

# TALK ABOUT YOUTH



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## Joy is a gift you give yourself

In the "Book of Joy" the Dalai Lama and Archbishop Emeritus Desmond Tutu explore the different ways to find joy in a world filled with hardship, pain and care. One of their first points of agreement was that a person has to take a step back from their own pain, worries and concerns and take a broader view of the world for a better perspective. Inevitable they would realise that their pain and care is not unique and is in fact shared by many.

Removing the focus from one's own pain and problems and placing it on much bigger problems opens opportunities for impacting the world in a positive way, which in itself can bring healing and joy. This all sounds fairly straightforward, but we all know that in real life it can be pretty daunting to look beyond your immediate circumstances sometimes. If your child is sick, you are bound to be sick with worry. If you have lost your job or your home, it is a bit much to ask for you to look at the endemic poverty in the local township.

That being said, we have seen numerous people who managed to put their own cares to work in addressing bigger problems. We have seen a mother who lost her only child to a fatal illness making sure that many

girl children receive lovely gifts in memory of her daughter's birthday. We have seen surviving family members honouring a lost one by requesting a donation in lieu of flowers at the funeral of their loved one. We have seen a very sick little boy coming to visit children in one of our homes with a load of gifts. He wanted to make sure that his toys were enjoyed and appreciated when he had passed.

Not everyone that supports the work of Abraham Kriel Childcare comes from tragedy, but all of them have discovered the joy of looking beyond their own pain and suffering and doing something worthwhile for someone else.

We salute all of these people and we wish you boundless joy. This newsletter is dedicated to all of you that bless the 1000+ beneficiaries we serve with your love, energy and care. ▶

*Paul Momsen*  
 Chief Executive



## A KIND GESTURE SPEAKS A THOUSAND WORDS

A visit from Parktown Boys High School's Heart of the Lion group left a huge imprint on the boys from the Langlaagte Campus. After an afternoon of playing rugby and other fun activities, our boys wouldn't let go of them in an embrace because they didn't want the Parktown boys to leave. "When we wanted to leave they were sad and wanted us to spend a little bit more time with them. This made me think and appreciate my little brother more and how I should spend more time with him," said Samukelo, a student at Parktown Boys High. "The moment I walked into one of the homes I was greeted with a colossal smile and hug from one of the children. The experience brought about humility to me and my brothers", said Wakeford. Thank you Parktown Boys High for helping sort our donations storeroom and for the groceries and treats. But most of all thank you for spending time with the boys which was absolutely invaluable to them!

## IT'S ALL ABOUT THE CRICKET

"Uncle Omash, come and play with us", called the boys of the Abraham Kriel Family Care programme, where they were playing at offices on the corner of Fuel Road and Hay Avenue in Westbury. This time the temptation was too great on a glorious late summer afternoon on the Highveld and Omash Ramjathan took up the bat.

After one or two balls the boys were in awe. "We didn't know you were this good," they chorused. To this he answered: "What did you expect. I'm Indian and it's in my blood!"

The regular cricket games are one of the many initiatives started by Morgan Mahala, youth worker for the 150 children cared for by Abraham Kriel Childcare. These recreational activities bring interest and colour to the children's lives, but it also gives Morgan the chance to get to know them and to earn their trust. In this way he can minister to their spiritual needs on a level that is meaningful to them. In the process they are developing life skills and learning about healthy ways to socialise too.

Abraham Kriel Childcare was empowered to appoint a youth worker in the under resourced programme in Westbury because of funding from the Mergon Foundation. Without their regular contributions this initiative would not have been possible. Although regular afternoon cricket games are not the only joy that this funding makes possible, it is one that will bring a smile to any face every time.



The area used for play stands in sharp contrast to the extreme deprivation that is prevalent in many of their home environments and most certainly signals a massive improvement in their quality of life and their aspirations.

## CHERISHED MOMS

The housemother of our Aasvoëlkop satellite house, Jeanette, started a support group called "Cherished Moms". "It is a group of ladies that individually take our girls to shop for their monthly toiletries, but also use this as an opportunity to show their love, care and support towards the girls," says Jeanette.

Each girl must prepare their toiletry list before they go shopping. The ladies then help them to shop within their budget and distinguish between what is a luxury and what is a necessity. These ladies are keen to help the girls with the much needed life skills that we sometimes take for granted. Importantly, the "Cherished Moms" are also there for the girls for support and to show the girls that there are people that love and care for them outside the walls of Abraham

Kriel Childcare. At times they also take the girls out for a milkshake or treat when it's their birthday or at Christmas time.

We value and appreciate the time and effort the "Cherished Moms" take to make a meaningful difference in these girls' lives. ▶



## Food for the soul

Steinhoff International is one of our funding partners and is funding our programme for 400 beneficiaries affected by the HIV/AIDS pandemic. Additionally they sponsor the tiling and painting course at our Skills Development Centre.

The Steinhoff Extended Family programme has been a saviour for many of our beneficiaries and their families. One such family is the Malindi family. The family of four, an unemployed mother and three school going children, have been through tough times. As a mother, Nompri had to endure the pain and sadness of watching her children go to bed hungry. The family had no support system that they

could call on for help. Thus, their psychological progress was slow.

In 2014, the family's prayers were answered when they were accepted into the programme to receive the support it has always provided.

Fast forward to three years later and the family is on its way to a much better future. The children are doing well in school. With an excellent academic record, Nonhlanhla is attending a prestigious school in Soweto.

"We couldn't buy a loaf of bread because we were hungry. Only God knows how we survived. We would like to thank the Steinhoff Extended Family programme and Abraham Kriel Childcare for appreciating your efforts and support."



The kids enjoyed yummy burgers and ice-cream at their annual Steinhoff Christmas party.



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## INNER CALM AND PEACE

**A**rabang Molepo, an Andrew Murray Church congregant, has introduced our children at the Maria Kloppers Campus to a new way of finding an inner calm and peace...yoga. Every Tuesday and Thursday afternoon, our children take time out to relax and connect with their mind and body. "An exercise that has helped them calm down, focus, re-energise and be more flexible", says Ernesta, the campus manager.

With our hope anchored firmly on Christian values and beliefs, it is always a blessing to know that we have the support and guidance of the people in our local churches. From the bottom of our hearts, thank you for embracing our children with the unconditional love of God! ▶



## THE RIGHT PERSON FOR THE JOB

**T**hapelo, a well-qualified Zulu speaking male therapist working for ICAS\* sacrifices his Thursday evenings to see three boys at the Maria Kloppers Campus. He is amazing. His calm approach and high sense of confidentiality helped the boys to see life in perspective. Thapelo was able to address cultural issues in the boys' own language and the boys immediately connected with him. We have seen aggressive behaviour change into controlled appropriate behaviour. Through these therapeutic sessions the boys were able to find their true identity and they connected with Thapelo who addresses issues in a unique manner. Within a few months we were able to see a difference in the boys' behaviour. They were equipped with basic life skills and they felt empowered.

Thapelo is more than just a Zulu speaking male therapist. He has great skills and receives support and guidance from his supervisors at ICAS. He has managed to guide and direct three of our most difficult teenage boys and as a result they are growing stronger every day and they are able to deal with almost any difficult situation by applying the skills taught to them by Thapelo.

Thank you ICAS and Thapelo. Your impact on the lives of these impressionable boys will last them a lifetime!

\*ICAS Southern Africa is an employee wellness service provider, a leading provider of behavioural risk management services to the business community. ▶

## TWINS TAKE FLIGHT

"It is my dream to work on a luxury cruise ship and to open my own salon one day," says Rae whilst painting Aunty Magriet's nails. With hard work and determination that next chapter in Rae's life might become possible with the generous help of Flight Centre Foundation.

Sixteen year old twin sisters, Rae and Taryn\* attend special schools, but despite their academic challenges, they have dreams and plans for their future. They are developing those skills that can be furthered into careers after school. Taryn received a sewing machine from Flight Centre Foundation and is making sheets for the houses on Langlaagte Campus from a donation of material. Rae charges R50 to do nails for the ladies on campus. Flight Centre Foundation is assisting in these girls' development by sponsoring their courses, school stationery, clothing and the equipment and products needed for their skills. It is donors like Flight Centre Foundation that enable our children to be inspired and



make the most of their opportunities.

These girls are also talented swimmers and netball players. A very exciting 2017 is lying ahead for Taryn and Rae.

\*Not their real names



# Change a child's life story by writing the next chapter

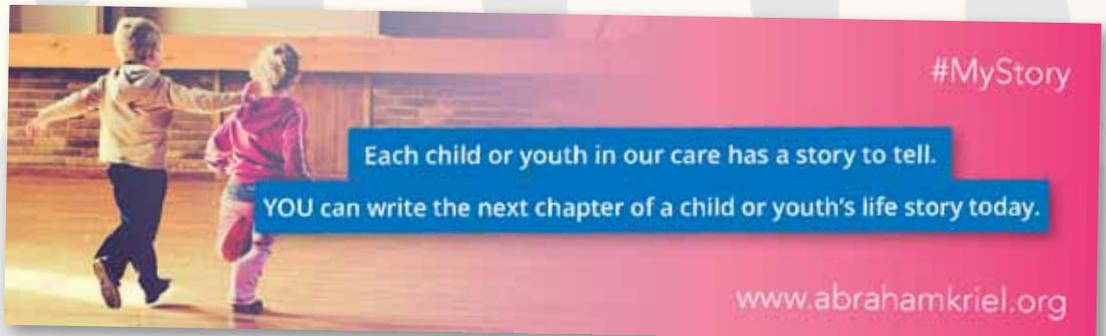
“We thank the Lord daily for all the support you as a donor have given to our children and youth.”

Each child or youth in our care has a story to tell. These stories do not take place in isolation. In the spirit of Ubuntu, where I am because you are, their stories take happier turns when we see the direct support of donors, local communities, and church congregations. All contributions make a huge impact on the development of our children.

Help us to write the next chapter of a child's life. We kindly ask you to contribute towards their development. This will enable them to make the most of opportunities that come their way and eventually become independent contributing members of society.

Here is how you can sponsor a child in our different programmes:

- ▶ **R43** ....per child per day to attend our Johanna Malan Early Childhood Development Centre.
- ▶ **R52** ....per child per day in our Community Services programmes in Soweto and Westbury.
- ▶ **R81** ....per school day for a traumatised child to attend our Impact School.
- ▶ **R173** ..per child per day for Residential Care.
- ▶ **R240** ..per day for the care of a baby/toddler at our Maria Kloppers Campus. ▶



## ABRAHAM KRIEL

Banking Details:  
Abraham Kriel Childcare  
Absa Bank. Acc: 140 941 336  
Branch: 632005



## Change children's life stories...

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### PERSONAL DETAILS

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Postal address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tel: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of birth: \_\_\_\_\_

### I WOULD LIKE TO...

- Receive the e-newsletter   
 Make a once-off contribution – contact me

### MONTHLY CONTRIBUTION

I hereby pledge a monthly contribution of R100  R120  or more  R \_\_\_\_\_  
 Please choose an option with X in the appropriate box:  
 Via a scheduled EFT (cell number as reference on deposit):   
 Via direct deposit:  Via my credit card:   
 Please deduct R \_\_\_\_\_ on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of 2016 and every month thereafter,  
 to support the children of Abraham Kriel Childcare.

### DEBIT ORDER INSTRUCTION

Acc Holder: \_\_\_\_\_ Acc No: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Type of Account: \_\_\_\_\_ Current:  Transmission:   
 Bank: \_\_\_\_\_ Branch: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Branch code: \_\_\_\_\_  
 10% annual increase authorised  Yes  No  
 Please note: Your signature is required to authorise any deduction. \_\_\_\_\_ Signature

### CREDIT CARD INSTRUCTION

Card Holder: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Once off  Monthly   
 Card No. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Expiry date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 10% annual increase authorised  Yes  No \_\_\_\_\_ Signature