

14/05/2021

What a year 2020 was, so many disappointments, broken lives, destroyed economies, lost jobs, lost love ones and so much more. But yet in the midst of all this there is still hope, hope that 2021 will be better and hope that life will improve. It has certainly started out that way and we all look forward to the day when we can call life normal again.

It is very hard to believe that more than a whole year has gone by since Adrian handed over the reins of Benjamin Generation to Vanessa and Rowen. So much has happened in this time with the circumstances surrounding Covid 19 very much dictating how we have to manage Benjamin Generation. But none the less Vanessa and Rowen have stepped out in faith and have started two new projects at Benjamin Generation namely the baby home and a preschool for the community and the children of Benjamin Generation.

For many years Benjamin Generation has been asked to care for babies so with that in mind, we decided to start the baby home. During August, September, and October 2020 work was done on an existing building to have it ready to receive our first baby. We had many generous donations that made this project possible. Thank you to all those that helped in getting this worthy cause off the ground



and to those who continue to support the daily cost of running it.

The baby home opened its doors on the 20th of November to receive abandoned, neglected, orphaned, and abused babies and toddlers.

Benjamin Generation: Section 18A Company NPO# 141-506: PBO# 930048209: CONTACT: + 27 (0) 78 735 0840 rowen@benjamingeneration.org The first baby was received on the 21st of November and since then we have had 10 babies being accommodated in this new home. Two of these babies have been fostered and we are just so excited that two new families have been formed.

It has not only become home to these babies but has provided work for five ladies from our community, all of whom were unemployed before.

The main children's home is bursting at the seams with toddlers. What a joyful sound they make. There is always so much excitement upon visiting them and there is always fun and laughter. Of late we have received so many emergency cases; it is just so sad to see how the world is falling apart and how so many little lives have and are being destroyed because of this. What a terrible bunch of people we adults are that we can let our actions destroy these precious little



lives. Benjamin Generation stands in the gap during these most awful times in their lives, giving them love, support, protection, and a



home where they can feel safe.

So with this deep desire to serve our little ones, our next adventure started here at Benjamin Generation on the 3rd of May 2021 - the start of our new preschool. The first phase that we have started on is building an ablution block with a storeroom attached. The next phase will be the office, kitchen, reception, and first-aid room. The third and most important phase will be the classrooms, another ablution and verandahs off the front and back of the classroom block. Then we will finish off with a play area, a fence around the school's property and the gardens around the school.

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This preschool will give 8 people employment. Building into the upliftment of the community is something that is very close to our hearts.

In our little town of New Hanover, we do not have an ECD centre for children to prepare them for their first year of school (grade R). We hope to accommodate up to 80 children in the school covering the following basic elements daily, namely:

- Social Skills and Development - Life Skills Development - Emotional Development - Language Development - Numeracy Concepts - Gross and Fine Motor Activities with plenty of Sensory play opportunities - Combination of Free and Structured play opportunities daily.

Our desire is to make the school as independent as possible so that it can be run independently of Benjamin Generation Child Care Centre but still be part of Benjamin Generation as a whole. This is a huge undertaking and we need your help, we need your prayers, we need your support and if you able, your financial help.

If you would like to be involved in anyway, please feel free to contact us.

You can contact us via our website at www.benjamingeneration.org or

Follow us on our Facebook page. <u>https://www.facebook.com/pages/Benjamin-</u> Generation/1406788702906948.

Or email us on rowen@benjamingeneration.org and

vanessa@benjamingeneration.org



Benjamin Generation giving back to the community.

Hello is anyone there? The kids at play.



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