



Preschool & Community Care Centre

Sponsorship Informational Packet



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Organizational History:

Impact Africa was launched in 2003 by Rich and Michelle Franzen who had a vision infused with more than 25 years of international community upliftment experience. Over the course of 18+ years, Rich and Michelle Franzen facilitated thousands of individuals on local community projects and upliftment programs throughout Africa. Both are graduates of Oral Roberts University and have enhanced their education through various leadership



and missions training courses and events over the years. Additionally, Michelle holds a BS degree in education with numerous years of teaching experience.

It was through their international travel, that a yearning emerged in Rich and Michelle's hearts for Africa, a plagued continent with **68% of the world's HIV/AIDs population**. As a result Impact Africa, a non-profit organization, was established. Impact Africa's mission is to:

Motivate, educate, disciple, and provoke individuals toward sustaining outlets of service; which in turn deeply impact individuals, communities, and nations



Furthermore, Impact Africa is a South African Section 21 company (Reg. No. 2004/035682/08) with an additional U.S. based office registered as a 501 (c)(3) non-profit. Since Rich and Michelle founded Impact Africa they have begun multiple self-sustaining, job creating preschools through **Impact Kids Preschool and Community Care Center**. They have also launched the **Impact Baby Rescue Center**, right in the heart of these impoverished informal settlements, that reaches out to desperate young mothers as well as rescues abandoned babies. Furthermore, they have hosted thousands of international individuals/teams through **Impact Mission Adventures**. They also facilitate their one year long **Impact Missionary Experience** program, which trains and equips young adults for international community development work.

Impact Kids:

Impact Kids Preschool and Community Care Center has been operational since February, 2010 and is a



prime example of NGO's and communities working together to create a solution.

Impact Kids is a place of refuge, love, and hope for children where they receive quality education in a stable, safe, and affordable learning environment

Squatter Camp Communities:

People from various countries of Africa come to South Africa **seeking refuge from the oppression, war, and poverty in their homeland**. Over **10 million people** in South Africa have found themselves living in conditions that are far from the hope of a prosperous life they had once dreamed of. Their **homes are fashioned from corrugated metal, plastic sheeting, and plywood**. Even basic sanitation and water service are absent. Because such **settlements are illegal**, residents are faced with the constant knowledge that the government could force them to move at any time. Discouraged by their circumstances and despairing of any chance to escape, **many residents turn to alcohol or drugs**. **This substance abuse, in turn, contributes to higher than normal rates of AIDS infection, sexual and physical abuse of women and children**, as well as increased violence. Desperation overwhelms the residents, causing them to grasp at life with little to no hope. Because of this, there is a **deep hunger and desire for something that leads to hope, and ultimately, to a better life**.



The Need for Education:

The number of children roaming the streets in the squatter camps is overwhelming. Many of these children fall into the “**orphaned and vulnerable**” category and easily become a statistic of the **high rape and crime rate** that exists in these impoverished communities. It is estimated that HIV/AIDS creates approximately **450 orphans a day** and an African female born in South Africa has a greater likelihood of being raped than learning to read. **We have experienced the need first hand through personally encountering children in these desperate situations**.



Due to the lack of education, many people are unable to find work and thus **are** stuck in a cycle of extreme poverty. **Research shows that up to half an individual's learning capacity is established by age 4 and that the school drop-out rate of children is reduced by**

60% if they attend pre-school. We see education of the young as imperative and an investment in the future of these communities, a people group, and ultimately an entire country.

Our Answer for Education:



Impact Africa is **overcoming the lack of quality education** within the squatter camps through Impact Kids Preschools and Community Care Centers. The goal of Impact Kid's Preschool is to reach and educate the underprivileged, orphaned, and at-risk children through quality, caring **Christian education.** **We currently have over 200 children from the squatter camps enrolled in our two preschools and thriving in a fun loving, safe environment.** Since February 2010, the first successful and fully functional location has been thriving in the Kya Sands Squatter Camp, home to 18,000 people. In 2012, our second Impact Kids Preschool was established in the community of Diepsloot, home to 250,000 people.

The schools are run by those who live in the communities; providing jobs and simultaneously enabling the residents to take ownership for the education of their children



A Christian Education/Curriculum:

Scripture says, "Start children off on the way they should go, and even when they are old they will not turn from it" (Proverbs 22:6)

We are called to train up these young lives and God has equipped us to guide these children in the way they should go.



Impact Kids uses established curriculum which is aligned with South Africa's Board of Education ECD requirements (also known as CAPS). The curriculum is deeply contextualized to meet the children's environmental and educational needs. All activities are age

appropriate and focused on the development of their cognitive, adaptive, social, behavioral, gross and fine motor skills.

Core subjects include, but are not limited to:

- 🌿 **Health & Hygiene:** proper eating habits, food groups, exercise, body care, and caring for the injured/sick.
- 🌿 **Gross & Fine Motor Skills:** art work, puzzles, building blocks, proper letter formation, ball skills, movement, and hand-eye coordination.
- 🌿 **Life style of purity:** value of choosing the proper friends, and mutual respect of persons and property
- 🌿 **Math and Reading:** foundational skills for math and reading development at age appropriate levels.
- 🌿 **Regular visits from international students to help develop a proper worldview**



You can be a part - Sponsor a Child!

Most of the families cannot afford to send their children to school, so we have opened a **sponsorship program**.

Impact Kids specifically recruits children from families in the local community, including those identified as the neediest. For the Sponsorship program, the **students are chosen** on the recommendation of Impact Africa Staff or a local community leader or pastor, **based on risk factors**



such as the child's status as an orphan, parents with AIDS, or those in abusive situations.

Your sponsorship of \$49 (R600) per month covers the cost of a child's daily preschool level education, supplies, and meals served throughout the day. We do ask families to participate in their child's education by requiring every sponsored child's parent/guardian to contribute R50 (\$4) per month. This helps maintain the parent/guardian's self-worth and dignity and build a sense of value and ownership in the education their child will receive.

The Change We See:

Bokamoso was a **tiny girl with a dirty little face** who would wander around behind our school gate. She was so small she would slip through the bars and join in the playground fun during recess. **She wandered the dirt road at freewill**; once we watched as a man passing by tauntingly tossed her up in the air and she cried out in protest. **We had to get this little girl in school!** We fondly began calling her "**Feather Baby**" before finding out her real name. We met her young mother and heard the story of how Bokamoso's father had been killed in an accident. **Her mother was struggling to provide for her family** and you could see the neglect in the thin bodies and dirty faces of her two small girls. **We are now able to say with joy that both of these girls are sponsored and enrolled in our school with clean faces, full tummies, and thriving in a fun loving, safe environment.**



The Change We See:

"Thabo is one of the 3 year old students at our school. He is tall for his age and thrived off of fighting; every 5 minutes there seemed to be a kid crying and a teacher talking to Thabo. **Thabo had such a deep desire for recognition and love, he was willing to literally fight for it. Sadly, he didn't know any better.**

A few months after Thabo had been enrolled in school, we encountered him walking through the squatter camp. **He came running up as he joyously gave hugs ... this was our Thabo?! He was obviously different.** His eyes were bright and a ready smile played on his lips. The other children were calling us "amalungu"



which means “white people” and Thabo turned to them and earnestly shared our names. **A few months ago he couldn't even speak English!**

We look at the other boys attending our school: Gnotse, a little warrior boy full of energy and mischief, who now likes to come up and cuddle. Peter, who was once so timid and frightened, now boldly raises his hand in class and is excelling in his learning. **We are not saying the children are perfect. Gontse still spits yogurt at people, Peter can sometimes be unresponsive, and Thabo still enjoys a good fight once in a while, but the change is undeniable.** We can repeat many stories such as these, stories of young lives being changed in just a few months. It is amazing to see the LORD at work in their lives and we are blessed to be His hands and feet as we love on the lost, the least, and the last.”

Graduate Student Success Story:

Princess is a quiet, observant 8 year old originally from Zimbabwe. She is the only girl out of her 4 siblings and isn't afraid to hold her own. **She graduated from Impact Kids in 2010 and is currently thriving at a local primary school, holding her own at the top of her class!**



A Sponsor's Story:

Hannah is Gnotse's sponsor and she came to South Africa for a visit! Here is some of her story:

“Before the foundations of the world, God ordained this time. How can one wrap their mind around the greatness of our God? **When you get to be a part of something so much bigger than yourself, you are never the same.**

We loved getting to know Gnotse through letters and pictures. As we prayed for him we trusted that our prayers and financial support were impacting his life. But we never imaged the impact on his family. We were in for a surprise.

We played with Gnotse at the school and then walked the dusty road to his house the next day. We gave his mother, Johanna, gifts for the whole family and she wept as I hugged her. **She desperately expressed her desire to provide material things for her children.** I felt her pain as she expressed her burden. We talked about how as mothers, we want to leave our children the very best. Then **I explained that the best thing we can give our children isn't a house or food, but knowledge of who Jesus is.** "Johanna, you cannot share what you do not have." She said she understood that she needed Jesus and wanted to commit her life to Him, and **ONLY Him!** She surrendered her life to Christ that day. Joy flooded that desolate shack. The very presence of God was tangible.



We continued to minister together as we shared the greatest love story ever told. **There we were as a family, our children playing together as we shared time in sweet fellowship.** It was amazing and we walked away speechless.

From the beginning of this sponsorship, we knew that God would take our small monthly contributions and do incredibly more than we could ever imagine. Our family was impacted before we ever stepped foot in the tiny shack in South Africa, and to think **it all began by simply being obedient to His commands to look after those in need.** We received much more that day than we could ever give."

Frequently Asked Questions and Answers:

How do I find out who the child is that I'm sponsoring?

Once you fill out the attached "Sponsor a Child's Preschool Education" form, based on your requested preferences, we will match you with a child already on our sponsorship waiting list. Since this waiting list is based on the children most urgently needing sponsorship, there is no guarantee your child will match your preferences. At this time we will then email you the profile with all the information we have on the child you will be sponsoring.

How long will my sponsorship last?

We ask that the sponsorship commitment be for at least an entire school year which runs from January through December with the option to renew the sponsorship each year until the child graduates from Kindergarten. However, if you are initiating your sponsorship anytime within the middle of a school year, we would ask that you would commit to finish the remainder of that current school year, in addition to committing to sponsor the child for at least the following school year. This way we ensure that each child is immediately enrolled into the school at whatever time an individual begins their sponsorship as well as ensuring at least an additional entire school year is sponsored from start to finish.



Sponsorship at Impact Kids spans a child's early developmental years at the preschool and primary level of education. Depending on the age of the child when the sponsorship is initiated, the time period till graduation at Impact Kids can range from 1 - 5 years. When a sponsored child graduates the Kindergarten level at Impact Kids, they will then proceed to a governmental elementary school. At this time, we would then ask that the sponsor would consider sponsoring another child's preschool education at Impact Kids.

Other than my sponsored child graduating Kindergarten (Grade R) is there any other reason I may sponsor a different child than the original one I started with?

Yes. It is important to be aware that the communities we work in are very transitional and therefore your sponsored child and their parent/guardian may at some point during the course of your sponsorship relocate themselves either to another informal settlement or perhaps their home country as many are from other parts of Africa, causing them to unfortunately no longer be able to attend Impact Kids. In addition, all sponsored children are identified as those most in need and disadvantaged. We have had meetings and interviews with each parent/guardian on the waiting list of children to be sponsored so as to ensure the validity of each child needing a sponsorship. We will then also meet with the parent/guardian at the end of each sponsored school year for an annual review and if at that time due to the parent/guardian having obtained a job and therefore has acquired the means to support their child's education themselves, we would then no longer sponsor that child. At that time, we would then rejoice together with the family for the provision of a job and then we would immediately have another child for you to sponsor. Lastly, the parent/guardian of each sponsored child will sign a contract which outlines their responsibilities with the understanding that if at any point, they are not adhering to these expectations (ie. child's attendance at school), Impact Africa Staff has the right to revoke the child's sponsorship. This ensures that each sponsorship is being fully leveraged. In the event that any of the scenarios above become reality for your sponsored child, we will notify you immediately. Due to there literally being an endless number of children in need of this sponsorship, we would immediately have another child from our waiting list ready for you to sponsor. There will never be a lack of children needing sponsorship.

How and when do I send in my monthly \$49 (R600)?

Please make your monthly payment on or before the 15th of each month. For all donations please specify that it is for the Student Sponsorship Program. North American Sponsors:

1.) Online Donations: <http://www.impactafrica.org/donation.htm> using your credit card via PayPal. You have the choice of choosing a reoccurring monthly donation that will automatically be charged to your card once a month or you can go in and do your monthly donation yourself through clicking one-time donation each month. Enter the amount (\$49 a month per child) and click the button. The reference code is: IKS.

2.) Sending a check: For a tax receipt please make all checks payable to Impact Africa and mail to:

Impact Africa
PO Box 702511
Saint Cloud, FL 34770-2511 USA

3.) If you are interested in setting up Impact Africa in your e-billing account, send our office an email asking for our bank details and you can set up your direct online banking.

South African Sponsors- You can directly deposit your R600 per month per child into Impact Kids Preschool South African account:

Standard Bank / Northgate Branch Code #: 20730
Account Name: Impact Kids
Account #: 420315004



Is my monthly sponsorship tax-deductible?

Yes. Impact Africa is registered in the US as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit and therefore all US donations are tax-deductible.

Will I be able to directly communicate with my sponsored child?

In order to protect the sponsors as well as the safety of the sponsored children and their families and to ensure cross-cultural sensitivity, all communication between sponsors and the sponsored children will only happen directly through Impact Africa. There will be no contact outside of Impact Africa. If you

receive communication from your sponsored child or their family, please contact Impact Africa immediately by emailing office@impactafrica.org .

How do I get updates through Impact Africa about my child?

Email Impact Kids Sponsorship Liaison at cori@impactafrica.org. You will receive monthly updates and photos. You can also follow Impact Africa and Impact Kids Preschool and Community Care Centre through the various media references listed below where we post updates on a regular basis. In addition, please feel free to send an email and upon request we can send a detailed scholastic update on your student.

How do I communicate, through Impact Africa, with the child I'm sponsoring?

You can email a letter and pictures to our Impact Kid's Sponsorship Liaison at cori@impactafrica.org. Please do not include any personal contact information in your letters.



Can I send gifts through Impact Africa to the child I'm sponsoring?

We highly discourage mailing packages to South Africa as there is a high risk of theft in the mail system. However, if you would like, you can give additional monetary gifts to your sponsored child. One hundred percent of all individual child gift amounts would then go directly to the child. Impact Africa staff would purchase gifts on behalf of the sponsor and make certain that these funds are used appropriately. However, we ask that these gifts not be more than \$10 to \$25 and are not given more than twice a year. Please email office@impactafrica.org if and when you would like to give an additional monetary gift.

How else can I get involved?

There are endless additional ways for you to get involved and be a part of the massive impact we are making here in South Africa! Please contact us today for more information as well as see some of the ways listed below.

- 1.) Share our vision with your local pastor and church.

2.) Consider contacting us about helping in some of these additional areas of monthly sponsorship either in whole or in part:

- 🌿 Electricity: \$65 per month
- 🌿 Teacher Salaries: \$350 per month (per teacher)
- 🌿 Food and Meal Supplies: \$400 per month
- 🌿 Cooking Fuel: \$75 per month

Conclusion:

Thank you for joining us in this incredible opportunity to give the children of informal settlements a future filled with love, encouragement, training, and education. Through your sponsorship an orphaned or vulnerable child will be reached and changed!



www.impactafrica.org

Click to follow our media resources:

