

# THE PARTNERSHIP

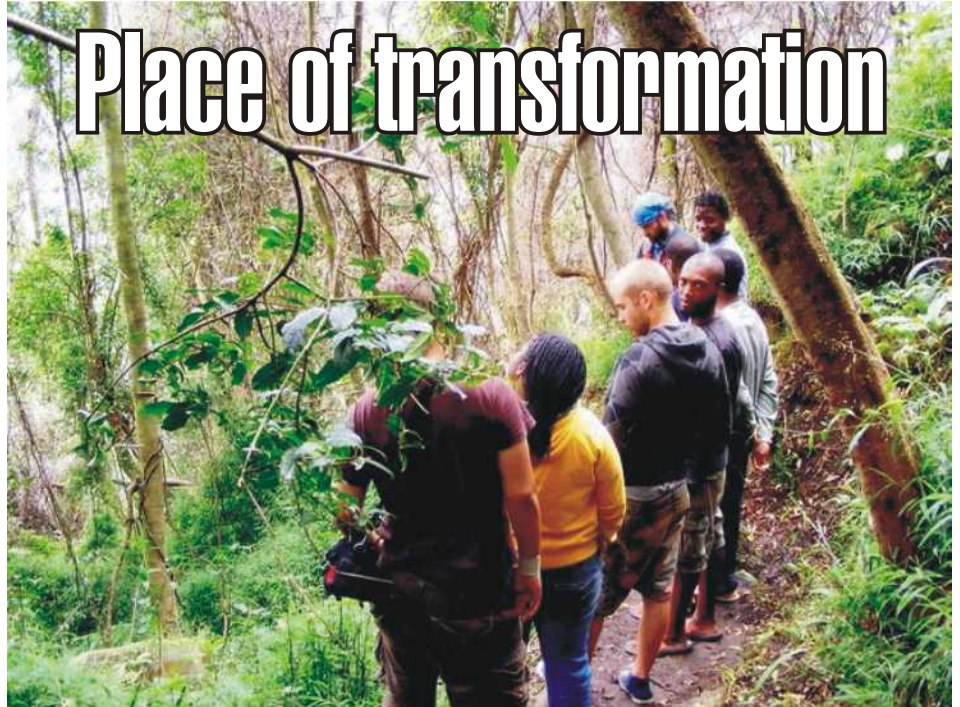
## The Partnership

# L'Abri

By Kanthie Raidoo

**R**ich in beauty and heritage, L'Abri is a beautiful place with a French name which means, "Shelter". It is situated in the Karkloof Mountain range, 50 km, north of Pietermaritzburg, where indigenous forest, scenic trails and waterfalls form the backdrop for people to discover themselves and their potential and relax from the hustle and bustle of city life.

The tranquil and beautiful wilderness environment of L'Abri is truly amazing and is enjoyed by all who visit this place. Experiencing L'Abri is all about **learning by doing**. Beautifully situated campsites, trained facilitators and planned wilderness activities create an environment for learning, personal enrichment, overcoming fears, self reflection, team building and leadership development.



## Place of transformation

L'Abri's learning by doing (what we term as 'Action at L'Abri') can be summed up by the following:

**Awakening the senses** - L'Abri is a truly breathtaking experience that powerfully

connects individuals with all their senses sight, sound, smell, taste and touch.

**Fuelling Vitality** - Inherent to the team, L'Abri has a contagious energy that creatively impacts participants as they experience hands on development and transformation.

**Entering the Village** - the welcoming space provided by L'Abri creates an environment of trust, respect, care and belonging. L'Abri's program creates experiences that can be relied upon to leave individuals knowing what it means to belong and connect meaningfully with others.

**Mastery** - with all the senses heightened, L'Abri provides the perfect environment to reflect and grow individuals and communities. Through its ability to harness the lessons

“ ... to reflect and grow individuals and communities ... ”



Should you wish to make a booking or visit L'Abri please contact Lynn Conolly on 033 345 2970, [lynn@youthkzn.co.za](mailto:lynn@youthkzn.co.za)

found and learnt in the environment, L'Abri breaks boundaries and creates a safe space to explore and improve interpersonal relationships that effect and inform attitudes and actions.

Trained staff can facilitate programs in the following areas:

- Leadership discovery and development
- Team building, enrichment and development
- Personal Growth
- Practical conflict resolution experiences
- Cross cultural interface and dialogue
- Grief and Loss therapy
- Life skills
- Eco therapy.

L'Abri provides clients with the following options:

- Self Catering Camps;
- Camps where L'Abri staff facilitate a specific program as needed by the client and
- Camps including program and catering.

L'Abri is suitable for the following:

- Schools
- Churches
- NGOs
- Families
- Individual and group retreats.

The L'Abri experience is a process, it is always moving. Campers find themselves on the ongoing journey of nature while taking part in the various elements at L'Abri.



Some of you are aware that since July 2009, L'Abri Outdoor Centre has been opened for self-catering camps only. L'Abri will be operating at full capacity from January 2010. Bookings are already coming in for next year. In the interim Youth for Christ needs to do some renovations at L'Abri so that in January it provides an improved service through committed Christian staff in a site that will meet clients standards, while still maintaining the outdoor rustic experience.

Some of the immediate needs of L'Abri are:

- Assessing the quality of water at L'Abri.
- Renovate the barn (the main meeting room, toilets and the deck).
- New supplies are needed for various activities, i.e. abseil and the climbing wall.
- Funding towards a fully equipped first aid room.
- Starting a vegetable garden and tuck shop at L'Abri.
- Sponsorship towards the 'Gap Year Programme'. This is a volunteer program and it costs

YFC approximately R 1500 a month to support a volunteer in the L'Abri program. These funds will cover an intensive training program and the living and travel expense of a volunteer. L'Abri will look to have 5 Gap Year Volunteers in the program in 2010.

If you are able to give a donation or fundraise towards the renovations and immediate needs of L'Abri, please complete the donation form enclosed. We are also looking for people to volunteer their time and skills to L'Abri (i.e. plumbers, electricians, painters, carpenters, landscaper etc). We appreciate your support!

## STAFF SPOTLIGHT

### Philani Zondi

A-K-A Tarzan A-K-A Unique- A.K.A-Musique maniac is living his dream by serving at L'Abri Outdoor Centre. For 13 years my dream was to serve at L'Abri and God has been faithful to me as He made my dream come true. I may not be a pastor, or a prophet but my ministry is an adventure ministry which brings out the joy I have within. My dream came true in June 2008! I really love L'Abri. What good is it for a man to gain the whole world and loose his soul? Jesus Christ lives and His word is alive. The scriptures I would like to bless you with are: John 15v 15 and John 10v27-30.



### Siyabonga Zondi

Siyabonga believes that everyday was blessed by God even the ones we call 'bad days'. I was born on a farm 10km away from L'Abri. I have a son whose name is Lizwilenkosi (Word of God). I started working at L'Abri as a volunteer from 2003. I became a fulltime staff member in 2008. I believe that youth are the church, that is the reason I used youth to plant churches in the past 10 years. Some of the churches planted are AFM- Trust feed Assembly, Kingdom Living Ministries (Escourt), Christian Life Church (Umlazi) to name a few. My favourite scripture is Romans 6v 1-14, because my past life is counted dead to God and the devil cannot convict me for the sins of my past. My life can be regarded as a family business between God and I. What motivates me when working with youth is Nomxo's Dream (my late wife): 'Give 110% to the unloved', adopt them, care for them, show them love unconditional love.



REGIONAL OFFICE:  
P.O. Box 1659  
Pietermaritzburg • 3200  
Tel: (033) 345 2970  
Fax (033) 345 1583  
E-mail:  
info@youthkzn.co.za  
Website:  
www.youthkzn.co.za

**Internship**  
LOCAL TRAINING PROGRAMME

**CHANGE AGENTS**  
DISCOVERY AND HOPE THROUGH HIV AND AIDS EDUCATION

**Khayalethu**  
PROJECT FOR YOUTH AT RISK

**MAY'KHETHELE PROJECT**  
LIFE SKILLS AND PEER EDUCATION IN SCHOOLS

**L'Abri**  
OUTDOOR CENTRE

**Tennysen House**  
SERVING HOMELESS GIRLS

**YAZINI**  
LIFE SKILLS AND PEER EDUCATION IN SCHOOLS

**YOUTH**  
DEVELOPMENT CENTRE  
INTERNATIONAL VOLUNTEER PROGRAMME

NPO No. 004257

Banking details: Nedbank, Scottsville • Branch code: 134125 • Acc. no.: 1341011461 Swift No. NEDSZAJJ

Financial donations given to YFC is tax deductible - Section 18 A status.