

Living Way

The start of a new way of fighting poverty

What is Living Way?

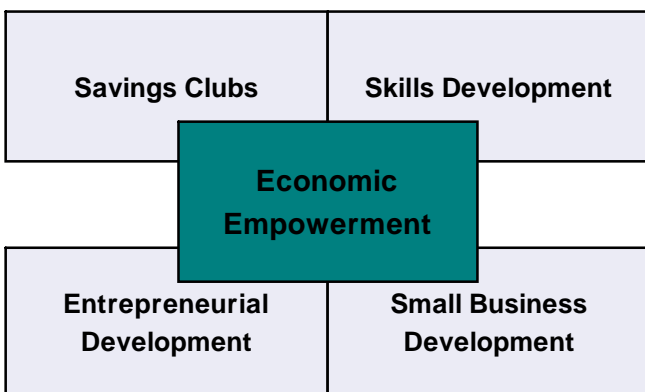
Living Way is a non-profit organization working to reduce poverty through economically empowering people from under-resourced communities. It was birthed out of Living Hope Community Centre – an organization started by Pastor John Thomas and others from Fish Hoek Baptist Church. Living Hope's focus is on the medical needs of HIV/Aids, chronic illnesses and preventative strategies. After eight years, it became evident that more was needed to stop HIV and Aids. At the root of the pandemic is

poverty, as it is the poor who are overwhelmingly affected by the virus.

Living Way aims to economically empower people from under-resourced communities: to give them skills that will enable them to get out of poverty. Our heart is to truly empower people. We want to give dignity. We want to provide opportunities, not enslave through charity. We want God to move in the lives of those who don't have hope. We want to show that there is a new way to live.

Living Way on the ground

Through these newsletters, I hope to keep you updated with the development and growth within Living Way. At the moment, the model is summarised as follows:



The People of Living Way

Richard Lundie—some history. I grew up in Cape Town and attended Cornerstone Christian College where I studied Theology and Psychology, and met my wife, Ruth. Following that, I completed my Honours in Psychology from the University of Stellenbosch. I then joined a non-profit organization called OIL, which pro-

vides a youth peer education programme in the Fish Hoek Valley. As managing director, I started working with Pastor John Thomas, who is on the board of directors.

After leaving OIL, I moved to another non-profit organization that my church started – working with orphans and vulnerable

Living Way's formation

Once the concept of Living Way had been birthed, an American volunteer, Craig Doescher, graciously gave of his time and expertise in creating the first steps of Living Way. His research and interviews have laid the foundation for Living Way. My deepest thanks go to him for all the work that he does and the continued support that he provides. At the beginning of November, I stepped into Living Way.

Based on the recommendations arising out of the research and interviews, Living Way's model is beginning to emerge. As time passes, so it will be refined and certain elements will fade as others are added. Part of this process is discovering what other organizations are doing and how we fit into providing the best possible services to the communities in which we work. It is so encouraging to see how God is mobilizing Christians across Cape Town in this field.

Points of Prayer:

- Savings club launch on 23 January 2008—for God's blessing and presence
- Funding for continued operations
- God's sovereignty over our work and plans

The next few months

The first step in Living Way's programme is that of savings clubs. Savings clubs are a relatively simple concept that will allow for great impact within communities. A savings club is a semi-formal group of individuals who come together with a common purpose of saving money. The reason for saving money is to be able to access a usefully large sum of money. This is

generally for three reasons: life cycle needs (weddings, funerals); emergency needs (fire, flood damage) and investment purposes (houses, starting a business). Within the structures that are created by the group, many different skills are learnt. We are also planning to use the savings group meetings to do training and bible studies.

children. During this time, John was keeping me up to date with the development of Living Way and when the opportunity arose for me to be part of it, I jumped at it. My heart is to see God transform people both spiritually and on a day-to-day basis. I believe that God has placed the church in an amazing place to be able to have an immense impact

on South Africa in its current historical place.

It is an honour and a privilege to be part of the Living Way team. I look forward to seeing God at moving in the people we work with.

Until we chat again, God Bless,
Richard

"Our people must learn to devote themselves to doing what is good, in order that they may provide for daily necessities and not live unproductive lives" Titus 3:14