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MESSAGE FROM CEO

Ido....Ido.....Ido....Ido.....love you!

The month of February highlights LOVE!

I am inspired by Deaf couples who succeed in love, despite the challenges they at times face. Some are 50, 40, 30, 20, 10 years in marriage and they are still going strong. They are teaching some hearing couples a few lessons; they teach us how love can overcome the most difficult circumstances.

We are daily challenged with families who struggle to manage lives critical issues, because the marriages are failing. We see the enormous impact the relationship between parents has on the entire family-structure.

At DeafNET we would like to encourage Healthy Marriages and Happy Homes. The empowerment and transfer of knowledge around this important aspect of life is crucial to us and we believe that if Deaf couples can enjoy their divine commitment; if they can be assisted to address and overcome their struggles in marriage, we will have Healthy and Happy Deaf families.

During Valentines-weekend me and my husband, Cornelus, had the privilege to share precious moments with the most amazing Deaf couples from Africa at the annual Ido Awards hosted by Ido Magazine in Johannesburg.

We were joined by 2 couples from Swaziland, 1 couple from Malawi, 1 couple from Lesotho, 1 couple from Cameroon and 5 couples from South Africa. I was inspired by the spontaneous love and care of these couples for each other.

The Deaf couples were officially invited and sponsored to this prestigious event by DeafNET's Goodwill Ambassador and editor/owner of Ido Magazine, Felicia Buthelezi. What an amazing evening of love and the honour to share this love with someone else in this holy commitment of marriage. To crown it all, Pastor Anthony Langwenya and his beautiful wife, Nonhlanhla from Swaziland received the Ido Awards (Against all odds) during this fabulous event.

The beautiful Mountain Inn Holiday Resort in Mbabane, Swaziland also sponsored pastor Langwenya and his wife a weekend (B&B) for their family of five (5) to come and relax and enjoy themselves at the resort.

It was with excitement that DeafNET nominated this couple for the Ido Awards and what a celebration of love.

It was a weekend of love that we will always treasure. We all had a wonderful time and depart from each other on Sunday, 16 February, with a feeling of satisfaction, thankfulness and above all, LOVE!

Let us spread the message of LOVE!!!!

Below: Felicia Buthelezi from IDO Magazine, together with Suzette Willemse, CEO of DeafNET, hand over "Against all odds" Award to Past & Mrs Langwenya.



Ido Awards Deaf Couples:



1ST DEAFNET "BILLBOARD" AT BOLAND RUGBY STADIUM



The design of DeafNET's 1st Bill Board has been sponsored by Fishgate Advertising.

We announce with excitement that Boland Rugby Union, DeafNET's Goodwill Ambassadors generously gave DeafNET an opportunity to have our very 1st Billboard on Boland Rugby Stadium in Wellington, SA.

Their act of love and commitment towards the Deaf in Africa is outstanding and deserves a standing ovation.

DeafNET celebrates the win of the Boland Cavaliers over The Stormers on Saturday, 15 February 2014.

We salute the management and team of Boland Rugby Union.



Uganda Beekeeping Project
HONEY LOVE

DeafNET's Beekeeping project is in the planning-phase and we will soon start with implementation in the new financial year.

We are happy to announce that Uganda has been identified as the country where we will start our pilot-project.

Our aim is to train 10 Deaf in Bee keeping.

With this initiative we want to address the poverty and unemployment amongst the Deaf in Africa.

Our hope is that the results will be as sweet as honey!



FOR THE LOVE OF DEAF CHILDREN

Marie Louise Kanda Malu, employee of DeafNET, has been given an opportunity to attend a post graduate short course on Deaf children in International Development in the Netherlands from 17 Febr to 7 March 2014.

The training is sponsored by Kentalis International.



We wish her well in her studies.