



HOMES TO GROW
A brighter future for abandoned children

ST FRANCIS OUTREACH TRUST

Quarterly Report January – March 2017

Dear friends of the 'Homes to Grow',

Easter Greetings to you, at the time of new beginnings, wishing you joy and renewed energy for the journey ahead.

Joy and energy is needed with our children requiring their care and attention.

The eleven kids, our 2 foster mothers and the assistant, the driver of the school bus and the remedial teacher keep our manager on the run with making the schedule for pick-ups, home Work checks, daily school notes the children bring home and the foster mothers cannot understand, filling pages and pages of school applications for next year model C schools and attending interviews with the specific child and the school principle, - besides daily routine things scheduled and unscheduled to fill the hours of her day.

4 of our children have not yet moved from the township school, as it is a tough job to convince a principle to take another child into their already full class, especially when the report of the child is not overwhelming. Applications are handed in already; if we get a positive answer is a different question.

Kurt, our first remedial teacher left us after his one year contract ended to take a full-time employment. We have interviewed 2 candidates and hope to have soon a new teacher.

A kind donor made it possible for our "first - adopted" girl to enter a very special school, and we are very grateful. The teacher will address her learning disability and inappropriate behavior. The aim is to eventually move her into a main stream school. Already we are observing changes in her, after just a few months. In a class of 5 pupils the teacher can address problems and needs immediately. The only thing is that our youngster has the longest way to school and has to get up very early.



Our youngest is enjoying his 'school', in an English speaking Kinder garden which guarantees that he will have no problems when changing to a model C school. Our manager, so keen to get all the children into better institutions by 2018, had already applied for him in a good Primary school. During the interview with the Principle our Sunny-boy charmed him so much with his performance and his winning smile, that he was accepted. When visiting the teacher for next year in her class, and she asked for his age, they all realized that he was **one year too early**. Now we know for sure that he is admitted for 2019 and do not have to worry to find a place for him in a town with not

enough schools for all the children in the area. Bless our sponsors!

During the Christmas vacation in early January the children visited some old friends, the horses of Equinox. All the children were keen to touch and to walk with them. Nobody was afraid anymore (almost nobody) like a year ago.. It was good to see, that they had overcome their fear.



Eleven children live presently in our 2 homes. There is place for one more child. We spoke recently to our friends at HomefromHome, who have found all our children for us, to look for a little playmate for Sepho. He/she can start like him in a good English spoken Creche and avoid the difficulties our older children still have. Due to psychological hurt they experienced and the lack to speak and understand English, their comprehension of subjects discussed or taught in class is severely lacking. Several volunteers are now coming regularly to read and converse with the children. - Yes, in plus to the teacher!

free township school and a forth requiring a special institution - our school expenses have sky-rocketed, and we are pressed to think very seriously about raising sufficient funds for 2018

Our very unique, painted calendar with beautiful images of the Southern Cape Peninsula will be on sale in mid- July and will help us to cover some cost. The social Grants for the children will account to close to R 120 000 for a year but both are not sufficient, We still need your help.

Our budget calls for R 900 000 in 2018 and that covers the cost

1. Cost for the school bus (petrol, maintenance, insurance, locked garage) and toll fees to and from HoutBay to the School for deaf children where one of our girls is a border during the week and comes home from Friday pm till Monday morning,) comes to R 1 200 a month
2. School fees are the biggest block – R 400 000.- per annum. That is without the books, uniforms, projects, Camp preparations, sport uniforms and other related expenses.
3. House hold costs, food, personal hygiene
4. Water, electricity, rates, maintenance supplies
5. Children's clothes. 2 x year we take inventory, but supply an urgent need immediately
6. Telephone and printer cost
7. Medical costs – although we are very fortunate, that we have help from many members of the medical core, who treat our children pro-bono.
8. Salaries for our foster mothers, the driver and the remedial teacher

All our volunteers give freely of their time and pay for their own petrol.

A new classroom was added to Joyce's house last year, where the children receive their help with homework and the remedial sessions. A kind person donated 2 used lab tops which fascinate the children and are used regularly.

Joyce and Emily had a shade structure built over part of their court yard to dry the laundry on a rainy day and give the children extra space and protection to play in rain or sunshine.

We were able to do all these things, which improved the lives of our foster mothers and the Children, thanks to your support and kind financial contributions. You make it possible for us to continue our work, as we begin each year on a leap of faith and hope and pray that the good Lord places people in our way, who will assist us in our quest to prepare these once unfortunate children for a successful and faithful adult life.

Thank you for your support!

Peace and blessings,

Monika du Sautoy

Our Patron: The Most Reverend Archbishop Njongonkulu Ndungane (retired)

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