
ANNUAL REPORT

1 MARCH 2016 to 28 FEBRUARY 2017

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Advisory Board:

Rev J Redelinghuys (Chairman; minister; represents local church; fundraising; marketing); Mr A Marsberg (Vice-chairman; local business representative; financial committee); Mr V Singh (Engineer; maintenance); Mr WG Jonker (Human relations; fundraising; marketing); Mr F Beeslaar (School principal; security; education); Mrs E du Plooy (Women's League local Church; communication; marketing); Rev S Maans (Social Worker and Minister of AME Church in Soweto; fundraising; marketing; social work); Ms N Harisunker (Psychology Masters student; psychological matters); Rev D W Krüger (Executive member)
 Additional members: Ms MJ van Rensburg; Rev N van Rensburg; Ms S Theron; Mr A Smith; Ms R Lombard; Ms D Klemp; Ms A Taljaard

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 1930

Manager:

Telephone:

Legal Status:

Non-Profit Organisation Number:
 VAT Registration Number:
 Section 18A Number:

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Vision Statement

The optimal social functioning of the individual, family and community to the glory of God

Mission Statement

Catherine Robson Children's Home is committed to delivering a comprehensive child care service

We want the children in our care to have a special place where they are at home in an atmosphere of care and love

Report of Rev Jan Redelinghuys, Chairman of the Advisory Board

Summary:

- Thanks to the management and staff, the DSD, NG Welfare, Advisory Board and sponsors
- The financial future of the institution seems challenging
- The financial report shows good financial management
- The Vaal Triangle is under financial pressure

Report of the Chairman of the Advisory Board

It is my privilege to submit the annual report of the Catherine Robson Children's Home for the year ending 28 February 2017.

We grasp and promote the notion that while children need to be guided, they also have an entrenched right to be whatever they want to be and that they can achieve this only if they are given the space to dream and live out their dreams. - Nelson Mandela

Catherine Robson is a place where children can dream again, and live those dreams. However, in order to realise a dream, dedicated people are needed.

With this in mind, a special word of thanks to the management and staff of the Children's Home. Thank you for the dedication, professionalism, and compassion with which you look after and care for the children while realising our dream.

We are proud of our children who have excelled in so many areas; also those who have made great progress through the therapeutic input of skilled and educated persons. Of course, we would be able to make even greater strides if more money was available.

We are proud about the results from the auditors' report, which testifies of good financial management (good bookkeeping, careful planning, etc.) However, it remains a concern that we concluded the year with a shortage; a deficit that may increase in the future. Given the economic state in which the Vaal Triangle finds itself, it proves difficult for churches, companies, and individuals to make sustainable contributions. This creates a need for innovative ways in which to generate funds; all in order to deliver the same quality service that our children need and deserve. In this regard, we have made plans for, among other things, a charity golf day.

We would like to thank the following persons and organizations for their continued support: the Department of Social Development, the staff of the office of NG Welfare, various congregations, the members of the advisory board, every donor and sponsor, as well as every volunteer.

Jan Redelinghuys

Chairman of the Advisory Board

Report of the Manager

Summary:

- We are who we are to the measure the society and church we are a part of, acknowledge us by “saying our name” in an empowering *ubuntu* way
- Music teachers, Mastermaths, volunteers and donors are contributing to give the children a future
- Our staff must be applauded for their selfless service
- We acknowledge the expertise and input rendered by the DSD and NG Welfare

I would like to thank everyone who supported Catherine Robson through the year in various capacities. You all helped our children achieve success. We said farewell to several children during our Christmas function. We are still longing for your presence and assure you that we are looking forward to hear how you are doing and growing on your journey through life.

We are thankful that there are many churches, businesses and individuals who recognise us and support our work. One of the key concepts of *ubuntu* is to acknowledge someone’s presence by saying the person’s name. Thank you for thinking about us and saying our name often.

The Department of Social Welfare is acknowledged for their huge contribution to the quality of life and welfare of our children.

We recently went through a Facebook-storm, when children told lies on Facebook about the Children’s Home. The Department of Social development was asked to do an investigation. The Children’s Home came out with flying colours. The children involved individually begged for forgiveness. Support was received, amongst others, from Rev Cobus Niemand, the chairman of the Board of Directors of NG Welfare.

The real life changers in our children’s lives are the staff – especially the Child Care Workers. They give of themselves unstintingly and change the lives of children who come from hard places. We appreciate that our staff are open to receive new training in connecting with children and practising effective discipline in a Children’s Home. We see positive results where they practice what they have been taught during their Child Workers’ Course and through internal training.

The input of a broad spectrum of churches, the staff and advisory board in fund raising and support is highly appreciated.

We feel excited to tackle the challenges a Children’s Home presents. We are grateful for the heart of every child that we reached and influenced positively through caring love and warmth.

The Home’s history

Mrs Catherine Robson, the wife of an employee of the Rand Water Board, became involved with the needs of orphans and destitute children during the post WW II years. She was instrumental in the Child Care Association, becoming involved in a house with a few children. The small scale operation soon expanded. The old municipal offices where the fire brigade is now housed, eventually became a children’s home. When the facility became too small, the grounds on which the Children’s Home is presently situated, was obtained and a facility consisting of two dormitories, a hall and kitchen was built. The facilities were expanded over the years with an office block, residences for staff, additions to the Home and a separate

house apart from the main campus. At present the house in Elwak Street serves as a satellite children's home.

The Children's Home was bought by the NG Church from Child Welfare in 1982. A milestone was reached in 1995 when NG Welfare, a Section 21 company, took over the management of the facility as part of a reorganization of welfare services under the auspices of the NG Church. On 4 December 2009 the Children's Home was registered as an independent Non-Profit Organization – NPO no. 074-521. The Children's Home has its own constitution as a part of NG Welfare, which is reviewed yearly. The Home functions under the Children's Act of 2005.

Services

The Children's Home renders a comprehensive service in terms of the norms and standards laid down in the Children's Act, section 194 (2). The services include different programmes, amongst which are a residential programme, a therapeutic programme, a recreational programme, a developmental programme, permanency plans for the children, individual development plans, protection from abuse and neglect, assessment of children, family reunification and reintegration, after care, access to and provision of adequate health care, access to schooling, education and early childhood development and security measures for the children's home. Each programme is broken down into sub-programmes.

Statistics

Boys	Girls	Black	White	Total
35	38	7	66	73

	Total	0-5 yrs.	6-10 yrs.	11-15 yrs.	16 and older
Boys	35	2	8	17	10
Girls	38	4	10	14	4

Children admitted	15
Number of therapeutic sessions	2000
Number of Individual Development Plans developed	73
Number of Individual Development Plans revised	83
Meals prepared during the reporting period	79935

Success stories

Van Rooyen Children:

Gert and James were placed in Catherine Robson CYCC in 2011.

After successful reunification services rendered to the biological mother over a period of 5 years, both children were reunited with their biological mother during December 2016. The services were rendered

over a great distance, but paid off. The role of the social worker and the local church in helping people getv their lives, finances, etc in order, must be commended.

Martin Potgieter:

Martin was placed in Catherine Robson CYCC since 2007. Martin never knew his biological father. After successful reunification services rendered to his biological mother Martin was reunited with his biological mother after 9 years in September 2016.

Romeo Scholtz:

Romeo and his older brother were placed in Catherine Robson since 2009. Romeo is an outstanding athlete and competed in the S.A athletics championships. Romeo completed his matric in December 2016. He got an opportunity to work right after completing his matric exams. It is Romeo's dream to be an engineer and he is busy with a bridging course in maths, to better his final maths results which will enable him to apply for a study bursary at Sasol.

The Team

Manager:	Rev DW Krüger
Social Workers:	Ms D Klemp, Ms R Lombard
Admin Officer:	Ms AS Taljaard
Child Care Workers:	Ms M Flynn, Ms D van Zyl, Ms Z Myburg, Ms J Viljoen, Ms A vd Merwe
Volunteer assistant child care worker:	Vacant
Driver/Stock Officer	Ms M Grobler
Maintenance:	Mr J Tsolo
Kitchen team:	Mr L Johnson, Ms N Mabala
Child Care Assistants:	Ms R Johnson, Ms M Tlake, Ms M Malefane, Ms T Motswetsa, Ms M Mkwanzazi
Security Guard:	Mr MH Jansen