

# HAVENS

News and updates for friends of African Havens

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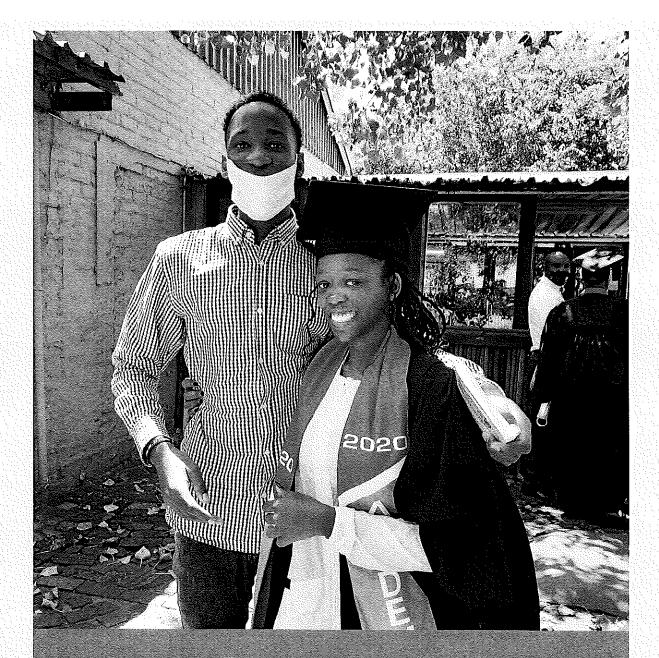
#### BABY AND CHILD HAVENS CURRENT NEEDS

WINTER CLOTHES FOR 30 CHILDREN	\$US	1,200
Hiring Univ Students to Tutor (thru Dec)	\$US	1,500
Refrigerator for Child Haven	\$US	450
Used Havens Washing Machine	\$US	500
Small Fridge for Volunteer Flat	\$US	250
Small Truck/Station Wagon	\$US 1	2,500

#### 2021 DREAM: NEW CHILD PROTECTION OFFICE

A Havens Child Protection Office would allow drop-in services for needy, abused, endangered children and mothers in our area.

Rent \$550 monthly for 12 months	\$US 6,600
Salaries – 2 staff (social worker and ad	\$US 28,800
Office set-up (mostly donations)	\$US 1,500
Resource Fund – providing for needs of clients	
\$1000 monthly for 12 months	\$US 12,000
ANNUAL BUDGET	\$US 48,900



FEATURE

### SEEING GOD'S FAITHFULNESS IN THIS SEASON

Mpho grew up at the Havens and spent the last year at Home-Base while studying. After she graduated with a Diploma in Tourism last month, we helped her move home to her extended family. We will never forget the words of her cousin, "You took care of our family when we could not. Now you will always be

our family."

Reunification is often not possible for families when the parents have died, and the remaining relatives are in deep poverty or dysfunction. But when it happens, it is beautiful. Mpho's great-aunt, who said she had buried 9 family members to HIV and Covid-19, said "But now Mpho has come home. It is a gift."

Pictured above - Mpho with her brother at her graduation.

IN OTHER NEWS

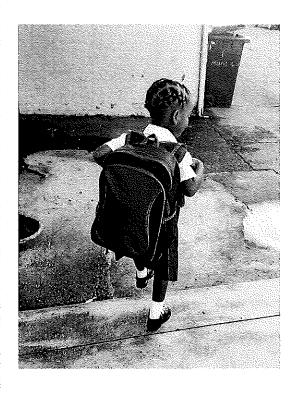
BABY & CHILD HAVENS



#### THANK YOU ASHLIE

Ashlie Hokanson, our intrepid volunteer, has returned to her home in Minnesota. She connected closely with the children during her stay, earning their trust and affection. Ashlie was sent to the Havens from EN Bethel Dallas Church. We're so excited that she's landed her dream job at *Marc Heu* 

Patisserie Paris in St Paul. Thank you,
Ashlie, for giving so much of yourself!



# A SLOW RETURN TO SCHOOL

Half of the Havens children are back at school full-time and the other half are allowed back at least half-time under Covid rules. The government no longer talks about "catching-up" after Covid lockdowns decimated the 2020 school year but will simply allow children to repeat grades. As is the case with all children, our children at the Havens need a lot of care and extra support during this difficult season and we are making every effort to help them keep up with their schoolwork.

For more info about Baby & Child Havens, contact

Caroline Webb: <a href="mailto:carolinew@enjhb.org">carolinew@enjhb.org</a> or

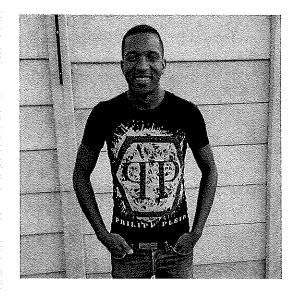
Nina Neubauer: volunteers@africanhavens.org

HOME-BASE

WORK-BASE

#### WELCOME, TSEGO!

We welcomed Tsego to Home-Base in February. Tsego grew up in a local children's home, where she was a star student and loved by all. She finished school last year and is starting a National Diploma in Law this year. It's been so exciting to welcome her to the Home-Base family.



#### PAY IT FORWARD

It's always amazing to see our students maturing to the extent where they want to help others who come from similar difficult backgrounds to them. Mxolisi has been with us since 2016 and is now in his final year of Civil Engineering at UJ. When a student needing mentoring was referred to us recently, he was quick to put up his hand to help. We are so proud of him!

#### AND THEN THERE WERE FIVE

We currently have five Home-Base students in our full-time programme, most of whom came to us after aging out of children's homes. Our aim is to give them an opportunity to study at university level, while being mentored and discipled, so that they can live overcoming lives.

Our students are studying a wide range of university and college courses, including culinary art, business, law, teaching and engineering. Mpho, mentioned earlier in our featured article, was one of our students in 2020 and has now graduated with a diploma in tourism



#### CAREER GUIDANCE

We hope to relaunch our Work-Base Career Guidance with orphans and vulnerable youth soon. It's such a rewarding way to care for the young people in our city. We welcome volunteers to help us during these sessions that take place a couple of times a year at Every Nation Rosebank.

# SPONSOR OR MENTOR A STUDENT

We are looking for individual or companies to sponsor a student.

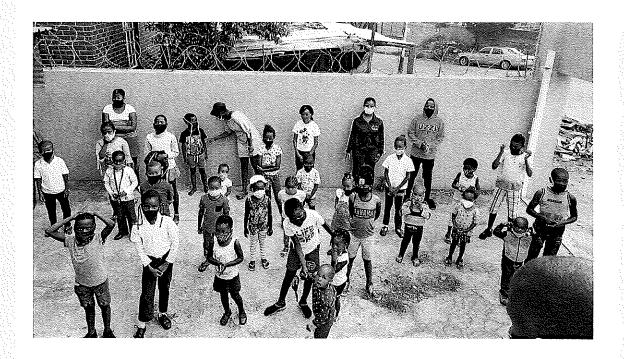
Sponsorship could include small amounts towards living expenses and pocket money, or contributions towards their tuition fees. Our students are also in need of mentors who would walk alongside them - either in-person or virtually - helping them grow.



For more info about Home-Base or Work-Base, or to volunteer, contact Dennis

Neville: <a href="mailto:dennisn@enjhb.org">dennisn@enjhb.org</a> or 084 567 1843

TRANSFORMATION VREEDEDORP



#### A LOOK INTO OUR WEEK

The Transformation Vrededorp Sifundise House is a hive of activity, despite Covid, thanks to project leader Nino Neels.

- Mondays and Wednesdays are set aside for the Homework Centre, where we bring in tutors to help the children with their schoolwork. We have 25 to 30 kids attending. We are also developing the tutors.
- On **Tuesdays** we worship, preach the Gospel, do small group meetings and have fun!
- On **Thursdays** we focus on Young Adults ministry. We are engaging young adults in a fellowship time that is Christ-centred and relational. We are hoping to grow the ministry into a network of connect groups and/or a service.

Our Friday teen ministry is already rolling, with more teens attending than we
had initially expected. We engage the teens with games, have a time of worship
and teaching and then break into small groups for discussion.

For more info or to volunteer at Transformation Vrededorp, contact

Nino Neels: ninon@enjhb.org

MALIBONGWE

### PRACTICAL SUPPORT DURING COVID

Malibongwe impacts the lives of women with children, who have no way of earning a living. Our focus is on training them, and then wherever possible, helping them find suitable employment or helping them start home businesses.

At the beginning of 2020, fifteen women enrolled for the Malibongwe programme. A number of them were from the Vrededorp area, where many previous Malibongwe women come from. A benefit of women coming from the same suburb, is that after they complete the programme, they often remain in contact with each other, supporting each other in their businesses and in life.

During hard lockdown and the months thereafter, our focus shifted to providing food

and other resources to women who have been through our programme. People in our poorer communities have suffered significant loss and hardship last year. Most of our support was given in the form of food parcels, vouchers and rental assistance. We were able to help many women and families during this time.

As 2021 progresses, we look forward to once again focussing on impacting women through training, and helping them find ways in which to provide for their families.

For more information about Malibongwe, contact

Debbie Belsham: DebbyBelsham@gmail.com

CRISIS RESPONSE



#### 2020 - ALL HANDS ON DECK

The Crisis Response Team, partnering with the Reach team, worked many long hours to meet the needs of the hundreds of people arriving at church for help during the pandemic.

- Families in distress received food and had other needs met (over 210 families were fed weekly).
- Two high school students received scholarships through the CRT, enabling them to go back to school.
- We celebrated many salvations and baptised over 20 people.
- Hundreds were discipled in weekly discipleship groups.
- People were helped to find employment.

• Food outreaches were done to Zandspruit through EN Ruimsig and recently to Braamfontein via EN Braamfontein.

We thank everyone who donated so generously, enabling the CRT to meet the needs of so many people during this time of crisis.

For more info about our Joburg Crisis Response Team (CRT), contact

Brian Glover: <u>brian@glover.co.za</u>

