



SHEPHERD'S KEEP

www.shepherdskeep.org.za

SEPT
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"The child must know he is a miracle, that since the beginning of the world there hasn't been, and until the end of the world, there will not be another child like him" Pablo Casals

We are excited... Since 1998, Shepherd's Keep has invested in the lives of the most vulnerable babies and for all these years, love has been the motivation behind each happy little face. To give children what they so rightly deserve and to cherish each unique creation is a joy and a privilege and without love, it would be empty.

We were disturbed and really burdened for toddlers after seeing a woman looking after 14 children in a wooden hut in our area. The parents are charged R600 a month, there is no play area and the children can't go outside because the landlord owns a vicious dog. What a miserable existence, for energetic toddlers to be crammed into a 9sqm area for over 8 hours of the day.

Sharing our beautiful building and using it for the purpose it was designed for...to bring healing and joy to children, started us thinking and we're excited to be adding a new project that we hope will change the face of pre schooling in our immediate areas. Vulnerable children face multiple challenges such as poor or non-existent foundational phase education and undiagnosed learning delays which can all be addressed if identified in the right setting with a dedicated, professional team. Even when the family unit is intact, many parents work, but earn breadline wages, unable to feed their families, let alone provide quality, stimulating education.

The plan?

Our desire for our new Early Child Development Centre, is to give the most vulnerable toddlers an everyday education experience in an environment that is on par with the best private schools. Over 50% of children who begin school never matriculate and we believe it's because they face such obstacles that learning is almost an impossible burden.

It can seem overwhelming...but if we all do a little bit, it WILL be possible to help change their lives.

An early child development curriculum should define the concepts and relationships children are striving to understand and their experiences reinforced in a nurturing, cheerful and safe setting, giving them opportunities to develop spiritually and emotionally. Volunteers will be welcome to give their time and the training and workshops will build parenting skills, making our community a child friendly one.

How?

Expecting a hungry, malnourished child to learn is cruel, so, just as our babies have been restored in excellence, we are determined to build each child up and every aspect of the child's daily needs will be covered here:

- 3 Nutritious meals including meat, vegetables and milk
- Qualified ECD Teachers and Teacher Assistants
- Remedial Teacher
- Child Psychologist
- Parenting workshops
- Community volunteers

Just as with our babies, we believe so passionately that when the obstacles of hunger, trauma and devastating circumstances are removed and broken souls healed, then little ones are free to be children, giving them confidence and a happy, strong foundation to begin life with.

While nearly all of the equipment is funded, we need to be able to employ teachers now and train assistants, if you would like to be a part of our new project or can help with any of the many needs to get it going, please contact Michelle on 0845812453 or send an e-mail to: info@shepherdskeep.org.za and we'll send you the info.

Thank you to our regular Donors and Sponsors, your support is very real and practical.

We are a registered PBO and would like to supply you with a Section 18(a) Receipt for tax relief so please would you e-mail us with your contact details if you require a receipt.

For direct deposits our banking details are:

Account Holder: Shepherd's Keep

ABSA CHQ Account no: 4053248415

Branch Code: 632005