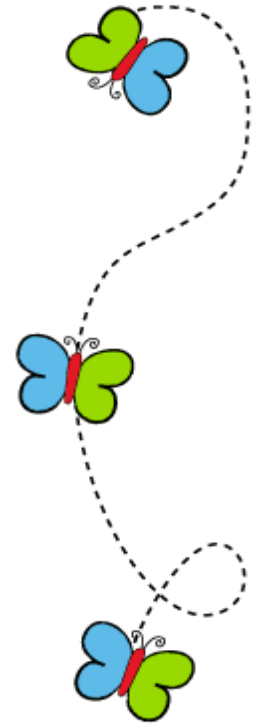


## A VERY BIG THANK YOU TO YOU ALL!!!!

We literally could NOT SURVIVE if it weren't for our WONDERFUL DONORS. Words can barely express the appreciation we feel towards all of you who continue to contribute and support our ongoing work. Without this support, Thusanani occupational therapists could not provide training, stimulation and therapy to the children in the homes.

During the past two months some of the people who have helped us include:

- The **Year 11's of Dainfern College**, who fundraise for their Matric Dance each year. The learners at Dainfern College are encouraged to be socially aware and are regularly involved in a number of outreach initiatives in under privileged communities. This year the Committee made a very generous donation to Thusanani Children's Foundation from the money that they worked hard to raise for the dance in May 2011. A big **THANK YOU** to you all!
- This donation from Dainfern College, together with another very generous donation from **Agatha Design** will contribute directly to the work done by one of our occupational therapists. This amounts to the assessment and treatment of up to 25 babies through our adoption clinic, training of 8 caregivers at one of the homes and individual and group therapy for up to 100 babies and children in the homes that she visits each week.
- Further financial donations were received from **Barker Insurance Brokers**, through the Cycle for Kids programme and from **Harchris**.



**Many Thanks!!!!**

Our donations are not always financial and we very often receive donations 'in kind'. The following are examples of some of the helpful (and fun) things we have received in the past month:



- **VM Ware** found themselves with an over supply of jellybeans following a recent function. They very kindly passed on the surplus to us and we, in turn have shared them between the various children's homes and out patients that we see regularly. The children are still enjoying these unexpected sweet treats. Besides providing a little snack, our therapist's have used the jelly beans for games in therapy to help the children with their colour matching and naming and number concepts!

- Over the past few weeks we have received a large number of very generous donations of pre-loved educational toys and good quality children’s clothing. Some came from children themselves wanting to donate their toys and make a gift to other children, others come as a result of families moving home - the children had grown and the new home couldn’t hold what was no longer needed, and others as children simply grew out of clothing and toys and the families wanting to share what they had with those less fortunate. We often use these donated toys here at our centre but more often we pass them on to the Homes where we know they’ll be used more.
- **The Cradle Project** at **Investec**, through Bonnita Samputh has also supported us this month through their generous sponsoring of 60 of the ‘Starter Toy Making Kits’ we give to participants who have successfully completed our ‘Development and Play Workshop for Community Based Child Care Workers’. These kits include the basic equipment and materials that participants need to start making toys in their communities, using the skills they have learnt at the Workshop. A further donation of a shredder for our office has been much appreciated.



**So again, a HUGE THANK YOU to all of you for helping us carry on with our mission of bringing healthy play and development to children in need. We couldn’t do it without you!**

## **MANDELA DAY**

Mandela Day – July 18<sup>th</sup> was marked by a visit from the team at Intrepid Bundu. Intrepid Bundu, is part of Intrepid Travel, who through The Intrepid Foundation, support charities in the areas where their tours operate. Thusanani is very lucky to be one of the beneficiaries of The Intrepid Foundation’s work here in South Africa. We spent a wonderful afternoon introducing the Intrepid Bundu team to the joys of toy making, as well as a lively discussion about the work Thusanani does in the children’s homes and the wider communities. Their energy and enthusiasm was fantastic and they surpassed the targets we set for making salt dough shapes and colouring puzzles. All of these items will be used in our toy making session and in the kits that we present to participants on successful completion of our workshop on “Child Development and Play for Community Based Care Workers”. A generous donation of mattresses was also gratefully received and these will be used in the homes to provide more comfortable areas for the babies to play.



*“Overcoming poverty is not a task of charity; it is an act of justice. Like slavery and apartheid, poverty is not natural. It is man-made and it can be overcome and eradicated by the actions of human beings. Sometimes it falls on a generation to be great. YOU can be that great generation. Let your greatness blossom.”*

Nelson Mandela

## EXCITING TRAINING OPPURTUNITIES

In June, Thusanani was invited to participate in an Early Child Development Programme run by the northern region of Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality in Tembisa. An informative talk - **'An Introduction to Play and Development'** was presented by Fiona Reynders, Occupational Therapist as part of this programme to the approximately 100 participants. Since then we have had much interest and many enquiries regarding our 3 day workshops. We started a workshop with 22 participants this week and we are currently coordinating more workshops in response to the interest this talk generated.

## "Well done my boy!" - a success story

Little E was abandoned in hospital in July 2008 at the age of 3 years and 7 months. He was HIV+ and was extremely ill with infections and meningitis. When he arrived at the Home in October 2008 he was very weak and could not even walk across a room. E was referred to Thusanani at the beginning of 2009 and assessment showed that he was behind in all aspects of his development. He has received regular weekly input from the Thusanani therapists focusing on developing his strength, motor skills, language and perceptual skills.

E is always very eager to learn and participate in therapy and he has been making steady progress in all these areas. With the dedication, love and support of all the caregivers at the Home and the regular focused therapy input E is growing into a wonderful and enthusiastic young boy. He is a hard worker and his teacher is also impressed with his progress. Ernest will be going into grade 1 next year and he has the skills and is ready to start this new chapter of his life. I would like to say: "Well done my boy! You have such a zest for life and we wish you all of the very best for your school career!"

## DANCING IN THE STREET

The Thusanani Childrens Foundation invites you and your friends to spend an exciting evening with us "Dancing in the street." This show is jam packed with song and dance from famous festivals, carnivals and celebrations all over the world!

**Where:** The Barnyard Theatre, Cresta

**When:** 26 October 2011

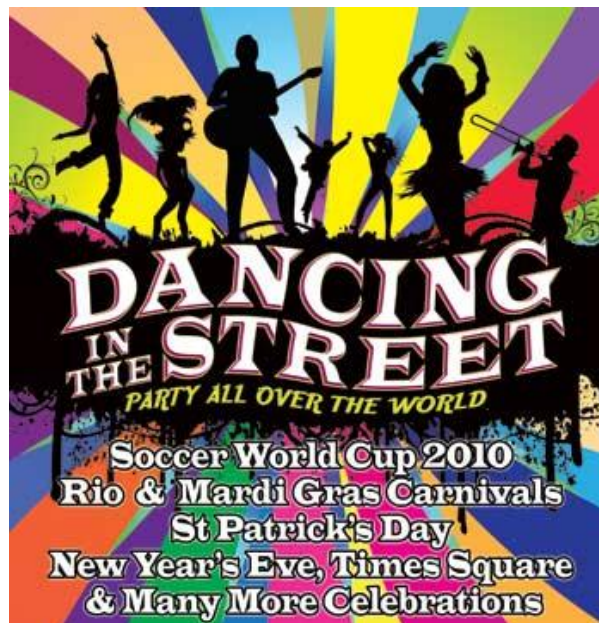
**Cost:** R160

**Time:** 20h00

Come join us for a fun filled evening where you can sit back, relax and enjoy brilliant entertainment!

For bookings please contact:

**Zandri Brune – 072 129 4834**



## AND FINALLY...



We were delighted to have friends and family join us on lovely afternoon to the zoo lake with children from two different homes. They had lots of fun socializing and making friends. It was a long awaited and unforgettable experience for them feeding the geese, watching them swim in the lake and enjoying an afternoon of lovely snacks and goodies. The kids enjoyed a huge lovely jungle gym that had them astounded and the move!



### Our Wish List

- 🦋 We **URGENTLY** require clean **500ml water bottles** and **2L ice cream tubs** for workshops
- 🦋 **A digital camera**
- 🦋 **Room dividers / portable screens** to make our assessment areas more private
- 🦋 **3 new or nearly new computers.** Our current ones are now old, slow and unreliable.
- 🦋 **PVA paint – RED, YELLOW and BLUE**
- 🦋 **A dedicated part time volunteer to assist with administrative tasks.** This would mainly involve computer based tasks. We don't require a large amount of time per week, but request that the volunteer be consistent.

**Many Thanks!!!!**

If you would like to support us, you can make a secure Credit Card Donation via our website (click on the green button on our home page). Alternatively the following are our banking details:

**Bank:** Nedbank

**Name of Account:** The Thusanani Children's Foundation

**Branch:** Melrose Arch

**Branch Code:** 196-605

**Account Number:** 1966 466226

