



# Destiny House

Children's Ministries

**family** | fām·mə·lee | *n.*  
a group of people, each a unique masterpiece, sharing unconditional love, hugs and support • one of life's greatest blessings • cherish always

## Newsletter April 2017

### Dear friends of Destiny House,

In this Newsletter we would like to give you some more information on how the residential part of Destiny House is organised and what the mission outcomes are so far. In our next Newsletter we will share a bit more about education and medical needs.

We serve a God who is the Defender of the fatherless and the widow (Deuteronomy 10:18) and we rejoice about what He has made possible and what He will do in the future.

We would like to thank you for your ongoing support. If you have any questions after reading this Newsletter, please feel free to come and see us or drop us an email.

### OUR CHILDREN

In November 2016 we were given the permission to take in 6 more residential children and since then we have grown from 18 to 22 children. Our latest additions are a little girl who has just had her first birthday, a little boy who is 16 months old and a baby girl of 5 months old. Especially the little boy suffered from neglect and malnutrition and as a result is much delayed in his development. We would appreciate your prayers!

### MISSION OUTCOMES

Destiny House was started in 2008. Since then we have been home to 52 children. Currently there are 22 children who live with us. The other children have either been reunited with their families, found a foster family or were adopted (some were transferred to other Children's Homes for various reasons).

Reunited with family: 34%

Found a foster family: 6%

Were adopted: 6%

Transferred to other Children's Homes: 18%

Job creation: We currently have 15 staff members working at Destiny House who are earning a salary to support their families.

### LOCAL FUNDRAISER

On the 15<sup>th</sup> of April we were at Mtuba Mall asking people to donate groceries to Destiny House. We were overwhelmed by the support shown!



### “HOME IS WHERE THE HEART IS”

Since 2008 Destiny House has provided a home for orphaned, abandoned and vulnerable children who have no living relatives capable of caring for them. We try our best to do this in a family setting. We believe that in a family a child should feel safe, loved and nurtured and be stimulated to grow and develop. Being part of a family shapes their self-worth, attitudes, values and behaviours.

To encourage a nurturing relationship between mother and child we have two housemothers who stay at the home for a whole week at the time. Their main responsibility is to bond with the children and to monitor the daily running of the home.



Every day and every night two caregivers join the housemothers (in shifts). The caregivers are trained to look after the basic needs of the children and to do daily activities with the children. The 2-3 year olds are engaged in an in-house Early Childhood Development programme every morning to ensure they are ready for the Preschool when they are 3 years old. Cooking, feeding, cleaning and washing is all done by the caregivers and the housemother.

At the house we teach the children to participate in daily tasks such as helping with washing dishes, sweeping, tidying up, and even washing their own school shirts as this is something they would be asked to do in their families. The children also learn how to grow (and eat!) vegetables, an important skill!



### MONTHLY COSTS

Our total monthly expenditure is around R75,000 (= \$5800, € 5300, £4500) which is partly covered by the government subsidy. We are very grateful to those people who give on a monthly basis because this provides us with a steady income. If you are willing to support us financially, please look at the back for bank details.

### THANK YOU

To the following local businesses/organizations who have helped us a lot during the last few months:

- Riverview Poultry farm
- Mtuba Christian Academy
- Inyala Security
- Davco's
- Dis Chem Richards Bay
- Mtuba Garden Services
- Feast Bistro
- Al Marrakesh Guesthouse

## DESTINY PRESCHOOL

NEW BUILDING

**DONE**

### VISION

It has always been part of Destiny House's vision to open up a preschool for 3-5 year olds which would be open to our own children as well as the wider community. One of the reasons is that the children will learn to interact with other children and families. The other reason is that we will be able to provide quality Christian education at a crucial age. The foundations that are laid before the age of 5 have proven to be an important factor for later success in life.

### THE STORY

In January 2016 we opened up our in-house preschool to the public, using two classrooms in the Grace Community Church building. In September 2016 we started building our new building and with the help of many sponsors and volunteers we were able to start the new school year (January 2017) in the new building. Just last month the finishing touches were added: cupboard space and a wall to divide the two classrooms. On one of the outside walls we now have a beautiful mural which was a lovely surprise when the children came back after the school holidays.



The children helped to paint the mural. Here they are pointing at the things they painted.

**A BIG THANK YOU TO ALL OF YOU WHO HELPED US TO FINISH OUR PRESCHOOL BUILDING!**

#### CONTACT DETAILS

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Board members: G. Galloway, P. September, E. Hurter, W. Rall, I. Rall, T. Khuzwayo, B. Nxumalo, E. Chabinga

## VOLUNTEERS

Destiny House could not function without the help of volunteers. We are so grateful to those who give their time, energy and finances to serve the children at Destiny House. In

February and March 2017 Neal and Rena Richards from Hastings in the UK joined us for 7 weeks and added the finishing touches to our Preschool building. This month we welcomed Heidi Ritner from Missoula, Montana (USA) who will be with us for 6 weeks.



Neal and Rena in action!



Heidi helping in the Preschool

## PRAISE & PRAYER POINTS

**Praise** \* For providing everything we need \* For the completion of the Preschool building.

**Prayer** \* For the future of our children (possible family reunification or adoption) \* For protection over the house. \* For spiritual, emotional and physical growth of our children \* For enough financial support \* For the children who are physically challenged to receive the professional help they need.

South African Banking Details:

Bank: First National Bank, Mtubatuba  
Account name: Destiny House Children's Ministries  
Account number: 62202105286  
Branch code: 220330  
Swift code: FIRZAJJ

For Australian, English and Dutch Banking details please contact Esther.

*Every little bit helps!*