

## Dear friends House of Encouragement

Since the end of May we are back in Pretoria and are happy to support our great team in the everyday life at the center with various projects 2 to 3 times per week. It's nice to see the fruits of the work with the children and to accompany them in their personal development.

In the Skill Center project, we are in contact with various authorities and we trust that further progress can be made in the coming weeks. Also in the care center we expect things to progress. We hope that we will soon be able to add two classrooms. In addition, we plan to enlarge the kitchen creating space for the purpose of teaching children in cooking and baking. This subproject is a preliminary stage of the Skill Center, which allows us to specifically train and further the children already during the last school years in small groups.

The head of the kitchen, Maria Manganye, is indeed also looking forward to having a little more space with her colleagues. Maria is one of the pearls of our team and is involved as a caregiver with heart and hand. She leads the children of all ages with much love and great competence. We recently visited her at home. Ernest, her husband, and two children Amogelang 11 and Atlegang 7 form a stable basis for her dedicated work in our center. They live in a small house and are an encouraging role model as a family for the neighbourhood. They met each other in the church where they are committed and active even today. Ernest works for a security company and was recently promoted to supervisor. For him, the family means everything and he is a devoted and

hardworking father. When Mary had a choice of two job offers, Ernest advised her to take the position as a caregiver and work with the children in our center.



*The children at the center experience Mary as caring center mother, to whom they can go with all concerns.*



*The little ones say "Thank you" to Mary for everything by forming a heart on her birthday.*

School holidays are a special time also at the center. Since the children are with us the whole day, we can plan enough time for various projects and themes. Everybody has fun and these days of activity make grow the relationship among all participants in an impressive and lasting way. This winter holiday (July) we had friends visiting from Switzerland who, based on their experience of working with children, organised a memorable play day.



Handwork is always very popular with all children. Amazing how many creative talents are seen. With 18 teenagers we were able to take a trip to a shopping mall in the city. Many of the children had never seen an escalator and some individuals did not even dare to step on them. As a highlight we watched the film mignons in the cinema. This inspired the boys to create a „mignon“- key holder next day.





However, also the best time like flying the kite and crafting jewellery is known to pass quickly and soon it means back at school. The homework is given high priority again and the team coordinator needs to make sure that the playground is maintained after the intensive use during the holiday.



We are delighted to share these beautiful and memorable moments with you, knowing that there are also others of course. But your financial help always brings joy and encouragement in the lives of these orphans.

Thank you for your loyal support.

House of Encouragement

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Walter und Estelle Bosshard". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Walter und Estelle Bosshard