



Changing the destiny of children

May – Experiencing Joy

30 May 2008

Dear friends and family,

Another month and here we are again to give you exciting news and to share the blessings we are experiencing all over with you. I can never cease to have a thankful heart towards God who is showing Himself to be faithful in everything we put our hands to, and to all the people who are sharing their time, resources and expertise to strengthen our hands and to lift us up to work diligently.

I trust that you will experience the feeling of Joy in your heart as you read the news from the specific sections.



From **Rose** in the USA: "I'm so excited to share these pictures with you.

Brenda sent me these photos where her husband **Pratt** raced the car in Atlanta and did quite well. He used this as another avenue of exposure for the work of SA Cares for Life!

From **Rosinah** who wrote excitingly about the growth in the food gardens at the Early Learning Centre in Mabopane.

Thank you again **SAB** for planting these vegetables for us at the Early Learning centre. The children are watching eagerly and we are using it as valuable life lessons in many ways.



From Leonie a report on the open day for HOUSE ELIZABETH

An Open Day was held on 11 April 2008, for the opening of a single mother home, called house Elizabeth, in Mamelodi.

More than 30 people attended this event and it is a big stepping stone for Abba Adoptions to have their own home for destitute single mothers. Women who have decided not to terminate their pregnancies and desire to be single moms are getting an opportunity to settle here before and after the birth of their babies. The programme includes housing for a specific length of time, training in life

skills and parenting workshops with the view to equip, empower and then re-integrate these women back into the society as confident and employed women.

We envision networking with Mamelodi Clinic and Mamelodi Police Station. We have established good relationships with the Ikwekwezi radio station and had the opportunity to market our services on the air!

Life Link Pregnancy Crisis Centre in Kempton Park graciously donated furniture for our home and we could open the home earlier because of their support.



From Miriam some baby news...

Irresistible Baby Smiles

In the eight years ABBA House has been running, we have now looked after 356 babies! It is always a joy to hear how our babies are doing and to meet them again if they come for a visit. Recently one of our babies became the brother to another of our ABBA babies. She had had boundless energy and it was lovely to see her again, and while she was quiet during our visit, I'm told that she's still very busy! I think her new brother will be much calmer. When the family met, his first smile was for his new sister! Introducing families to their new baby remains such a privilege and one of my favourite parts of my job.

We've had 15 adoptions since the beginning of the year and as always, as babies leave, new ones arrive. The two older ones I mentioned previously have both been adopted and are doing well. So our youngest is just over a month old at the moment and our oldest is 10 months. He's pulling to stand and practicing his walking. He has the biggest smile – it really does go from ear to ear, and he loves attention. You'll have to come and see for yourselves. Remember, you are welcome to visit (visiting hours are Tues-Sun, 10am-7pm)! I've included his photo as well as that of two cute little ones, they were both really small when they arrived - in the photo below the little girl seems to be objecting to the camera's flash!

Last time I mentioned we were looking for a new doctor, well, we think we've found one or two, so that's a praise item, but we still need to settle in with one and make sure of their commitment. We are also looking for some men who can help with maintenance – almost all of our volunteers are ladies but there really is a need for guys who are willing to hang shelves, fix cupboards, and make a plan on various other household problems. It wouldn't require a regular commitment but rather a willingness to be called when something breaks! ☺

BABY NEWS

Life in the Nursery is never without its challenges and currently we have a baby who concerns us with his medical condition. Please pray for healing for this baby and that the right family would be found who will love him and give him



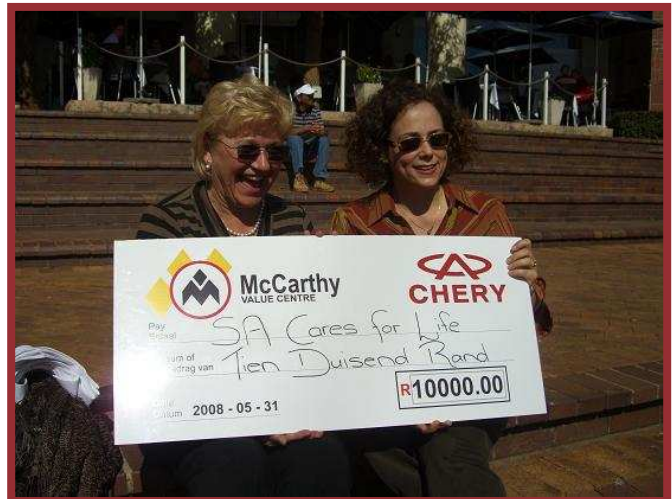
everything he needs to reach his full potential. Humanly speaking, his chances of finding an adoptive family are slim, but we've seen God's faithfulness time and again and trust Him for people who will love him despite his limitations.

There's another little one who we've recently discovered, needs an operation to correct a congenital defect. Please pray that we will find the right parents for her who will be willing to accept her and the complications that come with her!

I've learned that you can never guess an HIV test result. At the beginning of the year we had a baby who was at risk of HIV infection and every indication was that his immune system was low and that he would be infected. And he wasn't!

That was truly the grace of God! Thank you for praying for our babies, for referring people to us who are interested in adopting and for supporting us through your giving. You will never know the difference you have made in the lives of these babies (or at least not until we are in Heaven)! Many Thanks!!

McCarthy Value Centre proposed to donate R500 per car sold from the 1st of May 2008 to the 30th of May 2008 at both their Pretoria Central and Pretoria North branches. SA Cares for Life was chosen as one of their charities to benefit from this proposal. On the 31st of May 2008, at the Centurion Mall, McCarthy value Centre hosted their Chery Charity Run and we received a cheque for R10 000!



McCarthy's newly launched passenger vehicles "Chery" was on display to the public and the spacious 15 sedan, the new cute QQ model and the robust Tiggo3 SUV attracted much interest. For your own special deal, please phone Chris at 012-322 6840. McCarthy value Centre became the latest partner with SA Cares for Life to change this city to a place where babies, mothers, children and families will have a better tomorrows!

**From Rene at Neo Birth, came a story that will touch your hear as it did mine...
The teddy story.**

SA Cares for Life regularly receives boxes of clothing and toys from a lady in the USA with the name of Linda Jean Joos, who together with people in her community lovingly sends us wonderful donations for our projects. About two weeks ago we received a donation of five boxes from her, and included in some of the boxes were very special little teddy bears amongst other teddy bears. It is a teddy bear with a gospel necklace on with instructions on what the necklace means. When Bernice unpacked the "gospel teddies" she had a Word of Knowledge that the Teddy Bear would be a mighty tool to use in Post abortion counseling, and we agreed with her.



Yesterday a young girl was brought in to Neo Birth, she told her boss she does not see how she can go on with living. This girl was feeling so alone, rejected, used and unloved. She had an abortion 10 months ago and is pregnant again with the same boyfriend. He and everybody around her were putting pressure on her to abort again. She is feeling so guilty and totally devastated about her first abortion. Rene said that it was one of the saddest counseling's she has done in a long time. Her crying was so heart wrenching, sobbing from the depths of her being, enough to break your heart. After more than an hour of counseling Rene realized she needed to get one of these teddies. While Rene was sharing the meaning of the beads she started to gain hope. Hope for healing and of a future that God has not forgotten and abandoned her. She was clutching the teddy as if her life depended on it, and in a sense is. The teddy is a physical reminder of God's love and care. This was most probably the best way to share God's love and forgiveness with her.

Looking back I think this gift was a lifesaver for her. I am so grateful for the opportunity to share this with her in such a practical way. We want to thank Linda Jean Joos from the bottom of our hearts for sending us these teddy bears that are going to make an amazing difference in so many people's lives

**Rene wrote us another letter sharing her heart about "Tannie Heila":
Farewell to Tannie Heila.**

On the 10th of April we had a farewell function for Tannie Heila at SA Cares head office. How do you describe the influence Tannie Heila had on each one of us? For twelve years she was such an integral part of Neo Birth and later SA Cares for life, developing and growing with the organisation. At the function we had the opportunity to share what she meant to us personally and professionally. Listening to everybody's account of how she made an impact on our lives was amazing. This could have been a very sad and depressing morning. We at SA Cares are a joyful crowd and through some tears we



honoured her. The fact that she is still part of our lives through training and volunteer interviews made the farewell easier. Marita presented her with a lovely watch and bracelet set, a daily reminder of our love for her. In turn she blessed each one with a "baton" in the form of a card named "Running the race". This was so special token to remind us to continue the race set before us never to give up and push towards the prize.



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Heila played a major role in the lives of many people at SA Cares for Life and she is a lifelong partner and friend to all of us. Heila registered her own Training Academy and Procura Academy will be the official training facility of SA Cares for Life. Please have a look at her website and make use of this special training and counselling service.

Tannie Heila may you be blessed as you have blessed us.

In closing I just want to thank you all once again for walking this road with us. All our personnel, volunteers and partners are sharing our dream to change people's circumstances so that they too can experience the joy of being alive and cared for, something we so often take for granted.

Be blessed,
Riekie.