



Annual Report

2023



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OUR VISION

Helping Children
take the next step.



OUR MISSION

To make a positive
difference in the lives
of the children that
we render services to
in our residential and
community
programmes.

TO ALL OUR DONORS AND FUNDERS

We thank each and every company, trust
and individual who have supported us and
continue to support our Children.

It is only through your generosity and acts
of kindness that our children feel a sense
of belonging and are well cared for.

Your donations and time have given our
children a home, an education, a healthy
body and mind and most importantly, a
promising future.

We are so grateful for the love that you
have for our children. Your support has
given them hope for a better life.

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Chairperson's Report

Another year in the life of COACH has passed very quickly. It has been a year in which we experienced more high's than lows. Overall, we have managed to maintain the stability of the homes and made some significant gains.

COACH is privileged to have a Board that are a very diverse group of people with different skills that compliment each other. During this year all Board members made significant contributions to the management and progress of COACH. I express my thanks and appreciation for the good work done, your professional conduct and your commitment to the care and security of the children in our care. We have a very good working relationship and I look forward to another successful year as a Board.

The past year was dominated in a way by the actions and decisions of the Department of Social Development (DSD). You will recall that they originally informed the NPO sector that they are reprioritising their activities and therefore reducing the funding to NPO's. This caused an outcry and even protest action by the NPO sector which eventually resulted in the DSD reversing their decision. We however received no increase in funding and was only granted the same allocation as in the previous year. This situation has still not been resolved and we fear that it remains the intention of the DSD to reduce funding. This situation is creating a lot of uncertainty within the sector and makes it impossible to plan for the future with certainty.

Having said this, let me acknowledge the officials from the DSD with whom we have a good working relationship which we will continue to nurture and develop in the interest of our children.

COACH is an entity of the Diocese of Johannesburg, so it is unfortunate in a way that we currently have some matters that need to be clarified and a way forward found. Two matters in particular stand out. Firstly; the matter of the finalisation of the liquidation of Bishop Bavin and a decision on what will happen to the property in future. The matter has been long outstanding with no clarity on the current status forthcoming from the Diocese. This has a negative impact on COACH and we had to vacate our offices on this premises because the utilities bills are not being paid and the water and electricity disconnected. Secondly, COACH had a significant amount of money deposited in the property account of the Diocese. This money was supposed to be ring fenced for the sole purpose of maintaining our children's homes or acquiring additional property. Unfortunately, this money was used by the Diocese without consulting COACH, and to date we have had no indication as to why this money was used, who authorised its use, or when it will be replaced.

Our Auditors have now also requested clarity about this amount as it may require them to mention it in their report.

We hope these matters will be dealt with at Synod, but it is our intention to formally engage with the Diocese to obtain clarity on them.

We express our appreciation to the ACTING DEO (Rev Lynda Shimmin) and officials of the Diocese who have always responded efficiently to requests from COACH. We respect the role of the Diocese and will always endeavour to maintain a positive relationship.

On a positive note, allow me to mention that the Director and management of the Homes provided firm and positive leadership while ensuring controls and responsible management. We do realise that there are capacity constraints in critical areas that need urgent attention. In this regard the Board has embarked on various projects and some of these projects are at an advanced stage.

We do still experience a high staff turnover and this does have a negative impact on staff moral and also impacts negatively on the continuity and stability of the children. This matter is one of the priority projects which the Board is dealing with. I do have to express my sincere thanks to the management and staff for their high levels of commitment to COACH and the children in our care. We realise that the job can sometimes be stressful, but appreciate your efforts.

During the past year we have managed to maintain a reasonably stable financial position in that we had no difficulty in meeting all our commitments and obligations.

Our treasurer will elaborate on our financial position, but allow me to express our thanks and gratitude to all our stakeholders, donors, sponsors and friends for your continued support and assistance over the years. Without you we will not be able to function as effectively as we do.

Once again we received a very favourable audit outcome for the 2022-2023 financial year. Our auditors were very thorough this year but also provided assistance and advice on how to improve even more. There are therefore no qualifications or concerns with our financial management and controls.

Finally allow me to express my personal thanks to all those who I have worked with and all those who I came into contact with during the past year. I personally enjoyed the past year and have grown personally during this time. It was a pleasure and a wonderful experience.

Thank You All.

**Kenneth Fick
Chairperson.**

A look at our Finances

I am pleased to report that we have ended this 2022/2023 financial year on a positive foot.

COACH began the financial year with the appointment of an outsourced bookkeeper. The daily financial administration is still undertaken by COACH office and sent through to the outsourced bookkeeper for monthly capture and management.

A finance subcommittee has been established comprising of board members and Coach management who meet monthly to ensure that there is stricter monitoring of all expenditure. The committee makes recommendations to the board regarding all major expenditure.

With regards to funding by the Dept. of Social Development, all quarterly subsidies from the Department were received on time throughout the year.

Fundraising had a positive increase from corporates response and some parishes during the financial year. COACH has continued to receive support from most of their Trusts and Foundations. One of the long-standing Trusts, "the Clements Trust" was wound up by the Administrators of the Trust and a total of approximately R 1.4 million was paid over to Coach.

These funds were earmarked for re-investment with the idea to start the building up of a reserve fund to be spent primarily on the education of the Children in COACH's care.

The fundraising team are focused on increasing the number of proposals and applications for funding and are hoping that, as the economy begins to improve, COACH will start to see some growth.

Grace Village Management increased their rental income which also contributed to assisting Coach in meeting operational needs not covered by the subsidies received from the Department. We thank Grace Village for this support.



Many donors are changing their CSI focus areas which has affected our overall income generated during the year. Companies are now more inclined to donate their time, skills and in-kind donations rather than offering funding. As a result, the fundraising team continued to work hard to find newer sources of funding both nationally and internationally.

Building maintenance at both Homes was focused on this financial year as all are old buildings and in need of constant structural maintenance.

It must be noted that the funds that were received from Grace Village Management during the 2021 financial year was utilised during this financial year for maintenance at St. George's Home.

The behaviour of our children often results in a lot of damage to property at both St George's Home and St Nicolas's Home. This places a financial strain on our budget as many things have to be replaced and fixed throughout the year. We have finally received our building plans for St. George's home and the necessary submission fees were paid to municipality for their processing and approval.

Currently, our fundraising team is focussing on increasing the number of proposals /applications for funding. We are hoping that as the economy begins to flourish, we will start to see some positivity in terms of fundraising.

Finally, we reiterate that we are extremely grateful to all our donors who have continued to support us throughout these difficult times as it has allowed us to continue providing essential services to the children in our care and the final word being a thank you to the staff handling the finances and keeping the children stable from a financial point of view.

Penelope Anne Lucas
Treasurer

Coalition of Anglican Children's Homes (Coach)

(Registration number: 052-658-NPO)

Incorporating:

St George's Home (Registration number: 009-474-NPO)

The St Nicolas Home for Children (Registration number: 000-873-NPO)

Annual Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2023

Statement of Comprehensive Income

	Note	2023 R	2022 R
Revenue	9	9 362 275	6 664 536
Other income	10	112 446	244 275
Operating expenses	11	(8 934 285)	(6 625 371)
Operating profit		540 436	283 440
Investment revenue	12	8 904	29 899
Finance costs	13	(58)	(517)
Profit before taxation		549 282	312 822
Taxation	14	(768 408)	(403 184)
Loss for the year		(219 126)	(90 362)



Highlights of the last Year

”Despite progressive child protection laws and well-grounded child protection systems, children of all ages continue to experience chronic violations of their rights to protection from violence, abuse, neglect, and exploitation. Statistics alone cannot tell the tragic stories of young lives shattered and cut short by violence.” - **UNICEF**

In South Africa, violence against children continues to pose a critical challenge in our society today. Despite efforts to curb this dreadful scourge, the high rate of poverty and unemployment in our country continues to place our children at risk of being exposed to domestic violence, severe neglect, substance abuse and sexual abuse. What is even more worrying is how violence has become normalised in everyday life. In many cases this means that it is the most vulnerable in our society that are deeply affected, namely: our children!

At COACH, we believe in the boundless potential of every child, regardless of their circumstances. Our journey over the past year has been paved with many challenges, triumphs and the unwavering commitment of our team of social workers, child and youth care workers and support staff. We have witnessed firsthand, the transformational power of love, compassion, education, and training, as we strove to create a nurturing haven for our children, where dreams can flourish, and futures can be re-written.

In line with the above, at St George’s Home, a young lady who entered the programme in January of 2022 showed a remarkable improvement during the year. She was removed from her family due to abuse, hence, when she initially arrived, she was extremely angry and aggressive and broke many windows in the Home. However, through involvement in therapy and the Diversion programme, the young lady learnt how to manage her anger and is now one of the more responsible young people in the programme. She also managed to pass all three of her ABET subjects in 2022 and has shown great potential to pursue ABET Matric. Further to this, due to her improved attitude, she has also made great progress in terms of developing her relevant skills to handle certain responsibilities independently. Thus, she was recently moved into the independent flat programme and is now working towards preparing for her exit. She recently attended her work readiness programme offered by one of our stakeholders in the community and continues to show a commitment to her future.

At St Nicolas Home, we are happy to report that we have one matriculant this year. She was admitted at the age of 12 due to abuse and gross neglect. Upon her arrival, she was immediately placed in school and involved in a number of interventions within the Home. With the proper therapy, she slowly started to blossom.

We also saw a remarkable improvement in her academic performance. Individual tutoring was also arranged when her grades dropped in grade 9 and 10. This served to motivate her to focus on her studies and work harder. As a result, she received an award for achieving first place in travel and tourism. Further to this, she also attained a position as one of the top ten learners in her grade in 2022.

She is currently preparing for matric exams and continues to show dedication and commitment to her work. She has expressed an interest in attending further education and training in the culinary arts field.

While the above success stories clearly highlight the value of the work we do at COACH, it must be noted that it is not always an easy journey. As an NGO, we are also faced with challenges from time to time. During the period under review, many challenges were experienced across COACH Homes due to high staff turnover, mainly in the child and youth care section.

This was mainly due to sudden resignations, absconding of staff, unauthorised leave taken as well as dismissals throughout the year. This in turn caused much strain within each programme due to the staff shortage resulting from sudden resignations and or absconding. It is important to note that although more intensive recruitment processes were followed, we still struggled to achieve the desired result in terms of employing staff that are more reliable, capable, and willing to work in accordance with the required norms and standards governing child and youth care centres.

Thus, as a result of the high staff turnover, a great deal of time and effort was sent on replacing staff on a frequent basis which in turn impacted negatively on the stability of the programmes as well as on our finances.

In view of the problems, an internal HR Committee was established to consult on matters recruitment and selection of a more experienced and suitable workforce

The committee comprised members of the Board with expertise in human resources and labour related issues, as well as COACH Management.

In addition to the above mentioned challenges, during 2022, apart from there being no electricity on the Bishop Bavin property, the water supply was also cut, thereby resulting in the COACH admin offices experiencing more problems.

As a result, the COACH admin staff were moved to office premises at the St George's Village to enable us to continue with daily operations. Furthermore, due to the aforementioned circumstances, since COACH could no longer facilitate trainings on the premises, a new venue for training purposes had to be secured. On this note, we are grateful to both the Grace Village Management and the St Margaret's Church in Bedfordview for accommodating us and giving us the much-needed support during such trying times.

On this note, we want to thank our donors and stakeholders

Thus, despite the aforementioned challenges, COACH continues to strive towards strengthening its financial and human resources in order to promote the long-term sustainability of the services it offers to the most vulnerable of our community, namely our children because "The ultimate test of a moral society is the kind of the world that it leaves to its children." - Dietrich Bonhoeffer.

Nagapushnum Reddy

Managing Director

Programme Statistics

St George's and St Nicolas Home

**Ongoing Life
Space
Interventions
were done**



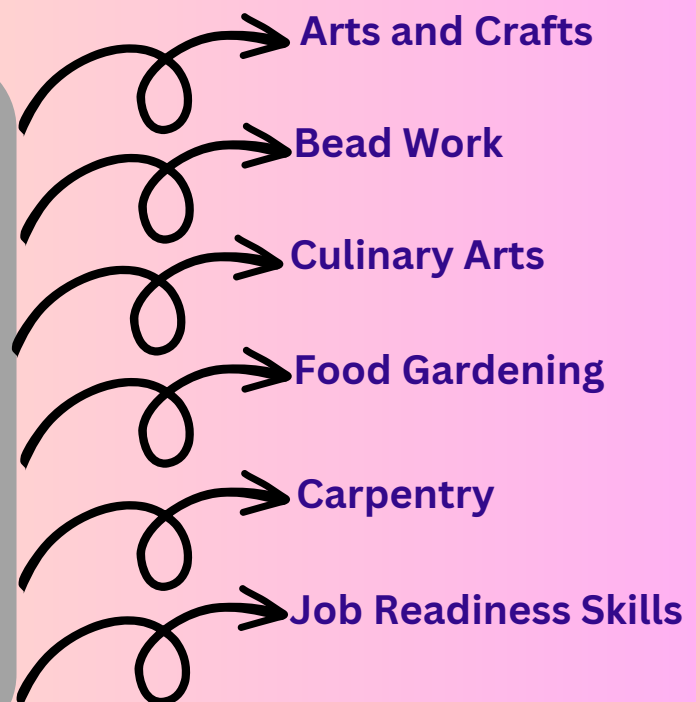
**Ongoing
Therapeutic
Sessions
were held**



**Child and Youth
Care Programmes
conducted
throughout the
Year.**



**Skills Development
Programmes
conducted
throughout the
Year.**



ACADEMIC STATISTICS

ST GEORGE'S HOME – ABET RESULTS						
	2022 Novem- ber examina- tion No# wrote	2022 Novem- ber examination No# passed	2022 Novem- ber examination Pass %	2023 June exami- nation No# wrote	2023 June exami- nation No# passed	2023 June exami- nation Pass %
Numeracy level 1	5	3	60%	5	1	20%
Numeracy level 2	3	0	0%	4	0	0%
Numeracy level 3	1	1	100%	0	0	0
Numeracy level 4	0	0	0	2	1	50%
Communication in English level 1	2	2	100%	4	2	50%
Communication in English level 2	6	5	83%	2	2	100%
Communication in English level 3	2	1	50%	5	1	20%
Communication in English level 4	2	2	100%	2	2	100%
Human & Social Sciences	2	2	100%	2	2	100%
Life Orientation	3	3	100%	1	1	100%
Natural Sciences	2	0	0	4	1	25%

VOCATIONAL TRAINING RESULTS	
COURSE TYPE	NUMBER OF YOUNG PEOPLE COMPLETED
Basic Computer Course	2
5- Day Career Guidance Training	8
Garment Making Learnership	2
Forklift Driving	1
N2 – Engineering	1

ST NICOLAS HOME – SCHOOL ACADEMIC RESULTS

STUDENT	GRADE COMPLETED
Child 1	1
Child 2	2
Child 3	2
Child 4	2
Child 5	3
Child 6	4
Child 7	4
Child 8	5
Child 9	6
Child 10	6
Child 11	8
Child 12	12
ALL CHILDREN WERE PROMOTED TO THE NEXT GRADE.	



Success Stories

S'bu no longer feels as if he is a tree without roots.

16-year old S'bu* came to live in our home last year around Easter. S'bu was orphaned many years ago. He lived with his only remaining sister, but when she passed away in April last year, the children's court placed him in our care. When we think back of the S'bu who arrived at our home, and the S'bu who he has grown into, we have such a huge sense of gratitude for his resilience and growth. Initially, it was as if his loss and bereavement utterly consumed him. Of course his school work suffered a great deal in the process. You will share our relief with us, that S'bu is doing so much better!

Just after his arrival, we arranged for S'bu to see a psychologist. Other small things helped also, like us visiting his sister's grave with him, and together with our caring Child Care Workers and our Social Worker, he is coming to terms with his loss. He wrote the ABET level 3 exams in June and passed so well. He participates in our home activities and is becoming a role model for some of our younger children. And best of all, S'bu no longer feels as if he is a tree without roots.

Patricia is now a role model

Patricia* was placed in our care just over a year ago. She was living rough and her parents whereabouts are still not known to us. At the time of her placement with us, she was 18 years old. This story is about Patricia's remarkable growth in a short space of time. When she started living in our home, she was so withdrawn and often in tears. It was as if she needed to latch onto any new friend she could make, and in the process lose herself in the friendship. Thanks to our counsellor's care, the support of our staff and the safety of our home environment, Patricia started to find her feet within only a couple of months after her arrival. At the end of last year, Patricia passed all her exams, and now in June she excelled. Within a short space of time, Patricia became one of the role models at her home.

Independence!

Sihle came to live with us when she was nine years old. This story is about Sihle's growing up as our daughter, and finally to her living independently close to the school where she works as a teaching assistant.

We celebrate Sihle's independence. Of course we were with her all along her ten year journey as a child in our home. We were with her when she felt lonely and angry or dejected, we saw her develop self-esteem, we saw her finding her own voice, we enjoyed her sense of humour as a light point along the way. We saw her deal and come to terms with her loss when her biological mother passed away in her matric year.

And all along, we were there with relevant therapeutic interventions, and above all, we were there to provide HOME for Sihle: a safe place to grow. We know that the independence of a woman is multi faceted. We celebrate Sihle's independence with her, and as we stay in touch with her through email and WhatsApp, we are thankful for her life and the decisions she continues to make.