

since 2005

CELEBRATING
20
YEARS



ANNUAL REPORT

2025

HOME
FROM
HOME

PART ONE OF OUR MISSION

CREATING FAMILIES
for vulnerable children
through supported
& supervised
community-based foster care...

CELEBRATING
20
YEARS

LETTER FROM THE BOARD

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

I could list many highlights of the 2024-25 period, but space permits mention of only five that stand out for me:

- 1.** We are now offering our transition 'alumni' one-year internships with us. Children who are placed in care often struggle to adjust when they have to leave at 18. Our Transition Support Programme significantly reduces this risk. One of the most gratifying experiences of my time with our organisation has been to see our residents move from childhood through adolescence and into mindful compassionate and productive young adults. We are, I believe, unique in providing the necessary continuity of care and support that makes this possible.
- 2.** This year saw the refinement of our Long-Term Strategic Plan to grow our reach to vulnerable children without commissioning new homes which are not affordable at this time.
- 3.** We commissioned an economist to cost the care of a child. This enables us to approach donors with a clear figure of our per child per month cost (see below).
- 4.** We were inspired by remarkable ten-year-old Karli Fourie, who became the youngest person to swim from Robben Island to Big Bay Beach on 26 August 2024, thereby raising R50 000 for Home from Home and stimulating others to match that amount. This was entirely her own initiative. Karli is a role model for all our young people.
- 5.** Home from Home was originally one Cluster Foster Care Scheme. Changes to regulations required us to register five schemes aligned to the areas in which we operate. This was an arduous process, and the team is to be congratulated for the necessary hard work required to realise the achievement.

Turning to the current financial year (2025), and due to both local and well-known international events beyond our control, we are facing significant challenges. On the local front, the South African Social Security Agency has the statutory responsibility for disbursing our foster care grants. As I write, they owe us close to R1 million. This is despite two years of multiple appeals and the interventions of the Western Cape Department of Social Development (for which we are sincerely grateful). You can imagine the impact of such a deficit on our ability to provide our services. As Chair, I regard it as a scandalous failure of a critical government service, and a violation of our children's rights.

A further challenge is the ongoing dysfunctionality at the National Lottery. Prior to 2024, our applications to the Lotto for funding were successful. While never guaranteed, these funds were a most welcome contribution. We applied in 2023, 2024 and 2025 but to date the Lotto has been in such crisis that we have received nothing. Again, a scandal.

As a result of these pressures the team was instructed by the Board to rework our budget and cut expenditure as far as possible so that we could make it through the year without calling on reserves. We have achieved this through the constant vigilance of our management team. The fundraising department continues to put in huge efforts, reaching out to potential donors for support. As the Board we commend the efforts made by the team. It has not been easy and won't be in the medium term.

I would like to single out Clem and Marlies Spaubeek for special mention. Early this year we were very saddened to lose Clem to illness. He and Marlies have been exceptional in their support for Home from Home for the 20 years. Through their fundraising efforts with Home from Home Germany, we have received approximately R18 million over this period. Extraordinary! We have been blessed by your compassion and commitment.

We express our thanks to all our donors, large and small in helping us through these times.

But we need all the support we can get:

- The cost of caring for one of our children is R6 022,00 per month in 2025. The SASSA Foster Care Grant (if we receive it) is R1 250,00 (20% of the cost of one child).

As you can see this is a massive gap and we rely on our donors to make up the difference. Every bit helps us to carry on the critical work we do.

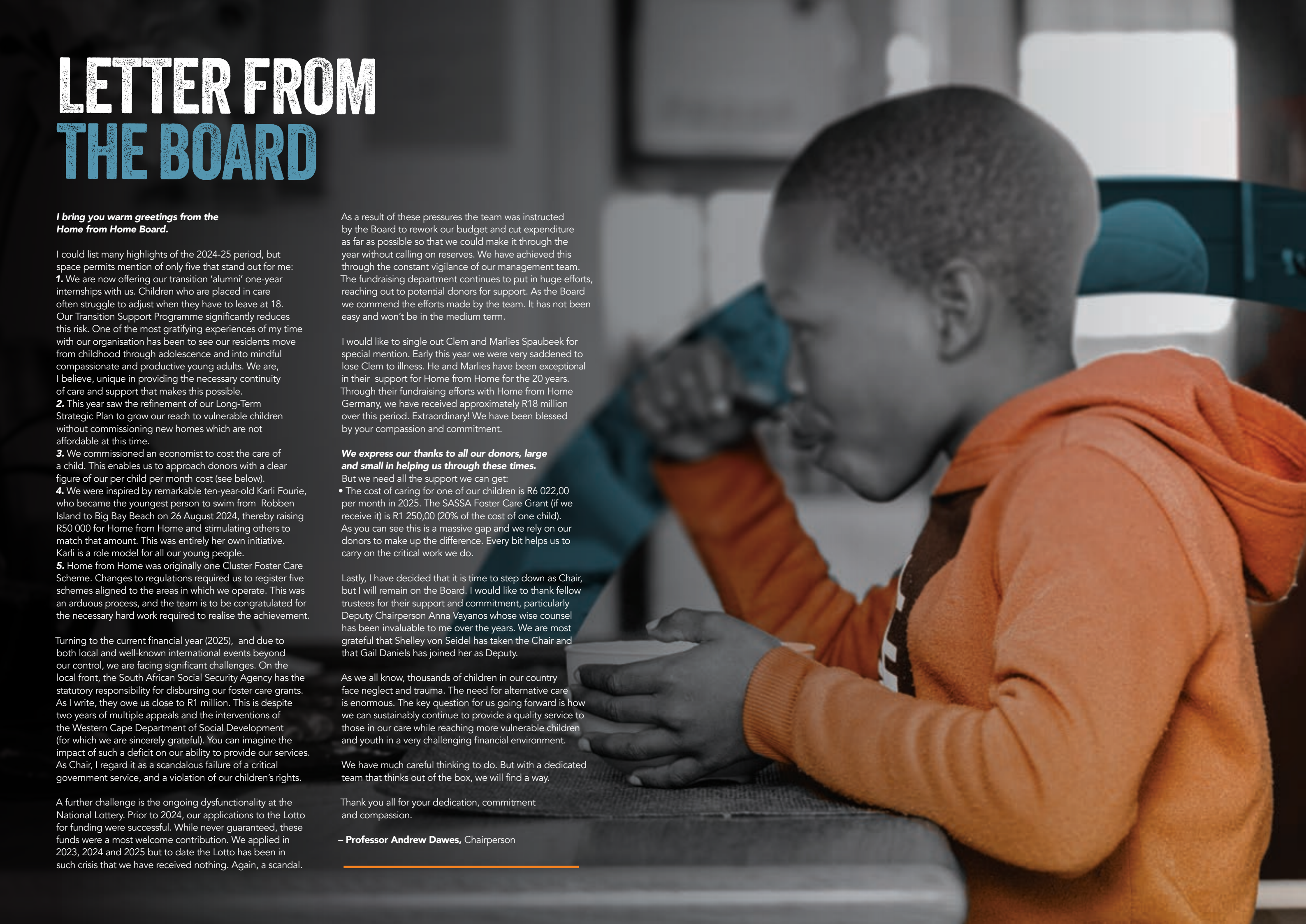
Lastly, I have decided that it is time to step down as Chair, but I will remain on the Board. I would like to thank fellow trustees for their support and commitment, particularly Deputy Chairperson Anna Vayanos whose wise counsel has been invaluable to me over the years. We are most grateful that Shelley von Seidel has taken the Chair and that Gail Daniels has joined her as Deputy.

As we all know, thousands of children in our country face neglect and trauma. The need for alternative care is enormous. The key question for us going forward is how we can sustainably continue to provide a quality service to those in our care while reaching more vulnerable children and youth in a very challenging financial environment.

We have much careful thinking to do. But with a dedicated team that thinks out of the box, we will find a way.

Thank you all for your dedication, commitment and compassion.

– **Professor Andrew Dawes**, Chairperson



HOME FROM HOME

CELEBRATING
20
YEARS

LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

As we celebrate twenty years of Home from Home, we return to a question that has shaped our journey from the start: **How do you create family?** Not just in name or structure, but in spirit – in love. Family is not defined by biology, but by connection. It's built through daily acts of care, consistency, and compassion. It's a child knowing: ***I belong here. These people are here for me – not out of obligation, but out of love.***

We honour our founders, Pippa and Jane, whose vision placed loving family at the heart of our care model – at a time when institutional care was the norm. Their foresight has since been validated, especially in the 2020 Lancet Commission, which confirmed that institutionalisation harms children, and that ***“a positive, consistent, supportive caregiver is the single most important factor in promoting resilience and recovery for children”*** (Wymbs NF et al, 2020). Our Foster Mothers remain central to this success.

The annual report covers many highlights from this past year and it is amazing how often these highlights originate out of challenge. Some challenges that were and are still being experienced are;

- The heartbreaking loss of long-serving foster mother, Ms. Nomfundo Mbonsiwa.
- Ongoing efforts to protect the integrity of our cluster foster care model.

- Financial strain from global market instability and administrative failures within certain state bodies, that threaten our sustainability.

Yet, the year also brought profound hope. Our young adults transitioning out of care are living our mission: ***“...vulnerable children becoming well-adjusted adults who contribute positively to society”***. Over 80% are on positive pathways – some going far beyond:

- Giving back through their involvement in fundraising, tutoring, and mentorship.
- Courageously sharing their stories to inspire others.
- Pursuing studies and employment with dedication and resilience.

The trauma these young people have endured is unimaginable. Yet their growth affirms our model of loving care. Marcus Aurelius, respected Roman Emperor and stoic, once a foster child himself, wrote: ***“Per Aspera ad Astra” – Through adversity to the stars.*** This truth shines in our young adults. The second chance at family love is the thread that holds them through hardship, allowing them not just to survive, but to rise.

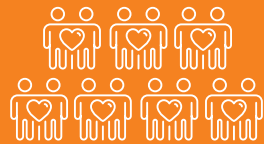
– Peter Marx, Executive Director

FOSTER CARE PROGRAMME REPORT

FOSTER CARE *Statistics*

175

NUMBER OF CHILDREN WE
HAD IN OUR FOSTER HOMES



7 children/youth
were reunited



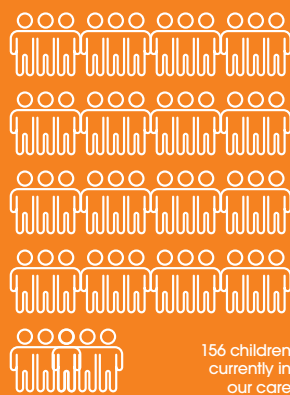
16 children/young people
left our care



5 young people moved from our
foster homes to HH transition homes



24 children received
therapeutic services



156 children
currently in
our care



7 children were
newly admitted



2 children transferred to a child
and youth care facility

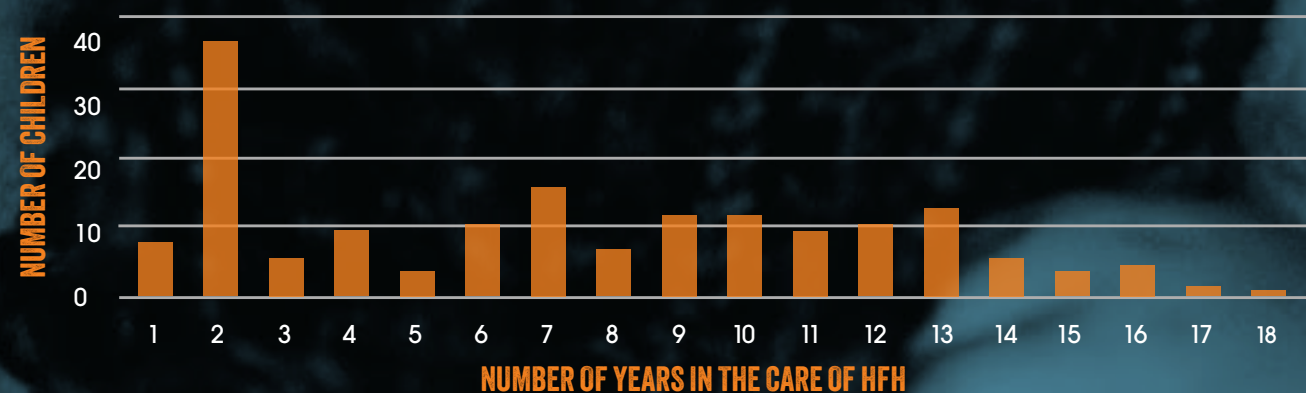
2 YOUNG PEOPLE MOVED INTO
OTHER TRANSITION PROGRAMMES



CELEBRATING A YEAR OF RESILIENCE & GROWTH

Children in foster care in South Africa are faced with numerous challenges. Placement instability, educational disruptions and lack of preparation for leaving care are but some of the challenges experienced. Home from Home has done well in these areas over the past year. Our education report will speak to our educational outcomes while our transition report will highlight our achievements in preparing children and young people for leaving care. Foster care placements have remained stable with the average period of children being in the care of Home from Home being 7.5 years. Please see table below.

Breakdown of the period of time children spent in the care of HFH as at February 2025



Stability for children was also ensured through the low turnover rate of foster mothers. We had 35 foster mothers for the year across our 32 foster homes. One foster mother tragically passed away and two foster mothers were dismissed.

HOME FROM HOME PROVIDED *care* AND *protection* TO 175 children FOR THE YEAR

Of the 175 children, 16 children disengaged during the year. The social work team expanded over the past year with two additional social auxiliary positions, as well as a senior social worker position. This has resulted in improved quality and integrated service delivery to children and support for foster mothers. Having both a supervisor and senior social worker position has resulted in more time being available for programme development, as well as monitoring the quality of service delivery.

The outcomes for children in foster care vary greatly depending on their individual support systems. Home from Home was able to provide an extensive and holistic support system through our dedicated foster mothers, our committed and hardworking team, and by collaborating with various stakeholders and donors who share our vision and passion.

– Victoria Smith, Programme Manager

HOME FROM HOME'S MODEL OF CARE

At Home from Home, we believe that every child deserves to grow up in a loving, stable, and supportive family environment. Our Cluster Foster Care model places vulnerable children in small, community-based homes, each run by a dedicated foster mother and supported by a team of professionals. This model allows children to remain connected to their communities while receiving individualised emotional, educational, and therapeutic care. Because our approach is both comprehensive and deeply rooted in the needs of each child, we recognised the importance of conducting a costing of our model of care.

This costing exercise was conducted by Debbie Budlender, a seasoned social policy researcher with a career spanning over four decades, beginning in the early 1980s. Her work has included extensive engagement with the

South African NGO sector and child-related services, where she conducted both qualitative and quantitative research – often with a focus on budget analysis – for government entities, non-profit organisations, academic institutions, and international donors. She also served part-time at Statistics South Africa for five years, further strengthening her expertise in data and policy analysis.

Through her work, we were able to develop a clearer picture of the costs associated with delivering high-quality, community-based foster care. This analysis not only strengthens our internal planning and accountability but also equips us with the evidence needed to engage funders, partners, and policymakers in meaningful conversations about sustaining and expanding our impact.

“OUR APPROACH IS BOTH
comprehensive AND
deeply rooted IN
THE NEEDS OF EACH CHILD”

CHILD AND YOUTH CARE COSTING MODEL

CATEGORY OF CARE	ANNUAL COST PER CHILD	MONTHLY COST PER CHILD
1. Basic Foster Care (Children 0-15 years)	R61 208	R5 100
2. Basic Plus Foster care (Children 0-15 years)	R72 268	R6 022
3. Basic Plus for 16+ years (Children/youth 16-21 years)	R81 093	R6 758
4. Transitional Homes Care (Youth 18+ years)	R52 026	R4 336
5. SIYA's Care (Youth 18+ years)	R1 913	R160

1. BASIC FOSTER CARE: A basic cluster foster care model that meets all statutory requirements and the most basic needs of the children and youth in foster care.

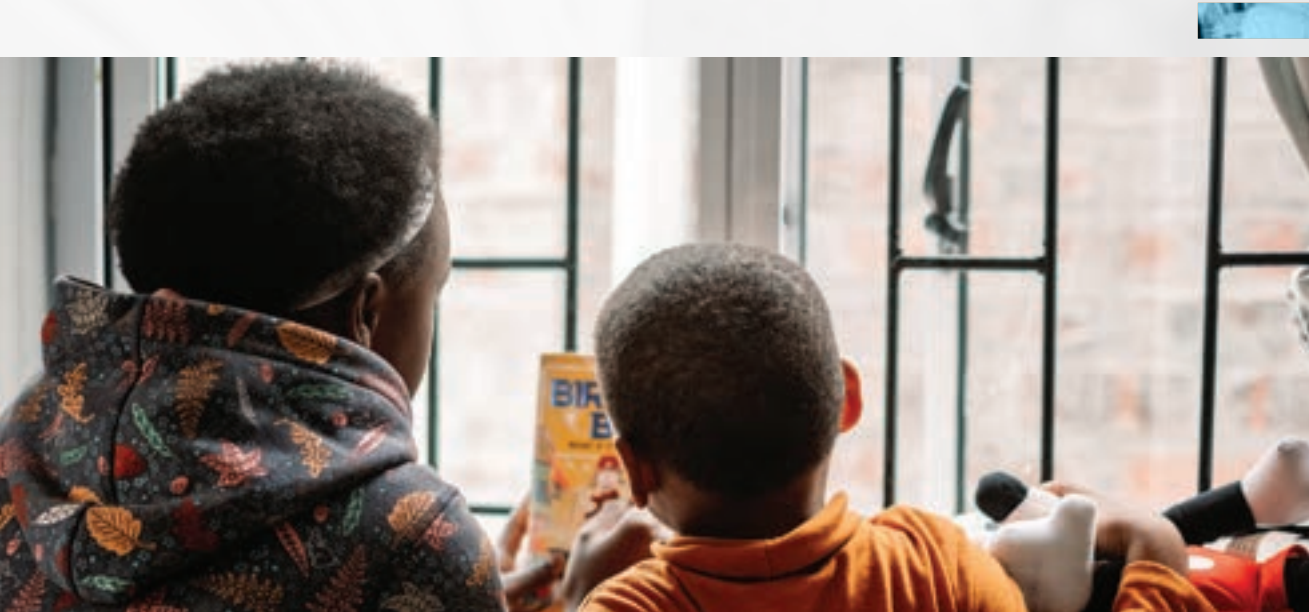
2. A BASIC-PLUS FOSTER CARE: Equivalent to the service currently provided by HfH which adds supplementary services for the beneficiary children and youth, such as tutoring, therapy, extra-mural activities, outings, workshops, and Christmas and birthday presents.

3. BASIC PLUS FOR 16+ YEARS: These are the costs of the Basic Plus model that HfH provides all

foster children together with the Transition services provided to youth aged 16 years and above.

4. TRANSITION HOMES CARE: Transition services to young adults, whose time in foster care has come to an end and are accommodated in a HfH communal/Transition home.

5. SIYA'S CARE: Transition services to young adults who were previously in a HfH foster home but have independent accommodation (semi-independent young adults, or SIYAs).





IBHABHATANE PROGRAMME

A JOURNEY OF TRANSFORMATION

At Home from Home, we believe every child deserves the opportunity to grow, thrive, and transform. The Ibhahhatane Programme – named after the isiXhosa word for “butterfly” – is our developmental framework that supports children in foster care through each stage of their journey, from infancy to young adulthood.



The Egg (0–8 years)

FOCUS: *Early Childhood Development (ECD)*
Children in this phase are nurtured through:
ECD programmes for foster mothers and children
Health milestones: vaccinations, health checks, potty training
Safe exposure to community and biological family
Play and reading engagement
Memory-making: gifts, memory boxes, birthday celebrations

The Larva (9–12 years)

FOCUS: *Social Identity and Exploration*
As children begin to explore their world, we support:
School integration and library access
Puberty education and peer pressure interventions
Social activities and friendships
Financial literacy: savings accounts and pocket money
Emotional support around identity and family

The Pupa (13–15 years)

FOCUS: *Emotional Growth and Self-Discovery*
This introspective phase includes:
Relationship building with peers, foster and biological families
Career guidance and subject choices
Emotional literacy and self-regulation
Camps and creative activities
Transition rituals: lifeline activities, t-shirt design

The Butterfly (16+ years)

FOCUS: *Independence and Future Readiness*
Youth are prepared for adulthood through:
CV writing, ID acquisition, and work experience
Computer literacy and financial independence
Mentorship via the SAYes Programme
Emotional resilience and role identity
Celebratory milestones: matric dance, camps, cook-out competitions
Exit rituals: savings handover and care packages

Why It Matters

By meeting children where they are and guiding them through each life stage, we ensure they emerge from foster care with the confidence, skills, and support to soar.

THE IBHABHATANE PROGRAMME
IS MORE THAN A DEVELOPMENTAL
MODEL IT'S A *pathway*
TO HEALING, EMPOWERMENT,
AND TRANSFORMATION.





EVELYN CONNOLLY

TRANSITION SUPPORT PROGRAMME

Launched in 2019, Home from Home's Transitional Support Programme was created to walk alongside young people as they move beyond the foster care system into independent adulthood. Whether reconnecting with family, entering independent living, or residing in one of our three transition houses, the programme ensures that no young person takes this step alone.

Grounded in a holistic approach, it nurtures emotional well-being, builds life skills, fosters resilience, and creates a sense of belonging. To date, 29 young people have found a safe and empowering space in our transition homes, with 16 currently shaping the programme through leadership and lived experience. Our internship initiative further supports alumni in stepping into professional roles.

SUPPORT Statistics

80 Young people in our Transition Support Programme

16 Youth in our Transition Support Programme houses

4 Aging out workshops were facilitated to 38 young people

37 young people (aged 15+) in our foster homes were supported through our aging out programme

27 Independent young people who have left HfH's care, received support

7 Young people trained as reading facilitators for the My Reading Gym programme

Our Transition Support Programme achieved the following outcomes during the past financial year:

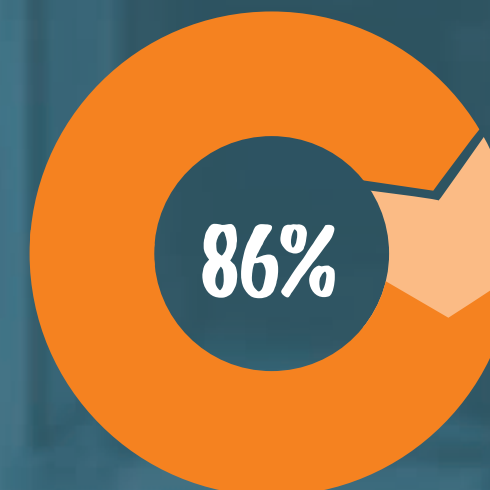
SINCE 2019:

56 young people have left our care

18% are in education or training

50% are employed

18% are actively engaged with our team in developing their pathways



OVER 80% OF THE YOUNG PEOPLE WHO HAVE LEFT OUR CARE ARE ON POSITIVE PATHS AS YOUNG PEOPLE

14% have been identified as potentially being at risk

Our biggest achievement during the past financial year is the involvement of our youth in our work; through assisting in programme development, contributing directly to service delivery for families, as well as in supporting marketing and fundraising. While challenges have changed over time and room for development and growth remains, we continue to fight the odds of the negative outcomes reported for care leavers both globally and in South Africa.



STORIES OF SUCCESS

SANDISIWE'S STORY

Sandisiwe, a determined and compassionate young woman who grew up in one of our foster homes, is a shining example of what it means to rise above circumstance and walk boldly toward one's purpose.

She joined our 12-month internship programme as a Receptionist and Office Administrator, where her warmth, professionalism and drive, quickly became evident. During this time, she developed a passion for youth work and made the life-changing decision to pursue studies in Child and Youth Care.

What makes Sandisiwe's story truly special is her initiative. Without being prompted, she reached out to St. Michael's Child and Youth Care Centre, an organisation that supports thirty girls in a more intensive residential care setting, seeking to deepen her practical experience. The transition wasn't easy. Moving from the smaller, family-style environment of Home from Home to a larger, more demanding facility, tested her resilience. But with courage and determination, she embraced the challenge.

Now working rotating shifts, including weekends and nights, Sandisiwe serves as an Auxiliary Child and Youth Care Worker. She supports the girls through daily interactions, builds trusting relationships, and attends regular supervisory sessions with senior staff. Her presence has been warmly received, with glowing feedback from both her colleagues and the young people she supports.

Sandisiwe is honest about the emotional demands of her new role. Some days are heavy and stir memories from her own past. But with professional support and a growing sense of self-belief, she's navigating the journey with grace.

Looking back, she sees how far she's come. "I feel more confident now, more settled," she shares. "I'm grateful for every lesson, every challenge. This is just the beginning."

Sandisiwe's story is another story of triumphant resilience where her ability to grow and heal from her own past has made her a powerful agent of change and healing for other young girls navigating similar pasts.



"I'M *grateful* FOR
EVERY LESSON, EVERY CHALLENGE.
THIS IS *just the*
beginning"

STORIES OF SUCCESS

YONGAMA'S STORY

At 24 years old, Yongama is a young woman on a mission. Currently in her final year of college, studying Early Childhood Development at the Centre for Creative Education in Plumstead, she is preparing to walk confidently into a future she's worked hard to build.

Growing up in one of our foster homes in Khayelitsha, Yongama knows first-hand the weight of adversity, but she also knows the power of resilience. Since moving into our transition house in Westlake, she has found the stability and support she needed to focus on her studies, grow personally, and dream bigger.

Yongama is not just a resident, she has stepped up as the Maintenance Coordinator for the house, liaising directly with our head office to address household needs. But her leadership doesn't stop there. She plays a vital role in the lives of the other young people in the house, offering a listening ear, coordinating tasks, and gently guiding those around her with quiet strength and wisdom.

Her journey is a powerful reminder that where you come from doesn't define where you're going, it simply shapes how far you're willing to go. Set to graduate in 2026, Yongama is looking ahead with hope, ready to begin a career where she can nurture, teach, and empower young children.

Though the road has had its challenges, Yongama credits the care and belief of those around her as a source of strength. "Just knowing someone believes in us makes all the difference," she says.

With focus, humility, and determination, Yongama is building a life rooted in purpose. Her story is a testament to what's possible when young people are given not just a place to stay, but a place to grow.



“JUST *knowing* SOMEONE
BELIEVES IN US *makes all*
the difference”

STORIES OF SUCCESS

DUMI'S STORY

Dumi is a young man whose quiet strength speaks louder than words. Growing up with a hearing impairment, he has faced challenges that many of us will never fully understand. Accustomed to small classrooms and specialised learning environments, Dumi took a courageous leap when he enrolled at a college in Stellenbosch, determined to further his education despite the odds.

What drew him to the institution was its supportive environment: smaller classes and lecturers who are genuinely invested in each student's success. Now pursuing his N5 qualification in Tourism, Dumi is also preparing to begin his in-service training in the coming months, with hopes of joining a travel agency to gain practical experience in his chosen field.

But his journey hasn't been without struggle. Recently, the academic workload became overwhelming. Dumi began to fall behind and seriously considered giving up. "It was a tough time," he shared, "and I felt like I was failing." But it's in these moments that his resilience truly shines.

With encouragement from his transition support team, adjustments were made, extended exam time, regular check-ins with lecturers, and direct communication with college administrators. Most powerfully, Dumi found the courage to advocate for himself. He reached out, asked for help, and slowly began to regain his footing.

Living in our Stellenbosch transition house, Dumi may come across as quiet and reserved, but his actions speak volumes. He's resourceful, engaged, and actively taps into local networks and support systems to move closer to his dreams.

Dumi reminds us that success isn't always loud or immediate. Sometimes, it's found in the quiet persistence of showing up each day, choosing to try again, and believing that your voice, no matter how soft, still matters.



STORIES OF SUCCESS

GARNET'S STORY

Garnet, a remarkable young man raised in one of our foster homes in Kayamandi, is the embodiment of resilience and quiet strength. Born into difficult circumstances and navigating life without formal documentation, Garnet has faced obstacles that would easily discourage many. But instead of letting his situation define him, he chose to turn every setback into a stepping stone toward a better future.

In 2023, Garnet began working as an executive assistant. Through a healthy commitment to learning, he was promoted within 10 months to the role of recruitment administrator. This has been a big boost to his own confidence personally and professionally.

Garnet believes that having walked the journey he has and managed to reach adulthood with a positive outlook, he has much to share in assisting and uplifting others. He approached our transition team with an interest in becoming a house leader. "If I can plant a seed in someone else's life," he says, "I'll do everything I can to help it grow." Garnet builds trust easily and brings a sense of calm and focus to the spaces he's part of.

Outside of work, he values balance in life – whether it's shadowing professionals, playing tennis, house-sitting, or enjoying a good meal. He sees these experiences as ways to stay grounded and motivated.

His journey is a reminder that success isn't defined by where you begin, but by the choices you make to keep moving forward.

"IF I CAN PLANT A SEED
IN SOMEONE ELSE'S LIFE,
I'LL DO EVERYTHING
I CAN TO *help it grow.*"



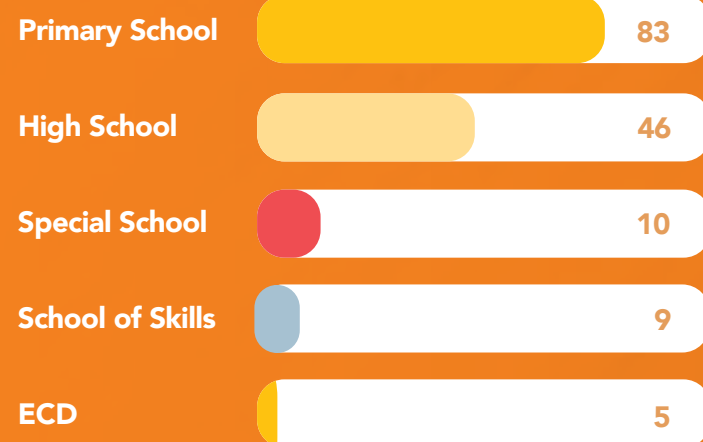
PROGRAMME REPORT

EDUCATION SUPPORT *Statistics*

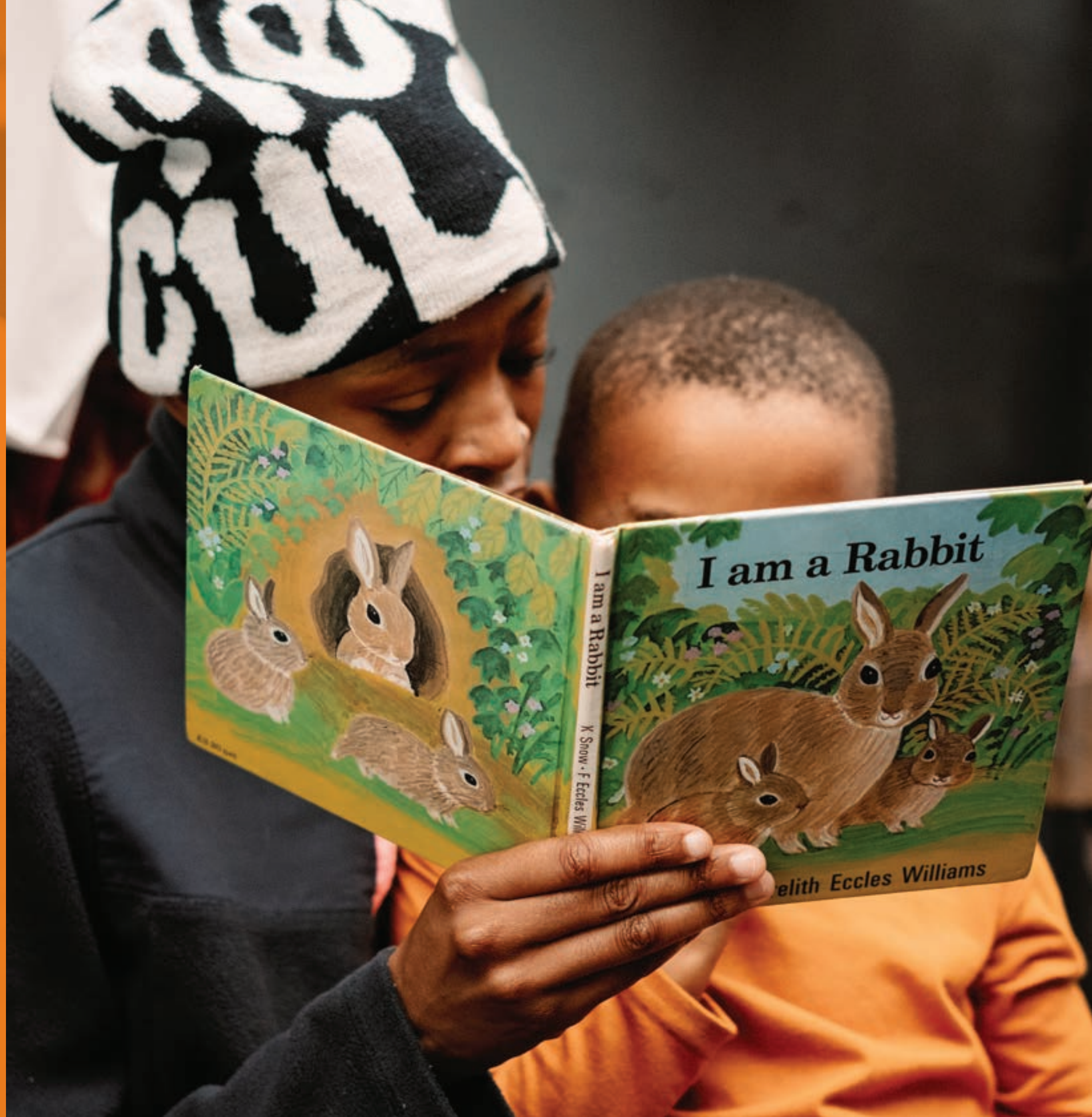
153

CHILDREN IN SCHOOL

Number of Children in:



Four children were
too young to attend school,
and four matriculated



PROGRAMME REPORT

EDUCATION

SUPPORT

As we reflect on the educational achievements of our children and youth over the past year, we do so with deep appreciation for their resilience and determination. These milestones are not only personal victories but also powerful indicators of progress within a broader South African context marked by systemic challenges in education, inequality, and access.

CHILDREN IN FOSTER CARE IN SOUTH AFRICA FACE GREAT CHALLENGES:

- **Only 60%** attend school regularly, **compared to 90%** of non-foster children (DSD, 2020).
- They are **twice as likely** to repeat a grade (Child Gauge, 2022).
- Dropout rates are **three times higher** than the national average (Stats SA, 2021).
- **45%** experience learning difficulties linked to trauma (UCT, 2022).
- Only **12%** enrol in tertiary education, compared to **26%** of the general population (DHET, 2023).
- **25%** are unable to write matric exams due to missing documentation (LRC, 2021).

HOME FROM HOME EDUCATIONAL OUTCOMES

Despite these challenges, our children continue to defy the odds:

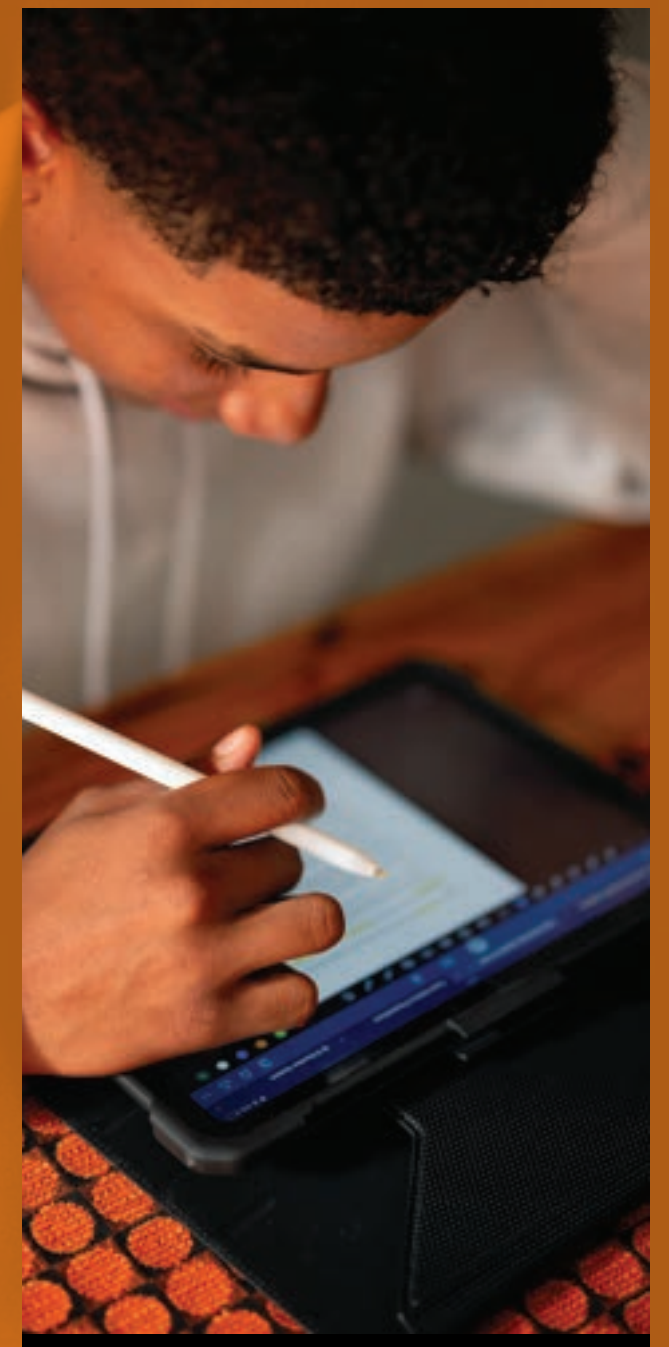
- **98%** school attendance rate
- **95%** pass rate with 145 children passing their grades in 2024
- **83** children were in primary school, **46** in high school, **10** in special needs schools, **9** in schools of skills, and **5** in ECD centres.
- Eight learners repeated their grades in 2025.
- We had **TWO MATRICULANTS** in 2024 – one passed, one failed – and eleven matriculants in 2025.

Our children also benefited from targeted educational support:

- **47** were provided tutoring services.
- **44** participated in Surfpop (surfing and tutoring mentorship).
- **17** joined the My Reading Gym programme.
- **105** engaged in the Orange Art Project.

At Home from Home, we understand that education is not only about academic performance – it's also about building confidence, fostering emotional well-being, and creating opportunities for growth. Through our holistic approach and strong partnerships with educational support programmes, we've seen children thrive in areas beyond the classroom, including improved self-esteem, social engagement, and emotional regulation. While we remain aware of the challenges that lie ahead, we are encouraged by the progress made and remain committed to walking alongside each child on their journey.

Together with our partners, we will continue to invest in their potential, ensuring that their future is shaped not by their past, but by the care, support, and opportunities they receive today.



ORANGE ART PROGRAMME

The Orange Art Project is a nonprofit organisation that uses art as a tool for healing, empowerment, childhood development and social change.

PROGRAMME *Statistics*

105 Children in the programme

404 Sessions held

3 Outings

22 Houses

12 Art Mentors

2700 Art pieces

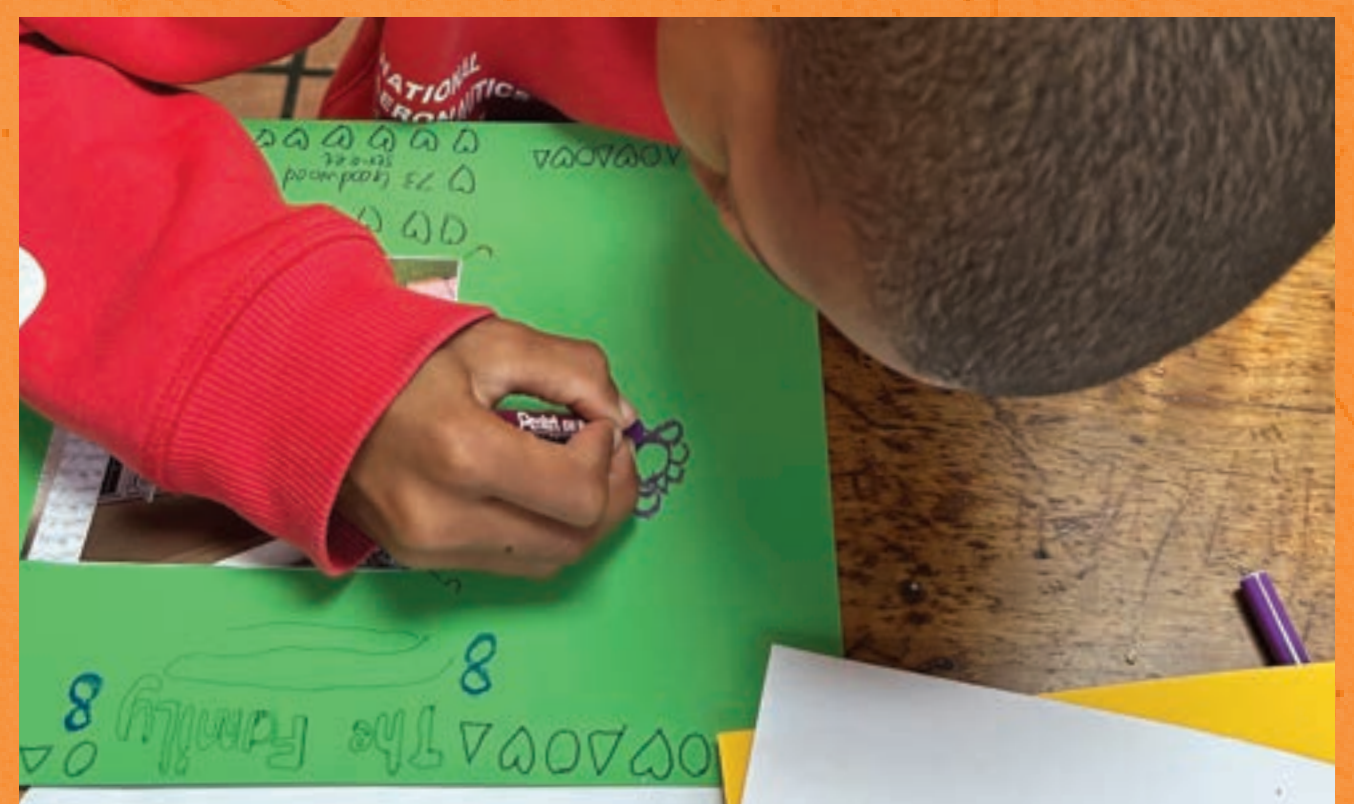
ORANGE ART

The Orange Art Project is a nonprofit organisation that uses art as a tool for healing, empowerment, childhood development and social change. Home from Home have been privileged to partner with this amazing project since the COVID-19 pandemic. Through weekly art sessions in our foster homes, creative workshops with our foster mothers, art exhibitions, and cultural and environmental excursions, the Orange Art Project provides a platform for vulnerable children and youth to express themselves, broaden their world view and build resilience.

During the past year the Orange Art Project reached 105 children in the care of Home from Home, across 22 of our foster homes. A total of 404 art sessions were delivered to our children and foster mothers by approximately twelve dedicated art mentors. The founder of the Orange Art Project, Jill Trappler, together with their small and dedicated management team, plan, coordinate and secure funding for this amazing project.

Through painting, storytelling, and collaborative projects, participants gain emotional and creative outlets while strengthening their connection to community.

The Orange Art Project's work aligns with Home from Home's strategic plan in developing collaborative partnerships that enhance the care and development for our children in a sustainable way. This we see exemplified in how Orange Art Project started out on a small scale with just 10 children in four homes but has grown significantly. We are excited to further development in this valuable partnership with the Orange Art Project.



SURFPop REPORT

Surfpop is a holistic after-school programme that combines surfing, education, life coaching, and nutrition to build resilience, skills, and future opportunities for vulnerable children from disadvantaged communities. Surfpop has made significant strides in the quality and reach of their programme. Of the 74 children reached by Surfpop in 2024, 44 children (59%) were from Home from Home. Surfpop delivered 1,412 surf lessons, 1,264 education classes, 326 life coaching workshops, and 74,040 healthy meals, while also conducting 66 beach clean-ups in 2024.

Key outcomes achieved by Surfpop include improved mental well-being (52% of children reported feeling happier and calmer), enhanced resilience (80% gained

skills for their future), and better school performance (60% showed improved English and Maths marks). Notably, 85% of girls now believe they can achieve their goals, and 33% of graduates have secured employment or tertiary education. The launch of the Surfpop Graduate Fund now offers support to high school graduates who would like to pursue tertiary education but do not have the financial means to do so.

The collaboration between Home from Home and Surfpop is another example of what can be achieved when like-minded organisations partner together, working towards a common goal.



1264
education classes

1412
surf lessons

326
life coaching workshops

74 040
healthy meals

66
beach clean-ups

TUTORING PREEVA STATISTICS

1162



tutoring
sessions

1651



tutoring hours

47



children received
tutoring

Preeva is an organisation dedicated to providing academic support through tutoring to students.

PREEVA TUTORING REPORT

Preeva is an organisation dedicated to providing academic support through tutoring to students. In 2024, the programme provided tutoring to 47 students in the care of Home from Home. Younger students (Gr1-Gr10) and those with ADHD showed the most progress, while students with severe learning challenges faced greater hurdles. It should be noted that 15 (32%) of the 47 students were identified as having learning challenges.

Declining results for some students were attributed to learning difficulties, tutor turnover, and personal challenges experienced by children. Red flags were identified for 10 students scoring below 50%, requiring targeted interventions. Outstanding achievements included 12 students (26%) averaging above 65%. At the end of the financial year 1162 tutoring sessions were logged which amounted to 1651 hours spent on tutoring.

Home from Home continues to explore collaborations with organisations such as Preeva, to ensure that every child has access to appropriate educational support services. We strongly believe in the individuality of each child and do not follow a one-size-fits all approach. We believe that by continuing with like-minded partners and finding additional partners with a common goal, the opportunities for our children and youth will increase exponentially.

OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENTS:

26% students
averaging above

65%

9%

increase in
Maths marks



FUNDRAISING REPORT

The past year has been difficult for fundraising due to maladministration in certain government agencies, which resulted in us not receiving the expected support. Furthermore, with the global economic volatility and especially the anticipated tariffs employed by the USA by the end of this financial year, it was looking like things would get tougher. We will need to find some innovative ways to bridge this gap.

We were however, uplifted by the incredible support from our growing community of **Home from Home Charity Warriors**.

One of the most inspiring moments came from **10-year-old Karli Fourie**, who completed the **Robben Island Crossing**, raising R50,000 and sparking additional donations through her courage and determination. Our Two Oceans Marathon runners also stepped up, taking on the race in support of our children and raising vital funds along the way.

Internationally, we celebrated the establishment of Home from Home Schweiz, joining our UK and German boards in expanding our global reach. Their efforts are already helping us build new donor relationships.

A highlight of the year was a successful auction held in the UK, featuring guest speaker Bob Skinstad, which brought together supporters and raised significant funds for our programmes.

Our now established Home from Home Schweiz also held an auction at the St. Antonius Parish in Diepoldsau, Switzerland, where the community had the opportunity to purchase artworks done by our children. Another exciting art exhibition was hosted by Friends from St. Anton in Austria, which encouraged young people from the community to also

become Home from Home Challenge Warriors, doing various fundraising activities in support of the children in our care.

Events like these remind us of the power of storytelling and community in driving change.

Very inspiring and encouraging are the great outcomes being achieved by our young adults aging out of care. In the SA context where poor outcomes for young adults are well known, it is remarkable that over 80% of those who have left Home from Home are doing well. Fundraising efforts will need to highlight this success to gain the attention and support it deserves.

Although local support is critical, our fundraising strategy will continue to focus on expanding our international support, securing multiyear funding, and the important collaboration with partners.

In a tough financial climate, we are deeply grateful to every donor, runner, swimmer, and supporter who continues to walk this journey with us. Your belief in our mission makes it possible for vulnerable children to experience the love and stability of family.



FINANCE REPORT

It is my pleasure to present the financial report for the year ended February 2025. This year has been marked by both challenges and opportunities, and I am pleased to confirm that the organisation continues to demonstrate sound financial stewardship and accountability in line with our mission of providing safe, nurturing homes for vulnerable children in cluster foster care.

As previously reported, changes were made to the staffing structure within the Finance Department to strengthen capacity and improve efficiency. Carmen Petersen joined the team as Bookkeeper in October 2024, completing the current finance team. These structural changes continue to have a positive impact through improved reporting methods and enhanced reporting structures, contributing to greater accuracy and transparency in financial management.

INCOME

The organisation’s income for the year was derived from our donor funding, both local and foreign, DSD subsidies, grants, and child and home sponsors. We are grateful to our partners and donors whose continued support has enabled us to sustain and expand the quality of care provided to children.

- **Donor funding remained our primary source of funding**, covering core operational costs.
- **DSD Grants contributed to the employment cost** of our Social Workers operating in the Programme Team
- **SASSA Grants received for the year is only 6.47%** of the total Income
- **In-kind donations** such as food, clothing, and furniture/appliances, supplemented our financial resources and **reduced direct expenditure**.

CHALLENGES

SASSA grant payments continue to present a significant challenge. At year-end, HfH subsidised the grants

for approximately 40% of the children in our care, amounting to over R800,000 for the year. Despite ongoing efforts by management and the board to resolve the issues surrounding non-payment, progress has been slow and more complex than initially anticipated. We remain committed to engaging with the relevant authorities to find sustainable solutions, but the financial and operational strain remains considerable.

EXPENDITURE

Expenditure was managed prudently, with careful consideration given to sustaining and maintaining the quality of our service delivery throughout the year.

Key allocations included:

- **Childcare and support services** – daily living costs, education support and therapy
- **Facility and Administrative Operations** – Involves the day-to-day running and upkeep of the homes and offices.
- **Staffing & Human Resources** – Covers costs related to employees and caregivers providing care and administrative support

FY2025 INCOME & EXPENDITURE OVERVIEW



FY2025 INCOME

- 82% Donor Funding
- 6% SASSA Grants
- 11% DSD Grants
- 1% Other Donations



FY2025 EXPENSES

- 25% Child Care & Administrative Operations
- 50% Staffing & Human Resources
- 25% Facility & Administrative Operations

We maintained strict budgetary controls, and regular reviews were conducted to ensure funds were used effectively and in line with donor expectations and statutory requirements.

FINANCIAL POSITION

TOTAL REVENUE for the period was

R16 131 018

representing a 7.48% increase to the previous year.

THE EXPENSES for the period were

R18 069 070

a 4.38% increase compared to the prior year.

RESULTING in a deficit of

R1 818 787

12.40% less than the deficit in FY2024.

Despite ending the year with a deficit, the organisation remains financially stable due to the continued support, assistance and guidance from the Sustainability Trust.

While funding remains a sector-wide challenge, we continue to actively diversify income streams through strengthened donor engagement, fundraising initiatives, and strategic partnerships.

COMPLIANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY

We are fully compliant with the requirements of the Nonprofit Organisations Act, and SARS regulations. Our financial statements have been independently audited, and no material issues were raised. We remain committed to the highest standards of financial accountability and transparency.

LOOKING AHEAD

In the coming year, our focus will be on:

- Expanding our donor base to ensure long-term sustainability.
- Investing in financial systems to improve reporting and efficiency.
- Strengthening partnerships with stakeholders to ensure holistic support for foster children.

HOME FROM HOME SUSTAINABILITY TRUST

The Trust was established to provide sustainable support and funding to Home from Home. It is governed by a separate Board of Trustees, ensuring independent oversight. The Trust operates on a discretionary basis and incurs no financial obligations beyond administration, investment, and audit-related expenses. At the close of FY2025, the Trust maintained sufficient resources to continue serving as a reliable support structure for Home from Home, thereby securing its operational continuity for the foreseeable future.

I would like to thank the Board of Directors, management team, staff, and foster parents for their unwavering dedication, as well as our donors for their trust and generosity. Together, we are making a meaningful impact in the lives of children who deserve safety, dignity, and hope.

– **Joanica Stevens,**
Finance & Administration Manager

THE SUSTAINABILITY TRUST
CLOSED FY2025 WITH A BALANCE OF

R12 639 664

COMPARED TO THE

R12 031 172

OF FY2024

showing a **5.06% INCREASE**

DONOR LIST

THANK YOU

With heartfelt gratitude, all of us at Home from Home extend our sincere thanks to our donors, sponsors, and supporters. Many of you have stood by us with unwavering loyalty over the years, and your generosity has been instrumental in our growth into the organisation we are today – ***celebrating 20 years of providing children with a second chance at family.***

Your support over the past year has enabled us to continue this passionate work, and for that, we are deeply thankful. May you be richly blessed for the difference you continue to make in the lives of our children.

- Allan & Gill Gray Philanthropies • Chic Mama's Do Care
- Christ Church Kenilworth • Claremont Volkswagen & Audi Centre
- D&R Charitable Trust • Dandelion Trust • Department of Social Development
- Din Din Trust • Dis-Chem Foundation • Douglas Jooste Trust
- Elegant Group • Friends from St. Anton • Friends of Home from Home UK
- Home from Home Germany e.V. • Home from Home Schweiz
- Jacaranda - Hope for the Children - Switzerland • Laurium Capital
- MAID Charity Foundation • Maria Marina Foundation
- MPM Charitable Trust • Old Mutual Foundation • Oppel Greeff Family Trust
- Optimum Learning Technologies • PEP Stores • Personal Trust Foundation
- Pick n Pay Plumstead • Rolf Nussbaum Foundation • SASSA
- Schroder Investment Management Limited • Shoprite Group of Companies
- Southern Destinations • St Michael's Church Edgemoor
- Stichting Hart voor Kinderen • Stonehage Fleming • StreetSmart SA
- Swimmatix Swim School • Tapestry Foundation
- The Carl & Emily Fuchs Foundation • The Christie Foundation
- The Good Faith Foundation • Third Ladder
- Unitrans Supply Chain Solutions (Pty) Ltd • Uthando SA
- Yellow Tree Environmental • Zeppelin GmbH

- Donations in kind* • Mount Nelson, A Belmond Hotel • Bikalot
- Biogen SA • Bishops Preparatory School - Brooke House • Blistex
 - Constantiaberg Art Society • Eryca Knitwear South Africa
 - Hodgsons Importers & Distributors (Pty) Ltd and Worldwide Housewares (Pty) Ltd
 - Honest Chocolate
 - Kecks • Kirsten Goss
 - Link Property People
 - Lions Club Fish Hoek
 - Pichulik
 - Sexy Socks
 - Shelley Taylor Jewellery
 - Skinny la Minks
 - Spur Steak Ranches
 - The Fieldbar Company
 - Yellow Duck

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.



HOW TO GET INVOLVED



CHILD SPONSORSHIP PROGRAMME

Our Child Sponsorship Programme enables you to sponsor individual children for an extended period of time. By sponsoring a child, you agree to make a regular contribution of R250 / £25 / €25 / \$25 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.



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.



BECOME A HOME FROM HOME CHALLENGE WARRIOR

The children in our care have been identified by the state as needing care and protection due to being orphaned, abused and/or neglected. They have faced challenges in their young lives that most of us are blessed never to be confronted with.

We are extremely grateful to our wonderful supporters from around the world who have joined our Royal Parks Half Marathon, Cape Town Cycle Tour, Two Oceans or Cape Town Marathon teams. Join us in this mission by setting a personal or sporting challenge for yourself and raising funds to support the children at Home from Home overcome theirs. You will find that committing your challenge to helping our children will motivate you to meet your own.



SHOP

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.



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!



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.

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



HOME
FROM
HOME

PART TWO OF OUR MISSION

CELEBRATING
20
YEARS

...to become

healthy and
well-adjusted
adults WHO
CONTRIBUTE POSITIVELY TO SOCIETY.

The creators of our annual report deserve a special thank you:
Lauren Rautenbach for her stunning pro bono photography, Graham Arendse for his patient and creative design,
and The Printing Press for top-quality printing. You brought our story to life beautifully!

 SnapScan



**YOUR DONATION CAN
MAKE A DIFFERENCE**

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

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