



*"....See, I have placed before you an open door that no one can shut...."
(Rev. 3:7-8)*

ANNUAL REPORT

2022/2023



The Philadelphia Foundation for Orphans was established in 2004 and is working with orphans and vulnerable children and their support systems.

Our main aim is to benefit orphans and vulnerable children and their families, caretakers and communities, as well as other vulnerable people groups. The aim and objectives are practically implemented in several ways: by providing material support as well as training and income-generating projects through which capacity is increased and poverty reduced; by sharing knowledge, expertise and experiences as well as motivating and supporting other organisations and individuals with similar aims and objectives worldwide. Our most important goal throughout our work is to spread the gospel of our Lord, Jesus Christ, and so bring hope for this life as well as life eternal.

Several projects are running to implement the objectives that were set to reach this aim. This report will highlight the main activities.

Education support

School materials

Just like other years also in 2022 Philadelphia could help the teenagers from our youth clubs with school materials. Each of the teenagers made a list of what they still needed, like stationery, copy papers, calculator, etcetera. And for a certain amount per child we could help them with that. They were very happy! We also helped some learners from a secondary school in Grootfontein with school materials or a school uniform.



We care

Soup kitchens

With the prices of basic food items increasing, our soup kitchens are becoming more and more important. Philadelphia started the year with soup kitchens at two preschools, but later on one was added, also at a preschool, in Blikkiesdorp. We helped with a pot for that school, so that they can cook food for the children every school day. Around the same time we started our fourth soup kitchen at Pastor Gert's church, for the children who come to the group. This year about 100 children could have a nutritious meal every school day. We are so grateful to be able to do this!



Family support

On multiple times we could hand out vegetables that Philadelphia received as donations from local farmers. We received bags full of corn heads, two bakkies full of pumpkins and gem squash, lots of cabbage and carrots. We always gave this to the soup kitchens, but also to other families in need. At the end of the year, each family of the children that joined our group at Pastor Gert, also received a food parcel as that soup kitchen was closing over the holiday.

We did an outreach to one of the children Philadelphia has worked with when still based in the Kavango region. The child is now an adult and mother of two children, but being an orphan and with her grandmother also passing away, she is not having a support network. So, she contacted Philadelphia and after a while of helping from a distance, we decided to visit her and help her to get started. We brought her a food parcel, chickens, seed for a garden, etc.



In the beginning of the year, the private school in town had an action day, where all the kids walked without shoes for a day, and donated a second-hand pair of shoes. Philadelphia helped with the distribution of those shoes. Most of them we gave to children at the Omulunga School, but others went to the Secondary School (Fridrich Awaseb) and to the group we have with Pastor Gert. In this way many children were blessed with nice shoes.



Blankets

At the beginning of the winter, Philadelphia had its annual blanket action. This action is held to help people to sleep warm at night, as the winter nights in Namibia can become cold. This year, we gave blankets to the learners of grade 6 and 7 of the Omulunga Primary School. We could also give blankets to the children of our four soup kitchens and some were sent to Bushmanland to hand out to people there. In total over 330 blankets were handed out.



Skills development

Preschools

With the preschool teachers we work with in Grootfontein, we came together a couple of times. Our first meeting of the year was difficult, because during the summer holiday (December) one of our teachers passed away. She had been part of our group from the beginning. We will always remember her as someone who was excited about things, who had a great laugh, who could tell stories with enthusiasm, and who loved the kids she worked with. We miss her.

At the end of 2022 Philadelphia could help with the registration of two new preschool teachers to go for an AMS training. They completed the first part of their training in December 2022 and will go for the second part around May 2023. They were excited about what they've learned!

Some girls from youth club were having trouble with math, so after youth club we stayed behind and did math together.

Children's project

Our work with the streetkids has changed this year. Because we wanted to involve a man in the project, to be a positive role model to the boys, we teamed up with Pastor Gert Tjamibiru. We started to have our groups at his church, but the boys did not come anymore. So we started to invite other children who were not going to school. And that group grew to over 20 children in the age of 5 till 14 years old. The young ones mostly coming with their older brothers or sisters. The whole year we have been busy with teaching them about God and who Jesus is, we've made a start with learning letters (sounds), but also more basic skills through games and activities. It is quite challenging because of the age differences, the language barrier and the fact that most of them were never in a school and are not used to structure like that. But through the year we could see changes in them. They are much helped by having a routine, by doing language activities like newstime, they've learned to express themselves in English better, and to be more confident about what they can do. We started to plan for them to go (back) to school, so we contacted with the ministry of education and put them on the list for a special class for them to go to next year. We also started a soup kitchen for this group of kids, meaning that they can come to the church for a nutritious meal every weekday.



Evangelism

Youth club

After we finished the lessons of last year in the two separate groups, we joined the groups again to one. We started to go through the Old Testament together. It was so nice to do, and to find out that the Old

and the New Testament are so connected and to find references to Jesus all through the Bible. They really were interested in it and some asked afterwards where in the Bible they can find that particular story, so they could go and read it.

Four of our youth club went to camp of CEF (Child Evangelism Fellowship) this year and two older ones went as cabin leaders. We supported them again with half of the camp fees, the transport to Mariabronn and some toiletries. They had a great time and, on the way back, they planned to do an outreach in the area where they live!

At the end of the year we had our annual Christmas party. This year we decided to make a video of the Christmas story with some of the kids that join our youth club. So we filmed how Mary was stirring her



pot when the angel suddenly showed up. At Kap & Bou (an area behind Blikkiesdorp) we filmed the stable scenes and the shepherds in the field. It came out quite nicely and we watched it with the whole group at our Christmas celebration. We also had a snack for everyone and a gift to take home. Another wonderful year came to an end.

Operation Christmas Child (OCC)

Operation Christmas Child is a part of the American organisation Samaritan's Purse. It is aiming to bring the gospel to children (and in that way their families and friends) all over the world and to disciple them. This year we joined the OCC team in Grootfontein. We had several team meetings and started to have vision meetings to partner with ministries and schools in Grootfontein. Next year we will train the ones that are selected and will start the process of handing out the gift boxes and the bible lesson books that go with it. Looking forward to that!



Permaculture

This year we made some gardens at homes of some of the children of our children's group. They often come from families that are used to working on a farm, so there are people at home who can help them a bit. We also made a garden at two houses of streetkids (they mostly have a house where they stay at night). And we made a garden at the church of Pastor Gert and gave seeds to replant the garden at a preschool.

