



Annual Report

2024

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ORGANISATION PROFILE



OUR VISION

Helping Children take the next step.

OUR MISSION

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

OUR FOCUS

- Residential Care
- Social Work Services
- Therapeutic Care
- Educational Development
- Skills Development
- Child and Youth Care Developmental Programmes
- Family Reunification

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

The year 2023-2024 has once again been eventful but rewarding at COACH. We have once again experienced many successes and our programmes are in most cases producing the desired results. Overall, we have managed to maintain the stability of the homes and made some significant gains.

Some of the major challenges and events during the past year are;

1) Department of Social Development

The chaos and incompetence of the Gauteng Department of Social Development (DSD) has caused us some concerns, especially during the period April to June 2024. The DSD decided to review their method of assessing and subsidising NPO's, which resulted in total confusion in the sector and a delay in finalizing applications and making payments to NPO's. This meant that COACH had to critically manage our finances during this period to ensure that we meet all our commitments and keep our homes functioning optimally.

We eventually did receive our first quarter payments and we could therefore resume normal operations. We hope that the DSD can resolve their issues and improve their relationship with the NPO sector. Uncertainty remains about their intentions, so at COACH we will remain cautious so that we can ensure the proper functioning of the Homes.

2) OUR HOMES

The maintenance of our properties is an ongoing activity. We are constantly exploring ways to improve not only our operations, but also the security and condition of these properties.

During the past year we did manage to do some major repairs and renovations at both homes, thanks to the generosity of our friends and donors

We will continue to work towards improving the condition and environment of our homes so that our staff and children can feel secure and motivated to continue the work they do.

3) OUR FINANCES

COACH has managed to maintain a stable financial position. At time of writing this report we have not received our final audit report, but expect to once again receive a positive and clean audit report. Thanks to our Management team, our Board treasurer and our bookkeeper for ensuring full compliance and attention to detail on all our financial transactions.

We can assure our partners, friends, donors and sponsors that we will continue to be compliant and careful with our financial management and that every cent we receive will be used for the benefit of our children in a responsible manner.

Towards the end of 2023 we sold a property in Sophiatown. This was a property we were not using and became a cost to COACH because we had to maintain and secure the property without receiving any benefit. The proceeds from this sale were deposited into the Diocesan property account as required by the rules. Part of this money was used to do repairs at St Nicolas home.

1) THE DIOCESE OF JOHANNESBURG

During the past year we did not have much interaction with the Diocese with regard to our operations and spiritual support. We thank the Anglican Parishes of Sophiatown and Kempton Park for their ongoing spiritual support and guidance.

Our main interaction with the Diocese related to the sale on the Bishop Bavin property. An offer to purchase the property has now been accepted and the process of finalizing the sale is ongoing. COACH and the Diocese has agreed to discuss and consult on the proceeds of the sale and will deal with the following issues.

- a) The proceeds will be deposited into a trust account and the distribution of the proceeds will be discussed before being finalized.
- b) The accommodation of the COACH administration office and training unit
- c) The funds in our property account.

We hope that we can build on this relationship going forward.

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.

Allow me to express my thanks to the Rev. Norman Allkins and Andrea Swart for their commitment and contribution to COACH. We appreciate your contribution over the years you shared with us as Board members. We wish you all the best in your new adventures. May God continue to Bless you abundantly.

A very big thank you to the management and staff of COACH. While we do have our ongoing challenges, the BOARD wishes to express our sincere appreciation and gratitude for your dedication, commitment and hard work. Without you we would not be able to report as positively as we do, nor would we feel confident about the future of our homes. Recently I attended a graduation for the children at STG, which was certainly a highlight for me, and the outstanding academic results achieved at both STN and STG is a demonstration of the hard work and dedication of all our staff. For this we thank you and assure you of our continued support and commitment.

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 and may God Bless you abundantly.
Kenneth Fick; Chairperson.**

TREASURER'S REPORT

The past year has been as challenging as previous years and I doubt this coming year will be any different! It is a pleasure working with the various COACH staff and Board Members and it is comforting to know that this organization is being well run.

Once again the "donations in kind" have grown and have been most welcome, giving relief to expenditure. Maintenance has been ongoing and both homes have had some major work completed. Staff are settling and we have had less turnover this past year although these expenses are still high. The Psychologists retained by COACH are showing to be most worthwhile for children consulting with them as well as staff.

Towards the end of 2023 financial year, we received a major donation to purchase a vehicle to move the children around. This seven seater vehicle has since been purchased and is a great help with movement of both children and staff. Thank you to the generous donor of this vehicle.

2024 began with uncertainty with regard to the funding allocation from the Department and we have been blessed to receive notification of continued funding whilst so many NPO's have struggled and failed to obtain their funding.

As we continue to all work together for the betterment of the children in our care, I would like to thank the Board, the Director and the staff for their dedicated work. Also a thank you to the Accounting company for their monthly dedication and to our Auditors for their annual assessment.

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 2024

Statement of Comprehensive Income

| | Note | 2024 R | 2023 R |
|-----------------------------------|------|------------------|------------------|
| Revenue | 9 | 9 771 465 | 9 362 275 |
| Other income | 10 | 492 308 | 112 446 |
| Operating expenses | 11 | (7 627 681) | (8 934 285) |
| Operating profit | | 2 636 092 | 540 436 |
| Investment revenue | 12 | 8 169 | 8 904 |
| Finance costs | 13 | - | (58) |
| Profit before taxation | | 2 644 261 | 549 282 |
| Taxation | 14 | (1 079 089) | (768 408) |
| Profit (loss) for the year | | 1 565 172 | (219 126) |

Penelope Lucas
Treasurer

MANAGING DIRECTOR'S REPORT

“There is no trust more sacred than the one the world holds with children. There is no duty more important than ensuring that their rights are respected, that their welfare is protected, that their lives are free from fear and want and that they can grow up in peace.” - Kofi Annan.

Kofi Annan's words beautifully captures the profound responsibility we have toward children. It clearly highlights that it is our duty to not only protect their rights but to also ensure their safety and provide them with opportunities to build a positive future.

When looking at present day South Africa, the challenges faced by most children can be attributed to structural poverty that many communities are grappling with. The inadequate infrastructure, limited access to essential services and the elevated levels of unemployment are some of the main causes of children being exposed to harsh living conditions which often lead to high levels of neglect, harm and injury, affecting their overall well being and development.

In view of the above, Coach programmes are of vital importance in terms of ensuring that the safeguarding of children and young people is prioritised and treated as a moral obligation. Thus, the St. Nicolas Home and the St. George's Home is committed to creating environments that allow children to grow without fear and that help them to improve their lives so that they can become responsible and contribute positively to society. This is achieved by ensuring that all our children have access to needs-based education, healthcare and all basic needs that is required for their holistic growth and development.

Thus, in keeping with the above, we are happy to report that on the St. George's Home side, most of the young people performed very well in the October/ November Abet examination, with 5 young people attaining distinctions. A graduation ceremony was held to recognise all their achievements in Abet, Skills development as well as improvements in behaviour and conduct. The improvement in the academic progress of the young people can be attributed to the support and guidance provided by our Abet teacher and the child and youth care team. In addition, 4 young people were given an opportunity to do vocational training in the following fields: basic computer skills, garment making, N2 Engineering, Landscape design and Horticulture.

Upon completion of their vocational training, 3 of the young people exited the programme at the end of 2023 and we are happy to report that one is now gainfully employed as an assistant receptionist for the Johannesburg council for the Disabled. The young person who completed his training in landscape design and horticulture is still in the programme and is currently busy with Abet level 4. It is imperative to point out that most of the young people that enter the St. George's Home, Life Campus programme are children that were found to be vulnerable because of their special educational needs and minor disabilities. The programme is therefore aimed at empowering them with the necessary skills to enter the formal employment sector and to become productive members of their communities. In line with this, we are happy to report that the Independent flat programme was revived during 2023, and a total of 6 young people have been involved in this programme so far. This programme affords young people the opportunity to gain experience how to manage finances responsibly as well as how to maintain a household and live independently.

On the St. Nicolas Home side, however, the programme caters more for children whose parents or caregivers have substance abuse issues or who have been severely neglectful in ensuring that the basic needs of their children are met. Thus, this programme is aimed at serving the best interests of the children by ensuring that they have a place to call ‘home,’ where all of their basic needs in terms of food, shelter, education, and health, are adequately met. During the 2023/2024 period the Home catered for approximately 15 children. The children attended 5 different schools in the surrounding area, as per their individual educational needs. In reviewing the progress of the children, we are happy to report that 14 children passed the end of year exam and were promoted to the next grade. This was due to the dedication and commitment of the staff within the Home who took it upon themselves to conduct regular school visits and maintain consistent contact with the teachers in the various schools. Thus, children felt supported, and this contributed to their progress at school.

In order to further support the children, the Home also managed to establish strong relationships with the psychiatric department at Rahima Moosa hospital as well as with a private psychologist in the area. As a result, children with serious behavioural problems as well as those struggling with issues such as: grief and bereavement and rejection were taken for specialised therapy in order to help them holistically. In addition, some children were also taken to the optometrist, audiologist, dermatologist, and dietician for specialised services, which contributed positively to their overall development.

It is also imperative to mention that in order to ensure a more integrated approach in addressing children’s problems, both Homes have managed to establish strong collaborative relationships with various community-based stakeholders. On the St. Nicolas Home side, we are grateful to Sophia Town SAPS, Childline and the Department of Correctional Services Johannesburg for rendering programmes to increase awareness around the following issues: human trafficking, child abuse, consequences of criminal behaviour and substance abuse. On the St. George’s Home side, we would like to express our heartfelt gratitude to Camp Sizanani for rendering life skills programmes and to Africa Choice Foundation for facilitating the ‘peace building’ workshops for our young people. The involvement of external stakeholders ensures that the children and young people in care feel that somebody believes in them. This in turn promotes hope and inspiration.

Further to the above, during the financial year under review, the following maintenance was done: On the St. Nicolas Home side, minor repairs were done which included the installation of new downpipes and gutters, as well as roof repairs and the painting of the outbuilding. Further to this, on the St. George’s Home side, the boundary wall was re-built, the skills room was painted, and minor plumbing and electrical work was done in the house.

The 2023/ 2024 financial year can be described as a fairly stable one from a financial perspective as all subsidies were received on time throughout the year. In addition, there was a positive increase in fundraising due to responses from corporate and contributions from some individuals. However, the shifting landscape of donor priorities had an impact on our overall income during this period. It was observed that companies demonstrated a preference to support more non-monetary contributions such as: volunteering their time, sharing skills, and giving in -kind support as opposed to actual funding. As a result, our fundraising team had to seek fresh funding avenues. We are therefore incredibly grateful to Grace Village Management for the increased support given. Not only did we receive a significant increase in rental income from them, but also a substantial amount of funds to cater for other specific expenses. They also continue to provide Coach with free office accommodation as well as broad support which is greatly appreciated. We would also like to express our thanks to the St. Margaret’s Church for continuing to allow us the free use of their premises to conduct all trainings. It is important to note that due to their generosity, Coach managed to fulfil all of its obligations relating to training, as per the service level agreement with the Department of Social Development.

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Further to the above, I would also like to thank Alt Financial Services for the compilation of all financial data in accordance with DSD requirements and the Finance sub-committee for ensuring stricter monitoring of all expenditure. The finance subcommittee was responsible for diligently monitoring all expenses and providing recommendations to the board regarding all major expenditures. This proactive approach ensured that all major expenses received careful consideration by the board before implementation, which ultimately helped in keeping us on budget.

In terms of human resource management, Coach continued to experience staff turnover during the first half of the year. This was due to resignations, abscondments and dismissals, which impacted on our finances due to leave pay outs. Coach management eventually took a decision to terminate the agreement with the outsourced employment agency after they failed to provide candidates with proper ethical standards. Following this, an HR committee was then established comprising of board members with the relevant experience. A stricter screening process was then implemented which included the introduction of criminal and credit checks to ensure more thorough vetting of candidates. As a result, there has been a significant decrease in the number of vacancies within the Organization over the past six months. This has also contributed to more stability in terms of the staffing, and we have even managed to increase the number of childcare staff at each Home. It is also encouraging to note that teamwork and commitment among the staff has improved over recent months which has had a positive impact on the progress of our children.

On this note, I would like to thank all our dedicated staff for your unwavering commitment and hard work. Your efforts are truly making a difference in the lives of the children we serve.

Nagapushnum Reddy
Managing Director

PUBLIC AFFAIRS REPORT

I would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude to all our donors, stakeholders, and volunteers for your invaluable contributions to our children. Your support is essential in providing the high-quality care that our children need.

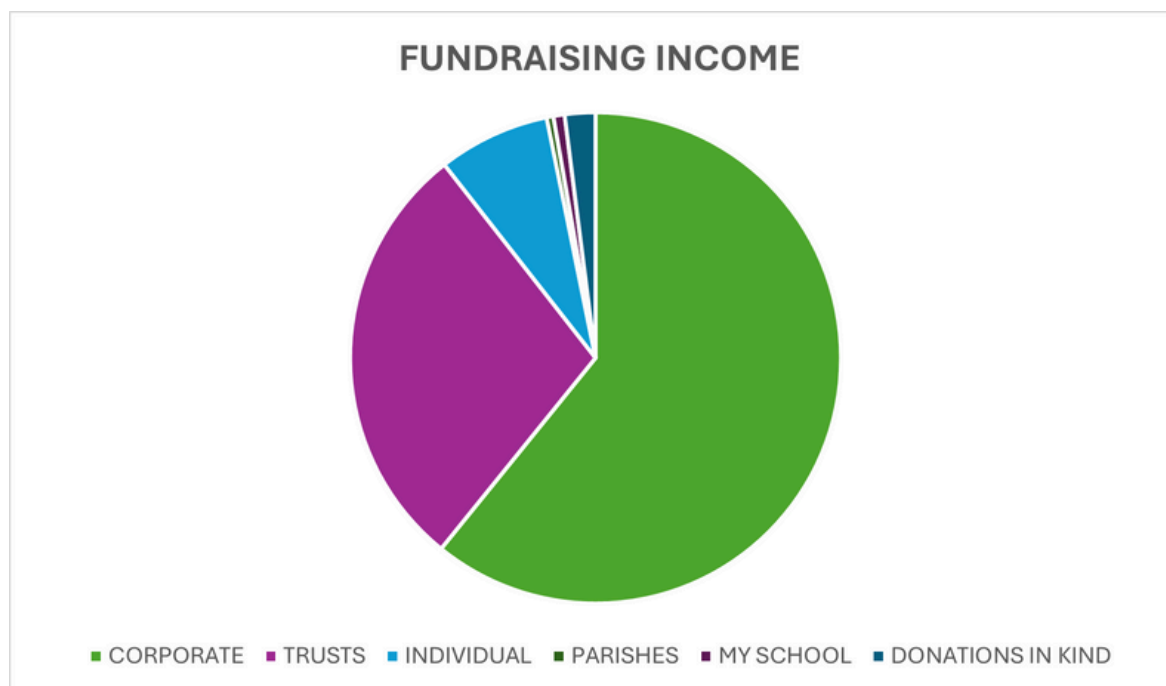
During the review period, our Fundraising team encountered a range of challenges. With many donors adjusting their strategies and shifting their Corporate Social Investment (CSI) focus, our anticipated income was affected. This led us to explore new strategies to secure funding and manage expenses more effectively.

It's important to recognize that many organisations are facing similar, if not greater, challenges. The CSI sector is continuously evolving, and this often impacts non-profit organizations, especially those running children's homes. Currently, children's homes are often considered a lower priority for many donors, which complicates the pursuit of substantial funding. Despite this, we are fortunate that St George's Home, being unique in its focus on skills development, continues to attract support from donors interested in this area.

On a positive note, we have experienced an increase in funding from several trusts and corporate donors. We were also extremely grateful to receive a significant grant from the National Lottery Commission (NLC) for operational costs, which alleviated some financial pressures.

Additionally, we have seen a notable rise in in-kind donations from individuals and companies. These contributions, including food, clothing, toiletries, stationery, and school uniforms, have greatly benefited our children.

As we continue to foster and strengthen our relationships, we are optimistic that our financial outlook will improve. This will enable us to undertake more projects within our programmes and align them with the evolving focus areas within the CSI sector.



Sandhira Poonsamy
Public Affairs and Fundraising Manager

PROGRAMMES REPORT

St George's Home

The St George's Home programme comprises 16 residential students and 4 day-scholars.

Social Work Services

All young people engaged in intensive therapy to help them address issues that may cause them discomfort and preventing them from achieving their personal goals. Therapy aims at confronting barriers which interfere with emotional and mental wellbeing as well as to increase positive feelings such as joy, compassion, peace, self-esteem, spiritual connection, and love. As a result, they are more confident in themselves.

Effective and appropriate are imparted during these sessions to build the capacity of young people to grow and develop their full potential.

Every session is goal orientated and the progress is measured through monitoring the young person's behaviour and daily progress within the programme.

The issues that were addressed during this period were, grief and bereavement, abandonment, time management, dating, the importance of honesty, appreciation, cooperation, anger management, dealing with conflict, relationship building, boundaries, bullying and body shaming.

Young people continue to be given an opportunity to communicate with their loved ones every week. The designated Social Workers are kept updated regularly and we family contact is monitored closely.

During this period, two young people were discharged from the programme as they both turned 21 years old.

ABET

During the period under review, there was evidence of constructive learning as learners had a positive mindset towards their daily lessons and there was a remarkable improvement among most of the learners.

Students were prepared for the IEB Examination for both June 2023 and October 2023. We are happy to report that during the October 2023 Examinations, learners attained a 100% pass rate in Numeracy. In addition, the Communication in English Level 2 learners passed with 100 % pass rate in the June and October Examinations 2023. The level 2 Numeracy in English attained a pass rate of 83%.

Furthermore, a 60 % pass rate was achieved in Communication in English, Level 3.

The NQF 1 results were as follows.

Life Orientation NQF 1 - 100 %
Communication in English NQF 1 - 100 %
Natural Science NQF 1 - 100 %
Mathematical Literacy NQF 1 - 100 %
Human and Social Sciences NQF 1 - 100 %
Economic Management Sciences NQF 1 - 100 %

Due to the above results, more learners passed and were promoted to the next academic level.



SKILLS DEVELOPMENT

During the period under review, we are happy to report that we were able to fill the Skills Development Coordinator post. This helped revive the arts and crafts programme. It also helped in terms of creating more structure within the Skills Programme as a whole.

In addition to the above, emphasis was placed on maintenance projects which focused on repairs within the house as well as garden maintenance so that young people learn the responsibility of taking care of their living environment.

Furthermore, the Independent Flat programme has taken off again and the necessary resources were acquired to revive the programme. In this period, seven young people benefited from this programme.



VOCATIONAL TRAINING

The following Vocational Training Courses were arranged during this period:

- Three young people attended the open day of Appliance Bank that was held in Midrand. An introduction to the skills of buying and selling was covered.
- One young person attended a 3-month Computer Skills Training.
- One young person was trained and chosen to be a facilitator by one of our volunteers. She attended a camp as a facilitator which went quite well.
- One young person completed a Horticulture course and is now fully involved in our programme. He has also been sharing his knowledge with the other young people in the programme.



ST NICOLAS HOME

Child care services

Life skills

A total of 396 life skills programmes were accomplished. Some of the life skills programs, facilitated addressed the following: Fire safety, Conflict resolution, HIV/Aids, Substance abuse, Anger management, Positive communication, Hygiene, Household management, Career guidance, Grief and loss .

In addition to the above, children were engaged in programmes that encouraged them to make their own decisions and not be influenced by their peers. After conducting these programmes, it was observed that our children started making their own decisions and there was a significant change in terms of how they started handling peer influence.

Additionally, children were educated on fire safety and the steps to follow in the event of a fire outbreak. A fire drill was also done with all the children, and they were shown the exit points to be used around the property. This had a significant impact on the little ones who reported that they are now more confident in terms of handling the situation if a fire occurs.



HEALTH CARE

-Children requiring specialised treatments are escorted to hospitals/external professional appointments as required and records of these visits are kept in each file

-Regular programmes aimed at building awareness around hygiene, serious health concerns and recurring health problems.

-Hygiene programmes are held weekly to ensure proper hygiene protocols are followed

-Daily medication administering records are kept in a file where the children sign that they have received medication, and the care worker signs that the medication had been administered.

CRIME PREVENTION

Surprise drug tests were conducted during this period, none of our boys tested positive for any drugs. In addition to the above interventions, programmes on substance abuse were held daily to reinforce the dangers of substance abuse and the effects it has on the body. The South African police service in Sophiatown came in monthly and had numerous talks on crime prevention. Furthermore, videos showing the negative impact of substance abuse was also shown to the children.



ARTS AND CRAFTS

A total of 50 arts and culture programs were facilitated during this term. Children were engaged in a variety of activities which included: designing beaded necklaces as well as designing paper cardboard bags. Additionally, children were engaged in making dresses out of recycling waste. Our children became productive by working as a team. They were able to show their creativity through their production. More to this our children were also engaged in paintings and drawings during this period. Furthermore, our children were involved in programmes on the different types of cultural food.

In conclusion, arts and crafts provide a wealth of benefits for children, both in the short and long term. From developing problem-solving skills to improving mental health, teamwork and communication skills, arts and crafts offer children a chance to learn and grow in a fun and creative environment.

Challenges : It was observed that our younger children are not familiar with the history behind the national public holidays. In view of this, programmes were put in place to educate them on the various public holidays. Furthermore, our children should be encouraged to understand cultural diversity through cultural activities such as cultural food and Heritage Day celebrations. Due to the high turnover of staff arts and crafts programmes decreased during this period.

SPORTS AND RECREATIONAL PROGRAMME

For sport and recreation our children were engaged in physical activities on a weekly basis. They in different sports activities such as: soccer, volleyball, netball, swimming, aerobics, jogging, indoor games, and indigenous games. Further to this, during the holidays our children had the opportunity to visit Johannesburg Zoo, to have lunch at Mc Donald's and to watch a Movie at Cresta mall. The children also received regular visits from members of the St Gabriel's Church and community donors who provided our children with special lunch and gifts.

SKILLS FOR LIFE

The purpose of this programme is to empower children with the basic skills for life so that they can help themselves and be more self-sufficient. The overall number of skills for life programmes for this period were 266. Our children were involved in gardening, sewing, crocheting, cooking, and baking mostly. Some children have developed good cooking skills. Our younger children seem to have improved in their baking skills. Further to this our children were involved in budgeting skills and were taught some effective ways on how they can save their pocket money and utilize it for items they really want.

SOCIAL WORK

A total of 221 sessions were conducted for this phase. Therapeutic sessions were mainly focused on dealing with issues of Rejection, Anxiety, Grief and Loss, Bullying, Conflict management and Anger Management. It was found that children who are rejected at a young age are said to lack emotional stability with an irrational fear that they would be rejected by those they love. They view themselves as unloved and unworthy therefore therapy focused more on rejection and finding coping mechanisms to assist our children.

Challenges : It was noted that children who are institutionalised are prone to bullying new children who enter the programme. Therefore, bullying sessions are ongoing . In addition to this ,certain children would request to see the social worker daily not giving other children a chance to engage with the social worker as well .

However , due to the complexity of some situations the social worker would refer cases to the psychiatrist and psychologist for psychiatric medication and extended therapy .



SUCCESS STORIES

St George's Home

At St George's Home, we have recently reintroduced our Independent Living Programme for young adults over the age of 18 or those enrolled in the ABET Matric programme. This initiative includes a flatlet on our premises that houses four young people. To qualify for this programme, individuals must demonstrate the necessary skills and exhibit positive behavior. This programme serves as a crucial bridge between living in a children's home and the transition to independent living. By keeping the flatlet on our premises, along with our education and skills development programmes, we ensure that our young adults continue to receive the support they need during this critical transition.

Eighteen-year-old Zandi, who joined us two years ago at the age of 16, came to us having endured severe trauma. Initially, she struggled with intense anger, which led her to act out destructively, including breaking several windows. However, through our effective therapeutic programmes, Zandi has made significant progress over the past two years. She has developed new, positive coping strategies and is currently pursuing the CET College Matric programme. Recently, she excelled in her level 4 ABET mathematics, not only passing with distinction but also earning the title of top achiever in our district. This achievement has greatly boosted her confidence.

Due to her remarkable progress, Zandi was given the opportunity to join our Independent Living Programme. She has embraced this opportunity with enthusiasm, taking on responsibilities such as cooking, cleaning, and studying alongside three other young people. Zandi is thriving in her new independent environment and has become increasingly self-sufficient, managing tasks like grocery shopping and visiting the clinic for her monthly medication on her own.

St Nicolas Home

Sarah came to us at St Nicolas Home seven years ago, placed by the children's court at the age of 11 due to neglect at her previous home. Last year, she graduated matric with a bachelor pass, and we are immensely proud of her achievements.

Throughout her final years with us, Sarah demonstrated an exceptional work ethic and a strong sense of self. She became a role model for everyone at the Home. Her openness about her new relationship fostered positive dialogues and strengthened relationships between herself, her family of origin, and everyone at St Nicolas Home. In a heartwarming gesture, both her St Nicolas Home family and her family of origin collaborated to purchase her matric dance dress, making her matric dance a memorable experience.

Although Sarah has not yet secured a place at a tertiary institution, she has returned to live with her family and is currently volunteering as an administrative assistant at a local school. St Nicolas Home remains committed to her success through our aftercare programme, where we continue to offer guidance and support. We are hopeful to secure a sponsor to help her pursue studies in hospitality next year.

ORGANISATION DETAILS

CONTACT DETAILS

St George's Village South
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Gauteng
Tel: 011 615 0670
Email: sandhira@coach.org.za
Website: www.coach.org.za

BOARD MEMBERS

| | |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| Chairperson | Kenneth Fick |
| Deputy Chairperson | Lesedi Mphahlele |
| Treasurer | Penelope Lucas |
| Secretary | Lesley Blake |
| Vice Secretary | Samuel Mokgopha |
| Member | Jacobus Terblanche |
| Member | Funeka Ndungane |
| Member | Colette Olivier |
| Member | Ntombilungile Dube |