

Dear friends of the Foundation House of Encouragement

In last August's newsletter, we reported on the cold winter experienced in Soshanguve. In many places, people had lit fires outside their shacks to keep warm in the evening. One reader, a young lady, was particularly moved by the picture of the grandfather with his grandchildren by the fire. Wanting to help these children, she motivated several women to join her in knitting 70 beanies in different colours and sizes. During our last visit to the center, the beanies were handed out to the children.



All the children were very happy and loved their warm beanies. They were excited about the gift, but what impressed them most was that people overseas, who don't even know them, had gone to so much trouble for them. They could only express their gratitude with a smile and asked us to thank the knitters on their behalf. We are happy to convey their thanks to the ladies also through this article.

Through numerous handicraft projects, we have seen that many children are highly creative and artistically talented. Pachelo is one such child who has particularly stood out over the past few years. He has demonstrated his abilities through his excellent work on Christmas decoration and by doing silk paintings. He also enjoys drawing realistic portraits of children from the center.



He also embellished the new security wall together with 'Ma Estelle'. His talent is obvious. He is currently in grade 11, the second last year of school. However, with only a school-leaving certificate from a township, his chances of going to university are slim. Nevertheless, Pachelo hopes that he will one day be able to learn something in the fields of architecture, design or graphics at university or a college. Unfortunately, there are no such apprenticeships in South Africa.



Kindest regards,



Walter und Estelle Bosshard

Bubikon/Soshanguve, 2nd June 2025