



ANNUAL REPORT

1 APRIL 2023 – 31 MARCH 2024

CONTENTS

BOARD OF DIRECTORS	1
CONTACT DETAILS:.....	1
CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT	2
MANAGING DIRECTOR'S NOTE	3
VISION STATEMENT	4
ANNUAL REPORT.....	4
CHILD CARE	5
Statistics	6
Partners in care	6
SOCIAL ENTERPRISES	7
EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT	7
OPERATIONS	7
FUNDRAISING	8
CONCLUSION	8
THE TEAM.....	9
THE HISTORY OF OUR HOME	9

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Chairperson B.J Westcott: | Vice Chairperson: T.G. Mokoena | Treasurer: A.C van der Colff |
Secretary: C.M. Visser | Directors: N Cara | S.A.F. Niven | D. Ramjettan
Executive Director: A.V Mdluli

CONTACT DETAILS:

Postal Address

P.O. Box 28542
Kensington
2101

Physical Address

59 Urania Street
Observatory
2198

Telephone:

011 648 1120 | 011 023 6780 | 011 568 0470

Legal Status

Non-Profit Organisation Number :
Registration Number:
VAT Number:
Section 18A Number:

NPO 001-034 NPC
1939/012624/08
4220121828
130001111

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

2023/24 has been a year of change at JCH. Siphon Mdluli has approached the Executive Directors role with enthusiasm and vigour. This has brought about far-reaching changes in the organizational structure resulting in significant cost savings. Unfortunately, this has meant that vacant positions have not been filled placing an additional load on the staff. The JCH Staff have embraced these changes and adapted rapidly to their new extended roles.

Thank you to our loyal staff for their dedication as well as to all the volunteers who enthusiastically give of their time to promote the many welfare programs provided for our children. The Department of Social Development has continued with their financial support, and we are grateful to them and to the numerous organizations, trusts, and individuals whose loyalty has been unwavering.

The new fund-raising projects are progressing well. The Skills Development Centre teaches amongst other disciplines, furniture repair, carpentry, and upholstery. The ECD continues to function well, and the traffic awareness facility is up and running thanks to the generosity of donors. This will be available to the public for school visits and private children's parties etc. The charity shop, hall and kitchen continue to raise funds, and the sustainable vegetable gardening project provides the kitchen with vegetables.

A successful wine auction function was held in June and will become a regular event on the fund-raising calendar.

The Johannesburg Children's Home has once again received a clean report from our auditors. We will continue follow the example set by past Boards to ensure this this remains the case in the future. Thank you to the individual Board members for their efforts.

Thank you to my fellow Directors for their unwavering support



Bryan Westcott
Chairperson – Board of Directors

MANAGING DIRECTOR'S NOTE

The cornerstone of our existence is the children at JCH. We strive every day to make a difference in their lives, to make sure they are given a second chance in life given their traumatic experiences before coming to JCH. Through the different initiatives that we embark on, be it psycho-social interventions, music therapy, holiday camps, arts & culture programs and teaching life skills, as a team we are making a difference in their lives

We are eternally grateful to each and every donation we receive, be it in kind or monetary. At JCH we live by a simple principle, every donation is appreciated and cherished, "a five Rand we receive is a five Rand we never had". To the management team and all the staff members, THANK YOU for your passion, dedication and professionalism you display, it is truly a privilege to be part of this team.

We are proud of our income generating initiatives, these programs are important to us as they augment the donations we receive for the future sustainability of the home. Our on-going initiatives are steadily showing positive growth, new initiatives we piloted; wine auction, skill centre's primarily objective is to offer artisanal opportunities for our older children, unfortunately not all of our kids are able to attend mainstream education given their painful past, our tricycle track situated next to our ECD school, is equipped with road and traffic signs, is open for kiddies parties and children attending our ECD schools

A quote from our beloved statesman and children's right advocate, "A fundamental concern for others in our individual and community lives would go a long way in making the world the better place we so passionately dreamt of." Nelson Mandela



Thank you

Siphon Mdluli
Managing Director

VISION STATEMENT

Resilient, empowered youth equipped to achieve their full potential thereby making positive contributions to their lives and society.

MISSION

At The Johannesburg Children's Home our multi-disciplinary team provides a caring, healing and nurturing family environment that;

- Delivers holistic care, developmental programmes and therapeutic support that equip children and youth to realise their capability
- Implements initiatives to contribute towards the sustainability of the JCH
- Involves children in activities to gain relevant world ready skills.

ANNUAL REPORT

SOCIAL WORK & CHILD CARE

Our children's basic needs are provided for including but not limited to; nutritious meals, comfortable well-maintained cottages and grounds as well as recreational activities and 24-hour security on the premises. A structured daily routine schedule is in place which makes the children feel safe in having a predictable structure. The child and youth care worker coordinator sees to the medical needs of our children. We continue to have our children assessed and placed in the correct schools. We continue to work with the University of the Witwatersrand's social work department.

We have also partnered with the social work department at the South African College of Applied Psychology (SACAP) for monthly placements of their students. We have implemented a Music Therapy program with a music therapist. The children really enjoy this form of therapy and have learned new, healthy ways to express themselves. The social workers continue to attend monthly trainings and forums with colleagues in the field to problem solve and share insights into therapeutic interventions. 51% of our children have psychiatric and/or intellectual challenges.

Closer2Home (family re-integration & exit planning)

Professional staff and Community based organisations are working together on exit planning. Regular communication with reunification workers is continuing. We were able to send home a total of 40 children home to be with their families over the school holidays. This is a huge achievement in terms of stabilising children and them being reintegrated into their family units. We would like to engage community volunteers to assist us in monitoring children who visit their families during holidays

Aardklop – Let your Talent Shine (arts & culture)

Art lessons and music therapy continue to be a huge part of the therapeutic and developmental aspects of our children. The Art program continues to flourish, we appreciate the funding from the City of Johannesburg which is still being used into 2024. JCH's Art Exhibition is held on an annual basis and most of the children's art is sold through this initiative and through corporates. Further to this, most of our younger girls are enrolled in Ballet which has been beneficial to their motor skills.

Speak Up (promotion of children rights)

A new forum has been elected and meetings are ongoing. These regular consultations have proven to be invaluable as the feedback we get from the children directly allows us to improve the care we provide to them and ensure that the care they receive includes their views and opinions. The Character Company works directly with all of our boys and provides them with mentorship, leadership skills and camps as well as life skills.

Ikhaya Lobukhono Bethu (teaching life skills)

The programmes focus is teaching expectations and responsibilities in a home environment for all ages. From basic to advanced hygiene, cooking, baking, how to manage and contribute to a household through chores / being helpful and also being part of a family unit. Children are getting involved in preparing beds and planting different kinds of crops as well, as part of sustainable agriculture and gardening.

One Goal One Dream (sport)

We have resumed all sporting activities as well as our relationship with the Institute for Skills Empowerment. We have consistent volunteers who have started coming for soccer practice, bowls, netball and cricket. The outdoor gym equipment is used daily by the children. Three of our children have joined a professional bowls club and compete at provincial level. Five children also compete in the special Olympics & soccer leagues at their schools. JCH has partnered with Pirates Soccer Club in Greenside and enjoy an annual fun day filled with sporting activities. The staff have joined in on this program and regular sports days are held with the staff and children.

Siyasebenza (Career guidance)

Children are given career guidance through various platforms i.e. expos at corporates, school and developmental interactions with their social workers. Exit planning, life skills and balancing work and studying when they leave JCH is discussed and planned meticulously at least five years before their exits. Children are given the opportunity to research their careers of interest in our computer lab. Our computer teacher helps the children on basic interview skills, e-learning, CV creation and homework assignments. We are implementing practice sessions for learner's license tests in our computer centre and have signed a contract with IM driving school for 6 x children to do their learners and drivers licences. Further to this, the social workers ensure that all children over the age of 16 open bank accounts and get their Identity Cards. The children are a key part of the process as they familiarise themselves with the Department of Home Affairs and being able to navigate governmental systems.

Siyathuthuka (Development program)-

This is a structured program aimed at stimulating children and developing gross and fine motor skills. Children under 12 do puzzles, Lego, building blocks, board games and a reading program. The Siyathuthuka programme continues in our cottages with smaller children as well as the developmentally delayed older children (twens and teens).

After Care (post exit program)

Youth that have left our care continue to experience challenges in reintegrating into society and majority of them lack survival skills and family support. We maintain telephonic contact with youth that have left care. Good progress has been made by all whom have left JCH's care. Most children are in tertiary education / working. We continue to do follow ups and regular checks with children who have care.

Leisure & Recreation

Our weekends have always been filled with recreational and developmental programs some of which are courtesy of donors, volunteers and mentors for our children. We have continued to implement holiday rosters during school holidays that have been packed with fun and outings for all ages to enjoy.

STATISTICS

Children	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Registered capacity	64	64	64	64	64	64
Number of children admitted	11	3	4	10	23	9
Number of children discharged	6	1	1	0	13	0
Number of children re-united with family	4	3	3	5	9	5

SOCIAL ENTERPRISES

Our social enterprise initiatives consist of vegetable gardens, now focusing primarily on supplying our kitchen with basic vegetables. Thrift shop based in Norwood, B&B which is on JCH grounds, bi-monthly jumble sales, hall hire, kitchen catering and newly opened Skills centre which is based inside the property. Current projects focus on refurbishing furniture items.

The most critical aspect of the skills centre is that our older children will have the opportunity to train in carpentry and other artisanal skills. We are also excited to launch our kiddie's tri-cycle track in our ECD area.

EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT CENTRE – Funda Ngo Thando (Learning with Love)

Funda Ngo Thando ECD Centre currently enrolls 57 children, which means we are only 3 children short of reaching our capacity of 60. With this growth, we have received our registration certificate from The Department of Education which recognizes and approves of our educational programme and premises as a place of care.

We have managed to establish relationships with neighboring schools, where we have a two-way referral system with RTC and Observatory East Primary. We continue to raise children who thrive in Grade R and have received good reports from parents and the schools.

The ECD centre supports inclusivity, and we are grateful to work with Lannette Hatting, an educational psychologist, who assesses and refers children with behavioral disorders, and conducts workshops for the ECD staff on identifying and supporting the children and parents. We run various fundraising activities to ensure sustainability and have made use of social media to reach out to a wider audience.

OPERATIONS

The Operations team ensure all the children's daily needs are supported and met. The department comprises of the following, Kitchen, which ensures healthy, nutritious and safe meal planning is implemented to meet our children's growing needs including Funda Ngo Thando (ECD). Added to the Kitchen portfolio to maintain food sustainability at JCH our food gardens provide much economic relief and ensure our children receive fresh vegetables daily.

Drivers and Maintenance ensure that our children travel to and from school in well maintained safe vehicles and collect much needed donations. The team also ensure that the children's living, and communal spaces are maintained according to health and safety regulations.

The laundry ensures that clothing donated for the children is washed and sorted for the children's ever-growing needs as well as assist with income generating projects such as hall hire and continuously stocking Thrift Up (Thrift Shop) with items that are not suitable for the children which are sold generating additional income for our children's programs through Thrift Up and monthly jumble sales.

FUNDRAISING

Our fundraising is tasked with the challenge of raising money to meet the needs of the organisation in order to continue caring for children from the community. Year on year due to the tough economic landscape this task is increasingly difficult however thanks to the dedication of our donors we are able to meet these requirements. The JCH Team and Board of Governors are steadfast in achieving these goals and work tirelessly behind the scenes to achieve targets and budgets set.

The team has revisited creative ways to raise money by introducing the successful JCH Annual Wine auction event. Every effort is made to create awareness of the organization, and a digital media strategy has been implemented to raise awareness on social media platforms. Active volunteering and community service programmes are run throughout the year to engage and educate the community.

Transparency in record-keeping is crucial for assuring donors that their donations are being carefully utilized to support the children in our care. Providing an audited financial report further reinforces this transparency, The Johannesburg Children's Home has received a clean audit for the financial year 2023/2024, which reflects the diligent efforts of the entire team. Thanks to our financial manager, who stringently monitors spending public funds prudently and effectively ensuring our children needs are met.

CONCLUSION

It would be amiss of me not to make a special mention to our board governors, it is a breath of fresh air to report to such a group of progressive and open-minded professionals, on behalf of all staff members we are thankful for your consistent guidance and support. We will continue to offer our children the best care and opportunities, we are grateful to everyone connected with our home will continue to live by our mission statement, "Young people achieving their potential and making positive contributions to their future and society"

THE TEAM

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR	Sipho Mdluli
SOCIAL WORK TEAM	
Children's Services Manager :	Kim De Allende
Social Workers:	Kaeleigh Goss Dona Belfiore
CHILD & YOUTH CARE TEAM	
Shift Supervisors :	Mathapelo Meyatho Caroline Matona
Child & Youth Care Co-ordinator:	Magret Mei
Child & Youth Care Workers:	Boloshe, Mvuyo Malebana, Mashilo Malebana, Mashilo Manyokole, Gladys Mbeje, Bongwiwe Mdluli, Getrude Mofokeng, Nomvula Mohlabai, Ntsieng Mohlakoane, Evodia Mulaudzi, Henry Ngwenya, Jabulile Nyathi, Cathrine Pahle, Khanya Pakkie, Makefa Ralbone, Grecious Siavhe, Astnnat
Relief Child Care Workers:	Jabulile Zwane
Therapists	Julie Reid
Educational Support	Carissa von Mayer David Mudera
SOCIAL ENTERPRISES	
Thrift Up	Jeanette Xavier
ECD FUNDA NGO THANDO	
Teaching Principal	Ayanda Bhengu
Teachers	Comfort Manthata Prudence Somo Karabo Mphasha Gugu Sithebe
OFFICE TEAM	
Financial Accountant	Alison Mc Vey
Reception & Office Support	Kelebogile Lekwane
Fundraising, Marketing & PR	Fiona Duke Sihle Ntombela
OPERATIONS	
Drivers	Linda Mtaung Innocent Khumalo Khehla Radebe John Nxumalo
Kitchen Supervisor	Sipho Mangenya
Kitchen Support team	Modiegi Matloga Tshep Ginya Yvonne Tshwaane
Gardens	Reason Sibanda Tumelo Lechaba Edward Dube
Laundry Supervisor	Brigitte Bond
Laundry Assistants	Florence Kula Listerine Ngobeni
Cleaners	Khangi Manqele Maggie Makgoba

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 non-denominational and admit children of all creeds.

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 many children were cared for by friends. 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, (opened by the Countess of Selbourne, wife of the Governor-General), was erected and housed the children 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.

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.