



QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

December 2021 - Issue 04

Dear Home from Home Community

As we begin to face yet another wave of Covid, with a new variant, the 'red-listing' devastation to our tourism trade and the greater threats to our economy, one can understand how some may want to lie down for the 'full count of ten'. However, we dare not go there.

Many of our children have come from situations that far outstrip these disadvantages or battles and we need to be brave and focused in continuing to find and celebrate the hope and beauty that is still prevalent in the world. Ironically, it is so often these very children who show us the reason to have hope, trust and faith.

Besides the children, whose mere presence with us at Home from Home is a celebration of hope, we do have much to recognise amongst the Home from Home family during this last period, as highlighted below.

- Organisations like Dischem and Cape Talk partnering to support the costs of NGOs like ourselves.
- Volunteers providing additional educational activities for our families through art and mosaics workshops
- A volunteer all the way from Austria (Lilo) spending six weeks to assist us as an extra pair of hands in any way she could from packing donations and distributing them to our homes, to making gifts for all
- Our six matriculants buckling down to their final studies and exams of their schooling careers
- Three of our young people in the transitional house having their 21st birthdays
- The celebration dinners for our Foster Mothers and Relief Foster Mothers

These and many more, are events which remind us all of the largeness of our spirits and enable the continuation of the responsibility and privilege of caring for the most vulnerable.

Wishing our broader Home from Home family thanks and many blessings over the end of year season.

Peter Marx

Executive Director

Mosaic Magic in our Ocean View Homes

Home from Home was delighted to be approached by two artists who were keen to run a two day mosaic workshop with our children in Ocean View in the October school holidays.

Elka Losskarn, runs a well-known mosaic studio in Hout Bay and she and Karen Knipscheer spent the morning with nine of our children showing them the how to create mosaic art. It was amazing to see the results and our children had so much fun!

We love it when friends and supporters generously volunteer their time, talent and materials to bring the joy of creativity to our foster homes. Art and craft really does bring people from diverse backgrounds together and helps to break down barriers.

Another workshop will be held in January before schools return. It is also a great way to keep our children stimulated during the long holidays and give our foster mothers time to put their feet up and have a cup of tea! Imagine parenting six children!



Foster Mother Year End Celebration

At the end of each year we hold a celebratory dinner for our Foster Mothers and Relief Foster Mothers. These are the people at the heart of our organisation who create the loving family

homes, which are the foundation of our model of care. These heroines are the ones creating a second chance at family for these vulnerable children and enabling the opportunity to flourish.

This year we honoured these special women with awards of long service, as well as, recognition for individual strengths brought to our families during the year. Although they are mothers throughout the year, this celebration is an opportunity to dress up and celebrate as women making a very real difference in our communities. It was a wonderful experience to enjoy the fun, food and dancing with these strong, brave and committed people of our country. Their enjoyment in experiencing their togetherness in this different setting and being recognised for their special work during the year, was wonderful to witness and emphasised how important these processes are no matter how many more things need to be done.



Thank you Dischem

In mid- October, Cape Talk featured us on the John Maytham Show and connected us with the Dischem Foundation. We were delighted when they announced that their *random acts of kindness* campaign would be generously donating R120 000 worth of store vouchers to Home from Home! This makes a huge difference to reducing our medical costs and is such a great initiative. It is wonderful to partner with companies in this way.

Thank you, Cape Talk and Dischem Foundation – your support is so appreciated!



Generous Austrian Donor Volunteers in our Homes

Lilo Strolz, a third generation hotelier from St Anton, Austria first visited Home from Home in October 2020 while on holiday. Her long term friend, Vanessa Ratcliffe, a loyal donor who co-founded Southern Destinations travel company, introduced her to our organisation.

Lilo arrived with a few bags of second hand clothes and other goodies and R4 000 in cash for Home from Home in October last year. A brief discussion was held with her regarding our work readiness programme for our transitional youth. In particular, the aim to assist them with obtaining driver's licenses. We then discovered her passion of art and in early 2021, on hearing about the Orange Art Project exhibition, Lilo bought almost 50% of the artworks displayed even though she was unable to attend. She then enthusiastically offered to volunteer at Home from Home during September and October this year.

Her role involved supporting our education co-ordinator, Sue Baillie. On arrival, she again produced a bag of brand new clothes, stationery and art materials as well as R30 000 towards securing driver lessons and licences for our young people. She had rallied her service providers in St Anton to donate towards one driver's licence each!

While in Cape Town, she continued to communicate with her Austrian service providers and tell them stories of her adventures at Home from Home. She encouraged those who had not yet donated to contribute and obtained a further R18 000. Lilo's warm heartedness was felt at head office and in our homes. Flowers were arranged in our boardroom, a staff meeting tea was laid out in grand style and countless gifts were bought for our foster mothers and children. At the end of her time at Home from Home, she became known as Mary Christmas!

Subsequent to returning home, Lilo has arranged a fundraiser event at an art studio in St Anton with all the Orange Art Project artworks she bought. However this has

had to be placed on hold given the lockdown regulations in Austria at present. This big hearted donor has many more ideas planned for her visit next year and we feel very grateful for her energy and generosity!



FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN

Support Home from Home this festive season!



By donating R100 per month* for the next year, you can make a real difference to the lives of almost 200 vulnerable children in our care and you'll receive a gift from us worth R500!

The funds raised will be used for 2022 school stationery and holiday activities.

As a gesture of appreciation, you will receive a limited edition gift worth R500 in partnership with our friends at A Love Supreme and Jasper Beadwork- because everyone loves a present at this time of year!

So head on over to our website: www.homefromhome.org.za and donate via [Payfast](#) or eft if you'd prefer to donate R1200 all at once. It's super easy.

Then email: tanya@homefromhome.org.za with proof of payment and we'll be in touch about collecting your special gift from our office in Plumstead or delivering it to your door (t&c's apply)

It's wrapped and ready to go!



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