

2023

ANNUAL REPORT



“CREATING FAMILIES
FOR VULNERABLE CHILDREN,
THROUGH
SUPPORTED AND SUPERVISED
COMMUNITY-BASED FOSTER CARE,
TO BECOME HEALTHY
AND WELL ADJUSTED **ADULTS**
WHO CONTRIBUTE
POSITIVELY
TO SOCIETY.”

LETTER FROM THE BOARD

I bring you warm greetings from the Home from Home Board.

Home From Home is a very busy family. How to select stories to tell? Well, this report provides us with several wonderful accounts. You will read about Yolanda who stays in one of our transition homes, and is enthusiastically studying early childhood development. You will hear of Shafika who at 15, had no contact with family members since the age of five and how our detective social workers were able to track down her brothers and reunite her with her siblings.

Of course, we can only celebrate these successes if we have dedicated staff and sufficient funds. It was tough on the financial front, but measures taken by management to contain costs, and the outstanding efforts of our Fundraising Team team brought us to the end of the financial year in a healthy position. Well done team! As ever, we are most grateful to our donors who responded to their call. You are critical to delivering on our mission!

Despite budget cuts, the Western Cape Department of Social Development (DSD), supported five Social Work posts. Thank you, DSD! I have little doubt that their support has much to do with their confidence in the quality of the services we provide. In their 2023 evaluation, the Department scored us a 97%! Brilliant work team!

The Board said farewell to Prof Thulane Gxubane and thank him for his service. We are very pleased to welcome new Board members Sarishnie Moodley and Gail Daniels. Sarishnie, an actuary, will be providing support to our financial team, while Gail who is an HR specialist, will be assisting us with her expertise in that area. Thank you, Board, for your energy and support.

It is an absolute pleasure to serve this wonderful organisation.

Thank you, Enkosi, and baie Dankie!

Professor Andrew Dawes
Chairperson



LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Far from going back to normal after Covid in the past year, the innovation necessary to survive the challenge resulted in new, more effective ways of working which made sense to retain. The realisation that our modern world is not immune to crises of this extent has also meant that, certain safety and precautionary measures remain in place. All of these have been positive developments born out of challenge. One area that learnings don't seem to have been made however, is the addiction to the increased pace or busyness. In fact, it seems like things are even faster in the world since Covid.

For this reason, Home from Home's commitment to a thorough process of strategic planning in the past year, has been even more important. Where the pressure to get on with countless immediate tasks is constant, we have managed to dedicate precious time to develop plans and direction into the longer-term future. We began this process by reflecting on our history, the vision, mission and values that our founders, Pippa and Jane, had started this organisation with. This was an exceptionally valuable process for our team that saw the purpose of our work embedded and a few necessary changes identified.

Our Vision for the organisation remains the same, **"A world in which every child has a safe home and a loving family"**.

For our Mission we have essentially kept it the same, except that with the increased vulnerability of our young adults aging out of our care, into a South African context of heightened crime and rampant unemployment, we felt compelled to add a further responsibility to this mission, i.e.

"CREATING FAMILIES FOR VULNERABLE CHILDREN, THROUGH SUPPORTED AND SUPERVISED COMMUNITY BASED FOSTER CARE, TO BECOME HEALTHY AND WELL-ADJUSTED ADULTS WHO CONTRIBUTE POSITIVELY TO SOCIETY"

In committing to the Values of Home from Home, we again maintained the majority of the previously established values:

INTEGRITY: We stick to our values even in the face of adversity.

COMMITMENT: We honour our word and go the extra mile.

ACCOUNTABILITY: We take full responsibility for our actions and decisions.

GRATITUDE: We appreciate our blessings and the contribution of all of our family members.

We added **FAMILY**, which although unusual as a value term, is the core of what our work strives to achieve. We believe that in a world that appears increasingly disconnected, we need to actively develop connection that is synonymous with creating family. We further believe that all can become family; biological and other differentiations of groups are not boundaries to family. In fact, the more diverse our family, the more effective we can be in our mission.

We also added **INNOVATION** as we believe this organisation was started because of the excellent innovation of our founders, who established this model of care. We certainly need innovation now and into the future in order to grow our work to better meet the increasing needs of vulnerable children.

Developing and recommitting to these foundations of our work has been invaluable. It is well documented that organisations who are accountable in living their values, rather than simply advertising them, reach optimum levels of success.

At Home from Home, we are committed to this and believe that the long-term strategic plan, which will be finalised in this coming year, will show these values being incorporated into practice.

Notwithstanding all our efforts and good planning, we acknowledge that the stories of miracle and hope that drive the passion for our work, are impossible without God's presence.

Peter Marx
Executive Director



PROGRAMME REPORT

Reflecting on the past financial year, fills us with a great sense of gratitude at what we were able to achieve, despite continuous challenges faced not only by Home from Home, but other NPO's too. When looking for the secret recipe to our resilience and success during the past year, we have to acknowledge the grace of God, as well as the role played by our ongoing commitment to our organisational values of family, integrity, commitment, accountability, gratitude and innovation.

Celebrated highlights and achievements during the past year included, but were not limited to:

- Our children and youth attended a camp at Rocklands (near Simon's Town) during the July holidays of 2022. Our transition youth stepped up as facilitators, to assist the Rocklands and Home from Home staff. The experience had many benefits and key learnings.
- At the same time of the children's camp, our foster mothers were able to have their own much needed camp and break-away. Both camps were generously sponsored by the Warren Baptist Church in the USA.
- We instituted multi-disciplinary team meetings to discuss the growth, development, needs and future plans of every child and young person in our care.
- Foster mothers and relief foster mothers were combined in the attendance of meetings, activities and trainings. This promotes uniformity and consistency in the care of our children, and addresses previous conflicts between the two groups. While this remains work in progress, great improvements in the relationship between foster mothers and relief foster mothers has been observed, as well as improved care and support to our children.

- The team actively implemented reflective practices in our work. Reflections were conducted after meetings and activities to identify strengths and future areas for improvement. This practice has increased the quality of our work and our responsiveness and flexibility. Important feedback was received from children, youth, foster mothers, relief foster mothers and partners. While there is room for improvement, we have made many positive strides in this area.
- An outcome resulting from feedback received from our foster mothers and relief foster mothers, was the outsourcing of internal training to other organisations. One example of this was the Courage to Care training, which was provided and facilitated by Kerus Global. The two-day training focused on child protection and how to understand, support and protect vulnerable and traumatised children in our communities.

Our focus on connection and strategic partnerships to achieve better and long-lasting positive outcomes for our children and youth, has become a key focus service delivery area. While maintaining and managing partnership relationships are not without its challenges, we can see the positive impact through the many individual success stories of our children and youth.





PROGRAMME REPORT STATISTICS

ANNUAL STATISTICS OF CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Our care to children is growing, caring for over 200 children and young people.

- 173 children in Home from Home's cluster foster care
- 22 children were newly admitted
- 13 youth disengaged from care
- 6 youth moved from foster homes into our transition homes
- 2 youth moved into the Fountain of Hope transition programme
- 1 youth placed at Home of Hope
- 1 youth is living independently in the USA
- 2 youth were reunified with their biological families
- 1 child was transferred into an alternative care programme focused on behaviour modification

A total of **72 children** and youth accessed assessment and therapeutic interventions. A number of children accessed more than one service which can be seen in the breakdown on the right:

TYPE OF ASSESSMENT OR THERAPEUTIC INTERVENTION

APTITUDE TESTS	16	COUNSELLING	13
EDMR THERAPY & SPEECH THERAPY	1	EDUCATIONAL ASSESSMENTS	22
FAMILY THERAPY	19	PSYCHOTHERAPY	4
OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY	5	PLAY THERAPY	2
PSYCHIATRIC INTERVENTIONS/ SERVICES	6	GRIEF THERAPY	1

NUMBER OF CHILDREN/YOUTH **90**

We want to acknowledge every person for their role and contribution in making a positive difference in the lives of children and youth in our care. Let us remain steadfast in our commitment and efforts and wait expectantly to see the fruits of our labour in the lives of the children and youth we serve.

FAMILY

"We nurture our interconnectedness as a diverse group with a common dream"

Creating a second chance at a family is at the core of our work. We strive to create this within the organisation, amongst staff, and with our partners (community members, donors, associates, trustees, supporters and service providers). We recognise the need for personal connection in a world that is becoming increasingly disconnected and understand that it requires a commitment to build relationships and find opportunities for connection.

This commitment and the intention to actively include diversity within our family, is what enables us to function at our highest efficiency by unlocking synergies and shared learnings.



BEAUTY AND THEMBA ONE FOSTER COUPLE'S JOURNEY

A young woman named Beauty was working at the deli counter of a well-known retail store. She met a customer, Themba, who came shopping daily and always came to see her. A friendship slowly developed, and he was immediately drawn to her broad smile, chatty nature, and obvious dedication to her faith. It was perfect timing as Themba had decided it was time to find a wife. Nine months later they were married and less than a year later Beauty made the decision to become a foster mother for African Hope Trust, an Associate partner with Home from Home.

Themba, a painter by trade, encouraged Beauty to take the job and this has been their calling for the past thirteen years. This loving couple continue to make a significant difference in the lives of vulnerable children. Their foster home is situated in Masiphumelele township near popular surfing town, Kommetjie in the South Peninsula of Cape Town.

The first children that they took care of were five siblings whose mother was sick and had died.

"It was wonderful that they could all stay together as brothers and sisters. We had to get to know them slowly one by one. It was not easy, but we worked together. I received a lot of guidance from our social workers, and it was good to talk to other foster mothers to get advice and support from them", says Beauty with a smile.

"We have had happy and sad times like any family. I really wish there was more love and kindness in the world and that these children could have a bond with their biological parents. They need that net. We create a new family and a sense of belonging for our six foster kids who range in age from 5 to 17 years old. It is a good thing to do. To make the life of a few children better", says Themba as he glances at his wife.

This is how the miracle of a second chance at Family is created for vulnerable children! Home from Home partners with Associates in the communities of the children's origin, like African Hope Trust, so together this can become a reality.



EVELYN CONNOLLY TRANSITIONAL SUPPORT PROGRAMME

A formal transition support programme was started at the end of 2019, after a long-time donor, Seamus Connolly, provided the first year of support to the development of the programme. In the first two years, we adopted a two-tiered approach. Firstly, preparing the 16 years + group towards transitioning out of foster care and secondly, the transition houses to accommodate those requiring added support. A third tier has been developed to support those who have transitioned out of the foster home into independent living, but who still require various forms of assistance. Young adults finding their independence in society usually need significant help up to at least 25 years, especially if strong networks are lacking within their biological families. By the end of this year Home from Home supported 21 SIYAs (Supported Independent Young Adults).

50 16+ Aging out youth living in our foster homes

11 Young adults living in our two transitional homes

21 Supported Independent Young adults "SIYA" which spans across the Western Cape Region.

Within Home from Home's Evelyn Connolly Youth Transition Programme there are 77 young people receiving ongoing transition support.

The transition home in Westlake welcomed two young women from our foster homes who have successfully adjusted to living in the house.

WESTLAKE TRANSITION HOUSE:

- 1 Permanently employed
- 1 TVET*- Public management
- 1 Assisted nursing training
- 2 Short courses - Beauty therapy and office administration. One young adult has applied at a TVET* college for 2024 to pursue hospitality

The transition team celebrated the launch of our second transition home in Khayelitsha. It is an all-male home, which started with two young men. In the last year, the transition house has accommodated four young adults. One is now living independently.

KHAYELITSHA TRANSITION HOUSE:

- 1 Fitness instructor online short course
- 1 Re-writing matric to obtain diploma or bachelors pass
- 1 Work readiness programme

TRANSITION SUPPORT STATISTICS:

(THESE INCLUDE 16+, TRANSITION YOUTH AND SIYA'S)

ACTIVITY	NUMBER OF YOUTH
FIRST AID TRAINING	20
APTITUDE TEST	15
FET*	6
EMPLOYED	9
SHORT COURSES	14

*FET: Further Education and Training

*TVET: (Technical and Vocational Education and Training)



South Africa has a staggering youth unemployment rate (18-34 years) of 60.7%.

YOUTH STORIES

YOLANDA

Yolanda* was placed in Home from Home's care in November 2005, at the tender age of four. She moved into our Transition support house in May 2022 and is a good house leader.

Yolanda is currently doing her second year of studying Waldorf Montessori Early Childhood Development (ECD). It is a four year programme which she is thoroughly enjoying and doing well. (80% aggregate). She will be applying for her learners licence in July 2023.

ZIWE

Ziwe* was placed in Home from Home's care in December 2005 at the age of three.

She moved into our Transition Support House in May 2022 and has completed a home-based care course with NIDO. She initially failed her exam but rewrote and passed with 51%. Ziwe is completing three more courses online through an Australian University. Thereafter, she will be qualified in home-based caring.

**The printed stories are true, however the children's names have been changed to protect their identities.*



INTEGRITY

"We stick
to our values,
even in the
face of adversity"

Integrity is a corner stone of our organisation and something that we expect from all of our family members. We are honest and fair and we do not compromise our values; we are brave enough to defend these values, even if it means addressing uncomfortable situations. We are transparent and upfront in all our work. Our donors trust us to use their funding and support wisely and to report accurately on spend and impact.



MY HOPES AND DREAMS WHEN I GROW UP

Multi-disciplinary team meetings (MDTs) take place in our foster homes annually and are designed to establish life plans for each child. These include each individual child or youth, the social work team, the foster mother, the relief foster mother, the statutory social worker, our associates and in some instances, biological family members.

One of the enquiring questions asked is about dreams and aspirations. This supports self-expression, develops imagination and a sense of self, and identifies strengths and interests.

Earlier this year, meetings were conducted in eight homes in Khayelitsha with 25 individuals ranging in age from 3 to 20 years of age.

The responses to this question included: I want to be a butterfly, a princess, a balloon..... Many refer to becoming a policeman or fireman. When asked why, one child responded, "so that I

can keep people safe." A five year old who has access to TV, responded, "so I can eat donuts!" One of the 13 year olds who is clearly committed to justice, said she wants to become a divorce Lawyer so she can tell parents they cannot get divorced if they have children.

Many of our youth tussle with the enormity and seriousness of this question. As the impact becomes more pressing, the answer is often not immediately clear and is closely linked to a number of contextual factors. Notwithstanding, these opportunities in being seen and heard hold significant importance in developing personal accountability. It is our hope that the MDT meetings allow individuals to feel noticed and supported in their development and knowledge of themselves. That they are able to progress positively from small beginnings of being a balloon or a butterfly, to achieving the Home from Home mission of becoming "healthy and well-adjusted adults who contribute positively to society".



EDUCATION REPORT

Space does not allow for the many happy stories and wins, both big and small, which could be included in this report. Educational support can seem both clear and simple, but with the individual in mind, is also complex and dynamic. An overarching and important consideration, is that all the individuals in our care have suffered trauma which significantly affects mental health, behaviour and levels of learning. Our aim is for children to feel safe, be seen and heard, and to build a sense of themselves. This is fundamental to building healthy learning pathways.

"The secret to building resilience is rooted in 'ordinary magic' of close relationships with competent, caring adults, committed families, effective schools and communities, opportunities to succeed, where belief in self is nurtured by positive interactions in the world." Ann Masten, Professor of child development, University of Minnesota, USA.

We have strengthened our education partnerships with **Preeva, Surfpop**, the **Oxford Reading Safari** and the **Orange Art Project** which has added enormous value. Looking for opportunities to explore individual learning needs and potential is a dynamic process. Approximately a third of our children, at 43 mainstream schools, required learning support in 2022.

A common attitude is that education is limited to school hours. This belies the importance of a learning culture outside of school. It is thus encouraging that educational opportunities, outside of schooling, increased in 2022.

SOME OF THESE INCLUDED:

- Numerous outings, which broadened the children's perspective of the world. One of the many happy memories that come to mind is of a Grade 2 learner looking at the ocean and asking, "How do fish talk to each other?"
- Valuable contributions from education-related professionals including educational psychologists, occupational therapists, speech therapists and counselling practitioners.
- The introduction of Multi-Disciplinary Team (MDT) meetings, to discuss individual development plans for each child.
- Foster mother education workshops. Topics included observational skills regarding individual strengths and learning needs; understanding possible barriers to learning and supporting children or youth in expressing their learning needs; establishing consistent homework routines in homes; and monitoring and supporting online access.

It is our hope that through building trusting relationships, both the diverse and individual educational needs of each child are met, and the foster mothers find support in their parenting role.

ACROSS THE 65 SCHOOLS THAT HOME FROM HOME'S CHILDREN ATTEND, WE HAVE:

27

HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

3

PRE-SCHOOL

9

EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT

92

PRIMARY SCHOOL STUDENTS

16

ATTEND SCHOOL OF SKILLS

ADDITIONALLY:

DESCRIPTION	NUMBER OF YOUTH
RECEIVED TUTORING SUPPORT	77
PARTICIPATED IN SURFPOP	37
READING SUPPORT	20
PARTICIPATED IN ORANGE ART PROJECT IN 19 HOMES IN 12 ART GROUPS	73

15

ATTEND SPECIAL SCHOOL

11

POST SCHOOL

VALUE

INNOVATION

"WE STRIVE FOR CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT IN OUR QUALITY OF CARE AND REACH TO VULNERABLE CHILDREN"

Being mindful of the enormity of the problem of vulnerable/neglected children in the world, innovation is crucial to improving the quality and reach of services to these children. We use disciplined reflection in the processes of our work to learn with and through our partners.



LINDA AND HER VEGETABLE GARDEN

Linda has been a Home from Home foster mother in Kayamandi near Stellenbosch for the past three years. She has two biological children, who live in the Eastern Cape, 660km from Cape Town. When she decided to take on this role, her daughter gave her blessing.

"MUM, YOU HAVE TO HELP THESE CHILDREN. I HAVE MY GRANDMOTHER, AUNT AND FATHER TO TAKE CARE OF ME. THEY HAVE NO-ONE"

she said enthusiastically.

Recently, Linda took part in a year-end donor activity which involved painting a brightly coloured mural onto the vibracrete wall, alongside the property, and planting a vegetable garden.

It was the veggie garden that really interested Linda. She did not know it would grow into a passion project of hers just six months later as she began to reap the rewards from the seedlings.

"The veggies taste so good! My children are happy to try new vegetables and are learning to be patient. It takes time for a carrot or beetroot to grow. They keep wanting to check on the progress. I must make sure they don't pull them out too early! It is a wonderful hobby for all of us."

"I would love to expand the veggie garden and I know there are some foster mothers growing spinach and lettuce in Masiphumelele and elsewhere. I would love to encourage other foster mothers to grow their own plants. We can bring our harvest to our work meetings! My favourite vegetables, to grow, are spinach, tomatoes, carrots and beetroot. I also realise that the quality of the soil is really important. In the school holidays, we will replant and expand the garden. It is great that it reduces my grocery bill and is very rewarding. I want to learn more and encourage others to do the same. It is fun and educational."



OUR JOURNEY

2005

- March – HfH Trust formed
- 5th April – Trust documents signed
- May – Two plots purchased in Khayelitsha for homes to be built
- October – Model of Care presented to DSD
- November – Foster Mother Nicky employed and moved into our 1st home in Khayelitsha
- December – first three foster children moved in with Nicky

2006

- January – HfH Germany established by Clem & Marlies
- February – 2nd house opened
- 4 houses operational by the end of the financial year
- March – 4 new children placed in 2nd house
- March – First R1 000 000
- July – Ruyterwacht home opened with first associates St Joseph Catholic Church (1st house outside of Khayelitsha)

2007

- Home from Home Germany, FoHfH UK and Belgium registered to be tax effective
- March – 7th home opened
- December – caring for 42 children

2008

- 2 new homes in Stellenbosch opened

2009

- First vehicle purchased & first social worker employed

2013

- Purchased Plumstead office

2012

- First funding received from DSD

2011

- 26 homes

2010 – 5 year mark

- Created employment for 45 people since started (majority, previously disadvantaged females over 40 years)
- First registered cluster foster care scheme in the Western Cape
- 17 homes in operation
- 114 children in care

2015

- Succession planning

2018

- Change in leadership – Jane & Pippa step down and Peter Marx (Executive Director) & Victoria Smith (Programme Manager) are appointed.

2019

- Transition Support Programme House & Programme launched

2020

- Jane & Pippa become patrons

2022

- Opening of second transition house



HOME

FEBRUARY 2023

- 35 foster homes
- 2 transition homes
- 173 foster children

SURFPPOP

Surfpop is an NGO that originally started working with our children in Masiphumelele. In October 2022, they expanded to Khayelitsha to include 19 additional children, based at the Lizo Nobando Resource Centre. Established in 2015, they offer a holistic after-school programme consisting of:

- Surfing (twice per week)
- Education and life skills/coaching (three times per week). The foster mothers in Metro East and South provide support in the classroom on a rotational basis.
- A healthy eating plan

The focus is on long-term intervention, with the goal of guiding each child towards their dream future (e.g. college, university, internships and/or employment options).

37 children, (starting from Grade 2), benefitted from this programme in 2022. An approach, reinforcing positive behaviour, is used to encourage healthy and respectful participation. Exciting outings, such as hiking on Table Mountain, visiting

the waterslides, Hout Bay boat rides and more, have enriched the children's lives.

Home from Home has benefitted from regular and rigorous reporting systems from Surfpop. The impact reports focus is on the following areas: wellbeing, resilience and programme activities, which include:

- Surfing and swimming skills
- How to care for the environment
- Support with schoolwork and computer skills
- Life skills workshops
- Setting dreams and goals for the future
- How to eat healthily

Data is drawn from baseline and progress interviews conducted with each child, the foster mothers and the Home from Home staff members and is complemented with Surfpop staff assessments. We value Surfpop's close monitoring of the children's daily wellbeing and academic progress. We believe Surfpop's ethos directly contributes to our mission of encouraging children to become healthy, well-adjusted adults.



SURFPPOP STATISTICS

- SURF LESSONS: **175**
- SWIMMING LESSONS: **68**
- EDUCATION CLASSES: **185**
- COACHING SESSIONS, LIFE SKILLS TRAINING AND VOCATIONAL TRAINING: **79**
- BEACH CLEAN-UPS: **9**
- HEALTHY MEALS: **9100**
- OUTINGS: **9**

OXFORD READING SAFARI

Home from Home has collaborated with Oxford Reading Safari (ORS) for four years in Masiphumelele and Ocean View.

ORS is an online English reading tool, which works on both language and literacy skills. Improvement in reading rate, accuracy, vocabulary and comprehension of English passages are the goals of the programme. Twenty readers benefitted from this partnership in 2022. The school grade of the Home from Home readers does not necessarily match their reading level. The aim of ORS is to practice reading at 'instruction level' which is neither too difficult nor too easy. Five youth have completed Level 8 – which is equivalent to adult reading.

The weekly, individual, 20-minute reading sessions are a time where the mentor, Judy Gwala, mediates the reading experience by discussing the content of the passages – expanding the student's language and general knowledge. Active reading is encouraged and the children learn online research skills through this process. Judy was trained and mentored as our reading partner and we are fortunate to have benefitted from her invaluable support over the past four years. The children's relationship with her is key to the overall success of the programme.

Vocabulary is highly predictive of academic achievement and comprehension, yet is slow to develop, - especially in second language learners and disadvantaged communities. Based on the Home from Home statistics, the ORS vocabulary dimension is proving very effective.



ORANGE ART PROJECT

Home from Home has collaborated with Orange Art Project (OAP) since June 2020. Ten art mentors ran weekly sessions for 73 children from 19 homes in 12 art groups in 2022. Apart from providing opportunities for creativity, exploration, problem solving, language development, and discovery, this project serves multiple purposes. These include contact with the community, foster family connection, support for those whose strengths lie outside of academics, as well as therapeutic benefits. OAP raises funds independently of Home from Home to provide this support.

Jill Trappler, the OAP coordinator, included the following in her 2022 report:

“There is now a real engagement in the partnership that has grown slowly over the past few years. The artists/mentors are the inspiration and the “petrol in the tank” of this project. The monthly report writing, planning and engagement with the Home from Home families is both inspiring and astonishing. The work made in the sessions is innovative, educational and personally engaging. An impressive collection of work has been made in the spirit of exchange and interaction where care, support and encouragement of the individual and imagination have been prioritised.”

OUTINGS INCLUDED:

Newlands Forest, Rondebosch Common, Two Rivers and Rosebank Parks – to fly kites made during sessions; Goodwood River and Milnerton Beach nature walk with drawing and collection of found objects; Siki’s coffee shop in Khayelitsha; Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens; Zeitz Mocca Museum and V&A Waterfront; Willie Bester’s home; Stellenbosch University Museum; Stevenson Gallery; Norval Foundation Art Gallery; Irma Stern Museum and Montebello Design Centre.

OTHER ACTIVITIES INCLUDED:

- Two artworks entered for competition at the Tygerberg Art Centre
- Art Sales: The artists/children receive the largest percentage of the donations in exchange for art works. We encourage the children to save, and to consider building a portfolio to further their education
- Murals at our homes in Kayamandi and at head office in Plumstead



TUTORING REPORT

For the past five years, Home from Home has collaborated with Preeva, an education company specialising in tutoring. 77 children benefitted from the weekly support of 15 tutors across the four metros that Home from Home serves. Children received between one and three hours of support per week. Children are selected according to available funds, potential academic impact, and regular team reviews of the efficacy of this intervention. Bi-annual tutor reports inform strategies for improvement according to performance. In the latter half of 2022, the number of students requiring tutors decreased due to the initiation of afterschool programmes in two metros.

The 2022 Preeva Impact Report shows student progress since inception, and provides detail on various trends including volume and frequency of lessons, change rate of tutor, starting academic average and metro-specific results.

TUTORING STATISTICS

30

STUDENTS WITH
LEARNING CHALLENGES

58%

AVERAGE
AGGREGATE

3%

ACADEMIC IMPROVEMENT
SINCE JOINING THE PROGRAM

21%

NUMBER OF STUDENTS WHO
IMPROVED BY 10% OR MORE

21%

NUMBER OF STUDENTS WITH
AGGREGATE OVER 70%

78%

BACHELOR PASS RATE
(50% OR MORE AGGREGATE)

VALUE

COMMITMENT

"WE HONOUR
OUR WORD
AND GO THE
EXTRA MILE"

We recognise that our work is a long-term journey and we are committed to walking the path with our family members. We keep our word and we follow through on our promises. We go the extra mile, we explore all possible avenues and we don't give up.



IN SEARCH OF FAMILY ROOTS

Imagine being 15 years old and never having had contact with any biological family?

This is Shafika's* story. She came to Home from Home at five years old. Before that she lived at Nazareth House children's home in Vredehoek, Cape Town.

Home from Home was able to find her father's identity number and discovered that he had died in 2021. His residential address was also established and the search was on.

Two of our social workers, Cabangile and Boniswa, set off on a Saturday morning with a flask of strong coffee and determination in their hearts. They headed in the direction of Malmesbury, a small town 65 km north of Cape Town.

The address led them to a large forest where they found a farmhouse and asked a few people for information. Nobody knew the family but they mentioned that the community had relocated to an informal settlement nearby.

Someone knew the late father and the three brothers age 19, 24 and 33 were found. The family resemblance to Shafika was strong. Our dedicated social workers are like forensic detectives and delighted with their success!

It was very emotional telling Shafika that her father had died. A visit to her brothers was awkward at first due to the language barrier however they soon found a common language in Afrikaans and could not stop talking. There is regular contact with her brothers now, who are farm workers.

Knowing that Shafika has three brothers has had a wonderfully positive impact on her and her foster mother. She is much younger than her brothers and learning more about her family has helped her to connect more deeply with her sense of self.

Well done, social work team!



FINANCE REPORT

The departure of our beloved Finance Manager, Londolani Masiagwala, at the end of October was a huge blow for Home from Home. It was an inevitability that, in time, Londo, a young man with good skills and work ethic, would be offered a more demanding opportunity that he could not refuse. He continues his career in the NGO field and leaves with our blessing and good wishes.

It was in the months that followed that we realised the challenge it would be to replace him. We went through numerous recruitment processes without finding a suitable candidate and during this time we also saw our Assistant Finance Administrator leave. Gillian Appel, our Financial Administrator and longest serving office team member, was left to manage the day-to-day finances. Fortunately, the broader 'family' came to our assistance and Jenny Cadman, Accountant and previous Board Treasurer, Deepa Daya (Board Treasurer) and staff like Lala Lakey, stepped in by providing the significant support needed. This support was crucial in

enabling us to close off the financial year, develop budgets for the upcoming year and keep finances on track.

Our total budgeted expense for FY2023 was R16,196,707, 15% higher than the previous year. Our actual expenditure was R15,862,385, 2% less than the budget. These increases were largely due to the return to increased activities for our children after Covid and the subsequent increase in transport costs. From FY2022 and FY2023, there was a significant 47,6% increase in the transportation costs for our children.

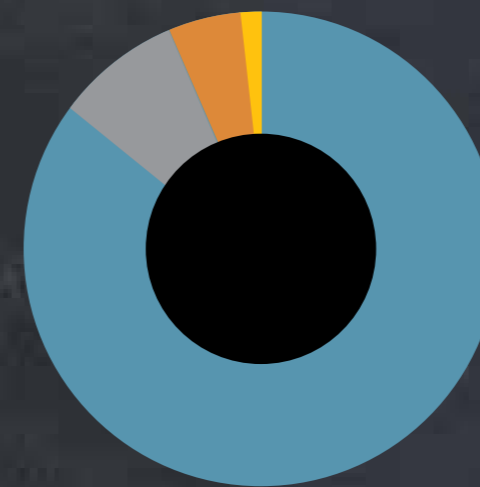
Even with this turmoil in the finance department in the last months of this year ending 28 February 2023, we can report that we ended the year on a small deficit of (R29,655), compared to the budgeted deficit of (R1,306,083) at the beginning of the year. Central to this positive outcome has been the strict management of the budget by the finance team.

OUR SUSTAINABILITY TRUST

This year saw us meaningfully involved in long-term strategic planning, the first time since 2018. Sustainability needed to be a central focus in these plans, and we are very fortunate that our founders had the foresight to establish a Sustainability Trust in the early years. This trust held R10,324,918 at the end of the year, and while it functions independently from the Home from Home Trust with a separate Board, it is designed to support Home from Home. The purpose of the sustainability trust is to protect the organisation against negative events, where funding could be seriously limited and to support the organisation where growth projects are necessary. The extreme volatility in the world economy would suggest a bias towards protection of the organisation with the Sustainability Trust only holding approximately 60% of the annual budget. Planning into the future will require a careful balance between protection and growth.

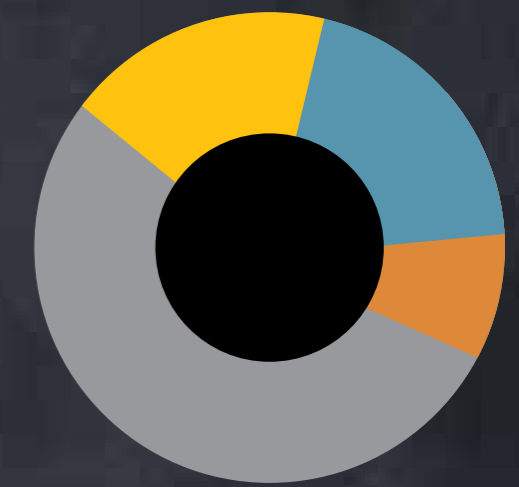
FY23 INCOME AND EXPENDITURE OVERVIEW

FY23 Income Breakdown



- 85%** Donations – Individual and Organisations
- 9%** Department of Social Development
- 5%** Other Income
- 1%** Individual Child Sponsorships

FY23 Expenditure Breakdown



- 21%** Housekeeping and Occupancy
- 52%** Employment costs
- 20%** Educational support and children's development
- 7%** Other operational costs

The figures presented in this report have been sourced from our draft annual financial statement. A copy of our audited financial statements are available from our offices.

FUNDRAISING REPORT

Good management of the funds and controlling the budget spend is one half of the partnership in making for a financially sound organisation. The other half is sound and sustainable fundraising practices. The planned growth in the organisation will be finalised in our Long-Term Strategic Plan in the coming year which will require our fundraising efforts to incorporate multi-year funding to enable us to plan effectively. Home from Home is fortunate to have many loyal supporters who have enabled this planning and development. With programmes such as our Transition Support programme we continue to seek new donors to support this work, particularly focusing on multi-year funding to enable our future planning.

The past year saw a welcome return to fundraising events post Covid. The Two Oceans Marathon, Cape Town Cycle Tour and Royal Parks Half Marathon in London were three events that re-opened and we participated in. Although they did not achieve previous levels of financial success, we are confident they will do so in the coming years. Additional events like the JDI Cableway Charity Challenge and the Scarborough to Kommetjie Amble were able to increase their number of participants and support and raised meaningful amounts of funding.

A further focus for fundraising has been providing educational support for our children. With unemployment for young people under

25 years increasing and the standards of education for the average South African child being poor, this is crucial to our children's success. Together with our partner organisations such as Orange Art Project, Preeva, Oxford Reading Safari and Surfpop, we were able to provide excellent quality support to our children in this crucial area. Educational support programmes overlap significantly with our Transitional Support Programme where the emphasis on learning skills for greater independence and job readiness are central. Our partnerships with organisations such as Mamelani, Isibindi, Amy Foundation and others have ensured good quality of additional support for our young people.

The pressure on fundraising has been severe, especially in trying to meet the growing needs for our children. We have, however, seen wonderful development where our whole 'Family' assists significantly in the organisational fundraising efforts. Staff in other divisions were more active in speaking to friends and family, our Board members diligently sourced donor opportunities, and our supporters/donors joined the drive to market Home from Home. Our small fundraising team (Lala, Tanya and Peter) with excellent coaching from Pippa Shaper, grew substantially in our roles and working together. These developments in fundraising certainly lightened the load and importantly brought more fun and excitement into the work.



ACCOUNTABILITY

"WE TAKE FULL
RESPONSIBILITY
FOR OUR ACTIONS
AND DECISIONS"

*We accept full responsibility for our actions and decisions
and actively respond to account for these decisions.*

*Our basic financial information and governance structure
are open for public scrutiny.*



DEDICATED MATRIC CONTINUES TO

STRIVE FOR BETTER MARKS

Grayson* now eighteen, came to Home from Home as a young nine-year old boy. He was fortunate to be accepted at a newly established school: Calling Academy in Stellenbosch, close to his foster home in Kayamandi.

Grayson was part of the first intake of 60 Grade 8's in 2018 at this new English-medium high school. An education institution whose mission is to offer a high standard of academics to lower-income families.

"It was a real blessing to attend a school like this", says Grayson. "I learnt things that I don't think would be covered at other schools like, how to be a good man and how to connect with God or a higher power".

It was an adjustment from Junior School. Initially he coped well although Grade 11 was a tough year, and he underestimated the amount of work required prior to his final year, Matric.

"I do think my phone was a distraction and I was not hanging out with a good crowd. I just did not work hard enough. When I received my Matric results, I knew I could do better and was not happy. I decided to rewrite maths and accountancy this year. I really wanted to improve

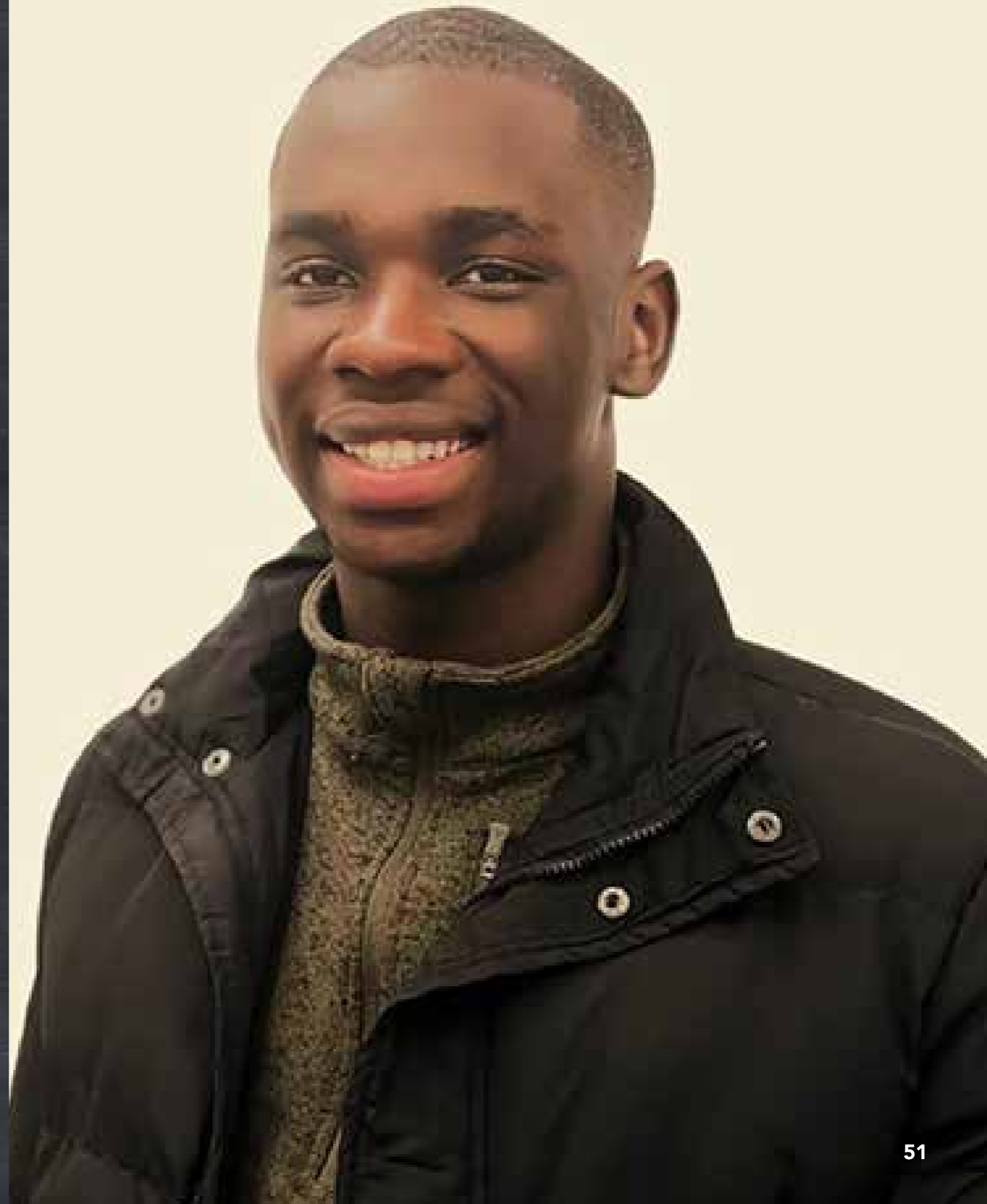
my marks to obtain a bachelors pass to create more options for my tertiary education and my future."

"I WAS SUPPORTED BY VARIOUS PEOPLE AND THAT REALLY HELPED TO KEEP ME MOTIVATED. I WAS SO HAPPY WHEN MY MARKS IMPROVED. THE HARD WORK PAID OFF"

says Grayson with a calm smile.

He is currently completing a one-year internship at a recruitment company for accountants, a field that he is interested in pursuing. He says he is getting good at discerning a good CV and hopes to continue with the work experience while studying part-time next year.

**Pseudonyms are used to protect the identity of our children*



DONOR LIST

It is with deep gratitude that all of us at Home from Home want to recognise all our donors, sponsors and supporters. Many of you have supported us loyally for a number of years and this has allowed us to grow and develop into the organisation we have become. May you be blessed for your generosity in the past year, that has enabled us to continue the passion of our work!

ALLAN + GILL GRAY PHILANTHROPIES
BATELEUR CAPITAL FOUNDATION TRUST
CHIC MAMA'S DO CARE
CHRIST CHURCH KENILWORTH
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT
ELEGANT GROUP
FOORD ASSET MANAGEMENT
FOX FOUNDATION
FRIENDS OF HOME FROM HOME SWITZERLAND
FRIENDS OF HOME FROM HOME UK
GB LAW
HOME FROM HOME GERMANY e.V.
JACARANDA - HOPE FOR THE CHILDREN - SWITZERLAND
JDI FOUNDATION (CABLEWAY CHARITY CHALLENGE)
LEWIS STORES
LINK PROPERTY PEOPLE
MAGNETO LIGHTS
MARIA MARINA FOUNDATION

MAZARS AUDITORS
MPM CHARITABLE TRUST
NUSSBAUM FOUNDATION
OPPEL GREEFF FAMILY TRUST
OPTIMUM LEARNING TECHNOLOGIES
PEP STORES
R B HAGART TRUST
SASSA
SCHRODER INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT LIMITED
SOUTHERN DESTINATIONS
ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH EDGEMEAD
ST PETER'S CHURCH
STICHTING HART voor KINDEREN
STREETSMART SA
TAPESTRY HOMES (CLIFF + ROSE RATKOVICH)
THE CHRISTIE FOUNDATION
THE CARL + EMILY FUCHS FOUNDATION
THE GOOD FAITH FOUNDATION
THE LOVE QUILT PROJECT
THIRD LADDER
UBUNTU BELGIUM
UNITRANS SUPPLY CHAIN SOLUTIONS
UTHANDO SA
VINTAGE WITH LOVE
WARREN BAPTIST CHURCH
YELLOW TREE ENVIRONMENTAL
ZEPPELIN GMBH

And with many thanks to our donors who wish to remain anonymous, our child sponsors and those who volunteer and support us in numerous ways. To protect their identity, we have not listed the names of the individuals who have given so generously throughout the year.

GRATITUDE

"WE APPRECIATE
OUR BLESSINGS AND
THE CONTRIBUTIONS
OF ALL OF OUR
FAMILY MEMBERS"

Considering the many adverse socio-economic contexts in our world, we appreciate and value our relationships and resources. We actively sensitise our families to these contexts to encourage and promote this value in our organisation. We show gratitude by thanking and acknowledging the hard work and commitment of our various family members. Notwithstanding our human endeavours, we recognise the role of a higher power to enable outcomes that are necessary for our children to succeed.



SHARING MY GRATITUDE



Artwork by Abongile

Dear Journal

I just wanted to let you in on a few things that have been on my mind lately.

First of all, I have to admit that I have been very lazy. Very. There's a lot of things I wanted to finish that I have not done – some things I haven't even started yet.

Procrastination has literally been my closet friend these past few months. Every day I am working on improving. Being better than I was yesterday because I know one day a time is going to come where I am going to have to stand on my own two feet - be independent as they say. And the thought of that sometimes scares me, other days it motivates me.

Everything in my head is up and down. One day I'm certain about my future, other days I wonder what my purpose in life is. Am I going where God wants me to go? Am I doing what God wants me to do? Is He pleased with me? Is He even real?

But with all the questions, doubt or fears I must admit, compared to most people I have been very lucky. Last night it was so cold and rainy outside, and I just started thinking how lucky I am to have a roof over my head. I am warm. I am full. My life could have been so different. I could have been one of the many people not knowing where I'll keep warm for the night. Where my next meal would come from.

I am grateful. That's what my name means - Abongile.

Abongile grew up in one of Home from Home's s associate foster homes in Plettenberg Bay. He now lives in one of Home from Home's transition houses in Khayelitsha with two other youngsters. A very talented 21-year-old who has many skills and passions and is finding his way with gratitude. Abongile is a natural artist, is studying personal training online, enjoys reading in his spare time and is a keen runner and hiker.

HOW TO GET INVOLVED

CHILD SPONSORSHIP PROGRAMME

Our Child Sponsorship Programme enables you to sponsor individual children for an extended period of time. By doing so, you agree to make a regular contribution of R200/(£20/€20/\$20) per month. An annual contribution is also an option. This enables us to cover some of the expenses of raising a child. Home from Home provides a bi-annual update on the child. This is a wonderful way to connect on a more personal level with our organisation.

VOLUNTEER WITH HOME FROM HOME

One of the most rewarding ways to get involved with Home from Home is by becoming a volunteer. We accept both local and international volunteers. There are many tasks you could get involved with, from taking children on outings to providing lifts for our foster mums and children. We would also love to have volunteers with special skills such as counselling, physiotherapy and occupational therapy as we could incorporate these into our programmes.

RUN, RIDE OR DECIDE

We are extremely grateful to our wonderful supporters from all over the world who have joined our Royal Parks Half Marathon, Cape Town Cycle Tour, Two Oceans or Cape Town Marathon teams. Join our charity team and raise funds through your networks as you run or ride Cape Town's most prestigious sporting events. Participate in the Home from Home Amble to raise money to buy school shoes for the children in our care. This is an easy, scenic, 10km walk along the coast from Scarborough to Kommetjie. You may also host your own event where you invite friends, colleagues and family to join you in an activity.

GIVE A FINANCIAL DONATION

Providing a financial donation to Home from Home not only enables us to build, rent or buy the houses we use as foster homes, it enables us to provide each child with the love and comfort of a family life. Donations also ensure we are able to provide therapeutic intervention, educational assistance, counselling and extramural activities – essential building blocks of a successful future.

PLEDGE YOUR BIRTHDAY

Use your special day to improve the lives of vulnerable children. By including Home from Home in your celebration, you bring awareness to our work and help improve lives. A donation of this kind extends the goodwill of the occasion far beyond the day itself, helping to ensure vulnerable children are able to grow up in safe and stable family homes. Pledge your birthday to Home from Home today!

LINK YOUR MYSCHOOL CARD

Sign up to the Woolworth's MySchool MyVillage MyPlanet fundraising programme at <https://www.myschool.co.za/supporter/apply>. Make Home from Home a beneficiary and we will receive a portion of your spend every time you shop. If you are already a card holder, please add us as a beneficiary. This is an easy way to support the children in our care.

LEAVE A LEGACY

A will is a personal exercise and is drafted to benefit family and loved ones first. You may however, wish to consider a charitable bequest to Home from Home. A gift that will help future generations is a perfect way to let your care and compassion continue in years to come. Bequests to charities are exempt from tax and may lead to savings in the amount of estate duty payable. You can either bequeath an amount in cash or a specific asset such as a car. The easiest way to do this is to add a codicil.

Please contact us on info@homefromhome.org.za to discuss how you can get involved.

YOUR DONATION CAN MAKE A BIG DIFFERENCE

SnapScan



Account Name: Home from Home Trust
Bank: Nedbank South Africa
Branch Code: 10 11 09
Account Number: 1011 109 700
Swift Code: NEDSZAJJ
Reference: name / email address



@HomeFromHomeSA



homefromhome.org.za



home_from_home_sa

73 Main Road, Plumstead, 7800, Cape Town, South Africa
P.O. Box 18237 Wynberg, 7824 Tel: +27 21 761 7251
info@homefromhome.org.za

