

Epworth Childrens Village

February Newsletter: Embracing Change and Growth

Greetings from Epworth Children's Village!

As we move into February, we are reminded of the strength and resilience that our community embodies. This month brings new opportunities for growth and connection, and we are committed to creating an environment where our children can flourish despite the challenges they face.

Our ongoing efforts to support the children's emotional and behavioral needs remain a top priority. We understand that adjustment can be difficult, especially for those who have recently returned to our care. Our dedicated staff continues to work diligently, providing the guidance and support necessary to help these children feel safe and valued.

We are also excited to share that our fundraising campaign, in celebration of Epworth's 106th birthday, is gaining momentum. We are incredibly grateful for the support we've received so far, which will enable us to enhance our programs and ensure that we can continue offering essential services to our children and families.

As we approach this special milestone, we invite you to join us in reflecting on the impact of our collective efforts. Your contributions, whether through time, resources, or simply spreading the word about our mission, are invaluable to us.

Thank you for your ongoing support and dedication to the children of Epworth. Together, we can continue to create a nurturing and empowering environment for those who need it most.

In January, we proudly welcomed our new interns for 2024: Roy, Sindi, and Bonnie! These passionate individuals are completing their master's year in psychology and will be working alongside Marlize, our Therapy Manager, and the team at the **Epworth Therapy Centre** and **Children's Home**.

This year, **Epworth Therapy Centre** celebrates 21 years of service. Over the years, we have trained more than 100 psychologists. In 2024, we host three full-time Intern Educational Psychologists, two part-time Intern Psychometrists, and two Student Registered Counsellors (one part-time, and one starting full-time in June).

On January 10th, the interns began their journey with intensive orientation and training from various professionals specializing in different psychological fields. The interns have been placed at multiple schools, including Arbor Primary School, Benoni High, Buccleuch Primary, Jeppe High for Girls, and Summerfields Primary. Unfortunately, our work with Boksburg and Vosloorus Child Welfare is currently on hold due to challenges with DSD, but we aim to restart services in 2025.

Our services continue to grow, providing much-needed support for children, families, and schools. We offer therapy for emotional and behavioral challenges, learning support, and assessments to communities that often lack access to affordable mental health care.

At **Epworth Children's Home**, we are doing everything possible to avoid the fate of other homes and welfare organizations that have closed their doors.

A heartfelt thank you to all our monthly supporters. Your generosity, no matter how big or small, truly makes a difference. We deeply appreciate your dedication. We also extend our gratitude to all the trusts, companies, corporations, and individuals who have supported us—your contributions are invaluable.

Thank you to our Trust and corporations for your support in 2023/2024 - Aero Link, Africa Empowerment, Agpse, Allied Steelrode, Boumix , Bradfield Foundation, Burcrete, Brandic, Cooper Vision, Copalcor, Dynamic Technology, Harcliff Mining, Inner Wheel, Inufa Steel Treatment, Iron Man for kids, Kelvion Services, KFC ADD Home, KS Food, Lonspeare, Lucchini, Manna Employment, Maringa Logistics, Paspay Consulting, Printquip, Security Equipment Centre, Sintez, Sourcefin, Synergy, Trade Priority, TVC, Umafrika Gaming, Vaal Mall, Dynamic Nitro, Wiltech Auto Electricians, Zono Brand, Mercy Trust and Norman Wevell Trust.

How to Get Involved with Epworth Children's Village

There are many ways to support Epworth and make a difference in the lives of vulnerable children. Here's how you can get involved:

1. **Volunteer Your Time:** Share your skills, talents, and energy by volunteering with us. Whether you can mentor a child, help with daily activities, or provide administrative support, your time will be invaluable.
2. **Support a Project:** Help us continue our essential services by sponsoring a specific project. From education to therapy programs, your contribution can help fund the critical resources our children need.
3. **Join Monthly Giving:** Become a monthly donor and provide consistent support. Even small contributions can make a huge impact, helping us cover essential costs like groceries, clothing, and therapy services.
4. **Donate Monthly Groceries:** Partner with us to supply monthly groceries, ensuring our children have nutritious meals. You can also coordinate with your company or community group to provide bulk donations.
5. **Contribute to Our Wishlist:** We always need items like toiletries, school supplies, and clothing. Check our website for an updated wishlist and see how you can help with essential day-to-day needs.

Every bit of support helps create a safe and nurturing environment for the children in our care.

Thank You to Our Generous Donors! -From the bottom of our hearts, we extend our sincerest gratitude to all our donors who have contributed this month.