

October 2021 Covid restrictions eased but the danger continues....

Dear friends and supporters of Masazane Soup Kitchen,

So many of the newsletters that I have sent you have talked about the broad issues of food justice in South Africa, and the need to ensure that our children – especially those in disadvantaged areas like Mbekweni – receive adequate nutrition. This need has only increased under the Covid pandemic, and we are so proud of the work that our team has done, even under government-imposed restrictions, to prepare as many meals as possible.

The tight Covid restrictions are slowly being eased, and children are now back at school full-time. In August and September this year, the gogos served over 400 children each day. We think that this is incredible, and we know that our work is making a difference in the lives of those children. I always remember the school's principal saying that since our project started at his school, absenteeism had gone down, and that children received an education because they were coming to school to get a decent meal!

Cash donations took a dip during this tough (and lean) Covid year, but they are picking up again, for which we are so thankful. We were fortunate to receive some donations in kind. A local business gives us 60 dozen eggs each month (see below), and another donated instant energy meals that were handed out to children to take home when children were not attending school each day(see right). Every little bit helps.





As the end of the year draws closer, our attention goes to Christmas. Not only does this mean that the gogos get a well-deserved break, but we also strive to provide something extra for both them and the children in their broader care. Each of the gogos receives a hamper of goods and a small gift to show our appreciation for the work that they do.

Each year we update "The List" of children whose names, ages and gender are submitted by the gogos. There are approximately 150 chidren on The List, and we aim to give them some basic stationery for the next school year, a few toiletry items, and some sweets. The value of each of these gifts is about R150, and we know that these practical items are greatly appreciated by struggling families. This year we are also hoping to be able to give each child on the list a small school backpack.

If you would like to be part of our Christmas effort – why not sponsor a gift for one child? - we would value your contribution!

We need **your** help to help the children of Mbekweni

Our very best wishes to you and those you love, for a healthy and happy end to 2021 - Kate

We are so grateful for what you have done for this project thus far, and look forward to a continued partnership with you as we try to ensure that some of the most vulnerable children receive the protection and nutrition that they need at this time of great need in South Africa.

Our special thanks go to our supporters and donors:

Organisations:

Bethel Congregational Church, Paarl

The Boston City Singers Community Kitchens D.G. Murray Trust Goettinger Rotarians Mbekweni Primary School

OTB Africa Outliers

Quantum Foods

Rondebosch United Church Rotary Club of Claremont Rotary Club of Paarl

Soroptimists – Cape of Good Hope Soroptimists – Stratford Upon Avon

Valcare Trust

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Donations to:

Masazane Soup Kitchen and Child Protection Project

First National Bank Rondebosch

Account number: 62783960894

Swift code: FIRNZAJJ

NPO: 207-414

Please request a tax receipt from us should

this be helpful.

We are thankful for the support from Rondebosch United Church, Cape Town, through their Samaritan Partners Trust, contributions from church services, and ongoing prayer support.

Masazane Soup Kitchen

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