

TWILIGHT CHILDREN

OUR NEW HOME

The new building which Twilight Children occupies on Van Der Merwe Street in Johannesburg allows for the fulfilment of several programmes to aid the child on the street. Our dreams are becoming reality.

TWILIGHT CHILDREN CARE PROGRAMME

TWILIGHT CHILDREN

A PROGRAMME FOR THE STREET CHILDREN OF
JOHANNESBURG, SOUTH AFRICA.

1991 / 1992

Outreach

The foundation of Twilight Children in 1984 was based on the Outreach programme. It still is. Outreach is the meeting of the children on the streets and the coaxing of them towards the shelter. Finding shelter for the children is voluntary. The new building allows for an outreach kitchen which serves a meal a day from a noon to 4pm daily for the street children. Additionally shower and laundry facilities are available for these children.

NOTICE

RECEIVED
14 JAN 1987

TO : TO ALL HEADS OF DEPARTMENTS

FROM: T, K MASEKO, ADMINISTRATION

DATE: 7/1/1987

REF: DEPLOYMENT OF FORM FIVE SCHOOL LEAVERS

THIS IS TO INFORM YOU THAT FORM FIVE SCHOOL LEAVERS AFTER THE EXAMS AND TEST WILL GO AND CONTRIBUTE IN DAKWA UNTILL THE RESULTS ARE OUT. DEPARTMENTS WHICH WOULD LIKE TO HAVE THEIR SERVICES WILL HAVE TO CONSULT THE PERSONNEL OFFICER, COMRADE VUSI NQOBUKA.

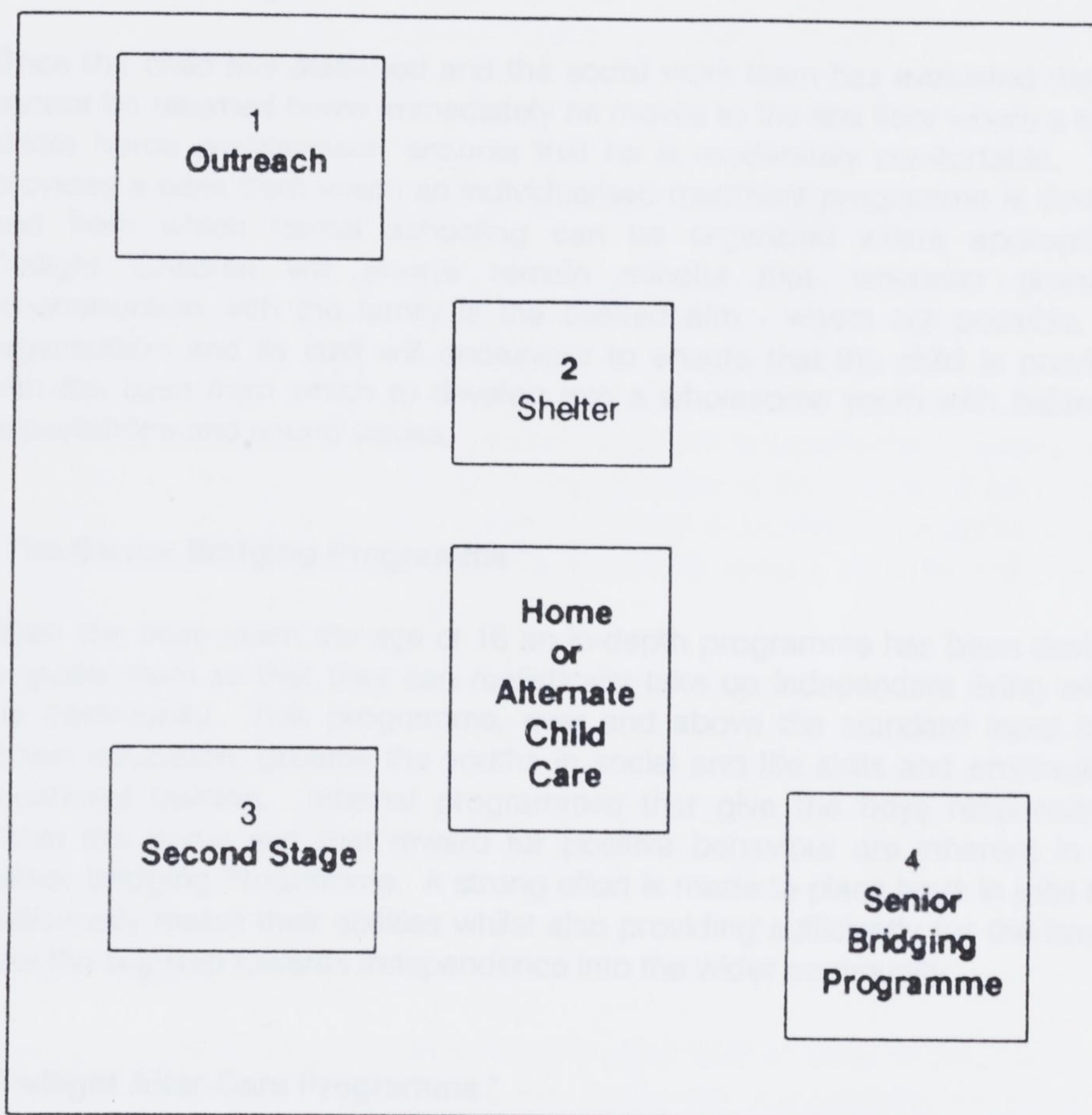
T. MASEKO
CHIEF ADMINISTRATOR

TWILIGHT CHILDREN

" OUR NEW HOME "

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TWILIGHT CHILDREN CARE PROGRAMME



" Outreach "

The foundation of Twilight Children in 1984 was based on the Outreach programme; it still is. Outreach is the meeting of the children on the streets and the coaxing of them towards the shelter. Participation by the children is voluntary. The new building allows for an addition to this process - a soup kitchen that serves a meal a day from a room that leads directly onto the street. Additionally shower and laundering facilities are available for these children.

*** The Shelter ***

On the ground floor of the building a shelter operates for new children who sleep on mattresses with blankets. Once these children start to reside with some regularity the treatment and assessment of the children can begin under the auspices of the two Social Workers. The primary objective is to return the children home. All the while the children are encouraged to attend the remedial education programme at Streetwise and to participate in daily activities arranged by the child care workers.

*** The Second Stage ***

Once the child has stabilised and the social work team has evaluated that he cannot be returned home immediately he moves to the first floor where a more stable home environment ensures that he is moderately comfortable. This provides a base from which an individualised treatment programme is devised and from which formal schooling can be organised where appropriate. Twilight Children will always remain mindful that, wherever possible, reconstruction with the family is the desired aim - where not possible, the organisation and its staff will endeavour to ensure that the child is provided with the base from which to develop into a wholesome youth with balanced expectations and sound values.

*** The Senior Bridging Programme ***

When the boys reach the age of 16 an in-depth programme has been devised to guide them so that they can realistically take up independent living within the community. This programme, over and above the standard input from formal education, grooms the youths in social and life skills and emphasises vocational training. Internal programmes that give the boys responsibility within the home and that reward for positive behaviour are inherent in the Senior Bridging Programme. A strong effort is made to place boys in jobs that realistically match their abilities whilst also providing sufficiently for the boy to take the big step towards independence into the wider community.

*** Twilight After-Care Programme ***

Once a boy has secured a job and is confident in his ability to survive independently he is encouraged to find relevant accommodation. This is done under the watchful eye of the Social Work Team. Whilst the boy is encouraged to support himself it is acknowledged that Twilight Children remains his "home" and he is welcome to visit and to participate in the programmes in the capacity of volunteer worker in Twilight Children's Volunteer Programme that makes provision for concerned members of the public to donate their time and talents to the betterment of the children in our care.

TWILIGHT CHILDREN

DEVELOPMENT OF THE ORGANISATION 1991/92

1991 and 1992 will see the consolidation and professionalising of the service delivery to the child on the street and those residing within the newly procured home in Van Der Merwe Street in Hillbrow. The relationship with Johannesburg Child Welfare Society has bought with it professional supervision of the treatment programmes and administration support allowing the strong and stable Twilight Children Standing Committee the opportunity to concentrate on raising funds for the organisation. Having met most of its short term objectives in 1990, Twilight Children has again developed a dynamic strategic plan that will make an even stronger contribution to resolving and preventing the phenomenon of children living on our streets in South Africa.

THERAPEUTIC ENVIRONMENT AND TREATMENT PROGRAMME

Our new premises in Van Der Merwe Street provides the perfect base from which programmes for the treatment of the children can be enhanced. The new social work team can concentrate on developing individual action plans for each child with the primary objective being to place the child back home with his family. Failing this, an environment that is conducive to longer term care and support is being created this includes a Study Centre and health facilities. A sympathetic environment in which a multiplicity of activities with the correct balance of discipline will evolve to ensure that the child is not tempted to return to the streets.

During the year Twilight Children will remain mindful of the impact of the changes within the socio-political environment and the potential for an influx of children resulting from uncontrolled urbanisation and unrest in the townships. The organisation stands ready to assist new projects, if required to do so, in any area in the larger metropolitan area including Soweto, Alexandra, and Lenasia.

EDUCATION

In January, 1990 Twilight Children took it upon itself to enrol 43 boys in formal schools. With this move comes the additional responsibility of providing transport, uniforms, learning materials and books and the creation of an Education Centre in which the children can do homework and extra-mural activities in a supervised environment. The endeavour has been expensive to launch but has been seen to be extremely beneficial in reestablishing self esteem within the children and basic disciplines that are inherent in any formal education system.

During 1989 and 1990 Twilight Children availed itself of the services offered by an education programme specifically aimed at street children. Four boys progressed to the private school, St. Angars, near Lanseria, whilst in May 1990 thirteen boys were placed in formal education at Bophelo Institute in Mayfair. In 1991 those children not yet enrolled in formal education still attend Streetwise, however, efforts are being made to source funds for the establishment of an assessment and remedial programme within Twilight Children for those children entering the programme before enrolment to formal schools.

STAFF TEAM

Twilight Children has been blessed with what must be the most stable and long-serving team of Child Care Workers for a project of this kind anywhere in South Africa. During their employment three of the Child Care Workers have passed their diploma in Child Care whilst the other two are enrolled in the relevant courses. The qualified social work team consists of our new manager, Ms. Sabera Cooradia and two social workers. Ms. Cooradia joins the team with an Honors Degree in Development Studies and experience gained through working amongst children with Durban Child Welfare and the Johannesburg Institute of Social Services.

Twilight remains committed to the upward mobility and betterment of its staff in its efforts to counter the shortage of qualified people in the field of caring for and rehabilitating street children. Training needs are reviewed constantly with senior staff attending relevant management courses and child care staff being updated in new trends.

RECREATION AND EXTRA-MURAL ACTIVITIES

A high emphasis is placed on keeping the children occupied to preempt any temptations they may have to return to the streets. In this vein four soccer teams are entered in the very organised Bosmont Football League (U12, U14, U16, and Open) with the U12 also entering the Chappies Knockout Competition. In 1990 the under 14 took the trophies for both the League and the Knockout Competitions in Bosmont. Additionally 15 boys are coached in boxing and take part in tournaments around the city, eight boys do karate and four weightlifting, whilst wrestling and tennis have just been introduced.

The Twilight Children Gumboot Team has become famous having appeared on SATV and M-NET (during both the 1990 and 1991 Red Nose Fundraising Days). The team is coached by a fieldworker from the Market Theatre Laboratory. All the above activities will be continued and developed during the year ahead.

The extra-mural programme will be developed to enhance the education programme and will hopefully include additional arts and crafts sessions, public speaking workshops, the initiation of a pen-pal club and education in current and environmental affairs.

FUNDRAISING AND PUBLIC RELATIONS

As Twilight Children progresses and increases its service delivery to the children from the streets, the needs for funds grows. The country's present negative economic growth and the extremely high needs of huge sections of the population place an enormous strain on a small donor base. Twilight Children has devised a strategic fund raising plan that hopes to draw funds from individuals, the corporate sector, foreign embassies, community groups and trusts. A " Sponsor Space in Twilight " programme encourages sponsorship of rooms within the Twilight Home whilst a list of ideas for specific donations lists options from sponsoring a child through to taking children on an outing or a camp. The capital needs are also listed and the budget highlights the very great need for monetary support.

Twilight Children has always had terrific support from the local and international press electronic media but, as an organisation, some of its most important public relations has taken place amongst the communities from which the children come and this takes place by one-on-one contact and talks to cells of the Black Housewives League, Church Groups, School Groups and Youth Groups. This will continue with even greater vigour in 1991 through the social work team and the dedicated Standing Committee.

TWILIGHT CHILDREN.

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY.

Twilight Children was established by a group of concerned individuals in 1984 in response to the growing numbers of children and teenagers to be seen living by their wits on the streets of Johannesburg. These children were clearly surviving under conditions of deprivation and hardship. Furthermore they were developing very anti-social characteristics and their only education was taking place in the street school of crime, drugs and sexual deviation.

Children find themselves on the streets for a variety of reasons including physical and mental abuse, family disputes involving step-parents, alcoholism, poverty, overcrowding, hunger etc. In the black and coloured communities particularly, facilities and systems to cope with these social ills are grossly insufficient. Without effective remedial action these children find the built up, urban areas where they have a chance to piece together an existence.

It was for these children that the first Twilight Children shelter was opened in Hillbrow, Johannesburg. At the shelter the children have access to a comprehensive range of appropriate services designed to cater for their particular needs. These include shelter, food, clothing, remedial education, vocational training, spiritual guidance and social skills practice. Integral to the programme is the fact that the child's participation is voluntary and thus very effective.

The purpose of the shelter is to rehabilitate the child to enable him to take a normal place in society by providing for the child's needs while encouraging the child to return to his family or other home. The shelter is thus intended as a temporary rather than permanent home.

In September 1986, Twilight Children opened its first shelter in Hillbrow after having spent two years meeting the children on the streets and feeding them from a church hall. In December 1990, the organisation secured new premises which allows for the running of :

- * An Outreach Programme and Soup Kitchen for those children still on the street.
- * A Shelter for those entering the programme.
- * A Second Stage where children reside once they have stabilised and from which they go to formal schooling.
- * A Senior Bridging Programme where older boys are groomed in social and life skills and vocational training in preparation for procuring employment.

- * An After Care Programme that, having placed a youth in a job, helps to procure accommodation for him whilst also providing back-up systems to ensure long term success in his reintegration into society.

Since 1986 approximately 1500 boys have stayed at the shelter while on any given night there are normally 80 to 100 boys housed.

In November 1989 Twilight Children elected to fall under the auspices of Johannesburg Child Welfare Society. This move provides us with a number of advantages in terms of professional services in particular the supervision of social work and family rehabilitation plus assistance with accounting and administration of staff matters.

However, Johannesburg Child Welfare Society does not provide any financial assistance to Twilight Children. The organisation is funded by concerned individuals, the corporate sector, foreign embassies, trusts, community groups and our regular monthly donors. The Standing Committee of Twilight continues to set the policy and objectives of our organisation.

TWILIGHT CHILDREN.

STREET CULTURE.

The majority of the boys at Twilight have been subjected to life on the streets and consequently to the street culture that exists there. An understanding of the lifestyle from which these boys have emerged is important, as it will explain partially some of their current behaviour and will illustrate how far many of these boys have progressed over the last seven years of Twilights existence.

Boys of the street form communities - groupings of anything up to 15 boys - who sleep together and, during the day, generally move together. A community would be led by an older boy and any boy seeking out an existence on the street would, of necessity become part of one of these groups.

This community alliance provides a system by which a boy can survive - a place to sleep, a mode of collecting money, the know how of how to avoid conflict with other communities or the law, and generally the ground rules by which to exist.

Within the group the young boys pay for their protection by providing food and in some cases paying a specific daily fee to the group leader. Money is collected by parking cars (established community leaders have the rights to specific areas), begging, helping shoppers carry bags to their cars, petty theft and sometimes, on an organised basis, major theft and prostitution. The latter being not so much a function of soliciting business as being picked up, abused and paid arbitrary amounts.

Places of abode vary considerably and amount to carving out a " territory " anywhere where the boys will not be hassled by others. Children have been seen living on vacant plots, under bridges, in parks, public toilets and the surrounding bush areas, in underground sewers, back alleys, unused houses and lately in flats in Hillbrow.

Life in these communities consists of to cooking communally and sitting around fires made from tyres, wooden and plastic crates and other rubbish at night. Very often the diet consists of bread, milk and handouts from the back doors of restaurants and cafes or from benefactors on the street. The boys sleep on plastic sheets or cardboard boxes and the fortunate have blankets or extra clothes.

Spare clothes and blankets, if not hidden in the bush, are kept under manhole covers. Washing of clothes and body is done infrequently in the waterfall on Nugget Hill or in the Public Toilets in the parks. However for the majority of the boys cleanliness is not a priority and the typical appearance of a street kid is one covered in filth with dirt ingrained into his skin, open sores, two or three layers of filthy clothing, no shoes and unkept hair and teeth.

They sleep huddled close together relying on body heat for warmth.

Glue sniffing and dagga smoking are standard practice on the streets. Unlike street children in other parts of the world, substances like benzine and thinners are not common.

Dagga is available in the back streets and is bought in small affordable quantities. Heavier drugs are seldom found. Glue sniffing provides a form of escapism and comfort from the elements and a generally sordid existence.

It might be said that the street kid exists in a world in which there is no moral code. It can be argued that rather than having "no" moral code, they have a "different" moral code. Whatever the code by which they exist it would be unacceptable in terms of the standards set in a normal society. The sub culture and consequently the systems by which the street kid exists may meet some of his most basic physical and security needs and partially meet his need to belong, but his needs for love, self esteem and self actualisation are not being met.

He lives in a world bereft of adult guidance, and it could be said that he merely exists.

For the little that he has, he is prepared to fight. And not unlike an animal he will fight to kill. Many of the boys carry knives or pangas or makeshift weapons such as flattened and sharpened nails. Boys are killed on the streets and those wounded in fights bear the scars as evidence that show the intentions of the attacker were to kill. The cause of the fights are usually trivial (one such fight was over twenty cents) and are not necessarily between groups but sometimes within groups and between friends. Living is for today alone - they do not or cannot contemplate tomorrow.

It is for these children that Twilight chose to establish a shelter where the basic needs of the street child are met.

TWILIGHT CHILDREN.

OPERATING BUDGET 1991/92.

SALARIES PROFESSIONAL	61 464
BONUS	5 122
SALARIES OTHER	220 908
BONUS	18 409
SOCIETY CONTRIBUTION	31 060
TRANSPORT	16 080
S & T in R.S.A.	5 000
INSURANCE	6 960
ADVERTISING STAFF	3 500
TELEPHONE & POSTAGE	5 000
PRINTING & STATIONERY	3 000
BOOKS, PERIODICALS & FILMS	1 000
MAINTENANCE NEW BUILDING	103 400
MAINTENANCE EQUIPMENT	2 000
MAINTENANCE VEHICLES	7 800
MAINTENANCE FURNITURE	1 000
RENT BUILDING	48 000
WATER & LIGHTS	20 000
FUEL, LAUNDRY & CLEANING	9 000
FOOD & GROCERIES	48 000
LINEN, CLOTHING & KITCHENWARE	30 000
MEDICAL	1 600
EDUCATION & RECREATION	24 000
POCKET MONEY	14 400
IN-SERVICE TRAINING	2 700
SUB TOTAL	631 543

CONTINUED OVERLEAF

TWILIGHT CHILDREN

CAPITAL BUDGET 1991/92

carried forward	631 543
OTHER PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	36 790
PARKING	1 500
FUNDRAISING COSTS	15 000
BANK CHARGES	1 400
SPORTS EQUIPMENT	5 000
PUBLIC ADDRESS SYSTEM	5 000
FIRE ALARM SYSTEM	11 000
OFFICE EQUIPMENT	8 470
KITCHEN EQUIPMENT	3 200
MOTOR VEHICLE	25 000
FURNITURE	17 875
LINEN	8 070
TOTAL	102 515

TWILIGHT CHILDREN.

CAPITAL BUDGET 1991/92

SECURITY LOCKS	3 000
SAFE	1 000
EDUCATION EQUIPMENT e.g. books & special aids	5 000
SPORTS EQUIPMENT e.g. weights / tennis equipment	8 000
PUBLIC ADDRESS SYSTEM	5 000
FIRE ALARM SYSTEM	11 000
OFFICE EQUIPMENT	8 470
KITCHEN EQUIPMENT	9 200
MOTOR VEHICLE	25 000
FURNITURE	17 875
LINEN	8 970
TOTAL	102 515

TWILIGHT CHILDREN

* EDUCATION PROGRAMME * 1991/92

In line with our goal " to ensure that an appropriate system of education for Twilight Children is provided " we aim to :

1. Set up assessment and remedial education facilities.
2. Source existing and potential formal education facilities.
3. Ensure afterschool education support programme e.g. homework supervision, extra-curricula and extra-mural activities.
4. Ensure that all children in our care are attending school or a relevant education programme on a regular basis.

BUDGET

1. One - off Capital Expenses (1991/92)

Education Centre Equipment :	8 x tables	R1 600
	60 x chairs	R3 000
	blackboards	R2 000
	notice boards	R1 000
	book shelves	R3 000
	educational books	R3 000
	(basic stock)	

2. Operating Expenses (annual) for in-house Education Programme

1 x Full time remedial teacher (assessment centre)	R36 000
1 x Part time teacher (homework teacher)	R 8 000
1 x Part time teacher (extra-mural activities)	R 8 000

3. Operating Expenses (annual) for children in formal education

School uniforms (60 boys @ 3 uniforms each)	R15 000
Books and stationery	R 6 000
Vocational training (out house courses)	R 3 000

TWILIGHT CHILDREN

EDUCATION CENTRE SPONSORSHIP

Any single donation of R30 000 or more towards the Education Programme will constitute the sponsorship of the Education Centre for a year and will be used towards operating expenses with the balance going against capital expenses (unless otherwise stipulated by the donor).

What will you get for your sponsorship ?

- * A plaque mounted outside the Education Centre with a name of your choice and your message of hope.
- * First option on renewing the sponsorship of the centre after every twelve month period.
- * The opportunity to contribute individualised special needs to the education centre within the needs of the education programme e.g. decor, furniture, educational equipment etc.
- * The knowledge and contentment that you have made a genuine contribution to the formal education of up to sixty youths who are living in the second stage of our home and to the remedial and bridging education of those children living in our shelter whilst their social and educational needs are being assessed.

We hope that this concept will be of interest to you. Please review the following options and let us know what we can meet you to show you around our new home in Van der Merwe Street, Hillcrest.

8 bedroom room	12 000
9 bedroom room	15 000
10 bedroom room	20 000
12 bedroom room	24 000
The Kitchen up to 25 m ² x 30 m ²	40 000
The Living Room	10 000
The Dining Room	12 000
The Reception Room	20 000
The Library / Study Room	12 000
The Group Work Room	15 000
The Gym	15 000

CONTACT PERSON : GREG JACOBSON 031 0576 1141
720 1212 1141

TWILIGHT CHILDREN

* SPONSOR SPACE IN TWILIGHT *

Twilight Children is offering individuals, companies or groups of concerned people the opportunity to sponsor space in the new home for Street Children. The rooms in which the boys reside and interact vary in size allowing for a wide choice when deciding where best to place your sponsorship.

What will you get for your sponsorship ?

- * A plaque mounted outside the room with a name of your choice and your message of hope.
- * First option on renewing the sponsorship of the room after every twelve month period.
- * The opportunity to contribute individualised special items to the room, within the needs of the organisation and the programme eg; curtains, pictures, decor, furniture, books etc.
- * The knowledge and contentment that you have made a genuine contribution to the sheltering, feeding and caring of children whose alternative life is a life on the streets, living in the back alleys of our city exposed to crime and the harsher elements of a sordid existence.

We hope that this concept will be of interest to you. Please review the following options and let us discuss when we can meet you to show you around our new home in Van Der Merwe Street, Hillbrow.

6 bedded room	12 000
9 bedded room	16 000
10 bedded room	20 000
12 bedded room	24 000
The Shelter (up to 25 children)	40 000
The Soup Kitchen	10 000
The Dining Room	12 000
The Recreation Room	20 000
The Library / Study Room	30 000
The Group Work Room	15 000
The Sick Bay	15 000

CONTACT PERSON : GREG JACOBSON 331 0535 (W)
720 5212 (H)

TWILIGHT CHILDREN.

SOME IDEAS FOR SPECIFIC DONATIONS.

One days meals for every week of the year (staples only)	R5,750
One days meals for every week of the year (Including meat)	R11,500
Meals for one boy for a year	R860
One day outing for 50 boys	R350
Week-end camp for 15 boys	R2,300
Week camp for 15 boys	R4,600
Transport expenditure for a month	R1,150
Transport expenditure for a year	R13,800
Pocket money for a month for all boys	R1200
Pocket money for a year for all boys	R14,400
Full shelter expenses for one month	R50,000
Sponsorship of Gumboot Team for a year	R4,200
Sponsorship of one of four soccer teams (U12, U14, U16, open)	R2,850
Sponsorship of Karate lessons for a year	R6,900
Sponsorship of boxing lessons for a year	R6,900
Sponsorship of annual information brochures	R6,000
Sponsorship of appeal brochures	R6,000
70 pairs of casual shoes / tennis shoes	R2,500
School uniforms for all boys for a year	R17,250
School uniform for one boy for a year	R300
Contract for 100 video units	R100

Donations in kind in the following categories are always needed.

FOOD.

All items but specifically staple foods, meat, chicken, fruit, milk and bread.

CLOTHES.

All clothing for boys aged 10-18 years.

i.e. shoes, socks, underwear, trousers (long and short), shirts, jerseys and jackets/coats. School uniforms consist of grey long trousers and white shirts with grey socks and black school shoes.

ACTIVITIES.

Sports equipment i.e. boxing kits, soccer kits and boots, gym equipment, soccer balls. Board games i.e. draughts, puzzles, and monopoly.

EQUIPMENT.

Refer to Capitol Needs list for specific needs for 1990/91. In addition, kitchen equipment, blankets and towels.

TWILIGHT CHILDREN

' CODE OF ETHICS '

The code of ethics by which the shelter and home are run are simple and are the grid through which all our policies, procedures and future planning is passed.

" OUR HOME "

Our home is a house of joy and happiness

Our home is open to all children in need

We love and respect our family

We love and respect each other

We work together

We look towards the future and we dream

We love God and trust in God

TWILIGHT CHILDREN.

STANDING COMMITTEE.

Peter FitzGerald (Chairman)

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Shelter Manager

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