

MIDLANDS CHILDREN'S HOME

“Rosedale”

2021 ANNUAL REPORT

Introduction

2021, has been characterised by not much activities due to the deadly pandemic COVID 19 which had caused the new World order.

At the beginning of the year not much was done especially going out of the home, the children were only allowed to go to school and hospital and the staff members were not allowed to go out of the home without valid reason. As we come to the quarter part of the year the movements were increased when all the above 18 years old and staff members were vaccinated.

By the end of the year we could see the normality of movement and gatherings were contacted but still with the restrictions like limited number and people wearing their masks always, this is the world order.

The children, staff and committee members, appreciated very well the continual support from our friends and donors especially during the most difficult times, we never felt any difference in terms of the up keep of the children, as for the education our children are even more happy and very excited as this pandemic causes them to have gargets like cell phones and laptops as they are studying on line and virtual.

Achievements

This year we managed to do some of the renovations even the lock down was still on. Most of our things were broken during the lockdown when the children were here always you know with children they always play around and do a lot of experiments. We are glad that a lot of renovations were done.

We managed to repair a lot including, industrial stove (which was made possible by one of the friends), Kitchen cupboards, outside fire place, gutters, ceiling, children's cupboards and window panes etc.

Discharged children

In 2021 the following young adults were discharged, Nokuthula, Dennies, Trust, Tapiwa and Emmanuel. We are all grateful that all five seems to be managing in the community, the four boys always visit us as they are in Gweru. Nokuthula who has joined a family in Bulawayo communicates through the phone. She is doing well while working for this family, Dennies and Trust are working at the nearby plots after completing their Agriculture training and Tapiwa is working at “Nandos” food outlet in Gweru, while Emmanuel was discharged due to mischief and a family from the church offered to stay with him.

Admissions

During the year 2021 we received a total number of 9 children, out of these 9, five children are still here while the other 4 have been collected by their relatives who were located by the Department of Social Services.

Out of the five who are still here the baby boy aged approximately 2 years has been already committed as the Department of Social Service has no hope of locating the parents. For the other four who are from the same family, Department of Social Services are still investigating if it is safe to give them back to their family considering the situation in that family.

In additional we also had 4 children who were put on place of safety while on transit, and we are happy that they are in right places now.

Currently

Currently we have 53 children who comprises of, 25 boys and 28 girls, 12 are young adults 17 are in secondary education, 17 are going for primary education, and 7 are toddlers.

Educational Breakdown

Under fives	
Boys	6
Girls	1
Grade 1-7	
Boys	8
Girls	9
Form 1 – 6	
Boys	6
Girls	11
Pending Train. Centres	
Boys	3
Girls	2
Tertiary	
Boys	3
Girls	3
Getting Settled	
Boys	
Girls	1

This year children were not going to school due to the Covid 19 during the first part of the year, and were doing their lessons online and house mothers were helping with the school work, then gradually the schools were opened but children were going in batches. This is done to try to maintain social distance. As a result the house mothers has more work load as the children are at the home mostly.

We have to set up a good timetable for the children while at home during lockdown, to make sure that children are busy most of the time and at the same time helps to balance both their educational and social life.

The timetable is arranged in a way that at any given time children have something to do in the quest to keep them busy that they are not bored to be at home as they are used to be at school most of the time.

PAMUSHA

We have 12 young adults at Pamusha, 1 is at Kaguvi Agriculture Training Centre, 3 are at Gweru Polytechnic College doing Purchasing, Transport Management and Refrigeration. 1 is at Bulawayo Polytechnic College doing Architecture and 1 is at St. Stanislaus Mushangashe Training Centre doing plumbing. One girl has finished her dress making course and starting to settle, we hope she can also get to work like her brothers. Five are going for training centres in January 2022 once schools are open.

Projects at Pamusha are doing well which gives children fresh and health food and at the end benefiting all the children.

The young adults are also involved in decision making on projects as this also equip them in a way and at the same time make them know that they are part of the projects. Those doing Agriculture they are seen choosing type of vegetables to grow and also help in the keeping of the animals, as they have current information. The outside walls were badly affected by the previous year rains and we painted it.

Like always economic problems are not stopping as a result not much profit is realized as most of the citizens are doing vending which means we are always getting stiffer competition in selling agriculture produce and not much customers. For us we are benefiting a lot in terms of feeding the children with fresh and healthy food, we really appreciate this project.

STAFF MEMBERS

The staff complement is still the same, we have, the administrator, matron, five house mothers and three gardeners. Due to the pandemic of Covid 19, the staff members are restricted on going to their off duties they only go when necessary. This gives them more time to be with the children and helping them in their activities especially home work.

Few meetings and trainings of staff members were done on line. These were hosted by the private organizations who deals with the children. We are not yet conducting any committee members meetings, the committee members comes in and there to check on us, if need be we always contact them and sure they help.

Due to the high level of admissions of the children this year the Department of Social Services staff members were coming in regularly to check on these children and also to ask further question for so that they could get some lead to the relatives.

GIFTED STUDENTS

We have five students on this programme, of which four grew up at this home while one has grown up at a Catholic Mission.

From the four children in Polytech Colleges three, Mintberg, Davis and Chiedza Mago are from one family they are five in their family, the other two are still in secondary and primary education. These five children were abandoned by their mother and they are believed to have different fathers.

While the fourth one Tsitsi has been dumped when she was approximately two months.

Jendrick Jim, is at Bindura University studying Chemical engineering. His parents passed away and the brother run away from their home and he is still living at the Catholic Mission. At times he come and stay with us here at Rosedale, his family is believed to be an alien, who originates from Mozambique.

Fortunately, Darlington Nkomazana a blind young man who has graduated from the University of Zimbabwe in Law got employment at the Judiciary Service Commission of Zimbabwe as an Assistant Researcher after he had registered to the Law Society.

FUTURE PLANS

Due to the current situation, it is not easy to have big plans for the future, we only wish to have basic things like food, cleaning material, clothing and children going to school. Considering the current situation and global change if funds permit, we wish to make a transition from electricity to solar system and also if possible we wish to sell the car then with the income and some additional money buy a new truck.

CONCLUSION

Yes it's not doubt that situation is deteriorating every day and there in no hope that this will be normal any time soon and it's as been worsened by the Covid 19. It is bad especially in the education sector where children are going to school in batches and the school terms has been mixed up children are continuing learning on line and the majority cannot afford the wifi. In the health sector only private hospitals are operating where majority cannot afford. Our currency is also losing value at a high rate which also contribute to the suffering of the people as they cannot afford the basic commodities.

Generally at Rosedale we are happy that all our children are going to school and we are able to provide them with all the requirements for them to continue with their education. We are also happy that we are able to assist the Department of Social Service especially in emergencies and in our line of operation like taking care of the vulnerable children at any given chance the Department always appreciate our service.

We thank God for the friends and donors for Rosedale who always work very hard for the benefit of this home. The children, staff, committee member and Gweru community at large are grateful to the stake holders of this institution for the job well done, the children here are healthy and ever smiling. This is all possible through the help we are getting from our friends and donors, we appreciate all the positive support we are getting, and we always consider our self to be the luckiest people in our society. DANKE.





