

## August 2025 - Women's Month

Dear friends and supporters of Masazane Soup Kitchen,

August is Women's Month in South Africa, and I can think of few women who deserve recognition and our gratitude for their service and the hard hours they devote to children, than the team at Masazane Soup Kitchen!



Two of our current members have been with the project since its inception in 2012. As I sat down to write this, I wondered how many children had benefited from their generous volunteering.

We serve an average of 400 children each day. Since we operate from the Mbekweni Primary School, it is logical that the same children come to the kitchen each day, so over 13 years, my rough calculation is that over 5000 different children have been nourished by these incredible women. And that is not counting the children and grandchildren in their own homes who are dependent on them.

We were able to celebrate all of our team members at our annual lunch at a restaurant with a magnificent view in Paarl earlier this year.



We have operated from the container inside the school grounds since 2015. Ten years of constant use has meant that the wear and tear on our cupboards and equipment are becoming clearly more visible. One of our most urgent projects, recently completed, was to replace our cupboards. We now need to continue the momentum and fix the leaking roof. Smaller but essential items like the heavy-duty pots also need to be replaced, and we regularly need to replenish items such as bowls, utensils and aprons. It all adds up!

One of our loyal supporters is DG Muray Trust, who have reported the sad truth that malnutrition in children has increased in South Africa over the last five years. And so has the cost of basic food items. Our project provides nutritious meals for the children of Mbekweni Primary School, and we are proud that in our small way, we are helping to make a difference to their lives, despite rising costs. Our partnership with the school has resulted in better school attendance, as children come to school knowing that they will get a hot meal.

But we are only able to do this with your support. If you feel able to, we would greatly appreciate your contribution towards the repairs of our leaky roof, which has been made worse by the heavy rains this winter.

Martha Mdingi proudly shows the new – well-stocked - cupboards

Thank you, as ever! KLP

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

**Individuals**: Anonymous Alex Latimer

Andreas and Lara Loy Andy and Katheen Votaw Annette Spykerman Anthea Jacobs Barbara Harris Brian Daviso Carl and Julie Malin

Carolyn Butler Catherine Champanis

**Christine Snyders** 

Claudine Bill and David Harrison

Dalene Krone Daniela and Alex Tysl David Howard Diane Rich and family Doreen Scott Elizabeth Darkwa

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Lydia Boeddinghaus Lynne Pretorius Maike and Ino Rass Manueal Daun Maria Ockhuys

Marilyn Votaw (co-founder) Marion and Johan Fagan

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Shirley Janes Sue Segar Tammy Philpott Wendy and Roy Cheek

William Berry

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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.

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