



Dear friends and supporters of Masazane Soup Kitchen,

Schools have closed for the year, and the hot summer holiday season has begun in earnest, at least for those of us here in the Western Cape. Last weekend, the Masazane team and committee members gathered at a restaurant in Paarl to mark the end of another incredible year for the soup kitchen.



I would like to pay tribute to these amazing women, who selflessly give of their time, motivated by their love of children and of their community in Mbekweni, outside Paarl, to prepare meals for the hungry.

This photo was taken in the container that houses our kitchen, at our last meeting of the year: from left (back) Frances (founder member from RUC and volunteer), Nomatemba, Shireen (project manager), Nomhle, Martha, Nosihlalo, (front) Nontobeko, Julia, and Dila.

By our last Imeeting in mid-November, they had already cooked 50,000 meals in 2023.

Next week I will be taking gifts for the gogos to distribute to 180 of the neediest children they have contact with. We were blessed this year with generous donations that have meant that we did not have to use funds from our normal running costs to fund this end-of-year treat for those in need.

The end of year is a time for reflection, but especially for thanks. We are deeply thankful for the support we get from Rondebosch United Church and from Bethel Congregational Church in Paarl. Thank you to our Board members, who continue to give diligent oversight to the work that is done during the year, and to our volunteers, who give of their time and energy.

**But our deepest gratitude goes to YOU, our supporters, who keep this project going.** Your generosity sustains the work the team does to feed hungry children and made that 50,000 milestone possible. In a country that has enormous problems that include extremely high rates of hunger, inequality and poverty, problems with education, crime and corruption, this little project holds its head up high and continues to be good news!

We wish you and your loved ones a blessed, safe and happy Christmas, and look forward to your continued support in 2024.

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

KFC Social Responsibility Trust Mbekweni Primary School

OTB Africa Outliers

Plymouth Congregational Church(USA)

Quantum Foods

Rondebosch United Church Rotary Club of Paarl

Soroptimists – Cape of Good Hope Soroptimists – Stratford Upon Avon

Valcare Trust

<u>Individuals</u>: Anonymous Alex Latimer

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Shireen and Erin Willemse

Stepanie Beutner + Thorsten Tipp

Shirley Janes Sue Segar Tammy Philpott Wendy and Roy Cheek

William Berry

## Contact us:

Claudine Bill

<u>claudinebill502@gmail.com</u> 076 118 7180

Gogo uMartha Mdingi

073 569 7822

**Shireen Willemse** 084 662 3427

Kate Laburn Peart

<u>katelaburnpeart@gmail.com</u> 073 144 9277 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 207 414 NPO c/o Rondebosch United Church 18 Belmont Road, Rondebosch 7700, South Africa www.rondeboschunited.org