

## Epworth Children's Village and Therapy Centre - October 2024 Newsletter

---

### Dear Friends and Supporters,

As October comes to a close, we reflect on a season filled with resilience, gratitude, and growth. Just a few short months ago, we faced the uncertainty of keeping Epworth's doors open, but today, with your unwavering support, we are preparing to celebrate our 106th anniversary on November 2nd—a true miracle! This journey has required blind faith, courage, and, most importantly, a community that believes in the future of each child in our care.

### Our Milestones and Achievements

October has been a month of exciting milestones for our children, thanks to you. We're proud to announce that two of our little ones are now ready to graduate from Grade R to Grade 1 in 2025! Watching these young gentlemen grow into confident learners has been a joy for everyone involved, and it speaks to the strength and encouragement they receive through your support.

Congratulations also to our young stars, Little K's, who have shone brightly in both academics and athletics throughout the year—your generosity has fueled their achievements in school, on the field, and in life.

We've also seen major improvements in the well-being of two other children, thanks to recent eye-care treatments made possible through donor contributions. One young boy received an upgrade in his prescription, and one young lady received her first pair of glasses. These changes have already boosted their school performance, helping them see the world—and their potential—more clearly.

### Updates on Operations and Planning

With another year approaching, we're busily preparing for the 2024/2025 financial cycle. The Department of Social Development recently called for the annual business plan submissions, and we've worked tirelessly to ensure everything was prepared and submitted by the end-of-October deadline. We're optimistic and hopeful for positive results, which will allow us to continue delivering essential care and services.

### Celebrating Our October Donors

The heart of Epworth beats because of generous individuals and organizations like you. This October, we extend our deepest thanks to every single person who has contributed—whether through monthly giving or spontaneous donations. Each act of kindness fuels our mission. While we can't name each individual, please know that your support is cherished and makes an impact in every child's life.

Special thanks to some of our long-standing partners who have made exceptional contributions:

- **Sourcefin** joined us last year, covering crucial needs such as utilities and fuel during challenging times. Your responsiveness and support have provided stability and comfort to our children.

- **Coopervision**, our dedicated partner of many years, has continued to help us keep Epworth strong. Your commitment ensures that each child has the essentials they need to thrive.
- **Burncrete – Division of Brandcorp (Pty) Ltd** has been a steadfast supporter, assisting annually and helping us sustain daily operations. Thank you for your consistent partnership.
- **WA Diaries**, an incredible group of women, has supported Epworth since its beginning by selling diaries to raise funds for the children's ministries within their church. Your dedication inspires us, and your contributions mean the world.
- **Ironman South Africa** – Your loyal and committed support throughout the years has been a privilege and an honor. We are deeply grateful to be your chosen beneficiaries.
- **Pharon 7** – Thank you for fixing our cold room, ensuring we can continue to store essential food supplies safely.
- **Rotary Club of Germiston** – We're grateful for your donations of groceries and your generosity in fixing the burglar bars, providing additional safety for our facility and our children.

---

### **Current Needs and Projects**

We are currently working on several important projects, and we need your help to ensure their success. As we approach the busy months ahead, your support could make a tremendous difference in the lives of the children we care for. Here's how you can help:

- **Seasonal Giving (Summer Clothing):** We are collecting summer essentials, including clothing, shoes, sandals, pajamas, gowns, slippers, and underwear to keep our children comfortable and ready for the season.
- **Back 2 School Projects:** To prepare for the new school year, we're in need of school bags, stationery, school uniforms, white PT takkies, book fees, and 10 tablets to support the children's learning.
- **December Festive Season:** Help us make the festive season special for the children! We are looking for support to fund activities, sponsor events, or assist with groceries, treats, and meals for Christmas Day, Boxing Day, and New Year's Braai. We can provide lists and sizes for clothing as well as more specific information on our needs.
- **Christmas Gifts** Help us make the festive season special for the children! We are looking for gifts for the children that will be remaining behind.
- **Wishlist:** Monthly support of groceries is always a big help, as well as ongoing needs for items such as nail clippers (6 sets), bayonet light bulbs as many as you like, soft toothbrushes, shampoo and conditioner (Colgate is preferred), spaghetti, bath soap, washing powder, and large containers for storage.

Any assistance, whether big or small, would be greatly appreciated. Together, we can ensure that the children at Epworth Children's Village have what they need for a bright and hopeful future.

With heartfelt gratitude, **The Epworth Children's Village & Therapy Centre Team**