

ANNUAL REPORT 2019



home from home
Building a better future for children in need



LETTER FROM THE BOARD



Reflecting back on the year that was for the purposes of writing this letter, I am reminded of how Home from Home is all about people – the children we help care for, our selfless foster mothers, our compassionate social workers, our dynamic team at head office and our loyal, committed donors who have walked such a long path together with us to enable us to do what we do at Home from Home.

None of this would have been possible without our founders, Jane Payne and Pippa Shaper, two strong and passionate women who started this organisation from scratch with a dream and a small amount of funding. This year saw a big change for Home from Home, one that involved our founders moving on after so many years of commitment, sacrifice and investment and saw the appointment of our new Executive Director, Peter Marx, to take over the helm. This transition was carefully planned over a number of years and we were blessed to find Peter who has stepped into the role with confidence and has literally hit the ground running. The changes in the organisation bring to mind our iBhabhathane (butterfly in isiXhosa) programme – while our children grow and develop, so too does our organisation and thanks to Jane and Pippa's vision and tireless leadership work we have the solid foundation and experienced team members necessary to allow us to move into this next phase.

You are reading this report as you are either involved in our work in some way or are interested in becoming involved. For those already involved, we thank you for believing in us and walking the path with us over all these years to make a real difference in the lives of the children under our care. For those interested in joining us on this path, we welcome you.

We move onto the next phase of the organisation under new leadership and I welcome and look forward to working with Peter Marx and our new Programme Manager, Victoria Smith into the future.

Regards
Anna Vyanos
Chairperson

A handwritten signature in white ink, appearing to read 'Anna Vyanos'.



LETTER FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



I would like to thank everyone for the positive reception I have received since starting as Executive Director. Starting a new job can be quite an overwhelming experience, however the welcome and support that I received, has already made me feel invited to be part of this 'family' and excited at the possibilities that lie ahead.

My whole working career to this point (27 years) has been with organisations that run residential facilities for young people in need of care.

I see my move to Home from Home (HFH) and working in the slightly different youth care field of Cluster Foster Care, as another significant blessing in my life, for a number of reasons:

- The HFH that Pippa and Jane have built as founders, is now going into its 15th year and is a well-respected and established force in the work for orphaned and vulnerable youth in South Africa.
- One of the guiding principles of HFH's work is that of working within communities from which the children come, and is a significant strength in making a real and lasting difference to the lives of these children.
- My experience being mostly involved in working with older youth in care, as well as those transitioning out of care and the challenges they face, makes me feel well placed to be assisting with the aging population of our children at HFH. Many of the children that came into our care over the years since HFH started are now, no longer children. In fact, we now have over 50 young people who are above the age of 15 years of age and are requiring a differently focussed care to prepare them for adulthood.

Hopefully I can do justice to these many blessings that I see in coming to Home from Home and that our work with the most vulnerable in our communities, can translate into even greater effectiveness in helping children transform their lives.

Regards
Peter Marx
Executive Director

A handwritten signature in white ink, which appears to read 'Peter Marx'. The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a dark background.



LETTER FROM OUR FOUNDERS



In February 2005 we had a vision of a network of homes throughout South Africa, where every child who needed a family would have one. Living in a 'normal house, in a normal street' no more than six children would live with a foster mother or parents, integrating into their community, going to the local school, place of worship and playing with their friends in the street. Nine months after our idea was conceptualised, our first home was opened in Khayelitsha, and that dream was born.

Since then that network has grown and today there are 36 homes running in the Western Cape under the Home from Home Cluster Foster Scheme with 200 children being cared for. In addition to this, many other homes throughout the country have been opened using the Home from Home model of care, meaning that more children in more communities are reached.

After 14 years heading up Home from Home, we have taken the decision to step back and to leave 'our baby' in the very capable hands of new guardians. Whilst letting go has been difficult, the truth is that our 'baby' is now in fact a teenager, and the time is right for new leadership to take Home from Home to a new stage of development. We will carry on supporting Home from Home from the wings, through every stage of its growth.

Though no longer the parents of Home from Home, we remain very much a part of the family, and look forward to seeing our child growing up over the coming years. Of course, none of this journey would have been possible without a great number of people believing in us from the beginning, and we thank each and every one of you for helping to make our dream a reality.

Regards
Pippa Shaper & Jane Payne



WE ARE CARING FOR OVER 200 CHILDREN IN 36 HOMES

We now have 36 homes registered under our Cluster Foster Care Scheme, caring for over 200 children. The Department of Social Development decided in 2017 to restrict the size of Cluster Foster Schemes and recommended that we mentor other NGO's to register as Cluster Foster Schemes. We have assisted Victory for All in the Eastern Cape who now have six homes, Tutela in Mozambique and Abaphumelele in Khayelitsha and we hope to provide a similar service to other NGOs in the coming years.

Over the past year our programme team have worked hard to ensure that as many children as possible receive the therapeutic interventions they need. This has included play therapy, educational assessments, individual counselling and group work.

We have also run several camps with our older children. These camps require a lot of hard work and preparation but it is such a wonderful

opportunity for the children to interact with each other, spend special time with their social workers, learn many life skills and, equally important, to have fun and build happy memories.

Several children returned home at the end of the year to live with their biological families. This can be a bitter sweet time as we miss them but we know that they long to be with their own family.

We have a wonderful group of children who we have seen grow and blossom over the years. Our challenge for the coming years is to make sure we are preparing our youth to go out into the world as happy and well-adjusted young adults.

We thank the Programme Team for their continued commitment to the children and for always finding and rejoicing in each child's strength.



CIRCLE OF COURAGE

The Circle of Courage is Home from Home's philosophy of care. All programmes, groups, interventions and child development strategies are based around this philosophy.

The Circle of Courage is a model of positive youth development based on the universal principle that to be emotionally healthy all children and youth need a sense of belonging, mastery, independence and generosity. This unique model allows for us to move away from the medical model and focuses more on the developmental areas of each child. Following the Circle of Courage, we are able to identify the strengths of each child.

THE FOUR COMPONENTS OF THE CIRCLE OF COURAGE ARE:

BELONGING:

The most important component, upon which the other three are based is a well developed sense of belonging. Humans have a need to feel valued, important and protected by others – to feel comfortable and welcomed within a group, which starts with the family.

GENEROSITY:

Young people who have a strong sense of generosity are empathetic towards others and want to help them. They give of themselves or their possessions in some way. They truly have 'the joy of giving', receiving pleasure from helping others. This fits in with Home from Home's value of 'Gratitude'.

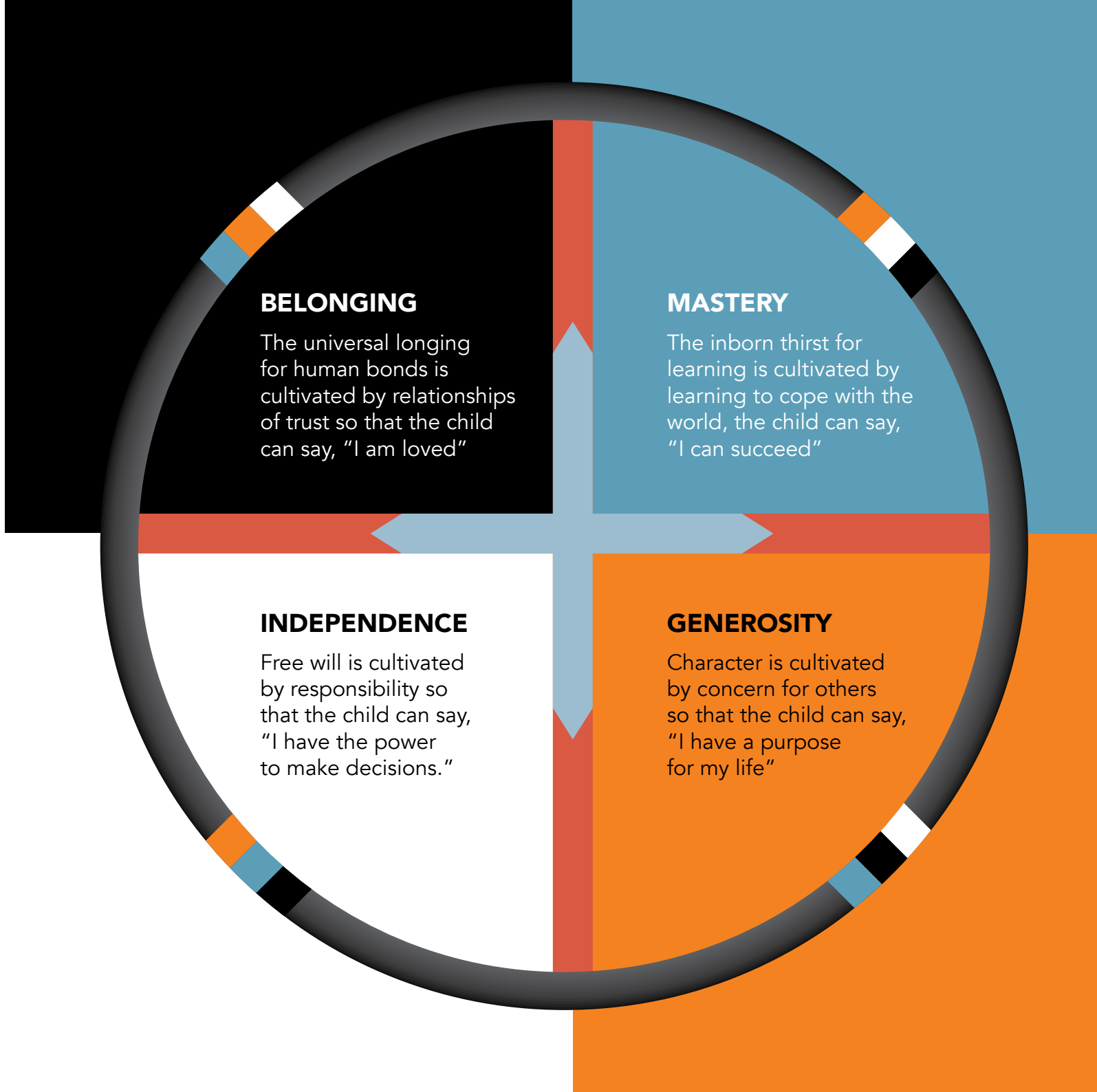
MASTERY:

Those who are strong in the quadrant of Mastery feel competent in their abilities, seek more skills and knowledge, and are willing to fail or look unskilled when they try new things.

Mastery builds upon the strengths of individuals which we strongly believe in at Home from Home.

INDEPENDENCE:

Young people with strong independence are able to be responsible for making their own decisions and for their own failures and successes. They are able to set their own goals and discipline themselves. Our transition programmes are designed to ensure that young people are able to go out into the world as independent adults.



iBHABHATHANE

iBhabhathane (butterfly' in isiXhosa) refers to the child's growth journey from intake to leaving Home from Home. With the help of Mamelani, we developed a series of goals for our different age groups. Looking at the metamorphosis of the butterfly, we have incorporated this process into four different developmental age groups. Goals are based on the Circle of Courage and speak to the young person's sense of belonging, mastery, independence and generosity.

Children in the foster care system "age-out" of the system from the age of eighteen, but can stay on till twenty-one if they continue to study. Whilst it is difficult for children from stable families to be independent by this age, having the same expectation from children whose childhood has been difficult, is often unrealistic. Due to the experiences these children encounter prior to their placement in foster care, they often struggle to master certain skills that are necessary to help them function and live independently. Greater emphasis is placed on their developmental assets, both internal, such as positive values, responsibility and social competencies, and external, such as positive peer influence, support and empowerment, whilst they are still in care. All the iBhabhathane groups focus on building support networks, developing and nurturing innate strengths and teaching practical skills needed to function within each age group.



AGING OUT

The aging out programme consisted of 35 young people of whom 5 were reunified at the end of 2018. The aging out group is defined and characterised by successfully transitioning from foster care to independence. A successful transition out of care is described and categorised in this programme by interdependence rather than independence. We assist youth to become resilient, self-determined individuals who are able to take their place in the communities they live in. When looking at the many

youth in the aging out group, resilience in the face of adversity (especially the ability to adapt to changes and challenges), is a predictive factor for psychological, physical and social outcomes. Each child in the aging out programme has an individual mentor. The mentors play a very important role in assisting the youth with decision making skills, as well as psychological and emotional maturity.

CAMPS

Camps are designed for our children not only to have fun but to build networks between one another, teach valuable skills and for our social workers to gain insight into what the young people are like outside of the foster home setting.

CAMPS WHICH WERE FACILITATED:

- A teen camp was run with the theme of Champion Island - about finding your true self in the crazy and scary jungle that you have landed in and remaining congruent to yourself.
- Tween camps: Activities were based on teamwork, trust, energy release, goal setting and meditation. An important

focus was on conservation and the kind of world that the tweens would be living in as adults.

- Aging out camps: The camps sought to provide a platform for young people to get accurate information about sexuality and be able to freely ask questions, as many foster mothers are reluctant to engage them on the topic.

Educational programmes were also conducted through facilitated team and pairing sessions. The camp was also a good opportunity for the group to engage and socialise as well as keeping on track with the aging out plans.

GROUPS

Our social workers and social auxiliary workers facilitate group sessions with the children in each of the Metros.

The focus of the groups within our iBhabhathane programme are:

- Focus on building support networks, developing strengths from within, recognising talents and nurturing them,
- Teaching practical skills needed to function within each age group.
- Teach skills that will aid independent living.

Our social auxiliary workers ran groups with teen girls in Metro East and Winelands to focus on relationships, dealing with peer pressure and sexuality. We had two social work students from the University of Cape Town running group-work with a group of 11 tweens in Metro South, focusing on social awareness skills. A student from The South African College of Applied Psychology (SACAP) did group-work with four Metro North girls focusing on dealing with puberty and body changes in adolescence.

STORY ABOUT BRYAN

Bryan's life has changed dramatically since his arrival at Victoria Hospital as a very sick little boy at the age of 3. He was born in Beaufort West and was ill and neglected. His mother died and little is known about his father.

When discharged from hospital, he was placed at a Home for the terminally ill and his older sister would visit him from time to time, but stopped these visits because she was worried he was going to die of Aids.

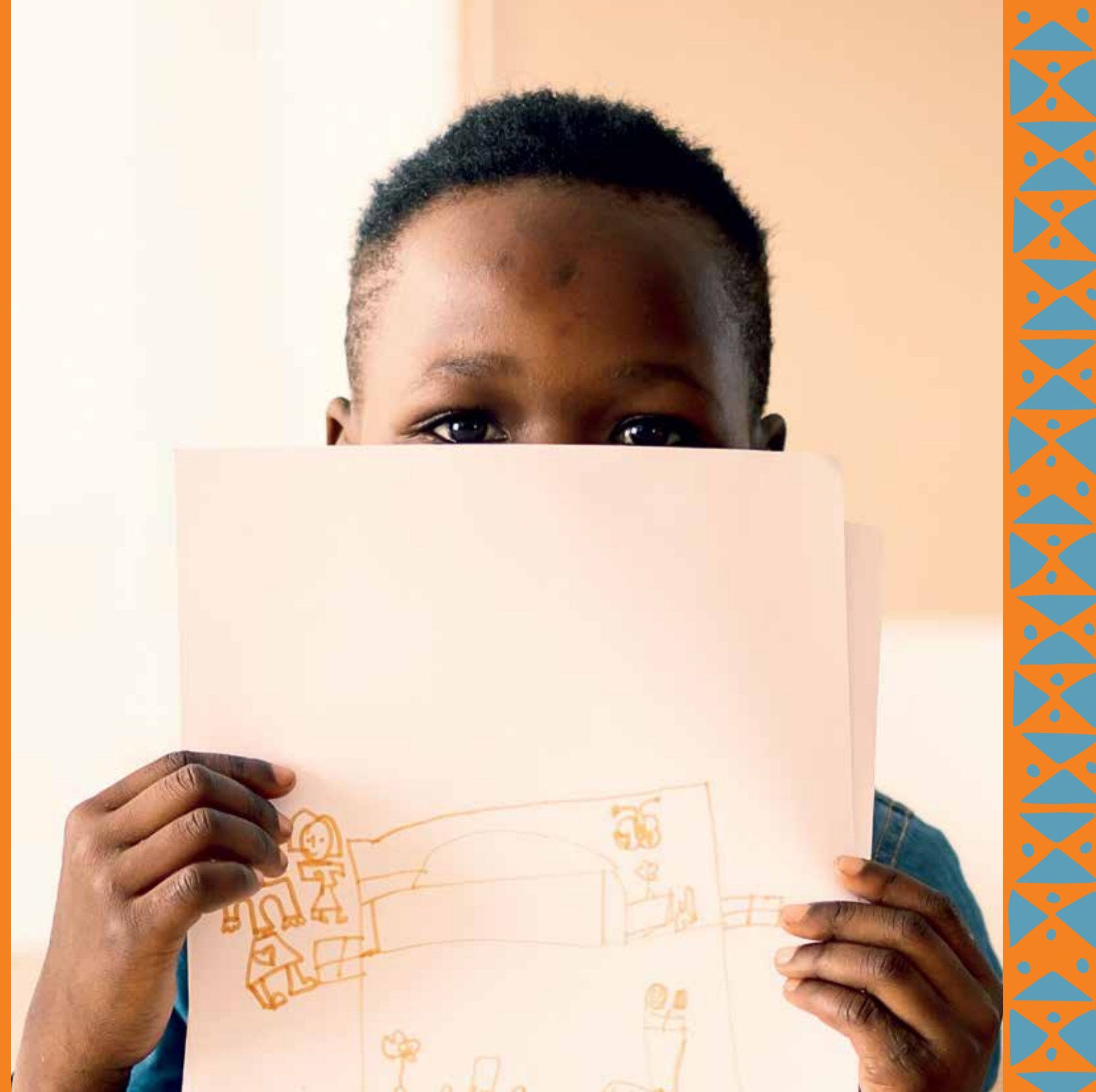
However, once on treatment, Bryan's health improved significantly. In November 2006, at three years old, he was admitted to Home from Home, where he has been ever since.

Bryan struggles academically but has an incredible artistic talent. He attends a skills school and loves all the practical classes whether art, woodwork or

metal work. His creations are incredible and he has a rare natural talent which is being nurtured.

Bryan had some behavioural issues in the past however, the intervention of a caring social worker and wonderful foster parents has made an enormous difference to his life. His self-esteem has improved and he is enjoying life. Bryan is caring and protective towards the other children in the house and is very thoughtful. Kind gestures towards others bring him joy.

Bryan has three much older brothers and more regular contact with them would be ideal for his well-being. Home from Home is a strong believer in encouraging links with biological family wherever possible. Even if it is never possible for Bryan to return to live with his siblings, we hope that these strong bonds will stand him in good stead as he leaves foster care in the next few years.



116 CHILDREN RECEIVED TAILORED TUTORING

Our Education Support Co-ordinator works closely with the Social Workers in establishing the children's strengths, challenges and needs with regard to their education and holistic learning. Partnerships with foster mothers, the children's schools and other supporting stakeholders within the communities are key to the success of the children's progress in reaching their full potential.

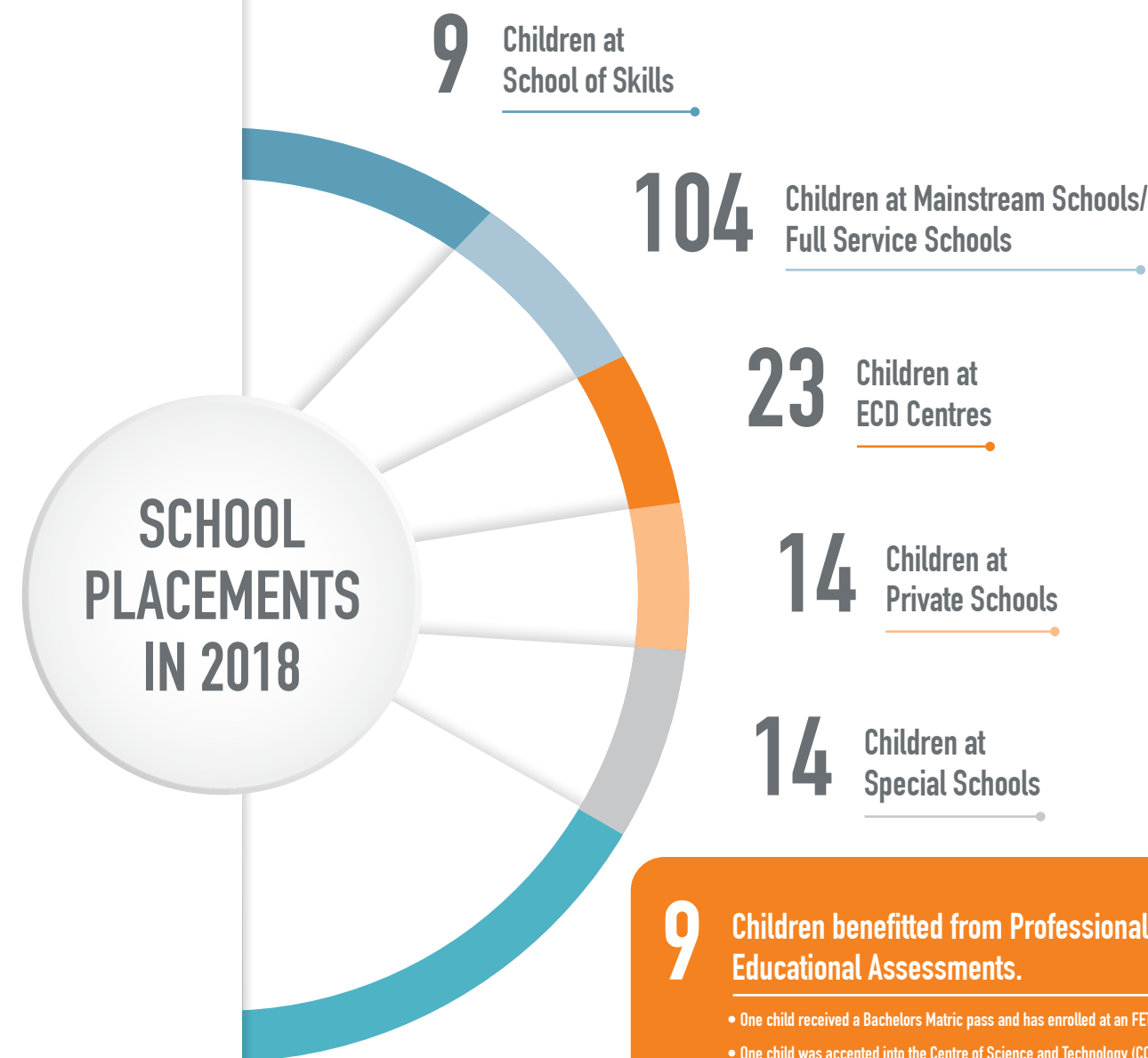
Home from Home (HFH) has formalised a partnership with Preeva, an education company that specialises in tutoring. HFH has been involved with Preeva for the past two years. This has enabled 116 children in each of the four Metros to receive either individual or group support. We are involved in ongoing monitoring and evaluation discussions to ensure that this intervention is relevant and appropriate. This intervention strategy is based on the fact that the majority of our children face learning challenges. These include some, or all, of the following: cognitive, physical, social and/or emotional challenges. This is

compounded by overcrowded classrooms.

The Lizo Nobanda Early Childhood Development Centre HFH runs in Khayelitsha had 40 children registered for the year. A celebration ceremony was held for 17 children in December to mark their move to 'big school'.

Metro East children benefitted from the use of 'School in the Box' Tablets. This is an educational support resource which is facilitated weekly by volunteers from another of our partner organisations, African Impact.

In partnership with the Reading Language Gym, HFH implemented a reading intervention pilot programme, the Virtual Reading Gym in November 2018. The aim is to engage learners in reading English with a focus on improved comprehension and vocabulary skills. We are pleased to report that a number of children showed a marked improvement in their reading after just a few weeks.



9 Children benefitted from Professional Educational Assessments.

- One child received a Bachelors Matric pass and has enrolled at an FET college.
- One child was accepted into the Centre of Science and Technology (COSAT) in Khayelitsha for Gr 8, based on her academic performance in the school's entrance exam.
- 13 children from Ocean View and Khayelitsha homes participated in two field trips to the Two Ocean Aquariums and to Seal Island with the purpose of enhancing the children's English skills. This was coordinated by a volunteer from the USA.

EXTRA MURALS

Home from Home encourages children to participate in extramural activities wherever possible, both at school and in the community. In Metro East, the extra murals include surfing, lifeguarding, long distance running and magic school.

Metro South has children involved in the music field, swimming, rugby, church brigade. Metro North has a range that includes community support groups, athletics, surfing, swimming, soccer, hockey, netball, hip hop, drum majorettes and basketball. In the Winelands, choir singing and community support groups are a part of the children's lives. The idea is for each child to have at least one extramural activity. This is often costly and the children need sponsorship if there are monthly fees involved.

THERAPEUTIC INTERVENTIONS

Therapeutic interventions address many issues which the children have, from attachment to trauma caused by previous abuse.

In the past year, grief counselling, play therapy, art therapy and occupational therapy with a range of specialists including educational and clinical psychologists were accessed. Each child is assessed for the most suitable therapeutic intervention and often more than one approach is taken. Physiotherapy and speech therapy are used when appropriate. Play therapists help the children unearth the trauma that causes behaviour changes. Lasting changes have been seen when children obtain the therapeutic interventions that they require. This has also resulted in an increased attachment with the foster mother and a sense of peace within the children.



GAIL & ERNEST – FOSTER PARENTS STORY

Gail and Ernest have been married for 32 years. They have their own two children, as well as caring for a foster child before coming to Home from Home.

They decided to become foster parents in order to give children the opportunity to be part of a family and experience the love of a mother and father. Also to provide a stable home where there is a sense of security and caring. Their aim is to build character in their children so that they can become the very best people they can be. As a couple, they believe that discipline must be dignified, constructive and lead to self-discipline.

Gail and Ernest became foster parents at Home from Home in 2018. They moved into one of our homes, when the previous foster parents had to leave to care for a sick family member. Taking over a ready-made family isn't always easy, but Gail and Ernest settled down quickly with their family, and the love was soon apparent.

FOSTER PARENTS REPORT

Over the past year our foster mothers have attended many workshops to assist them in understanding and meeting their children's needs. The training sessions they have attended include First Aid, TB and HIV, Care for the Carers and courses on Attachment and Coping with Challenging Behaviour.

Our foster mothers also need time away from the children to have fun and relax. We organised a wonderful Mother's Day outing on the Red Bus around the Peninsula ending with fish and chips in Hout Bay. For many of our foster mothers, this was the first time they had seen many areas of Cape Town! Our end of year Christmas party with the theme 'Queen for the Night' saw our foster mothers dressed beautifully and they danced the night away.

Our foster mothers and fathers are the heart of Home from Home and we treasure and thank each one of them.





JOLENE – FOSTER MOTHER STORY

Jolene Adams is the foster mother in one of our Winelands homes. Jolene started with Home from Home as a relief assistant, backing up a foster mother, and took over as foster mother when a vacancy became available.

Jolene is originally from the Eastern Cape. She moved to Cape Town for work and met her husband in 1987. They enjoyed a happy marriage until his passing in 2012.

Jolene first came to know the children, who eventually became her foster children, as a neighbor and community member. She became the assistant to the home and eventually replaced the foster mother when she retired. She already had a strong bond with the children when she took on this new role.

During the past year Jolene has displayed enormous strength and resilience in her dedication to the needs of the children. She has put her personal needs aside to ensure their wellbeing and that the family settled well. Her strong faith in God is what she says carries her through the difficult times and her love for the children lifts her up during the good times.

AGING OUT STORY

Annalise grew up in an impoverished community with her mother; her father's whereabouts were unknown. This community had various challenges including violence and abuse right on her door step. At the age of eight years old she became a victim of abuse by her step-father and at this point her biological mother was in denial about the incident. Annalise's case became known to the Department of Social Development and she was removed from her mother's care.

Although both Annalise and her sister were removed, they were placed separately as a result of her sister's illness. On several occasions she ran away from her host parents. Community members and child protection volunteers would find her late at night and escort her back to the house of her host parents.

Annalise was eventually placed in Home from Home's care with her sister, finally reuniting the sisters in a home with their

own culture and language. As the years progressed Annalise completed both Primary and High School and passed her Matric. Annalise was quite determined to further her studies and though many of her applications to tertiary institutions were unsuccessful, this did not dampen her spirit. She was eventually accepted to do her National Diploma in Business Management at college.

Annalise is now a beautiful 20-year-old young woman who has embarked on her tertiary journey with the same amount of fervor she has shown in her life up till now. Annalise and her foster mother's bond has grown closer and she is a great help to her. Annalise continues to be part of Home from Home's developmental programmes as well as an 18-month transitioning programme, based on independent living. Through all her uphill challenges she encountered she kept contact with her biological mother and visits during holidays. We are excited to see what the future holds for Annalise!



FUNDRAISING REPORT

The funding environment has been hard hit in recent years, and it appears that Home from Home is not immune. However, our strength lies in several factors, for which we have enormous gratitude: a loyal group of donors and supporters, who really are ‘part of the family’, many of whom have supported us since we started in 2005; a diverse funding base spanning many sources and countries; and a committed team of employees and volunteers, all who continually promote Home from Home wherever they are.

Home from Home has always benefitted well from individuals who raise funds through sporting events and this year we were delighted to enter our first Home from Home team to take part in the Royal Parks Half Marathon in the UK. This event saw 20 runners don their Home from Home colours on a very grey and wetday in London and raise R132 009,69 for the charity. Other events, including Cape Town Cycle Tour and the Two Oceans Marathon also saw additional funds being raised.

We grew our numbers of child sponsors, and this campaign continues to grow in strength with individuals committing to support a child, or children in our care, pledging a monthly donation, and receiving updates on them twice a year.

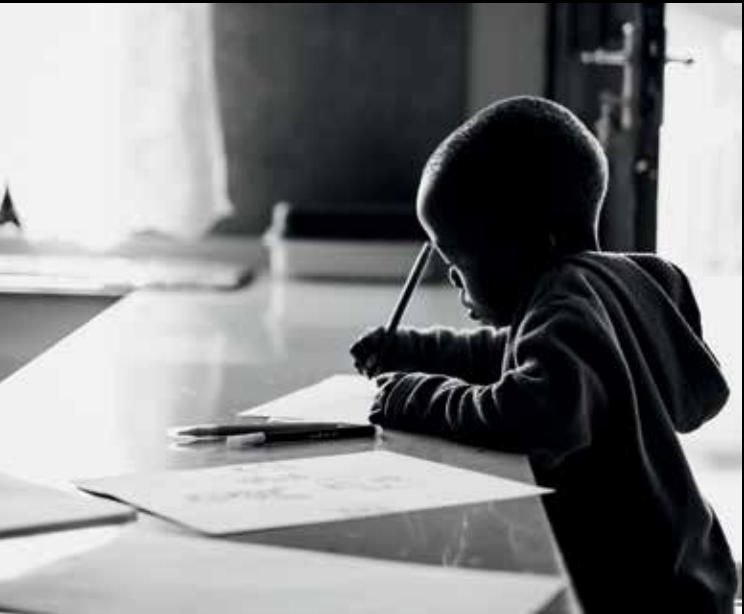
Funding continues to be a challenge, yet we are utterly committed to the families and children who we support. Our huge thanks goes to every single person who supports us in each and every way.



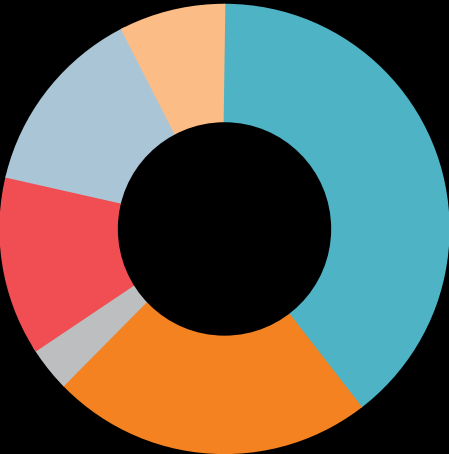
FINANCIAL REPORT

In the financial year 2018/19, the budget of Home from Home has further increased compared to previous years. The educational component of the organisation has significantly increased by providing educational support to the children in the form of tutoring, special needs schooling, stationery and uniform support, as well as camps and outings with an educational component.

The total income for 2018/19 was R9,899,206, of which R831,632 was restricted to the financial year 2019/20. The total expenses for 2018/19 were R10,706,967, of which R1,639,393 was covered by restricted donations received in previous years.



INCOME ANALYSIS



Income for Support activities	4 576 798
Income for Day Care Centre	359 291
Donations from previous financial years	1 639 393
Income for Houses	2 671 521
Income for Education	1 459 964
Donations for next financial year	831 632

A copy of our audited financial statements are available from our offices.

HOW TO GET INVOLVED



CHILD SPONSORSHIP PROGRAMME

Our Child Sponsorship Programme enables you to sponsor individual children for an extended period. By sponsoring a child, you agree to make a regular contribution of R200/ (English Pounds at £20 / Euros at €20 / US Dollars at \$20) per month, and this contribution 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.



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. You may also host your own event where you invite friends, colleagues and family to join you in an activity. Contact info@homefromhome.org.za to discuss the event you want to get involved in.



PLEDGE YOUR BIRTHDAY/CELEBRATION

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 and we will send you a special birthday card from our children.



SHOP

Sign up to the Woolworth's MySchool MyVillage MyPlanet fundraising programme at 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, you can just add us as a beneficiary. This is an easy way to support the children in our care.



VOLUNTEER

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. Please contact us on info@homefromhome.org.za to discuss your volunteer opportunities.



FINANCIAL DONATIONS

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.

APPRECIATION TO OUR ASSOCIATES AND PARTNERS

Thank you all so much for your incredible commitment to the foster mothers and children. We could never look after so many children without your support. You all show time and time again how much you really care about the children.

African Hope Trust, Masiphumelele

BADISA, Villersdorp

Child Life, Phillipi

St Francis Trust, Masiphumelele

St Claire's Church, Ocean View

Christ Church, Kenilworth

St Peters Church, Mowbray

Bitou Family Care, Plettenberg Bay

Life Community Trust, George

Victory 4 All, Humansdorp/ Jeffreys Bay

Kibwe Kids, Kayamandi

Mildred Jutzen and Dawn Fester, Zonnebloom

Joya Homes, Strand

St Joseph's Catholic Church, Goodwood

Claudine Mathee, Goodwood

Vineyard Trust, Stellenbosch

Olivia Road, Khayelitsha

Tapestry, Kayamandi

Tutela, Mozambique

WUCT, Westlake

Mamelani





home from home

Building a better future for children in need



Snap here to pay



DONATE

Acc Name: Home from Home Trust

Bank: Nedbank South Africa

Branch Code: 10 11 09

Acc Number: 1011 109 700

Swift Code: NEDSZAJJ

Reference: Initial, Surname and Donation

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