



October 2009

Dear Santa Cruz Cares Supporters:

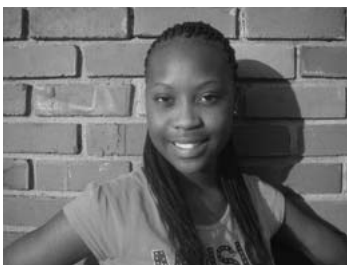
Nellie Matjeke is a 47 year old mother of two daughters. In 2002 she started a center for abandoned and orphaned children from her house and at her own expense — the Jehovah Jireh Center. Her husband, Mike, has financially supported her efforts through his salary as a teacher at one of the secondary schools in Soshanguve, but it has required much work and sacrifice from the whole family. Since 2002 her home has grown from two babies to 25! All of these are children living with her in a four bedroom house near Baxoxele Primary School.



Naledi is the latest addition to the family (after her mother abandoned her at the children's court.) Nellie was notified when the two month old weak and malnourished little girl was abandoned. She is now almost a year old - and is dearly loved by her many brothers and sisters.

The government has promised Nellie grants and support for her orphanage, but each time something happens to disallow the funding. Most of the problems have been due to government requirements to improve the house for safety or other up-grades. The Matjekes have tried to comply, but they never quite meet the inspectors requirements.

Nellie works very hard and tirelessly to support her children. In order to meet the needs of the abandoned and orphaned children, she has started a tuition-based day care center (preschool). This brings additional children to the center during the day and allows for a broader, better program for the children who are not yet old enough to go to school during the days.



Over the years outreach teams have visited the Jehovah Jireh Center and have seen first hand the amazing work that Nellie is doing with abandoned and orphaned children. They have also seen the extreme need that exists to provide ongoing support to these children. This year AFnet has decided to take this program “under their wings” and include it as part of the Tsakelani Center, with Pastor Jack as the overseer of this program. In the past AFnetAid has provided encouragement, some equipment, and opportunities for staff development. Now they have committed to also provide for the physical needs of these children by including them in the sponsorship program.

If you are giving to the Tsakelani Center, you are helping to support the Jehovah Jireh Center. However, the addition of “Nellie’s kids” to Tsakelani Center means that we are in need of additional sponsors to support the children, some of whom you see pictured on the left. Please spread the word!

Thank you for your faithful giving.

Most sincerely,

*Claudia Grossi*

Chairman

Santa Cruz Cares