

# HUIS MAERUA NEWSLETTER



HUIS MAERUA  
*Maak 'n verskil.*

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Krismis Skoenboksprojek 2026.

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Challenges of working at a children's home.

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Sharing hope.

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## HUIS MAERUA KRISMIS SKOENBOKSPROJEK

Die feestyd is 'n tyd van gee, deel en vriendelikheid toon – en watter beter manier om dit te doen as deur ons Krismis Skoenboksprojek.

Elke jaar nooi ons ons vriende, families, skole en besighede uit om deel te neem aan hierdie hartlike inisiatief deur 'n skoenboks te vul met klein geskenkies vir die kinders by Huis Maerua Kinderhuis. Hierdie bokse, liefdevol voorberei en toegedraai, is meer as net geskenke – hulle is tekens van hoop en vreugde vir kinders wat moeilike omstandighede in die gesig gestaar het.

Deelnemers word aangemoedig om 'n skoenboks te versier en dit te vul met ouderdomsgepaste items soos toiletware, skryfbehoeftes, klein speelgoed of lekkers. Elke boks is gemerk vir 'n seun of meisie en 'n ouderdomsgroep, wat verseker dat elke kind iets spesiaals net vir hulle ontvang.

Die glimlagte en opgewondenheid wanneer die kinders hul bokse oopmaak, is werklik van onskatbare waarde. Vir baie is dit dalk die enigste geskenk wat hulle gedurende die feestyd ontvang – en dit herinner hulle daaraan dat hulle gesien, gewaardeer en geliefd word.

Ons is innig dankbaar teenoor almal wat die tyd neem om 'n skoenboks voor te berei en in die gees van vrygewigheid te deel. Julle vriendelikheid maak Kersfees helderder vir elke kind in ons sorg.

Saam kan ons hierdie Kersfees 'n seisoen van vreugde, vrygewigheid en liefde maak.

Vir meer inligting oor hoe om deel te neem of jou skoenboks af te lewer, kontak ons asseblief.



# BEHIND THE SMILES

The daily challenges of caring for traumatised children

Working at a children's home is one of the most rewarding, yet emotionally demanding, professions there is. Behind the laughter and daily routines lies a world of complex challenges that few truly understand. The staff at Huis Maerua Children's Home stand on the frontlines of healing — guiding children who have endured trauma, neglect, or instability toward a place of safety, trust, and hope.

But this journey is far from easy. Each child comes with their own story — one that often includes pain, loss, or betrayal. The effects of early trauma do not simply disappear once a child is placed in a safe environment. Instead, they often surface through rebellion, anger, defiance, or withdrawal. What may look like “bad behaviour” is, in fact, a child's way of expressing fear, confusion, or a desperate need for control in a world that has felt unpredictable.



Our staff are not only caregivers; they are mentors, counsellors, mediators, and protectors. They carry the emotional weight of children who test boundaries, lash out, or reject love — all while trying to build trust one small step at a time.

Adding to this challenge is the constant pressure from the outside world. Staff often face criticism and misunderstanding from parents, teachers, and even members of the public who may not grasp the complexity of child protection work.

It can be painful to defend decisions made in the best interest of a child when those decisions are questioned, criticised, or undermined.



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## FOCUS ON TODAY. WE'LL SECURE YOUR TOMORROW.



Teachers sometimes overstep or contradict management decisions, parents vent their frustration, and gossip spreads easily — yet through it all, the team continues to stand firm, guided by the law and the responsibility entrusted to them by the courts.

Raising teenagers who have experienced trauma is not the same as raising typical adolescents. These young people crave love and independence at the same time; they push limits not because they are “bad,” but because they are trying to see if the love around them is real and unconditional.

The reality is that every day brings new challenges — moments of frustration, exhaustion, and sometimes heartbreak. Yet, it also brings moments of breakthrough: a smile, a hug, a small step toward trust. Those moments are what keep the staff going.

At Huis Maerua, we salute our dedicated team for their resilience, professionalism, and compassion. They continue to show up, day after day, driven by a deep belief that every child deserves a chance to heal, to grow, and to belong.

It takes patience to love a child who pushes you away, but that's exactly where healing begins.

# WCE

**CONSULTING ENGINEERS**



**WCE is ready to team up with you. Contact us today.**  
 Tel: +264 61 370 900 • Email: [wce@wce.com.na](mailto:wce@wce.com.na)  
 51 Feld Street, Windhoek, Namibia

## CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR VICTORY AT THE KARATE CHAMPIONSHIPS!

Sports like karate offer incredible benefits for children, especially those who have experienced trauma — helping them build confidence, self-control, and resilience while creating a healthy outlet for emotions.

Well done on being such a positive example! Your dedication and discipline are truly inspiring.



## SHARING HOPE

Huis Maerua Extends Support to Fellow Child Welfare Organisations

Huis Maerua Children's Home believes in the power of collaboration to make a greater impact in the lives of children. In addition to caring for the children placed in our home, we are committed to supporting other non-profit organisations that serve children in need or vulnerable situations.

By sharing our resources, knowledge, and experience, we aim to strengthen the broader network of child welfare in Namibia. Together, we can reach more children, provide better care, and build a stronger, more compassionate community for every child to grow and thrive.

Wilderness Therapy will now be able to fill many hungry tummies with this No. 12 three-legged pot!



We are also in the process of collecting much needed second-hand school and sport shoes for an allocated school in Khomasdal. Please contact our office if you would like to be part of this initiative.

# THE VALUE OF JOB SHADOWING FOR CHILDREN GROWING UP IN A CHILDREN'S HOME

Growing up in a children's home presents a very different journey compared to the traditional family setting. While the home provides safety, care, and stability, many young people leaving such an environment face a daunting challenge when the time comes to step into the world of adulthood and independence. One of the most effective ways to bridge this gap is through job shadowing. A practical learning experience that allows young people to observe, learn, and engage in real workplace environments.

For children and teenagers in a children's home, job shadowing is far more than a career exploration tool. It is an opportunity to gain insight into professional life, to understand the expectations of the workplace, and to develop soft skills such as communication, time management, and responsibility. These are lessons that cannot be fully taught in a classroom or through theory alone — they are learned through exposure, observation, and mentorship.

Job shadowing helps young people build confidence and direction. It opens their eyes to career paths they may never have considered and allows them to connect with role models who inspire them to dream bigger. It also provides a sense of belonging — showing them that they, too, have a place in the world beyond the home, and that they can contribute meaningfully to society.

Equally important, job shadowing teaches practical realities. Workplace etiquette to teamwork and the importance of showing initiative. These experiences give young adults the readiness to face life outside the children's home with resilience and hope. When they leave the home, they do not just step out with academic certificates, but with life skills and a clearer sense of purpose.

At Huis Maerua Children's Home, we have seen firsthand how powerful these opportunities can be. Job shadowing placements have given our young adults a head start, transforming uncertainty into excitement and potential into purpose.



We would like to extend our heartfelt appreciation to **Integrated Dental Holdings**, **OK Group Namibia**, **Windhoek Fuel Centre**, and **Rent-A-Drum** for their continued support in providing job shadowing opportunities and mentoring our young adults. Your willingness to invest time, knowledge, and compassion into their lives is making a lasting impact. It is shaping confident, skilled, and hopeful young individuals ready to build brighter futures.

Your partnership is not only opening doors but also changing lives.

The business community plays an invaluable role in making these life-changing opportunities possible. Through financial support, mentorship programmes, internships, and job shadowing placements, businesses help bridge the gap between dependence and independence for our young adults. By opening their doors, sharing their expertise, and investing their time, companies help prepare vulnerable youth for real-world challenges, empowering them to build stable and productive lives.

Every business that gets involved becomes a part of a greater purpose. Shaping futures, restoring hope, and breaking the cycle of vulnerability. The partnership between organisations like Huis Maerua Children's Home and the corporate sector is essential to equipping young Namibians with the tools they need to thrive.

We invite companies and individuals who wish to make a meaningful difference to contact our office and find out how they can get involved, whether through mentorship, internships, financial assistance, or offering workplace exposure opportunities. Together, we can give every child the chance to dream, grow, and succeed.

## RECYCLING FOOTWARE FOR GOOD

### What to do with your old school & sport shoes?

Join us in making a difference in the less fortunate schools by donating your old school shoes & socks and old sport shoes & socks.

Drop off can be made at our office: Huis Maerua Children's Home, 24 Demonte St. Auasblick. 083 332 5030



## MAKE YOUR BRAND PART OF A CHILD'S STORY

For just **N\$200 a month**, your advertisement can appear in our monthly newsletter — reaching our supporters while directly helping change a child's life.

Your partnership will bring hope, care, and opportunities to vulnerable Namibian children in our care. Together, we can turn small acts of kindness into big differences.

Contact Suann at [admin@huismaerua.org](mailto:admin@huismaerua.org) to partner with us today.

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!**

## HUIS MAERUA KINDERHUISSENKINGSBOKS

SPEELGOED • SPORTTOERUSTING  
MEUBELS • KLERE • SKOENE  
PLANTE • DEKOR • LINNE  
BEDDEGOED • EETGERY  
HANDDOEKE • GORDYNE

### ELKE ITEM WAT JY GEE, HELP ONS OM:

- In die daaglikse behoeftes van die kinders in ons sorg te voorsien.
- Lewensbelangrike programme te onderhou wat genesing, groei en opvoeding bevorder.
- Geld in te samel deur ons liefdadigheidswinkel om langtermynondersteuning te verseker.



## COMING SOON DRIVE FOR A CAUSE

*Pay for a Premium Ride to Your Child's Matric Farewell Venue*



*All proceeds support Huis Maerua Children's Home*

*Make it memorable. Make it matter.*



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### BEHOEFTE VIR NOVEMBER 2025:

1. Asdrom sakke
2. Yskas sakkies
3. Mop & besem vir elke huis (x3)
4. Gevriesde hoender

5. Vis
6. Beskuit
7. Lekkergoed
8. Sommers klere & plakkies. Kontak ons vir grotes.

Huis Maerua Children's Home

# CHRISTMAS SHOEBOX PROJECT

1 October – 30 November 2025

10 Boys 2 to 18 years  
10 Girls 18 months to 17 years

STATIONERY • TOYS

CLOTHES • SOCKS • UNDERWEAR

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