



# Annual REPORT 2022/2023



DISTANCE FOR DIFFERENCE

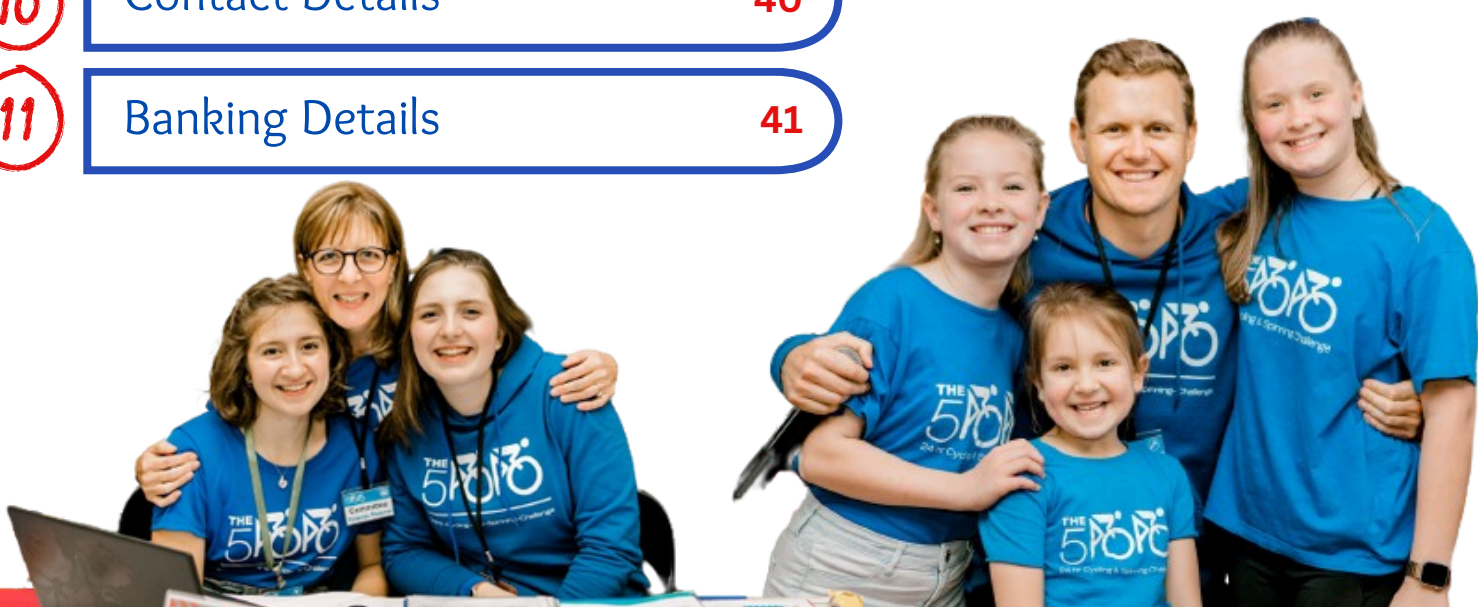


*How wonderful it is  
that nobody need wait a  
A SINGLE MOMENT  
before starting to  
improve the world*

**ANNE FRANK**

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# Opening

*Dear Friend of D4D,*

As you hold this bi-annual report from Distance For Difference (D4D), you are about to embark on a journey through the past two years, filled with challenges and triumphs, inspiring tales and remarkable miracles that have unfolded within our community.

We invite you to join us in celebrating the incredible individuals who have dedicated their time, passion and energy to transform the lives of children in need, offering them the promise of a brighter future. It's our hope that, by the end of this report, you will be moved to consider joining forces with D4D, if you have not already, to contribute to this meaningful cause.

*“What you do for yourself dies with you when you leave this world, what you do for others lives on forever.”*

Ken Robinson

Let's continue to make an impactful difference, together.

# Vision



# Mission

Envisioning a world where every child thrives, powered by communities united through sports to foster health, education, and well-being.

To harness the spirit and resources of the sports community, mobilizing athletes and supporters to fundraise and advocate for the empowerment and upliftment of children in need, fostering a cycle of generosity, health and hope.

DREAM BIG,  
WORK HARD,  
- MAKE IT HAPPEN.





# A Word from our Chairman



*Dear friend of Distance For Difference,*

On this hot and sunny afternoon of Sunday, 18 February 2024, I take a moment to reflect on another two years of Distance For Difference (D4D) magic. By the end of this year, it will mark 20 years since D4D embarked on its journey, taking those initial small steps.

Two decades later, I am compelled to reflect on the years filled with amazing grace, thousands of kilometres made impactful by many runners, cyclists and swimmers, the wonderful partnerships with individuals and organisations, and the countless donations received. All these efforts have cumulatively made a tangible difference in the lives of vulnerable children.

Now more than ever, our mission remains clear – to harness our passion for sport, to bring hope and a better future to children in need. This mission would falter without you, our D4D supporters. Whether you are an individual or a CEO willing to contribute financially, someone blessed with health and energy participating in our events or setting personal challenges, a decision-maker at venues for the next GRATITUDE Run or THE500, or someone lifting us up in prayer, we cannot do it without you.

We live in a world that is more broken than ever, where the need for people willing to make a positive impact is paramount. We cannot afford to sit idly by, hoping for others to take action. If you are capable and willing, please continue to join hands with us or consider embarking on this mission with us for the first time. You will not be disappointed.

**“We live in a world in which we need to share responsibility. It’s easy to say, ‘It’s not my child, not my community, not my world, not my problem.’ Then there are those who see the need and respond. I consider those people my heroes.” (Fred Rogers)**

D4D has been incredibly blessed over the last two years, thanks to individuals like Lorraine Oberholzer, Maritza Sander, Melindi Douglas and Howard Warrington, who set lofty goals and raised significant funds.

Our 2022 The GRATITUDE Run, hosted for the third time at the stunningly beautiful Lourensford Wine Estate, was unforgettable. Despite the howling winds elsewhere in the Helderberg basin that day, we experienced a miracle of a windless morning, a record number of participants in the various events and the generous spirit of the estate's owners and management.

*(Watch the overview of the 2022 GRATITUDE Run on YouTube by searching “The GRATITUDE Run | 2022”).*



In late October 2023, it was time for the 6th edition of our highly successful THE500, marking the 10-year anniversary of our first event in 2013. The support from Virgin Active Waterstone in Somerset West, along with long-time corporate partner Pragma and the involvement of Helderberg FM, made it a memorable event, raising more than R600,000.

2023 also saw the culmination of the “Class of 2023” project. Read on to discover how the generosity of individuals and organizations has begun to shape the early chapters of a promising young rugby player named Gino Cupido.

In the pages that follow, we introduce D4D’s board of directors and our beneficiaries. Please take time to read about the recent stories of those we’ve helped. It’s crucial for our donors to see the difference their contributions make. You will also find information on various fundraising initiatives and our financials, and more information on how you can lend your support.

What will the next two years bring for D4D? It’s a blank page waiting to be filled with more stories of faith, community, hope and people living significant lives rather than mere successful lives.

As I turned 50 in December 2023, I reflected on the journey since D4D began when I was 31. With possibly 25 to 30 years left to make a difference, my commitment to this quest is as strong as ever, but I cannot do it alone. I invite you to join hands with us once more, as we continue making a difference. Your involvement, whether through event participation, financial contributions, or simply spreading the word, is the fuel that powers our mission. Together, we can create a lasting legacy of change.

*To conclude*, I extend my deepest thanks to each one of you. Your exceptional contributions, love, and support have been the foundation of our success. Serving alongside you has been a profound privilege, witnessing the collective effort unfold.

Let's continue moving forward, inspired by the knowledge that together, we are making a world of difference.

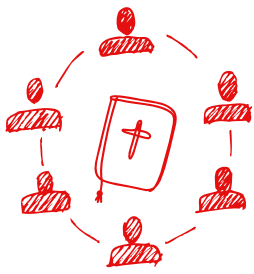
Soli Deo Gloria.

Warmest regards,

*Stéphan Pieterse*

Chairman, Distance For Difference





# Board of Directors



**Stéphan Pieterse**

**Chief Innovation Officer  
@ Pragma**  
D4D Founder and Director  
since 2005

“The Lord is good to those who wait [confidently] for Him, to those who seek Him [on the authority of God’s word].”  
(Lamentations 3:25)



**Yolanda Pieterse**

**Homeschool Mom**  
Director since 2008

“Pure and unblemished religion [as it is expressed in outward acts] in the sight of our God and Father is this: to visit and look after the fatherless and the widows in their distress, and to keep oneself uncontaminated by the [secular] world.”  
(James 1:27)



**Willem Coetzee**

**Chief Executive Officer  
@ Dutoit Agri**  
Director since 2014

“Trust in and rely confidently on the Lord with all your heart and do not rely on your own insight or understanding.”  
(Proverbs 3:5)



**Jacques van Niekerk**

**Attorney**  
**@ Jacques van Niekerk Attorneys**  
Director since 2008

“But now, this is what the Lord, your Creator says, O Jacob, and He who formed you, O Israel, “Do not fear, for I have redeemed you [from captivity]; I have called you by name; you are Mine!”  
(Isaiah 43:1)



**Shawn Roets**

**Regional Manager Western Cape  
@ Voltex**  
Director since 2008

“You are my hiding place; You, Lord, protect me from trouble; You surround me with songs and shouts of deliverance. Selah. I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you [who are willing to learn] with My eye upon you.”  
(Psalm 32:7-8)



**Emile Kotzé**

**Plant Manager  
@ City of Cape Town**  
Director since 2008

“Then he said to me, “This [continuous supply of oil] is the word of the Lord to Zerubbabel [prince of Judah], saying, ‘Not by might, nor by power, but by My Spirit [of whom the oil is a symbol],’ says the Lord of hosts.”  
(Zechariah 4:6)

## D4D Administrator and Fundraiser



**Tacia Roux**

**Administrator and Fundraiser @ D4D**  
D4D Employee since 2015

“Do not be anxious or worried about anything, but in everything [every circumstance and situation] by prayer and petition with thanksgiving, continue to make your [specific] requests known to God. And the peace of God [that peace which reassures the heart, that peace] which transcends all understanding, [that peace which] stands guard over your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus [is yours].”  
(Philippians 4:6-7)



# Making A Difference... Our Beneficiaries



DISTANCE FOR DIFFERENCE





# ① Sylvia's House Foster Care

Sylvia's House Foster Care is a foster home located in Gordon's Bay. The mission of Sylvia's House Foster Care is to enrich the lives of children facing physical and emotional challenges, aiming to create a nurturing family environment where they can thrive.

Sylvia's House has been a safe haven for many abandoned and abused children of all ages throughout the past 24 years. Many young people have been with Sylvia's House for either long or short periods of time, while their parents are rehabilitated or while new adoptive parents are found. While around 80 children have been under Sylvia's House care, it is heartening to report that the majority have successfully transitioned to new, loving families or returned to restored homes after experiencing healing. In addition to her role as a safety parent, Sylvia is currently raising nine children who have become a permanent part of her family. Two of them are adopted, and six are in Sylvia's legal foster care. Notably, four of these children have recently embarked on independent living.



Sylvia is dedicated to empowering the children in her care to reach their full potential, offering them a place to call home, therapy and support tailored to their individual needs. Her primary goal is to create a family environment that mirrors the morals, emotional and physical stability, educational opportunities and prospects that most other children are fortunate to have. Sylvia is passionate about nurturing these children in her care to unlock their complete God-given potential, allowing them to grow confidently into their true selves and become contributing members of society as adults. Sylvia's aspiration extends beyond merely providing clothing and nourishment for the children under her care. Her dream is to love them unconditionally and foster every opportunity for their personal growth, just as she would for her own children.

Her mission aligns with that of D4D, as we share the hope that these children will mature into responsible adults and valuable members of society, capable of making positive contributions that, in turn, enhance the lives of others.

At present, D4D supports Sylvia's House with a monthly donation of R5,400. These funds are earmarked for educational purposes and operational costs.

Sylvia's House was identified as one of the ten beneficiaries of the 2023 edition of THE500 event. A donation of R70,000 was granted to them in February 2024. It's important to note that this donation was not given as a once-off donation, but will be utilised to sustain D4D's monthly donations to Sylvia's House for an extended period.



## ② Tzadokah Foster Home

D4D has had the privilege of being involved with Tzadokah Foster Home since 2005. They were the very first foster home that D4D supported and continues to support to this day. As we reflect on the last nineteen years of D4D's involvement with Tzadokah Foster Home, we are extremely grateful for the abundance of blessings we have experienced. We have witnessed the remarkable growth of the children and the numerous challenges they have bravely overcome, including the substantial progress they have made throughout their school careers. Tina Burger has been Tzadokah's foster mom since 2009.

At the time of writing this report, Tzadokah has two children in permanent foster care, two in temporary foster care, and one placed in safe custody.



D4D expresses our deepest gratitude, acknowledging the unconditional love that Tina and her husband, Schalk Burger, have for the children. They selflessly devote their energy, time, and affection to those under their care. The harmonious relationships among all the children reflect the profound respect they hold for Tina and Schalk.

D4D's ongoing monthly donation of R9,000, primarily contributes towards educational expenses, a cause that will remain a central part of D4D's mission.

Tzadokah Foster Home was identified as one of the ten beneficiaries of the 2023 edition of THE500 event. A donation of R50,000 was allocated to them in February 2024. This donation was not given as a once-off contribution, but will be used to fulfill D4D's monthly commitment to Tzadokah Foster Home for an extended period.

D4D is delighted to share some heartwarming highlights from Tzadokah over the period covered in this report:



### **Vision Care for Gavidene:**

13-year-old, Gavidene, received new glasses, thanks to the support of D4D. Ensuring proper vision is a crucial aspect of our commitment to the well-being and development of each child in need thereof.



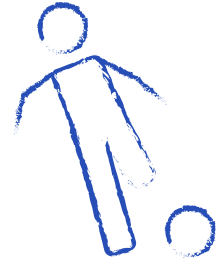
### **Educational Support for Bevin:**

10-year-old, Bevin, attended reading and spelling lessons at the Tina Cowley Reading Centre. We are proud to mention that D4D funded these lessons, contributing to Bevin's educational journey.



### **Raven's Memorable Matric Farewell:**

In April 2023, Raven, attended her matric farewell. D4D played a part in making her dream night even more special by contributing towards her shoes and nails. It's moments like these that remind us of the importance of supporting not just the essential needs, but also the dreams and aspirations of these precious individuals.



## 3 Esther van Zyl Foster Care

Another foster mom whom D4D has been supporting since 2017 and holds a special place in our hearts, is Esther van Zyl. Her home is a registered place of safety. Esther has two children in permanent foster care, along with a baby girl currently in temporary safe care.

The eldest, a boy aged 12, was discovered in an informal settlement in Langa at the fragile age of 1. He was diagnosed as HIV positive and also suffers from separation anxiety, a direct result of his early childhood trauma. The girl, aged 7, came into Esther's care when she was just 24 hours old. The police contacted Esther, seeking a place of safety for the newborn baby found in a park close to Esther's house. Four days later, she was placed in Esther's care, safe and sound, with her new "mom" and "brother".

These two children have found the only mom they have ever known, in Esther, and she has given them a home filled with love and devotion. They have adapted very well to their school and are excelling in their schoolwork. Esther has more than enough reason to be incredibly proud of them. They are a close-knit family who love and adore one another.



Esther's newest addition is an eight-month-old baby girl – she is an absolute delight. Spending a day with her is sure to lift anyone's spirits; she has a contagious joy. She enjoys hearty laughter, plays peek-a-boo with her blanket even when no one is around, and squeals with excitement as she uncovers her face. However, the future is uncertain due to challenges posed by her biological mother, who is making placement difficult. We request prayers for God's protection over this little girl and that He will lead her to the right family at the right time.

D4D supports Esther van Zyl with a monthly donation of R5,400. This money goes a long way in ensuring that she can provide the children with a healthy diet, meet their school supply needs and cover their medical expenses. In addition to the monthly donation, D4D also made an additional contribution of R10,600 in December 2023 for stationary, school clothes and extra necessities. It is an honor to serve the Lord alongside such an inspiring family.

Esther van Zyl was also identified as one of the ten beneficiaries of the 2023 edition of THE500 event. A donation of R65,000 was allocated to them in February 2024. This donation was not paid out as a once-off donation, but it will be used to fulfill D4D's monthly donation to Esther van Zyl for an extended period.

Esther has been running a catering business from her home to support them financially. The name of her business is Pretty Tasty, and she can be contacted at *072-216-3111* for orders, ranging from cupcakes to cakes for special occasions and platters for functions. Her treats will undoubtedly tantalize your taste buds.

# Esther says Thank You:

Expressing gratitude is not always easy, but I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks for the tremendous support we've received from D4D, during these past few years. Your generosity has been instrumental in helping us navigate challenging times.

As my small business continues to grow and gain popularity in the local community, the rising costs of living have presented increasing difficulties in meeting basic needs, such as putting food on the table and keeping the lights on. The impact of your continuous support goes beyond words. It relieves the burden of choosing between essentials, like shoes and food.

The December donation played a crucial role, enabling me to provide school clothes and stationery for my children, the cost of which nearly doubled compared to last year. This support not only fosters their learning and growth, but also affords me the peace of mind to spend quality time with them.

I am extremely grateful for the love, care and every cent entrusted to me. My hope is that I can consistently make wise decisions in how these resources are utilised, and I sincerely pray for the Lord's guidance in this regard.

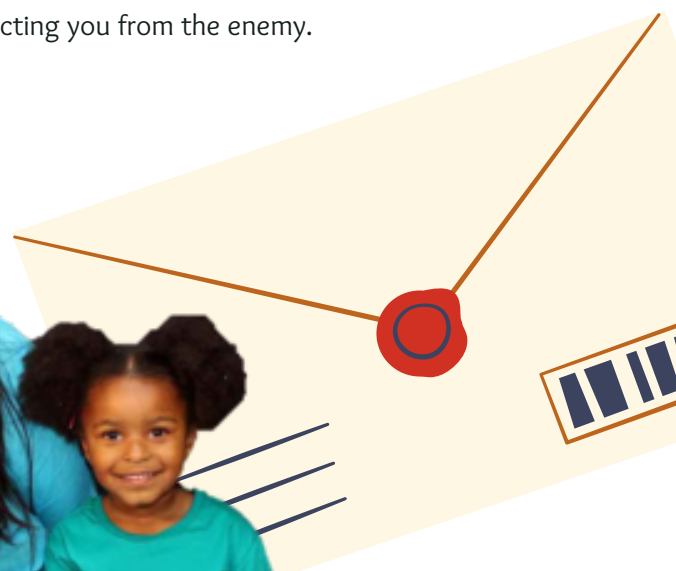
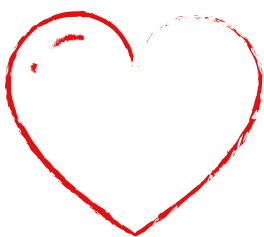
As I write this message, my heart feels a bit heavier after a recent doctor's visit. What should have been a routine examination for Sanele took an unexpected turn. Sanele's blood pressure has reached alarming levels. The doctor mentioned that it's a concern they've observed in children with HIV, typically identified from the age of 16 onwards. Sanele however, being only 13, is considered too young for this issue. Regular monitoring is now necessary. If the levels persist, medication may become necessary. Despite my deep worry, I try to remain positive as Sanele is sensitive to stress. I pray that God will intervene, restoring normalcy to his blood pressure. The thought of such health challenges at such a young age leaves me concerned about the future.

I also seek prayers for Khanye, my 9-month-old, who, despite reaching developmental milestones, faces an uncertain future. I pray that God guides Khanye to a safe place and shields all our hearts, especially Khanye's.

I want to express gratitude for all the support we've received. Your assistance not only helps us navigate these challenges, but enables us to remain a family.

May the blood of Jesus cover each one of you and your families, protecting you from the enemy.

Warm regards,  
Esther, Sanele, Zoey, and Nikhanye





## 4 Kingdom Kids



The Kingdom Kids Crèche, located in Sir Lowry's Pass Village, has been a beneficiary of D4D since 2016. Opening its doors in 2009 with only two children, the school has grown significantly, currently accommodating over 80 children daily. They cater for various age groups, from babies to young kids aged 5.

Five voluntary teachers contribute their time, dedication and affection out of a profound passion for the children, their well-being and their futures. This group of women makes a tangible difference in their community. The school faces many challenges with school fees, as numerous parents fail to fulfil this obligation. Consequently, they organize several fundraisers throughout the year to generate extra income to ensure the doors of Kingdom Kids remain open.

In September 2023, a storm front hit the Cape Town area and the larger Western Cape province for three days, causing rivers to burst their banks and flood residential areas and major roads, both in coastal regions and inland. Sir Lowry's Pass Village in particular, was hit very hard.

Large portions of the school were submerged in mud, necessitating its closure until most of the mud was removed. Their entire vegetable garden was swept away by the flood. This garden served as a main contributor to Kingdom Kids' nutritional & educational program. The wire fence surrounding the school, was also destroyed, posing an immediate safety risk. Even the printer that was recently purchased by D4D for the school was lost in the flood. During D4D's visit to the disaster-stricken area, the outpouring support from the community was evident. They generously extended their helping hands to Kingdom Kids. Witnessing this beautiful gesture was particularly moving, specially to Zelna and her daughters, who initiated a soup kitchen during the challenging times of COVID, providing meals to the Sir Lowry's Pass community.

Virtual Resource, a leading global Workday Consultancy, had already collaborated with Kingdom Kids in 2022 through their VRCares program. In 2023, they erected a new classroom for Kingdom Kids. This particular classroom was fortunately spared from any flood damage. Their plans for 2024 include expanding the project by renovating some of the classrooms and ablution facilities. It is with immense gratitude that we can report that an anonymous sponsor has replaced the wire fence with a well-built, sturdy brick fence.

Kingdom Kids is an inspiration to D4D, reminding us to be more grateful for our blessings and to persevere, never giving up, despite setbacks.

Kingdom Kids was selected as one of the ten beneficiaries of the 2023 edition of THE500 event. A donation of R50,000 was allocated to them in February 2024. This donation will be used for the building project of 2024, in collaboration with Virtual Resource. We would like to invite other sponsors/companies who would like to get involved in this project, to contact Tacia Roux directly.





## ⑤ Gabriella Centre

Gabriella Centre is a Residential and Day Care facility for children and young adults with profound physical and intellectual disabilities, such as Cerebral Palsy. They provide 24-hour care in a home from home environment along with unlimited patience and unconditional love. In order to maintain a comfortable environment, a maximum of 24 children/young adults are enrolled in Day Care, of which 12 are also in Residential Care. Individual programmes are designed by their in-house Physiotherapist and Program Implementer, to ensure each child/young adult receives the correct physiotherapy & intellectual stimulation they require. Their staff have been trained to follow these individual programmes and understand the importance of correct positioning, exercise and educational stimulation. The weekly programme includes physiotherapy, occupational therapy, music & movement, creative activities, outdoor play, horse riding and outings. Gabriella Centre provides a place to learn and grow, to feel safe and accepted and to be loved unconditionally.

These are beautiful and loving children and young adults, who are trapped in bodies that do not co-operate with what they would like to do. Gabriella Centre has made it their mission in life to serve these wonderful people, to be their facilitators, to be their feet, their hands and their voice. To treat them with the dignity and respect they deserve. Over the years they have watched the children grow and improve. The love overflows at Gabriella Centre and they never give up on their children. They persevere, even if it takes a child 5 years to learn one colour or to learn to control a spoon. It is the most amazing experience to watch their faces when they finally achieve something, no matter how small or insignificant it may seem to others. Nothing can compare to the joy experienced in watching a child discover the world! When able-bodied people show the same determination and courage as these children and young adults, they could achieve great things!

Gabriella's vision has always been "To inspire, respect and accomplish equality for persons with special needs". Their goal remains unchanged; they strive to do everything they possibly can to assist these courageous individuals in their challenging climb in life. They want able bodied people to know that not one day in their life should be taken for granted. In a second, your life could change, and you could find yourself or a family member in the exact position as those with special needs. Take the time to get to know someone who is physically and/or intellectually challenged and give them the respect and kindness they deserve.

When D4D started back in 2005, Gabriella Centre, was one of our first beneficiaries. Nineteen years later, they were again identified as one of the ten beneficiaries of the 2023 edition of THE500 event.

In February 2024, a once-off donation of R50,000 was allocated to them.



## 6 Hagar's Choice



Hagar means: "Stranger".

Hagar's story is marked by repeated rejection from both her own people and those who initially took her in. Each time she faced the brink of death, God sent His angels to assist her.

Every baby subjected to rejection, undergoes similar feelings and emotions as Hagar did. She struggled to find a sense of belonging anywhere. Despite her dire circumstances, God remained in control and sent an angel to aid Hagar. She chose obedience, returning to face Sarah even though her presence wasn't appreciated. Reflect for a moment on the emotions she must have experienced and had to navigate.

Hagar, in a sense, had no advocate, yet God cared for her. Similarly, babies are unable to fend for themselves, lacking a voice and entirely dependent on others for assistance. God intervenes, sending angels and people to guide their paths.

Much like Hagar, Hagar's Choice opts for the challenging path, the road less travelled, as caring for premature and rejected babies poses no easy task. Hagar's Choice offers help to children without refuge, providing a temporary place of security and provision until they find their forever parents.

D4D's initial donation to Hagar's Choice was made in 2017. Since then, the Campher-family has inspired us with their selflessness and unconditional love for abandoned babies and children in need.

In December 2022, D4D made a contribution of R5,500 towards the purchase of a new refrigerator for Hagar's Choice.

In June 2023, D4D made a contribution of R5,000 towards the purchase of milk and nappies for Hagar's Choice.







## 7 Patch Helderberg

PATCH strives to help all child survivors of sexual abuse find hope and healing.

PATCH is the only organization that specializes in the prevention and treatment of child sexual abuse in the Helderberg area of Cape Town, South Africa. Their offices spread across the Helderberg basin – with the head office located in Somerset West – and 3 satellite offices situated in Macassar, Strand and Lwandle.

They take pride in the fact that the communities they operate in have embraced PATCH in such a way that every disclosed and reported case of child sexual abuse is referred to PATCH – by the police, schools, clinics, welfare agencies and parents.



PATCH provides a holistic set of services to the survivors of child sexual abuse. Their response includes an initial assessment, therapeutic interventions, court preparation, and a 24-hour crisis line. All services are provided by a skilled team of registered social workers and social auxiliary workers. The first step for all children referred to PATCH, on account of suspected child sexual abuse, is a socio-emotional assessment. If the referral is within 72-hours of an incident, a medico-legal assessment is carried out.

The PATCH crisis worker accompanies the child to the hospital and tenderly offers emotional support during the medico-legal examination, while the doctor collects forensic evidence that may be used in the court case. Crisis workers provide the child with a comfort toy (teddy bear) to help put them at ease and following the examination, the child may take a bath and get a clean set of clothes, underwear and toiletries. A range of professional and therapeutic services for child survivors are offered by qualified social workers and psychological counsellors, based at their centers throughout the Helderberg basin.

Therapy is provided on either an individual or group basis, that is tailored to the specific needs of the child survivor. The experienced, expert staff at PATCH make use of a wide range of therapies, including narrative therapy, play therapy and cognitive-behavioural therapy. They work according to the individual child's needs, be it working on feelings of guilt and shame and/or court preparation, should the child's case be taken to court.

The statistics of child sexual abuse are increasing daily, representing a tragic and disturbing reality. D4D is steadfast in its commitment to providing continuous support for the efforts of Patch, expressing profound gratitude for the significant difference they make in their community. We extend our heartfelt thanks for their unwavering dedication and the crucial role they play in the lives of vulnerable children.

Patch was identified as one of the ten beneficiaries of the 2023 edition of THE500 event. A donation of R20,000 was granted to them in February 2024.



## 8 Little Angels



Little Angels, situated in Somerset West, is a full-time, community-based care facility for children with special needs. Little Angels is a non-profit organisation that provides a home for children that require special care and nurturing, as a result of their mental and/or physical disabilities. Little Angels aims to provide a safe haven for these children and ensure that they receive the correct and proper medication, treatment and special care that their parents can seldom afford to provide. Today, Little Angels is home to 17 children, between the ages of 0 - 18 years.



As a result of their severe disabilities, all the children at Little Angels require 24-hour, highly specialised care and support. Most of the children suffer from multiple medical conditions such as Cerebral Palsy, Epilepsy, Microcephaly, Hydrocephaly and thus require assistive devices namely wheelchairs, buggies, ventriculoperitoneal shunts to relieve brain pressure and/or feeding pegs.



Little Angels run daily educational programs that provide intellectual stimulation for the children, as well as physical therapy programs to ensure maximum mobility and flexibility. They also do daily fun activities that include music, art and storytelling. These programmes are endorsed by CSPID (Children with Severe and Profound Intellectual Disability), a governing body managed by the Department of Basic Education.

The children's immunity is more vulnerable due to their medical conditions and this is also the reason why every child has a specific nutritional & medicinal plan (formulated by the Department of Health), to ensure each child maintains his/her optimal health level. All the children go for bi-annual hospital visits, ensuring that their assistive devices, i.e., wheelchairs or buggies still meet their growing needs.

Little Angels would like to continue thriving, by sticking to their core values; compassion, dignity, competence and dedication. They are driven by the overwhelming need for similar residential care facilities in their community, breaking down stigmas and stereotypes regarding disabilities, and increasing awareness for those living with disabilities.

The initial donation from D4D to Little Angels was made in March 2016. Soon after, D4D and Little Angels decided to join forces and organized D4D's inaugural running event, The Gratitude Run. Since this collaborative effort, additional donations to Little Angels have continued. The staff and residents at Little Angels are truly angels with big hearts. Their positive attitude, joy and zest for life remain a continuous source of inspiration.

In February 2024, a once-off donation of R25,000 was bestowed upon Little Angels, as they were also identified as one of the 10 beneficiaries of the 2023 edition of THE500 event.



## 9 Heartlands Baby Sanctuary

Heartlands Baby Sanctuary provides a safe, loving and homely environment for young children in desperate need of care and protection. Their individualised services create a foundation to help promote healing, and to develop them into happy, healthy and confident children.

### **Their objectives, are:**

- To offer holistic short-term residential care for 25 children at one given time from birth to six years of age.
- To provide specialized care to abandoned, abused, neglected, ill, special needs children and children with moderate intellectual disabilities.
- To provide an emergency place of safety.
- To create a secure, caring environment in which the children learn to trust, bond and maintain relationships.
- To provide effective psychosocial services to children and their families.
- To provide comprehensive health care services to children.
- To provide early childhood development programmes that develops children holistically and minimise developmental delays.
- To return clinically well children back to the community through reunification or alternative community- or long-term institutional placements or adoption.
- Educating families about general health issues and how to care for their children once back at home while accommodated in the mother's room.
- To provide palliative care to children in the acute phase of their illness.

D4D and Heartlands share the same objectives and values, our vision aligns, rendering our decision to nominate them as one of the ten beneficiaries of THE500 event, indisputable. In February 2024, a donation of R15,000 was extended to support their commendable efforts.





## 10 Advance Edukos Foundation



Advance Edukos Foundation is a non-profit organization dedicated to creating purposeful pathways for youth through quality and well-structured afterschool programs. While they cater for various age groups, their primary focus is Grade 4 to Grade 12 learners from Strandfontein, Mitchell's Plain and surrounding areas. Collaborating with other organizations, they strive to offer a diverse range of activities that best support the youth they serve, emphasizing the importance of shared vision and added value from their partners.

The organization's name, inspired by the word "Advance" meaning "moving forward in a purposeful way" and the Greek word for education, "Edukos", defined as "learning from the inside out", reflects their commitment to holistic development. Advance Edukos is dedicated to providing a safe space for young people to cultivate new friendships, build strong social and emotional skills, and ignite a sense of hope for the future.

At Advance Edukos, they believe in restoring a sense of individual responsibility in young people. This restoration, they believe, will empower them to commit to pursuing their dreams, ultimately allowing them to reach adulthood with a profound sense of accomplishment and happiness.

Fifty percent of their children come from disadvantaged home backgrounds, with little or no access to washing facilities, nutritional meals, clean clothing and academic support.

In October 2022, Advance Edukos contacted D4D to inquire if they would consider them as a beneficiary. D4D's board of directors approved a donation of R9,000 to their Love Pack project. They specifically used this donation to purchase school shoes for their children.





## 11 Die Herberg Kinderhuis

The Herberg Children's Home offers a nurturing haven to children who are deemed vulnerable by the Children's Court. The reasons for admission may vary from children being orphaned, neglected, abandonment or physically and sexually abused. The Herberg Children's Home is registered to care for 122 boys and girls who are cared for in various housing units.

The Herberg Children's Home offers a comprehensive residential care and development program for vulnerable children designed to empower these children to realise their full potential and cultivate essential life skills. They provide this service through well trained personnel and committed volunteers, and the unwavering support of the community and various role players.

Guided by values such as commitment to serve, justice, excellence, stewardship and accountability, the residents of The Herberg Children's Home embody and uphold these principles in their daily lives.

D4D is privileged to make an annual donation to the orphanage. A total contribution of R15,000 was made during the period of 2022/2023.



# 12 Kin Culture

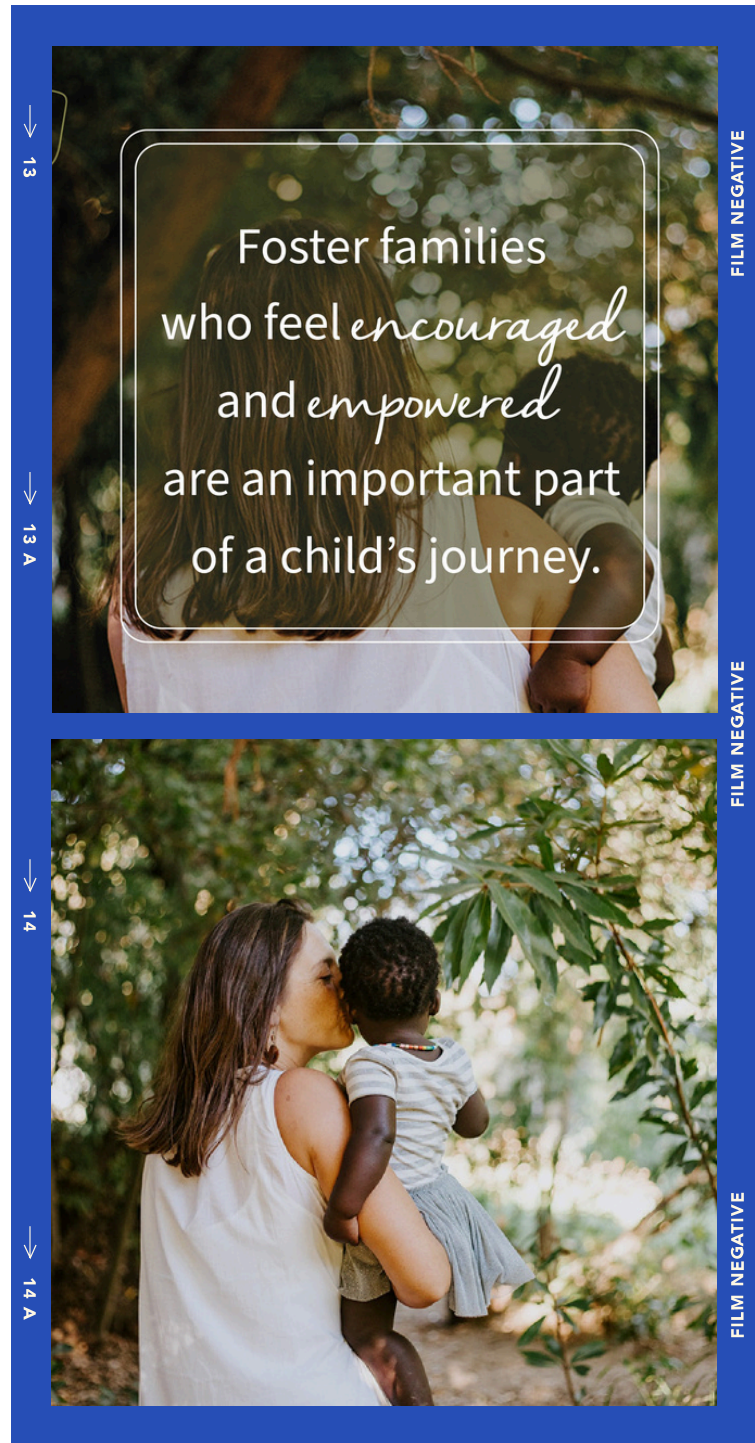


Kin Culture embraces the concept of family in its most beautiful, expansive, inclusive and redemptive sense. They believe in family where guests become relatives, where homes are opened and love and burdens are shared. In 2014, Kin Culture was officially formed as a community to create a 'home' for children in need of alternative care. Their primary focus lies in extending support to a network of families engaged in foster care throughout the Western Cape.

Kin Culture actively participates in several key initiatives:

- Recruiting families for foster care.
- Assisting families in the process of foster caring.
- Offering support and guidance along the way to prevent failed placements.
- Providing practical support and training.
- Creating awareness through initiatives like World Foster Day and the Foster Conference.

Kin Culture was selected as one of the ten beneficiaries of the 2023 edition of THE500 event, receiving a donation of R20,000 in February 2024.





13

# Neurodiversity Foundation

The Neurodiversity Foundation (NDF) wants to ensure that neurodiverse children are identified, screened and diagnosed as early as possible in life, which directly ensures a more positive long-term prognosis for the child.

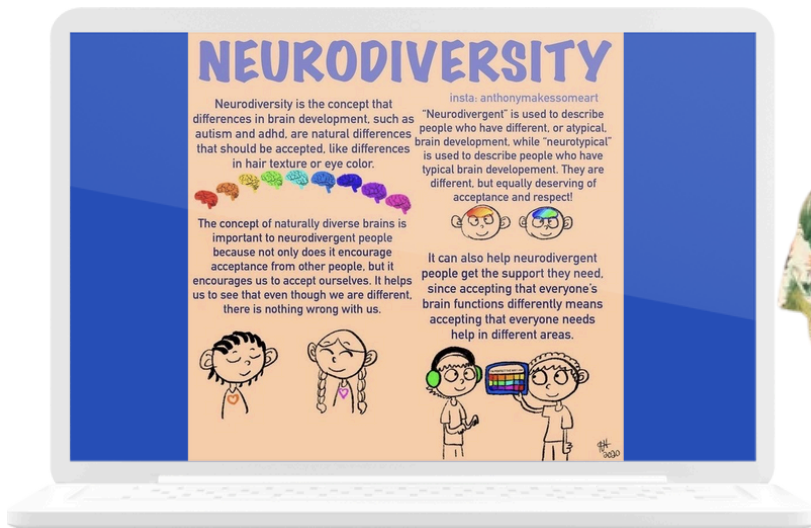
The NDF takes clinical best practices to the environmentally deprived population and ensure positive change in the lives of neurodivergent children and their families. They conduct needs assessments in rural areas to determine the real need for services in respect of neurodivergent support. Thereafter they provide specialist diagnostic and therapeutic services (identification, screening, assessment and diagnostic services) to financially needy families, as well as establish long term support services within the rural communities, to ensure that neurodiverse children can access quality education and will achieve their full potential.

A big part of their services, is to raise awareness about neurodiversity. Providing training, awareness, and education about neurodiversity to all relevant community members, ensure a better understanding and support for neurodevelopmental concerns, better inclusion within the community, as well as a stronger support base for these children within the community.

In 2022, there was a notable increase in requests for support from teachers, parents and aftercare centers in the Northern Suburbs, Paarl, Franschhoek and Stellenbosch areas. Recognizing this growing need, the NDF approached D4D seeking a donation to establish a parent support group in either of these areas. This financial support would be utilised to conduct 12 support groups of 2 hours each, throughout 2023.

The proposed initiative aims to incorporate Early Childhood Development (ECD) teachers and primary school teachers into the support groups. This inclusive approach ensures that educators also receive education, training and support related to autism and other neurodiverse conditions. The overarching goal is to enhance their ability to provide better support for children in both daycare and school settings.

Upon consideration, D4D's board of directors approved a donation of R15,600 to facilitate these training sessions, demonstrating our commitment to supporting the education and well-being of children with autism and neurodiverse conditions.





14

## Rusthof LSEN School



Rusthof LSEN School, situated in the Strand, is a special needs school catering for learners with intellectual disabilities and those on the autism spectrum. Distinguished as the first WCED autism facility in the Helderberg area, the Autism Unit at Rusthof LSEN School boasts state-of-the-art classroom facilities. Their educators are not only highly qualified, but also possess extensive experience in working with learners on the autism spectrum.

The school is committed to providing a joyful and secure learning environment for both students and educators alike. With a focus on creating a positive atmosphere, Rusthof LSEN School ensures that learners receive the specialized attention and support required for their unique needs. The commitment to quality education and the well-being of learners, is evident at the school through the dedicated teaching staff.

In January 2022, Tacia Roux and Yolanda Pieterse visited Rusthof LSEN School to assess their facilities, engage with the headmaster, and discuss their specific needs. Following the visit, D4D recommended a contribution to enhance the school's playground facilities. However, upon further consultation with the school, it became evident that there was a more pressing need for a sensory therapy room. Consequently, D4D agreed to allocate the donation towards the establishment of this sensory facility. In September 2022, D4D contributed R25,000 to the school, explicitly designated for the purchase of sensory equipment for this room.

Towards the end of 2023, D4D continued its support by making a donation of R2,500 for stationary needs in the Foundation Phase classrooms. This contribution was facilitated through the purchase of PNA vouchers, demonstrating D4D's ongoing commitment to addressing the school's specific needs.







## 15 Hessequa Action For Learning

Regrettably, for thousands of children, the return to school is not an eagerly anticipated day. Numerous households face economic challenges, leading to the inability to afford essential items such as school clothes and stationery. Consequently, many children find themselves unable to attend school, missing out on the valuable opportunity to learn.

Major of Hessequa Municipality, Mr Grant Riddles, is acutely aware of the challenging circumstances faced by many children in this area. Committed to providing equal opportunities for every child in the region, Mayor Riddles initiated the Action for Learning Fundraising project. The project, aimed at ensuring that every child, regardless of financial means, can return to school with the same enthusiasm as those who are more privileged.

To support this commendable effort, Stilbaai Tourism joined forces with Mayor Riddles in the Action for Learning Fundraising project. The project's primary focus is to raise funds for providing stationery to less privileged children in the community. D4D, recognizing the importance of this initiative, contributed to the cause with a generous donation of R5,000 in January 2023.



Hessequa Action for Learning  
campaign  
Hessequa Aksie vir Leer veldtog  
inspired by Hessequa Mayor Grant Riddles  
Administered & monitored by:



"A good education is a foundation  
for a better future" Elizabeth Warren



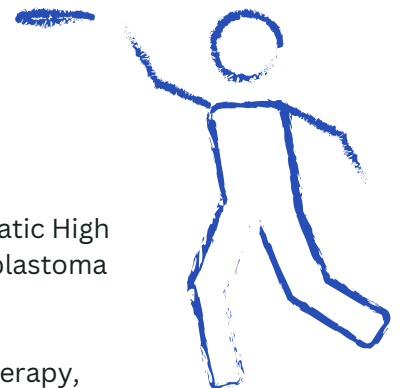
## 16 Daniël Heystek



Daniël Heystek was diagnosed with Metastatic High Risk, Stage 4, MYCN gene amplified Neuroblastoma cancer in 2020.

Daniël's journey involved intense chemotherapy, a stem cell transplant, radiation and various surgeries. Despite the relentless efforts and treatments, the cancer spread, leading to a relapse in March 2022. Sadly, Daniël passed away on Tuesday, 6 June 2023.

In recognition of the financial strain associated with his medical bills, D4D's board of directors approved a compassionate donation of R7,500.



## 17 The Darcey Sunshine Foundation

Approximately 450 children lose their life to drowning each year in South Africa. Prevention is the only way to reduce these tragic statistics, and through education, The Darcey Sunshine Foundation is doing just that. Founded in November 2020, The Darcey Sunshine Foundation has been spreading sunshine into the lives of children from South Africa's most vulnerable communities through survival swimming lessons, water safety education and nutrition.

In May 2023, D4D demonstrated its commitment to water safety education by making a generous contribution of R10,000 to The Darcey Sunshine Foundation. This financial support was specifically allocated to cover the printing costs associated with the production of their new water safety workbooks and storybooks.





18

## Somerset West Family Shelter



Somerset West Family Shelter is a haven to homeless families and their children. The shelter is not only a safe space, but provides daily meals, counselling, skills development, education, employment opportunities and much more. There has always been a need for a family shelter. At the start of the world-wide Covid pandemic, they received the go ahead for the use of a facility one block down from their current single-adults-only-shelter. They are the only shelter specifically set up for family units in the Western Cape. They are determined to set the best example in motion, in order to make a way for many families needing shelter.

In addition to seeking financial support from D4D, they also recognize the immense value of mentorship and guidance. They believe that aligning themselves with organisations like D4D, can significantly strengthen their position.

Tacia Roux was pleasantly surprised with the overall impression of the facility during her visit in December 2023. The facility was not only well-equipped, but also thoughtfully designed to cater for the needs of families, providing ample space for comfort and functionality.

D4D has officially approved a donation of R10,000 in December 2023. This contribution underscores D4D's commitment to ensuring that the funds are directed towards the educational and holistic needs of the children under the shelter's care.





## 19 The Character Company

To make a meaningful difference in our world, requires us to take action - to move with purpose into a direction that will bring about change. Fatherlessness is the biggest issue we currently face - it drives destructive issues like gender based violence, corruption, racism, substance abuse and suicide. By **MEN**toring a generation of boys to become good men, we can take these issues off the table. That is what The Character Company is doing and have done for the past decade. On Saturday, 14 October 2023, Jaco van Schalkwyk, moved with purpose as he took part in a fun walk to raise awareness for the impact of absent fathers on our families and society.

D4D supported his campaign and donated R10,000 towards his efforts. This financial support is a testament to D4D's commitment to initiatives that address the fundamental issue of fatherlessness and acknowledging the ripple effect it has on various societal challenges.



Making A  
Difference...  
**Fundraising  
Initiatives**

the  run  
**GRATITUDE**

  
**Swim 4 HOPE**

THE    
**5000**

# The GRATITUDE Run



Throughout the years, our bi-annual Gratitude Run, has delivered a life-changing experience, boasting breathtaking views and entertainment for the entire family! The 2022 edition of The Gratitude Run unfolded on Saturday, 22 October 2022, amidst the picturesque surroundings of the Lourensford Wine Estate in Somerset West. All funds generated were earmarked for various children's charities championed by D4D.

There were three distinct options available to cater for dedicated runners, those who may not consider themselves as fit, and even those who preferred a leisurely stroll.

## They included:

- The 5 km Fun Run/Walk, accommodating both young and old, allowed participants to set their own pace. Many runners and walkers brought along their four-legged companions, adding an extra layer of joy to the event. A record number of 462 runners/walkers participated in this event.
- The 10 km Trail Run showcased one of the most scenic trails in the Western Cape, welcoming 249 trail runners to the event.
- The last option, a four-hour, 3 km Team Relay Run, involved teams of 3 to 5 members per team, each running laps of 3 km (3 km x 4 hours x 5 runners). This format proved to be an ideal team-building opportunity for schools and organisations, with twenty-two teams entering this leg of the race.

The Gratitude Run delivered an abundance of joy with its lively atmosphere. Colin Heckroodt served as our MC, complemented by live music, prizes, food vendors, lucky draws, medals, and the unwavering support of enthusiastic athletes and sponsors, all rallying behind a noble cause. Attendees gathered not only to partake in the event, but also to express gratitude for the blessings in their lives. Those who opted out of participation chose to support their spouses, children, family, friends, or colleagues while soaking up the sun and the splendid surroundings of Lourensford Wine Estate. This time around, God blessed us with a perfect summer's day, free from the notorious Southeaster that could have potentially posed a safety risk and challenge for the runners and spectators.

While our fundraising target remained unmet, we were profoundly thankful for every cent raised in support of the deserving charities. A grand total of R127,234 was raised through the 2022 edition of The Gratitude Run.

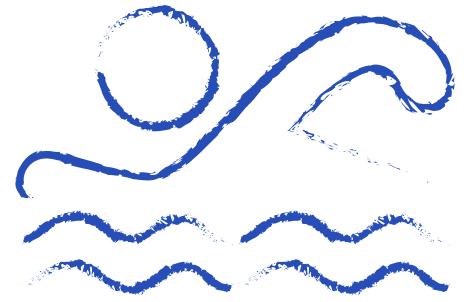
If your goal is to make a positive impact in the lives of children while revelling in the outdoors, The Gratitude Run is definitely tailored for you.





# Swim 4 Hope

Endurance athlete, Howard Warrington, set an ambitious goal - to become the first person to accomplish an astounding 150 Robben Island Crossings. Each of these crossings cover 7.5 km between Robben Island and Bloubergstrand, constituting a formidable challenge for even the most accomplished swimmer.



The difficulty arises from the freezing water temperatures, averaging around 13 to 14 degrees Celsius, rough sea conditions, and sea life. What sets Howard apart, is his unconventional approach, as he braves these challenging waters in a Speedo, with no wetsuit in sight!

The Robben Island Crossing is seen as iconic and the most sought-after swim in Cape Town, owing it to the historical and political significance of Robben Island, which is recognized as a World Heritage Site.

To delve deeper into this remarkable swim, visit <https://cldsa.co.za/>.

On average, Howard completes a single crossing in an impressive 2 hours and 20 minutes, although this time can extend to nearly 3 hours in rough sea conditions. Remarkably, Howard currently holds the record for the most crossings, solidifying his status as a swimming legend. On the memorable date of Saturday, June 24, 2023, he achieved the incredible feat of completing his 150th crossing. This milestone is a testament to Howard's unwavering dedication, passion and remarkable consistency - a true inspiration.

Notably, Howard used crossings 146 to 150 to raise awareness and funds for Distance For Difference. In total, he raised an impressive R16,700 for D4D. A heartfelt thank you goes out to Howard for his dedication! His efforts in supporting D4D and our associated charities, are genuinely appreciated.

(At the time of going to print, he already completed his 189th crossing!)







# Maritza Sander

Maritza Sander decided to run the Comrades Marathon 2023 for a specific charity and D4D was delighted when she informed us that she chose us.

In the midst of the Covid-19 pandemic, our global community faced one of the most challenging adversities. This period has instilled in us a profound appreciation for the things we often take for granted and has taught us to overcome seemingly insurmountable obstacles together as countries, communities and individuals. We have discovered the strength of unity and the capacity to be there for one another in ways we never imagined. These experiences have provided Maritza with an opportunity to impact the lives of those less fortunate, albeit in a small way, with the hope of making a lasting difference for generations to come.

On June 11, 2023, Maritza accomplished her first Comrades Marathon, a significant achievement. Through her dedication and the support she received from her family, friends and colleagues, she managed to raise an impressive R24,150 for D4D.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude for her contribution to D4D and our beneficiaries; her compassionate heart has truly made a positive difference.



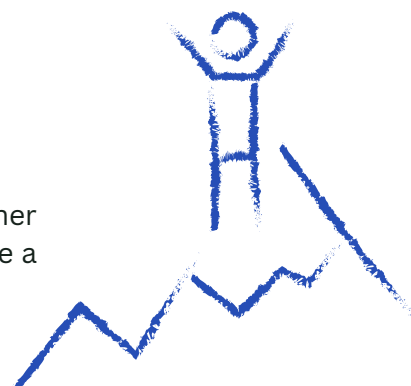
# Lorraine Oberholzer

Lorraine Oberholzer decided to support Distance For Difference, through her participation in various events during 2023. Her ambitious goal was to complete a total distance of 835 km through a combination of running and cycling events:

- Ironman 3.8 km swimming/180 km cycling/42.2 km running in Port Elizabeth
- Cape Town Cycle Tour – Road Race (bike) 109 km in Cape Town
- MUT100 km Trail Run in George
- Bastille Trail Run 50 km in Franschhoek
- Puffer Trail Run 80 km in Cape Town
- Karoo2Coast MTB Race (100 km) from Uniondale to Knysna
- SkyRun 65 km in Lady Grey
- 13 Peaks Challenge

Through her remarkable efforts at these events, Lorraine raised an impressive R5,067 in support of Distance For Difference.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude for her dedication in making a significant difference with D4D.



# Melindi Douglas | 42 km for 42 Kids

The dedicated staff and educators at Altona Primary School, located in the heart of Helderberg, actively supports, develops and enhances their collective efforts. Despite the school being in its early years of establishment, the team is united in their commitment to developing the school to its full potential. Their shared goal is to transform the school into a community center that can compete with the best, ensuring a nurturing and conducive environment for both learners and the community at large.

Many of the learners come from extreme poverty and compromised backgrounds. Since 2018, they've seen the need for additional emotional and trauma support and initiated a playroom, where some of these children got the opportunity to play with toys for the first time. The playroom serves as a safe space, where children spend time with a therapist to process their traumatic life stories. The team has seen the benefits of creating a space where children can express their emotions and start to process their stories, and they aim to invest even more in this initiative.

Melindi Douglas, a play therapist at Altona Primary School, partnered with D4D to raise funds for the school. On October 16, 2022, Melindi participated in the Cape Town Marathon, a 42 km race through the City of Cape Town.

At the time of the race, Altona Primary School had over 42 children on the list in need of emotional support. The lack of funds prevented a therapist from being on-site every day, resulting in some children being seen only every 2nd or 3rd week. Melindi decided that all the funds raised through this project, would go toward setting up the playroom and funding more hours of on-site therapy. Melindi successfully raised a total of R42,025 for Altona Primary School.

DO  
Amazing  
THINGS!



## Tesswin Douries

One of D4D's supporters, Dr. Bryony May, founder of Out of The Box, approached D4D in 2022 seeking educational funding for a young boy named, Tesswin Douries. Out the Box is a 100 % volunteer-led social innovation initiative, whose mission is to empower and uplift vulnerable communities with educational opportunities, and sustainably connect diverse communities through collaboration. Its core principles revolve around three pillars: empowerment, collaboration and innovation. By thinking 'out of the box' and using limited resources with passion, care and transparency, Out the Box aims to spread hope and make a positive impact. Tesswin resides with his grandmother, who takes care of him, his mother and his siblings. Since his mother suffered a brutal attack resulting in a severe head injury a few years ago, his grandmother has become their sole caregiver. Tesswin, who has neurodiversity, faces social and academic challenges. His unique needs required a learning environment tailored for his specific circumstances. Driven by a passion to develop himself and share his story through art, Tesswin aimed to inspire others with the message that "you can overcome terrible things with the superhero inside you." Through funds raised by D4D, including a donation from Pragma (a leading global enterprise asset management company) in 2022, Tesswin joined Mondeor Eco School in 2023 and thrived in the environment. Reflecting on the past year, we are immensely proud of Tesswin's achievements. He received numerous awards at the November 2023 prize-giving evening, making everyone proud, especially his grandmother.

Tesswin's tenacity, spirit and neurodiversity are his superpowers, and he has maximized all opportunities at this nurturing school. Achieving Top Student and various accolades, particularly in Creative Arts, he is most proud of his Eco-Warrior of the Year award, reflecting his love for the environment. D4D expresses gratitude for the anonymous donation received for Tesswin's 2024 school fees. Dr. Bryony May will participate in the Cape Town Cycle Tour in March 2024, to raise more funds for Tesswin's school fees.

We eagerly anticipate what the new year holds in store for Tesswin.



# Class of 2023



D4D is thrilled to share the heartwarming journey of Gino Cupido (18) and Jodeci Davids (18). In early 2021, these two young men were presented with a fantastic opportunity to advance their high school career at Strand High School. Seizing this great opportunity, Gino and Jodeci, better known as Jodas, commenced their Grade 10 year at Strand High in February 2021. As the saying goes, "the rest is history." We extend our heartfelt gratitude to Mr. Danie Malan, Principal of Strand High, whose pivotal involvement contributed to turning their dreams into reality.

Since its inception, the Class of 2023 Fund has received support from various individuals, families, D4D and anonymous sponsors. This fund was initiated to aid Gino and Jodas in successfully completing their matric by the end of 2023, ensuring their academic and athletic success at Strand High. Reflecting on the past three years, we take immense pride in highlighting the following achievements from their school careers:

- **2021** | Gino and Jodas were both selected for Strand High's U16A rugby team.
- **February 2022** | Gino was selected as Captain for Strand High's Interschools Athletic Team.
- **February 2022** | Both Gino and Jodas participated and excelled in Interschools Athletics, breaking a few records.
- **2022** | Gino was selected for Strand High's 1st Team & Jodas was selected for Strand High's 2nd Team.
- **June 2022** | Gino was chosen for the WP XV Craven Week Team.
- **July 2022** | Gino was selected for SA School's "A" Team.
- **2023** | Jodas was selected for Strand High's 1st Team.
- **2023** | Gino's accolades continued with selections for WP Craven Week, SA Schools and U18 SA Sevens.
- **August 2023** | Gino represented South Africa in the U20 Sevens at the 2023 Commonwealth Games in Trinidad and Tobago.
- **August 2023** | Gino participated in an international tournament against England and France for the SA School's Team.
- **September 2023** | Gino and Jodas attended their Matric Farewell.
- **October 2023** | Gino & Jodas embarked on their final NSC Exam (Matric).
- **November 2023** | Gino received prestigious awards at the sports prize-giving, including Best Backline Player of the Year and Overall Best Rugby Player of the Year.
- **December 2023** | Gino signed contracts with WP Rugby and Springbok Sevens.
- **January 2024** | Gino joined the Stellenbosch Academy of Sport.
- **February 2024** | Jodas enrolled in a Law Enforcement Course, aspiring to join the Air Force or Army in the future.



With immense joy and pride, we share the success story of these two remarkable individuals. Their accomplishments in such a short time fill us with pride, and we eagerly support their future endeavours. May the Lord guide their paths as they continue their journey.

# THE500 2023



Throughout 2023, our primary fundraising focus has been the THE500-24Hr-Cycling-&-Spinning-Challenge. The planning process commenced with the search for a suitable venue. After exploring various options and engaging in discussions, spirits were low due to limited choices. Fortunately, one of D4D's directors connected us with the Managing Director of Virgin Active. Subsequent discussions resulted in a collaboration, allowing us to use Virgin Active's facilities at Waterstone Village in Somerset West.

We were delighted when Virgin Active granted their final approval in April 2023, for the event scheduled on October 21 & 22, 2023. Our heartfelt thanks go to the entire management team of Virgin Active for generously granting D4D access to their facility. We appreciate their support which allowed us to utilize the main studio and areas outside the gym for THE500 event. We hope to continue our 10+ year relationship with Virgin Active in the future.

Excitement filled the air as we sent invitations to previous participants, approached newcomers and sponsors and launched our marketing campaign with enthusiasm.

Despite the worst gale-force winds since the inception of THE500 in 2013, six out of eight cyclists managed to complete the entire 500 km within 24 hours. Suzette Olivier made history as the first woman to achieve this remarkable feat. Her unwavering determination remained evident, even when she was forcefully blown off her bike by the relentless south-easterly wind during one of the laps.

There was a highly coveted medal at stake in a newly introduced category known as "Legend". This prestigious medal is awarded to the individual who successfully completes six editions of THE500 Full Rider (10 laps x 50 km each) event. Heine Matthee, having already secured the Delta Force (3 x THE500) medal in 2017, had the opportunity to receive the Legend medal in 2023. It came as no surprise when Heine clinched this medal, and it was a momentous honor to place it around his neck. Heine, you truly embody the essence of a legend, and we commend you for your unwavering perseverance, the positive attitude you bring to every aspect of your life and the infectious energy you radiate. Our heartfelt gratitude goes out to you for the support you've given D4D over the years.

On the spinning side, 9 solo spinners opted for the 24-hour challenge, with 7 successfully completing it. A delta force medal was awarded to Craig Backhouse, for successfully completing three 24-Hour solo spinning events. Additionally, 20 spinning teams, including friends and family who entered as a team, schools, fruit export companies, property agents, biokineticists, and various other corporates, participated in the 24-hour spinning marathon. This presented an excellent opportunity for team building and camaraderie, resulting in an impressive fundraising total of R174,290 by the participating spinning teams.

During the inaugural THE500 event in 2013, Radio Helderberg (nowadays better known as HelderbergFM), conducted a live broadcast from the Lord Charles Hotel. A decade later, we were fortunate to welcome them back, courtesy of a sponsorship from Pragma, a leading global enterprise asset management company. It was particularly meaningful for us to share the 10-year "anniversary" of the event with them and collaborate once again to make a positive impact in our community. Leading up to the event, HelderbergFM conducted several interviews with our beneficiaries, D4D and Pragma. We express our sincere gratitude to HelderbergFM for their significant contribution to the success of the event.

We are thrilled to report that, thanks to the collective efforts of our dedicated committee, cyclists, solo spinners, spinning teams and loyal supporters, we successfully raised an overall fundraising total of R633,890. This marks the second-highest amount raised by this event since its inception in 2013. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to everyone for their continued commitment and support.

A special word of thanks must go to the incredible Zwift Community, particularly the Cycle Nation members worldwide, including individuals like Willem Wessels and Georgina Alsop. Their participation in the virtual realm during THE500 event contributed to raising over R100K, demonstrating the power of an international community united for a noble cause.

The impact of this collective effort benefited the following very deserving organizations: Kingdom Kids, Tzadokah Foster Home, Sylvia Frank Foster Care, Esther van Zyl, Heartlands Baby Sanctuary, Patch Helderberg, Little Angels Home, Gabriella Centre, Kin Culture and Hagar's Choice.

After careful consideration, we decided to distribute R380,000 (60%) of the funds raised, as follow:

- Kingdom Kids (R50,000)
- Esther van Zyl (R65,000)
- Sylvia Frank (R70,000)
- Tzadokah (R50,000)
- Hagar's Choice (R15,000)
- Patch Helderberg (R20,000)
- Little Angels Home (R25,000)
- Heartlands Baby Sanctuary (R15,000)
- Kin Culture (R20,000)
- Gabriella Centre (R50,000)



The remaining 40 % of the funds raised, will be kept and utilized for other deserving charities.

We would be remiss to not mention the incredible experience of watching the nail-biting World Cup Semi-Final Rugby match against England during two of the most stressful and exhilarating spinning sessions of THE500 2023!

Summarizing the THE500 of 2023 in one word is literally impossible, but for now we will stick to two words:

*Grace indescribable!*

We eagerly anticipate the 2025 edition of THE500!



# Financial Overview

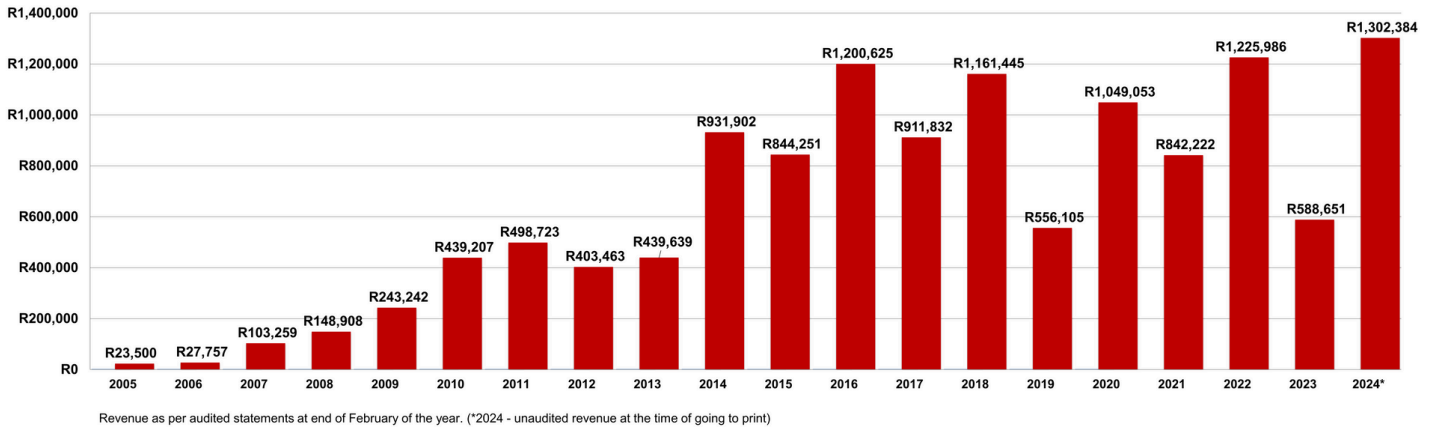


Distance For Difference is audited by FinHub Chartered Accountants Inc. Our full set of annual financial reports is available upon request.

Below you will find a summary of our fundraising history. There is also a chart comparing our income, costs and fund distributions for the last five audited financial years.

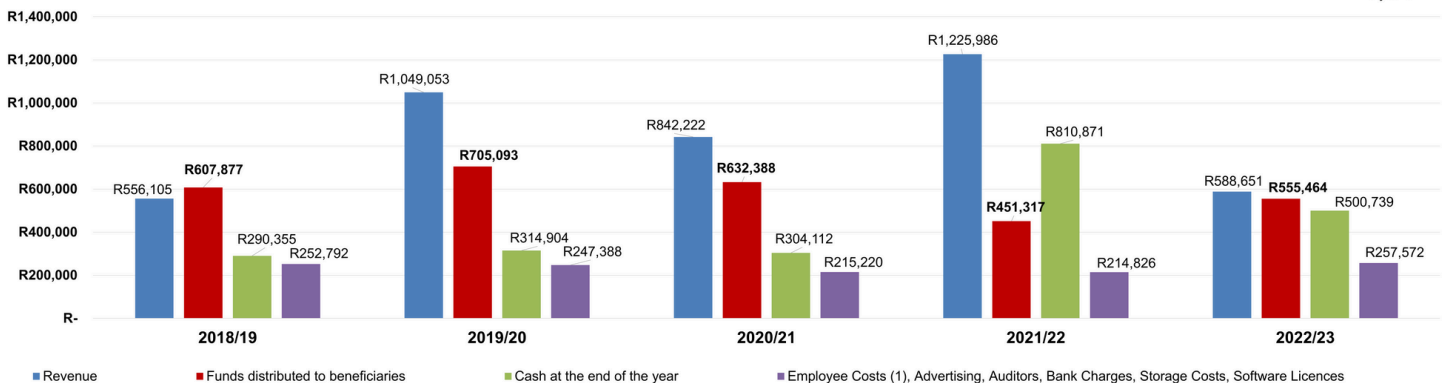
Please take note: Our financial year runs from March 1st to February 28th of every year. Our audited results are normally released in September of each year.

## Revenue History | Total: R12,942,154



## Revenue | Funds Distributed (on avg. 70% of Revenue) | Cash Reserves | Major Operational Costs

Audited results last five years

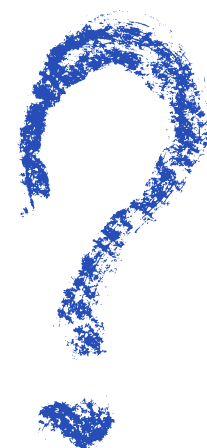




# thank you

Our hearts overflow with gratitude as we reflect on the profound love, encouragement and steadfast support bestowed upon us by our dear friends, families, committed supporters, generous donors, and the dedicated team of D4D. Your collective support has been the backbone of the remarkable success stories we are honored to share. With deep appreciation, we thank each of you for walking alongside us in this journey, whether you've been with us for the past 19 years or have just recently joined. May our shared dedication to serving children in need resonate loudly, affirming that our work is not merely a passion but a concrete action. As we look ahead, let us continue to unite in our efforts, making a meaningful and enduring impact in the lives of these children, all to the splendid glory of our Lord, Jesus Christ!

# How to Get Involved...



While we are passionate about continuing our impactful work, creating a measurable difference in the lives of children, we cannot achieve this without your support. After reviewing this report, we hope you share our commitment to making a positive impact, leaving little need for further persuasion. If you're now wondering, **'How can I get involved?'** - fear not, as there are numerous options available:

## 1. Donate

Commit to supporting D4D on a monthly basis by setting up a debit order through your bank.

For detailed information on various donation methods, please visit our website, where you can contribute through Given Gain, Snap Scan, or EFT (electronic funds transfer). This commitment isn't one-sided; in return, we will send you a Section 18A Tax Certificate for tax purposes. More so, you'll take pride in knowing that you play a crucial role in enabling D4D to continue the impactful work we undertake.

## 2. Personalised Sponsorship Campaign

Another avenue for involvement aligns with the founding principle of D4D - channel your passion for running, walking, cycling, or swimming into a meaningful fundraising effort! Distance For Difference offers support by creating personalized sponsorship pages for individual athletes. Simply establish goals for both the number of kilometres you aim to complete within a specified period and the fundraising target you wish to achieve for D4D during the same timeframe.

The subsequent step involves reaching out to your network - family, friends, colleagues, and even strangers - soliciting sponsorships for each kilometre you cover. This encompasses distances covered in personal training throughout the year or during specific events.



### 3. Woolworths – MySchool MyVillage MyPlanet

The Woolworths MySchool MyVillage MyPlanet programme is South Africa's leading community loyalty programme, enabling supporters to raise funds for over 8,000 different causes and organizations.

Hence, you can imagine our excitement when we were approved to become one of the 8,000 beneficiaries of this remarkable programme.

We earnestly encourage all of our supporters, who are not yet registered for this programme, to apply for a card today. Be sure to choose and list Distance For Difference as your preferred beneficiary.

If you are already a member, please confirm that Distance For Difference is selected as your beneficiary. Members may choose to support up to three varied beneficiaries. Visit their website.

Though we trust in your pure motivation to make a difference in the lives of children, you do not walk away from this deal empty handed.

#### Herewith a few benefits:

- You can raise funds for your favourite charity (D4D) by simply buying groceries etc., without it costing you an extra cent.
- You can use one card at a variety of stores.
- You'll receive exclusive discounts and special offers.
- You will receive a monthly statement, by email, outlining exactly how much you spent during the month, and raised for your beneficiary/beneficiaries.

And all you have to do is sign up and “Please have your Woolworths and MySchool Card ready” to swipe. Please support us in this initiative by downloading an application form on D4D’s website.

### 4. Participate in our events

Stay informed of the latest updates with regards to our annual events by following our Facebook page, Instagram, and checking our website. Discover exciting opportunities to get involved - there's something for everyone. We look forward to welcoming you there!

We can't help everyone,  
but everyone can help someone.

*Dr. Loretta Scott*



# Contact Details



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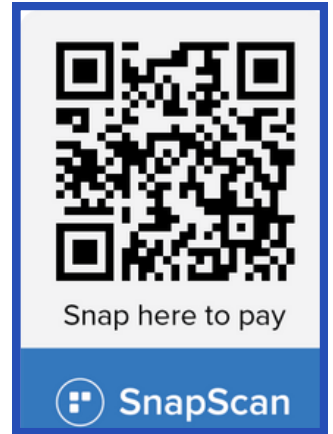
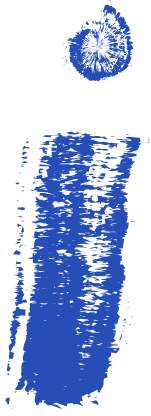
**D4D Facebook:**  
[www.facebook.com/D4DSA](http://www.facebook.com/D4DSA)

**D4D Instagram:**  
[distance4difference](https://www.instagram.com/distance4difference)



**D4D Website:**  
[www.d4dsa.co.za](http://www.d4dsa.co.za)

# Banking Details



## D4D Banking Details:

**Bank:**

ABSA

**Branch code:**

632005

**Account name:**

DISTANCE 4 DIFF NPC

**Account no:** 9217741105

**Account type:** Savings

**Swift code (for overseas payments):**

ABSAZAJJ

Scan me

THE 57000 FOR RAISED

DISTANCE FOR DIFFERENCE



[www.d4dsa.co.za](http://www.d4dsa.co.za)

Report designed by

Tacia Roux & Caro Pieterse