



**TO be a Safe PLACE FOR KIDS WHO DON'T HAVE ONE**

NPO 155-039

# ANNUAL REPORT

## 2023 - 2024

*“To help the child is to help the family and through this, the community”.*



# Ikhaya Lothando crisis home

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## **Chairlady's Report:**

### **Ikhaya Lothando: Description of all activities of the trust.**

#### **Mission Statement**

Ikhaya Lothando means beloved home or home of love. The mission statement is that we want to help and support children to find them a loving home and provide a safe place for children who don't have one. Our main focus will be young (abused) little girls from 1-8 As a crisis home, Ikhaya Lothando will serve both children and the community. To help the child is to help the family and through this, the community.

#### **Vision**

To help young abused little girls who don't have a safe place, for a period up to 6 months. We want to work with police, local hospitals and social work. As Ikhaya Lothando we will go out into the community to build trust and find those who are in great need of help and assistance. Through this kids in need will find their way to our home.

*"We are thankful to all our national and international friends and partners, who helped us wherever help was needed. Mostly with food and finances and this year, to make our new home into a real 'Ikhaya Lothando' and for us to able to grow, so we can help even more of those in need. We appreciate their warm and compassionate heart for those in need".*

In the last year we have put our focus back on the the main goal and objectives of Ikhaya Lothando.

- The rescue and care of persons in distress
- The provision of poverty relief
- The provision of community service
- Help, development, and support of children, more particularly (without limiting the generality thereof), children in need of care. (Based on Cristian principles and belief)

Those 4 pillars have been the main tools to build trust and a relationship between ourselves and the communities in the rural area of Matatiele. At times it has been frustrating that no one comes back to us. No one of the NPO's around seem to want to network, while social work only wants us to do it the way they want to do it. The only thing that keeps coming back to us is the corruption that is going around. So it should not come as a surprise that people don't want to work together to help more. But even when things don't go as we hoped for, it is on the other hand a wakeup call for us, not to be dragged down that way, just to get kids in. We are not doing it to make money, we are here to find a way to help people in the communities, who are far tucked away in the rural areas, close to the mountains of Lesotho.

As we prayed for God to open another 'window' we met the ladies from disaster management of Matatiele municipality. They have gone out to the communities for over 20 years and know where the biggest need is. For now, this is a great contact and a bridge for us to the people and kids in need. We have been able to help with provision of poverty relief, community service and help in the development and support of children.

Our hope and prayer is that this work will at the end bring us to be able to rescue and care of persons/children in distress. We are learning about the needs out here and that many kids just don't have birth certificates. Many people come into South Africa without permits give birth to kids without any rights. The poverty in those communities is huge and there is little to no help.

We are thankful to be able to help when it is really needed and to be able to keep kids in school as long as possible. From here we can and will build further.

We have continued the soupkitchen, foodparcels, help with (school) clothing etc in and around Matatiele. This time we have been able to help in Matataiele, Area C and the rural area about 1 hour drive outside Matatiele. We have a few volunteers who are enthusiastic to help and come along side with us, as well as some teachers. As we went back to basics you could say and start from the beginning, which is the community, we are learning to be patient and help out where is really needed.

This year we didn't have any new kids in the house. Social work is not coming back to us and we are waiting to hear the end of a court case that's been going on for over a year. We have learned the hard way that we can not count on social workers here. We will not let the house be used for what they want, instead of listening to what we like to do. Especially now a lot of houses all over South Africa close down because the government stops giving the funding that is needed to keep things running. We are maybe even more thankful for the contacts that we did make and that we can trust. Also have we been able to feed many elderly and young children. We have been able to finally help many children with new school uniforms, so they can stay in school and get a meal.

Its been another year of learning how to be able to get where we want to be and how. We might not have had kids in yet but it did teach us how to go continue. Most important is still to stay true to ourselves, to the vision of Ikhaya Lothando and to what God has called us to do. If we do that, we will get where God wants us to be and to know how to uses the house the best way possible for kids in need

We are reaching out to the community focusing on the following:

- A weekly soupkitchen/ foodparcels
- We support and help the sick.
- Provide clothing/ schoolclothing
- Provide a safe place for kids who need a break/extra help (together with a parent or caregiver)
- Celebration of culture.
- Mandela day
- Christmas celebration

Its been another year of challenges but I think we can carefully say that we are moving forward in a positive way. As being outside the township or rural area has its own challenges, we are getting our feet on the ground to reach those people who need help most. We are excited to see what will come next. This year we want to bring the kids from the community here in our house for a warm meal and support where needed. A short holiday camp is on our wish list, especially for those who have so little and sometimes only one meal a day. We have seen the opportunities and are hopeful that in time trust will be build.

To everyone who has contributed in so many ways and enabled us to get ready with everything in and around the house, helping the homeless and the kids who we could help this year in Matatiele and rural area of Eastern Cape, thank you so much.

Jozien Koelewijn

Chairlady – Ikhaya Lothando

## **2. Identifying details of the Organization**

### **Title and registration details:**

Ikhaya Lothando, a home for children.

### **Registration**

Its a faith based welfare organization registered as follows:

- As Ikhaya Lothando Charible Trust IT020141/2014
- Non profit Organisation 155-039

## **3. Area of operation**

For about 11 years we worked in Ntuzuma in Durban, KwaZulu Natal. This province, carries the heaviest burden with the most children and adults affected by HIV/AIDS. Thousands of children are being left orphaned every month without any adult care what so ever.

Ntuzuma township. Its home for about 500.000 people, connected to KwaMashu and Inanda, two other big townships with a high crime rate.

HIV/AIDS is high in KwaZulu Natal, South Africa. Statistics show it is even higher than anywhere else in the country. Especially the rural area is hit hard by the epidemic. Social problems, such as extreme poverty, abuse of women and children, unemployment, and the consequences of HIV/AIDS characterise life in many townships. While the need is high, there is no help. Most homes are already full, while more and more children end up alone or in an abusive situation.

Almost the same can be said about Eastern Cape. Even though poverty, abuse and children growing up with only a gogo, a teen mom or even alone, seem to be a bigger problem here. Drug and alcohol abuse by parents seems to get out of control in so many places in South Africa and its no difference here in Matatiele. Through the years we found ourselves going up and down to Tinana and Matatiele, about 4 hour drive from Durban. After 11 years in Ntuzuma, this is the place where we were able to buy a beautiful property which a nice big garden. As there is nothing like a crisis home around, we thought that is will be full soon, as many kids go to bed hungry as many parents are unemployed.

We have been here now for 3 years and had to find our feet in a new place. The social workers came with their own agenda, wanting us to become something under government, which we never asked for. They came running for a job they thought we would have for them but never came running for a child to be placed here. It all takes time and we do learn most through the things that go different, going through problems we find along the way. We can only hope and pray for the coming years that going back into the community, as we did for many years in Ntuzuma, will bring us the kids and people we are here for in the first place. We have good hopes that it will!

## **We want to be a safe home for those who don't have one.**

Ikhaya lothando wants to be that place, a home, where children can be child again. As we will be a crishome and mostly work with abused children in the age of 1- 8, we had to choose between boys or girls. As we have little girls living with us, we choose to focus on the girls. It also fits with the huge and growing problem in South Africa of abuse to women in children. We hope to be able to make a difference by offering a place of safety for little girls.

### **4. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES (the Goal)**

- The rescue and care of persons in distress
- The provision of poverty relief
- The provision of community service
- Help, development, and support of children, more particularly (without limiting the generality thereof), children in need of care.

Based on Cristian principles and belief

### **5. Ikhaya Lothando – bridging the gap**

**Ikhaya Lothando** functions in many ways as a bridge, bringing people and organisations from different cultures, countries and socio-economic backgrounds together

We cannot do the work alone. Ikhaya Lothando also strives to network with as many organisations and people who work in the same area as possible. As we did for 11 years in Durban, we will also do the same in Matatiele.

We have visited and shared the vision with the hospital, police, social workers, caregivers and churches in and around the area Matatiele and Mount Fletcher. We will keep spreading the story and will plan to keep doing this also in 2024. Only once everything goes well and its clear how we ll continue we would love to invite anyone who will be a part in helping the child. I think what sets us apart from other houses is that we love to help the child but also the community. It goes hand in hand with us. We want to help kids temporary if possible and work with the family so the child can remain as a part of a community and not grow up as an orphan, as many kids do have family. Only together we can really make a difference towards a better future and awareness.

### **6. Beneficiaries**

**For the duration of the 2023-2024 financial year, Ikhaya lothando attended this year to many people and children in the communities around Matatiele by giving out food and clothes. Especially those who were left with nothing after a disaster happened.**

**The house was mainly used to prepare the food and parcels for those in need.**

- We were able to take 1 little girl who is with us full time to focussed school here in Matatiele.
- Another little girl we support with schooluniforms in Durban and comes to stay with us in the holidays.
- We ve also been able to help many homeless people in Matatiele and where able to feed them almost every week.
- We have been able to feed around 1500 elderly with a warm meal every month, when they come for their pension money
- We fed around 250 kids with a Christmas meal
- We helped 5 families with a monthly foodparcel

- We helped around 50 kids with new schoolshoes and uniform where needed.
- We came out 300 hotdogs at school to the kids, parenst, teachers and others who were there for an awareness campaign
- We helped out another family with 3 schooluniforms and schoes.
- Gave out foodparcels to 6 houses in the rural area that lost everything

## **7. Renovations done are the following:**

Outside:

- We painted the sides of the roof after the storm broke several things
- got more leaking spots fixed
- Had swings painted and playground fixed

### **A. Transport**

#### **Transport for groceries**

- We bought groceries on a weekly, sometimes daily basis. Mainly for in the house if kids came by and other guests and for the people we support in the different areas around us in Matatiele and rural area.

#### **Renovations**

- We drove around a lot to get the stuff and help we needed for whatever we were working on, in and around the house. Also, to help the little girl going to school and back home.

#### **Ntuzuma**

- Fundy has been going up and down a lot. Sometimes to help some in Durban but also for the gogo soccer team from Kwamashu that she is still involved with and support. We hope to bring them to Matatiele some time to see if we can do something like that in Matatiele as well. I think she went up and down maybe about 10 times during the year 2023-2024.

#### **Child care training**

- Fundy and I both followed a 4week online seminair about children at risk of YWAM. We both got a certificate and finished it successfully.

### **Car in Matatiele**

- This year Fundy got her driving liscence and will help with the driving when she can.
- The other driver is Jozien, and we are using the ISUZU double cap 300KB.

## 8. Poor Relief

### Food, clothing and household articles in crisis situations

- We ve started the soupkitchen for both elderly and children this year. We are now challenged by which place is safe to continue to do this. The hall we used for the elderly is closed because of safety concerns. And the children we were feeding outside in the heat. It's not safe to keep doing that either. In the coming year we will try to find another place or use Ikhaya Lothando.
- We ve been able to help several families in the community with food parcels. The challenge here is that we don't want people to sell it for alcohol or drugs or use it other then feeding the kids. So we will see how best we can go about this in the coming year.
- We got many clothes donated to us and will give it out where needed.

## 9. Administration Aspect

Ikhaya Lothando is a small project that through the years, build the trust of the people, to be able to do what we want to do.

- Founder Fundy Shangase does most of the hands-on work with the youth as well as the little children. Like the coaching and cooking. She is an experienced child care worker (with certificates) and is easy going for the youth. She is a volunteer and only receives a stipend.
- Jozien is a full-time volunteer from the Netherlands. She takes care of all the transport, administration and fundraising.
- Other locals and youth have been helping on certain occasions with practical work.
- We only pay local people from Matatiele and surroundings when needed a stipend.
- Our aim is to get more volunteers and outreach teams from Youth with a mission and other churches.
- We got a letterhead for Ikhaya Lothando crisishome



- logo for Matatiele.



## 10. Fundraising

- Ikhaya Lothando depends entirely on financial support and donations from supporters/donors and Partners
- Overseas fundraising done by: Jozien Koelewijn
- South Africa fundraising and donations done by: Fundy Shangase and Jozien Koelewijn

## 11. Finances

As Ikhaya Lothando has been registered in 2015, we have 7 official financial reports.

## 12. Banking details

**First National Bank**

**Account name: Ikhaya Lothando Charitable Trust**

**Account Number: 62543566189**

**Branch 79, Durban North**

**Ikhaya Lothando is a non-profit organization**

### **This Information is provided by:**

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Fundy Shangase ( Founder and Director)

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