



eNewsletter No. 13

November 2013

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Address:

170 Hoosen Haffejee (Berg) Street, Pietermaritzburg 3200, South Africa

P O Box 2338, Pietermaritzburg, 3200, South Africa

Tel: +27 - (0)33 - 342 0052

Fax: +27 - (0)33 - 342 0303

Email: admin@pacsa.org.za

www.pacsa.org.za

1. From the Director's Desk

"For to be free is not merely to cast off one's chains, but to live in a way that respects and enhances the freedom of others" - Nelson Mandela

Dear Readers

As our country mourns the passing of former president Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela one senses a communal sense of loss but also celebration of a life lived generously at the service of others. In Madiba's own words, "when a man has done what he considers to be his duty to his people and his country, he can rest in peace." He has done his duty more gracefully than we could ever have expected. May he now rest in peace and may his memory live on.

[See the PACSA statement on the passing of Mandela here](#)

2013 is fast drawing to a close and we at PACSA had experienced a very busy and intense year. To all those who worked with us and supported us we say thank-you. With summer holidays beckoning we wish every-one a good rest and a happy Christmas and festive season.

Kind regards.

MERVYN ABRAHAMS
PACSA Director



2. News

· Launching the 3 volume publication 'Men and Masculinities in South Africa'

As part of our 16 Days of Activism against gender violence we launched the 3 volume publication 'Men and Masculinities in South Africa' at the Tatham Art Gallery on Friday, 29 November 2013. More than 40 people, including contributors to the publication, attended the launch. Prof Raymond Suttner, a scholar and a social and political analyst with interests in gender and sexuality and questions related to identity and representation, was the guest speaker.

[Read the full article \(with gallery of photographs\) here](#)

[To download a copy of the publication, either as an e-book or in pdf format, click here](#)



· Exploring the real work of social change through story-telling

From the 18 to the 22 November 25 people from all 16 countries over the world including Brazil, France, Kazakhstan, Senegal, Tajikistan, Vietnam as well as South Africa gathered in Johannesburg for a 5 day write-shop to collaborative write the barefoot guide 4 exploring the real work of social change. The write shop was facilitated by CDRA, a Cape Town based NGO. Julie Smith from PACSA and Mandla Gcwabaza from the Electricity Action Group, a PACSA community partner group, participated in this write-shop.

[Read the full article \(with gallery of photographs\) here](#)



· Stress and Trauma Facilitators Network launch their book, 'Trees along the Riverside'

40 people joined the Stress and Trauma Facilitators on Sunday, 8 December 2013, at the launch of their book, *Trees along the Riverside*.

This book is a culmination of a three journey in which 14 people went



through a process of sharing, reflecting, crying, laughing and writing very personal stories buried deep in their memory. Through this book these 14 people share their stories with others as an example that it is possible to move from being a victim to a survivor to a wounded healer through talking with others and supporting each other.

[To read the full article \(with gallery of photographs\) and download the book in PDF format, click here](#)



· **Hlakanaphani Women's Group's work featured on national television**

The Hlakanaphani Women's Group in Trustfeed, one of our community partners groups working on household livelihood, had their work featured on the programme 'Growing Tomorrow' on the SABC TV 2 on the 3rd December 2013. The 'Growing Tomorrow' programme showcases successful community projects around the country in order to inspire others working in the same field. Trust feed for 6 years were overjoyed when they were selected to feature on this TV programme. Seeing themselves on television increased the sense confidence for the group and pride in their accomplishments over these years.

[Read the full article here](#)



3. PACSA in the Media

Most of our media work in November and December 2013 focused on the ongoing struggle around affordability of electricity. The following media articles on PACSA's work were published.

· **Msunduzi claims 10%, 07 November 2013**

[Read the full article here](#)

· **Tariff hike: so many questions, 07 November 2013**

[Read the full article here](#)

· **Absurd municipal tariff increases, 13 November 2013**

[Read the full article here](#)

· **Hope on electricity tariff, 17 November 2013**

[Read the full article here](#)

· **Msunduzi keeps mum on electricity tariffs, 18 November 2013**

[Read the full article here](#)

· **Trust feed today: fading memories, fallen dreams and a long walk to freedom, 02 December 2013**

[Read the full article here](#)

4. Wishing our friends and collaborators a very happy Christmas and festive period

