

Special points of interest:

Baby Haven

Thuto Ke Lesedi

Medical Outreach Program

Community Centre

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New BeginningZ Newsletter

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Baby Haven

A few years ago I came to the stark

realization that I will never be able to save the world but honestly, the little lives that we have touched this year reaffirms my belief that everyday is a New Beginning. A chance to make a lasting, meaningful difference even if it is just one child at a time.

Embarking on such a huge venture this year was daunting to say the least. The pathway to this year's success was riddled with potholes and speed humps but despite this & the fact that so many people in my field discouraged me by saying it would not be possible, I persevered!

Honestly, looking at some of our children now, comparing how they came in, I must say it has been hugely rewarding.



Marvelous Privileges

Experiencing a child's first smile, first words, first tooth,

the day they start crawling, the very first wobbly steps are usually privileges that parents are lucky enough to experience only a few times in their lives. At the Haven we get to experience these marvelous developmental wonders a bit more often! I suppose you can



The proof of what we have accomplished is evident in our little Angels .

Feb: We moved into the spacious 6 bedroom house kindly donated by the Joosub Khan Family. We planned & prepared the entire house according to the various Legislation that governs places of care, even taking municipal by-laws into account.

1st April: We had our very First Child that came in and by the 28th we had already taken in 5 children with 1 being reunified with his father.

14th May: Our Official Opening!

4th July: Our 1st B'day Party at the Haven for 4 of our children & Taahir Varma who's parents decided to share his very special 1st B'day with us.

June - Dec: Adoptions & Reunifications.

see this as part of the perks that come along with constantly having to make bottles, pajama drill every single night, colic times ten, vomiting & diarrhea , potty training and all the other wonderfully challenging things that fall under our roles as parents and caregivers.

Despite all this, each child is unique & special and a lot of these are special "building blocks" in our hearts & memories .



Expenses



Pre-Nan, Nan 1, Nan 2, Nido, S26, Pelargon, Isomil 1, Isomil 2, Infasoy, Pepticate, AR, LF etc.

Medical:

During the year we've had a steady stream of very ill children that came in. Besides the seriously ill ones we've also had our fair share of the sniffles & sneezes! Almost R24 000 has been spent on medical costs alone. This amount excludes medication and ointments received from state hospitals.

Formula Milk:

We have a contract with Nestle to supply their various infant formula's to us at a reduced

rate. Our milk formula costs about R3800.00 pm & we are still working very hard at trying to get other formula manufacturers to provide their milk to us at a reduced cost.

Salaries

R10 800 pm for 4 staff members

Groceries

R3500.00 pm what we buy, not including meat or items donated.

Cleaning Material

Hygiene is key for us! It has cost us almost R8000.00 this year.

Other Expense areas include Water & Lights, Security, Stationery, Travel, Phones & Internet.

A Detailed Needs Analysis is available. The more donations we get, the less cash we have to spend.

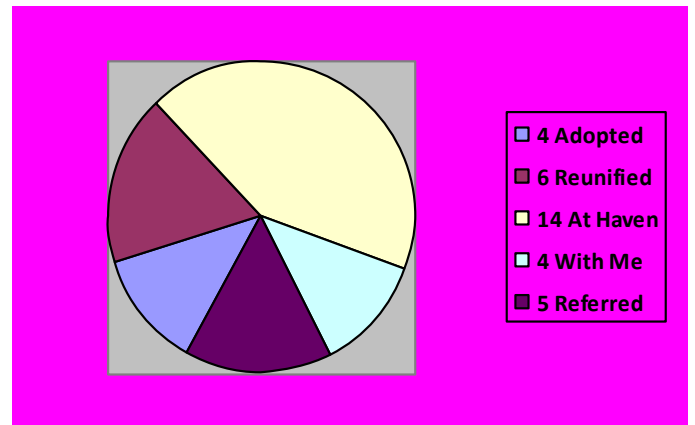
On average it costs just over R30 000 pm to run the Haven.

Approximately R1800.00 pm per child. (This is dependant on the number of children each month)

Stats

This year between the Haven & my house we have looked after and cared for a total of **33** children .

Reunifications are hard on us knowing that children are often placed back in the same situation they were removed from in the first place.



Angels at work - Our Staff!

Mothers, Nurses, Teachers, Chefs, "Kiss it better people"...



When conceptualizing the whole "Haven" idea I envisaged having 6 children, 1 Housemother, 1 Relief Staff & 1 Cleaning Lady.

Yeah Right!!!

Our staffing component has increased steadily . Employed on a full

time basis are 3 Housemothers (on duty 24/7) & 1 Cleaning Lady who also serves as relief staff.

These ladies are the mothers these children never had, these ladies are the ones who pour their hearts and souls into these little lost souls and without these miracle workers, we would not be able to provide

the love and care that we do.

A Social Worker is still desperately needed but nowhere to be found....

Also, I am buried under paperwork and admin! Everyday I pray long & hard that a kind hearted person will come to our aid and sponsor a salary for an Office Administrator.



Thuto Ke Lesedi Day Care Centre



Yvonne & her caring team currently look after 62 children between the ages of 3months and 7years from 07:00-18:00 Mon to Friday.

Majority of these children come from households where the next meal isn't guaranteed. They face so many

“Education is Light”

harsh realities that seems to far removed to us. They are victims of the ills of society, innocent bystanders who's lives hang in the balance. It is up to us to make a difference & provide them with the opportunities they deserve. Early Childhood Development is crucial & will affect the rest of their academic & professional careers. Can you honestly just stand back & say: “This is the Government’s problem”.

It has taken us a full year to upgrade the centre to what it is now. Rome wasn't built in a day right?! We do as much as we can with the available funding. So it all happens a little bit at a time. Alexander Forbes will be erecting a new log cabin for us in the new year to extend the facility. We hope to add 2 more this year so that we can eventually have 3 different classrooms for different ages. Babies, Toddlers, Gr.RR's. Please contact me for further information, documentation & photos. We even have a flourishing vegetable garden!



Take a stand,
be the change
that you want
to see”
It is up to you
to make a
difference....

Medical Outreach Program

This Dream of mine actually became a reality this year with the help of some overseas funding from the RSSAF (Oxford University) as well as Prof Hugo & the University of Pretoria's Medical Faculty Students.

It is a very basic concept that will later expand & evolve but for now we have to take baby steps.

I wanted to teach the children at the Day Care Centre not just basic hygiene, but also why it is important, how to do it and what can happen

when you for instance don't wash your hands after going to the toilet.

Basic Health check ups for the children are conducted. Referrals are done to the local clinic. Immunizations were arranged and a Baby Wellness program was run too.

This year we want to equip each medical student with a basic medical-back pack to actually go out into the community to terminally ill community members in this informal settlement. Those who are so ill they

actually cant move from their beds.

I have a lengthy presentation available on this concept.

The Nesting Bird Care Group is a group of ladies from the community we are training as Caregivers. For now they fall under NBZ. Teach the community to take care of themselves.

We desperately need a Log Cabin to run a Mini Clinic from. (On the same premises as the Day Care Centre)

Community Centre

Yes, yes, I need yet another Structure or Log Cabin for this initiative!

So many destitute families & children are left destitute & desperate without any assistance. I cant stand by any longer and just watch these children slip through the cracks.

Child Headed Households are on the increase faster than government anticipated. Gogo's (granny's) are left with all their grandchildren without any financial assistance. The

small ones are accommodated at the Day Care Centre during the day while the older ones are assisted with getting exemption from school fees, helped with buying school clothes and stationery and we provide monthly food hampers when we can.

The problem is that these children don't have any other assistance. Not with homework or school projects or personal issues. The community workers are conducting Door to

Door assessments so that we can establish which families need what help. And let me tell you, the results thus far have been scary!

We need a base (other than the Haven) for the community volunteers & members to come. We will not be able to help all the people all the time, but that doesn't mean we can't at least try! In the pipeline is also Skills Development, Life Skills, Income Generating Projects to teach Self Sustainability and much much more! **This is all Achievable, one step at a time.**



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Volunteers

Many wonderful people have become part of the Haven Family & we are honored to have them with us. However, there is always room for more!

We need Volunteers in various areas, please contact me for a Volunteer Application Form & To Do List. Students, Scholars, Professionals, Corporates, Community Members, Groups.

Join Hands with us to Make a Difference & give each child in need

of care & protection the possibility of a New Beginning!



My Family

The backbone of my work. Without their Love & Support nothing would be possible. Thanks Guys, You are the Best!

Sponsors - "The Real Heroes"

None of what we do would be possible without the good hearted Samaritans who believe in what we do and support us in all our efforts.

We have some big, well known names on our sponsor board! Vodacom, Communica, Alexander Forbes, Roundtable, HA Agencies, OMA, Timeless Elegance, Metro, Sanzaf, Malaysian High Commission, Dizzy Dots, Sunnyprint, Accenture etc. But in order for us to continue providing the quality services we render in the various fields we need your help to ensure a steady stream of these!

So please, if you as a corporate or individual can invite decision makers and influential people to come and see what it is we do, we might just be able to convince them to become one of our

monthly contributors.

People have been very generous and we have been blessed with many donations,

some much nicer than others...

Despite the fact that we rely heavily on donations we want to appeal to people to please stop sending us broken toys, torn clothes & expired food.

Sorting donations is a weekly task and we always welcome help recording, sorting, & packing these.



Don't worry, we are making another sponsor board for new donors who have contributed generously on a monthly basis!

Hopefully some of you will be inspired to join hands with us & make this more than just a Place of Safety, but instead, an Extraordinarily Special Home.

A Remarkable home filled with Acceptance, Love, & Amazing Care fit for all the

Tiny Kings & Queens of tomorrow.

In Closing