

Slices of Heaven Expands

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Slices of Heaven has been running off-and-on at Elkanah House for numerous years but has been regularly running for the past three years. Food on your plate is a necessity, but to many in Cape Town it is a luxury. Hunger is the foundation of poverty in most underprivileged areas around the world. Students with empty stomachs are unable to focus in class and as a result, receive a lesser education causing them to only qualify for low-level jobs with smaller salaries. This lack of income then makes it hard to put food on their children's plates causing the whole cycle to begin again. People are unable to rise out of poverty because it's biologically impossible to excel without fuel. That is why a simple and efficient sandwich-making project like Slices of Heaven engenders such profoundly positive impact in poverty-stricken communities.

Samantha Knupp, leader of Slices of Heaven and grade 11 Elkanah House High School pupil, describes how the project changed her view of social outreach, "I used to think outreach was very draining and tiresome but soon learned that giving back could also be very easy and doesn't take that much energy." The positive impact of the sandwiches does not just affect the students who are being served sandwiches; it also changes the Elkanah grade 7s as well. According to Samantha, one of the most rewarding parts of the project is "Watching the grade 7s mature as the year goes on. They start off very rowdy; they don't really care and a lot of them don't show up. But by the end of the year, they become lot more willing to help. They gain so much maturity and that's really amazing to see."

Thanks to a generous sponsorship of R250 worth of bread each week for the rest of 2017 from NXT\ Digital Innovation, Slices of Heaven is able to expand and serve 200 grade sixes at Zimasa Community School as well. This exciting expansion was kicked off on Monday, August 14 and is hopefully the start of a long partnership between Elkanah House and Zimasa Community School!

All Elkanah House students are welcomed & encouraged to help make sandwiches on Monday mornings at 7am in the cafe and all grade 7s are welcome to help on Friday mornings at 7am in the cafe. A special thank you to Samantha Knupp (grade 11 Elkanah House pupil & Slices of Heaven leader), Neha Shabeer (Hammer & Chisel intern), Karabo Maphupha (grade 11 Elkanah House pupil & Social Outreach team member), Mmakgabo Maphupha (Elkanah House parent & Zimasa Primary teacher), & Wayne Levine (NXT\ Digital Innovation CEO) for collaborating to make this expansion possible.

