer in South Africa while training at Eden Christian Bible School for two years.

To begin their ministry Kallie and Charmain felt it was important to spend time with other ministries in South Africa and Swaziland to gain knowledge through experience that would later be put to use in developing what is now El Shaddai Ministry. After much prayer and seeking God’s direction Kallie and Charmain felt led to begin ESM in May of 1999 in the Mnyokane/Ekufikeni village which is located in the NW area of Swaziland Africa. Kallie and Charmain were born and raised in South Africa but have since become Swazi citizens.

ESM Development

Beginning with two caravans ESM has now expanded their facilities to include a 3 bedroom mission house, a boys and girls dormitory that is able to accommodate 15 children in each along with house parents, a kitchen and dining area joining the two, a babies house has recently been built that will be home to as many as 15 beautiful babies, a large guest home with three large sleeping areas, a kitchen and dining area and a large bathroom facility (which is temporarily being used as teachers housing), a Non-denominational Christian Church, and a clinic that helps to provide the community’s basic medical care.

El Shaddai Elementary School provides a quality education for the grade school age children living at the El Shaddai Home as well as for the poorest children living in the Ekufikeni Village. The Directors felt this was so important that they began the process of building an elementary school in 2003. The School is still under development and is currently educating over 235 children from preschool through 6th grade. The 7th grade classroom is scheduled to be completed by January 2009. A new kitchen and bathroom facility is currently under construction. ESM plans to build permanent teachers housing and 2 preschool rooms in the near future.

Micro economics plays an important role as women from the community are trained and paid to make jewelry that is later sold and used to fund the development of ESM. Land has been secured with plans to develop a (for-profit) Camp Ground. El Shaddai Ministry has been continuously developing the agricultural aspect of the ministry. Community vegetable gardens and fruit trees help to provide the Children’s Home, surrounding community and ES Primary School with fresh fruits and vegetables. A small scale chicken and cattle farm help to provide the ministry with meat, milk and eggs as part of the daily diet. By selling a portion of what is produced the ministry is able to provide extra funds that are needed to meet other ministry needs.

Goals

El Shaddai Ministry’s goal is to help as many children as possible throughout Swaziland who have lost parents or have been abused or abandoned. Providing them with a loving Christian home and giving them the love and attention they deserve. Helping them to experience life through God’s eyes by developing the children’s character, spiritual lives, and emotional well being is of great importance. ESM is committed to providing the children with a well rounded education, life skills training, healthy meals, quality medical attention as well as providing opportunities to develop and use their God-given gifts.

We feel in doing so ESM will significantly impact the lives of the Swazi children and surrounding communities in such a way that it will transform lives as it brings people to wholeness through Jesus Christ. In turn bring hope to the Swazi nation by raising leaders that will help to build a brighter future for generations to come. In a

nation where a whole generation of adults is dying off, children are Swaziland's only hope for the future. ESM is committed to ensuring that there *will* be another generation in this beautiful country.

ESM Partnering with God's People

Developing El Shaddai Ministries has been extremely challenging but God has been faithful in providing all that is needed to accomplish His will. God has provided ESM with people and organizations through out the world (South Africa, UK, United States, and Canada) that are compelled to help them to accomplish God's vision. Organizations such as Compassionate Life Foundation (*which is a US Non-Profit 501 C 3 and ESM United States Fiscal Agent*) are partnering with ESM to accomplish and carry out the vision that God first revealed through the hearts of the Coertzen's. ESM Board of Directors is currently made up of 6 board members, Kallie and Charmain Coertzen (ESM1 Primary Directors), Tom and Linda Mulanix (Compassionate Life President and Executive Director in the USA), Mark Allen (UK Business Owner) and Phil Dacre (UK Pastor). Plans have been develop by the ESM Board of Directors to expand ESM to a second location with hopes of caring for 50 additional children.

ESM Vision for Phase 2

The ESM vision is to expand El Shaddai Ministry to the next Phase which we will call Phase 2. The purpose for expanding ESM to another location has been made clear for many years through several meetings between Swaziland's Child Welfare Department and El Shaddai Ministry. Most of ESM's children at Phase 1 have been placed there by the Child Welfare Department and other similar organizations. El Shaddai Board of Directors and the Children's Welfare Department feel that in order to give the children the best possible care the number of children living at each home should not exceed 50. At present ESM Phase 1 has reached capacity.

Because ESM Phase 1 has reached capacity, the need to begin the next ESM Children's Home is of great importance. The vision is to duplicate the ESM Model of caring for needy children, in other locations of Swaziland, helping as many children as possible. As Swaziland continues to deal with the reality of the HIV/AIDS pandemic they have been faced with, as the adult population continues to decline, thousands of children are being orphaned. Because of the magnitude of the problem, grandparents, relatives and community leaders are feeling overwhelmed to say the least. ESM feels compelled to join in the fight to save the children being left behind from a life of poverty, disease and hopelessness that is in the wake of the HIV crisis.