



# ANNUAL REPORT

**1 APRIL 2015 – 31 MARCH 2016**

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## The Board of Governors:

Mr. O. A. Barbeau (Treasurer) | Mr. R. C. Fletcher | Mr. G. P. Lockwood | Honourable Judge M. L. Mailula  
Mr. A.V. Mdluli (Chairperson) | Mr. A. F. W McCall | Mr. G.T. Mokoena | Mrs. S. A. F. Niven  
Mrs. N. Parbhoo | Mr. B. J. Westcott (Vice Chairperson) | Mrs. A. Brokensha (Managing Director)  
Mrs. N. Govender (Managing Director) | Ms. M. Michaels (Secretary Non Board Member)

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### Legal Status

Non-Profit Organisation Number:  
Incorporated Association not for gain:  
Registration Number:  
VAT Number:  
Section 18A Number:

NPO 001-034 NPC  
01 100223 0001  
1939/012624/08  
4220121828  
130001111

## Vision Statement

Young people achieving their potential and making positive contributions to their future and society

## Mission Statement

At The Johannesburg Children's Home, we believe that child care is not just the provision of food and shelter, but also includes the provision of a special place for a child to be, a home in which he/she can take pride and feel surrounded by love and warmth.

## Chairperson's Report

It is with great pleasure and pride that I present my Chairman's Report for The Johannesburg Children's Home, year ended on 31 March 2016.

This is the first report that I am presenting as the Chairperson of The Johannesburg Children's Home, and I want to humbly express my sincere gratitude to Clive Fletcher, from whom I took over the chairperson role. I am eternally grateful for Clive's imparted wisdom, continued support and for agreeing to stay on as a Director of the Board of Governors at JCH.

Again we are proud to present a clean audit and an acknowledgment from the regulators that we are fully compliant in terms of Corporate Governance.

After 15 years at The Johannesburg Children's Home, with the last eight years as Managing Director, Narisha Govender left our home to pursue a career overseas.

We appreciate all the years she has dedicated to the home, and her seamless handover to Annette Brokensha. Annette was with Childline Gauteng for over 10 years serving as the Assistant Director. Welcome Annette, we wish you a long, happy and exciting stay with us.

It would be indecorous of me not to mention all those who make it possible for our 64 children and youth at The Johannesburg Children's Home to have a smile every morning, and attend school and the many diverse therapy programmes set up at the home to deal with the trauma suffered as a result of abuse that they have experienced.

In no particular order: I would like to thank The Department of Social Development, your continued financial support over the years is truly invaluable, The National Lottery Commission for your much appreciated financial support. Given the tough economic situation we are facing as a country, most corporates inadvertently cut their CSI budgets, and so we are eternally grateful to companies who continuously put the plight of the most vulnerable first.

Lastly and most importantly, our knights in shining armour: JCH staff, without you there is no home. You are true heroes of South Africa and in the same breath, The Board of Governors. The sterling dedication and passion you bring to The Johannesburg Children's Home is invaluable and we are honoured to have you as part of the Home.

In conclusion, I think it's only proper to finish off with a quote from a true champion of children's wellbeing:

***We grasp and promote the notion that while children need to be guided, they also have an entrenched right to be whatever they want to be and that they can achieve this only if they are given the space to dream and live out their dreams.*** - Nelson Mandela, at the Annual Children's Celebrations, Bloemfontein, South Africa, Sept. 27, 2003



**Siphso Mdluli**  
Chairperson

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# Managing Directors Report

It is a great pleasure to present the Johannesburg Children's Home Annual Report for 2015- 2016.

At the outset I would like to acknowledge Narisha Govender, the outgoing Director of the Johannesburg Children's Home for her significant contribution to the organisation. Narisha has left a powerful legacy which will live on here and in our children's lives forever.

The Johannesburg Children's Home has welcomed me warmly and Narisha has ensured a seamless transition into this dedicated and caring team of professionals. I look forward to working with the wonderful team she has built, to provide the best care for our children for many years to come.

Our children inspire us daily with their resilience despite the difficult experiences they need to overcome. Our heartfelt thanks go to all of our donors who not only support the practical needs of our children, but also contribute to the cost of our therapeutic services.

"There is no trust more sacred than the one the world holds with children. There is no duty more important than ensuring that their rights are respected, that their welfare is protected, that their lives are free from fear and want and that they grow up in peace." Kofi A. Annan

Together we can continue to assist the children to reach their God-given potential.

## CHILD CARE

The children's achievements are great cause for celebration this year. At the children's award ceremony we honoured a host of school achievements – academic, sport, good behaviour and leadership. Two of our children completed their Gold Awards for the President's Awards Programme. Several students have been enrolled in further education and training in engineering, graphic design, early childhood development, plumbing, upholstery, carpentry, dress making and building. Congratulations to our team of Child and Youth Care workers who diligently support the children to achieve their full potential.

The child care department is now managed by Linda Madhoyo. She was promoted to this position and her background as Social Worker at the home gives her great insight into the needs of the children and how to support the child care team in this regard.

We continue to run our programmes focusing on the holistic development of our children. The children and care workers work in teams to develop life skills such as team work, confidence, creativity, sharing and public speaking. They implement dance competitions, cultural days, bead making, reading circles, debating, puppet shows and even our very own "Master Chef" competitions.

The Arts and Culture programme was boosted by the donation of an art room by Servochem and the weekly art lessons gives a creative outlet for the children. Two children won prize money of R500 and R100 respectively for their paintings in an art competition.

Our soccer and netball teams held their own in the matches against other children's homes and we hope to find sport kits and a proper coach to grow their confidence this year. A number of children have been chosen for their school sports teams and 2 girls were selected for the provincial netball team.

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Many individuals and corporate volunteers have assisted with the programmes. This is encouraging for the care workers, and shows the children that people are prepared to invest in their lives.

We have had many visits this year from people who lived in the home in years gone by. Thank you for sharing your history with us. The stories of your challenges and triumphs are often linked to your history here and most frequently your memories of the staff members who cared for you, this reminds us to consistently offer the best care we possibly can to our children.

## **PARTNERS IN CARE**

Three of our children who were ready to leave our care have been placed with a new organisation called Home Base, an organisation that help young people with the transition between life in a children's home and the "real world". They have adjusted well in the new environment where they are learning about the value of personal integrity, networking and a disciplined lifestyle.

The mentorship programme with Bright Stars has proved beneficial, several children are enjoying the support of mentors and are feeling inspired and encouraged to focus on their futures.

Manners for Minors helped us to implement a fun behaviour modification programme for our younger children. The program focusses on rewards for good behaviour – while the incentive is to get a reward the program develops good habits and we are seeing great improvement especially in the girls cottages.

Many organisations have partnered with us for fun events or outings with the children which remain highlights in the children's lives. Thank you to all of you.

We are very grateful to Momentum for sponsoring a wellness day for our staff. Caring for the carers is often an overlooked area for sponsorship and yet vitally important. The team carries a heavy burden with each childcare worker supporting up to 10 children at a time. Momentum pampered the team with gifts and inspirational messages, they also performed vital health checks which has encouraged quite a few of us to take our own physical and mental health much more seriously.

## **OPERATIONS**

Our operations department runs as a well-oiled machine under Fiona Duke's leadership. The team of experienced and dedicated staff members keep the kitchen, laundry, vehicles, security and grounds in tip top condition. The team takes great pride in providing for the children's basic needs in preparing healthy meals, clean clothes and ensuring a safe living environment for the children.

Our heartfelt thanks goes to the Johannesburg community for your material support for our operations. We regularly receive donations of food, clothing, furniture, maintenance materials and much, much more.

The current drought and water restrictions has brought our water usage into sharp focus. We are very pleased to report that our old borehole was reopened. The yield is more than what we need and the water is potable. We extend our sincere thanks to Barrow Construction for taking on the project of installing the necessary equipment to link the water to our system and to Vollie Brink, a water engineer who is providing his expertise on the project. The project is in progress and we look forward to reporting on this next year.

## FUNDRAISING

The impact of the economic downturn is very evident this year, but our experienced fundraising team under the leadership of Margaret Michaels continues to find new ways to raise funds to provide for the children's needs. The JCH Board plays an active role in our fundraising efforts and have called for even stricter budget controls in the year to come. To date every procurement has been checked and rechecked to ensure the most cost effective rate for every product and service.

The home has transparent systems of record keeping, which assures donors that every donation is used carefully to ensure maximum support for the children in our care. The auditors have once again given JCH a clean audit.

We are grateful to our platinum donors for their significant contributions: The National Lotteries Commission has funded us for next year. The Gauteng Department of Social Development continues to partner with JCH and have committed an impressive 52% of their budget to support NGO's in the coming year. DGB, the Robert Niven Trust, Elkin Trust and Lowenstein Trust continues to support the home. Fresenius Kabi and the Sunshine Foundation supported tertiary education for our older children. Servochem continued with their programme to revamp our cottage garages into usable spaces and installed a games room this year which provides hours of fun for the children.

The local community continues to donate furniture and goods. Items that we cannot use in the children's cottages are sold at a modest price in our charity shop, which has exceeded all expectations with a turnover of R84 000. We are also investigating several self-generated income opportunities and will pilot some of these in the year to come.

We thank every one of our donors – companies and individuals, who have given according to their means. We commend you for your commitment to the children's wellbeing.

## CONCLUSION

In a year of significant change at the Johannesburg Children's Home, the Board of Directors have ensured stability in the transition and played a very active role in supporting the process.

We look forward to our continued partnership with all our friends and supporters.

In the words of Lewis Mumford: ***"Above all we need, particularly as children, the reassuring presence of a visible community, an intimate group that enfolds us with understanding and love, and that becomes an object of our spontaneous loyalty, as a criterion and point of reference for the rest of the human race."***

Annette Brokensha

**Annette Brokensha  
Managing Director**

# The Team

## MANAGING DIRECTOR

Mrs. N. Govender  
Mrs. A. Brokensha

## OFFICE TEAM

Head of Communications & Fundraising  
Head of Operations & PR  
Fundraising & PR Support  
Receptionist & Office Support  
Financial Accountant

Ms. M. Michaels  
Ms. F. Duke  
Ms. R. Phiri  
Ms. S. Mangyane  
Ms. A. McVey (Outsourced)

## SOCIAL WORK TEAM

Social Work Manager  
Social Workers

Ms. A. Myburgh  
Ms. L. Madhoyo | Ms. C. Honeywell

## CHILD & YOUTH CARE TEAM

Programme Manager  
Child & Youth Care Co-ordinator:  
Day Child & Youth Care Worker  
Shift Supervisors  
Child & Youth Care Workers

Ms. P. Mogano  
Ms. B. Bond  
Ms. T. Mahlangu  
Ms. I. April | Ms. N. Skosana  
Ms. L. Mabaso | Ms. G. Manyakole |  
Ms. N. Mofokeng | Ms. G. Mdluli | Ms. M. Mlangeni  
Ms. S. Ngcobo | Ms. P. Siavhe | Ms. N. Zulu  
Ms. L. Matyeni | Mr. J. Molefe | Ms. K. Mayisela  
Ms. C. Lekelekala | Ms. E. Mohlakoane | Ms. N. Pahle  
Ms. N. Mumbi | Ms. G. Baloyi | Ms. K. Nyathi

## SUPPORT TEAM

Kitchen Supervisor  
Kitchen Assistants

Mr. J. Siavhe  
Ms. G. Matlala | Mr. J. Rambau | Ms. M. Matloga  
Ms. V. Motswalo

Laundry Supervisor  
Laundry Assistants

Ms. C. Matlala  
Ms. I. Mabusa | Ms. L. Ngobeni | Ms. F. Kula  
Ms. S. Ngqasa

Drivers

Mr. T. Rampau | Mr. P. Mongwe | Mr. L. Mtaung

Maintenance Staff

Mr. E. Rangwaga | Mr. R. Mongwe

Cleaning Staff

Ms. T. Soga | Ms. K. Manqe

## The History of our Home

The Johannesburg Children's Home, the oldest charitable institution in the City, was founded early in 1892 by a committee formed under the Chairmanship of Mrs. von Brandis, wife of the Landdrost. These women raised funds for the running of a small home opened in Fordsburg. With the proceeds from a Fancy Fair, which totalled £4779, plus an enormous amount of courage, this organisation started its long life of activity.

The expenses for upkeep were met by weekly street collections. To help any and every child in distress it was decided that the Home be entirely "undenominational" and that white children of all creeds be admitted.

Soon the need for larger premises arose and eight stands in Twist Street, Hospital Hill, were donated to the committee by the Transvaal Government. While building on this site was developed, 70 children were housed in Beit Street, Doornfontein.

During the South African War friends cared for many children. The remainder of the children were sent with the matron to Verulam, Natal. They were supported by donations of food and clothing from residents there and money from Johannesburg refugees in Natal.

After their return in July 1902, the need for a larger and suitably designed Home became a priority. It was decided that the Twist Street position was unsuitable and the stands were sold back to the Government for £12,000. With this sum, and donations, our present ground in Observatory was acquired.

In 1906 a building, which was opened by the Countess of Selbourne, wife of the Governor-General, was erected and did yeoman service for 30 years. In 1939 a sub-economic loan was received from the Housing Board and in 1941 the children moved into the Children's Home in Observatory.

In 1985 the cottage system was introduced to create a more personal and less institutionalized environment. With exciting and dramatic political change in South Africa, the Home now caters for children of all races between the ages of 3 and 18 years.

Hundreds of children have passed through the Home since its inception in 1892. Many of them have become valuable members of the community and we are confident that those now entrusted to our care will, in turn, play their part in the future of our country.

## Statistics

Children	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Registered Capacity	64	64	64	64	64	64	64
Number of children admitted	11	7	6	4	8	11	12
Number of children released	12	2	2	1	5	6	7
Number of children re-united with family						4	2