

# THE ANGEL NETWORK

August 2024 Newsletter



It's been another busy few months at The Angel Network where lives have been changed for generations to come. There is absolutely no doubt that our work is a testament to your continued support which enables us to foster a spirit of generosity and community upliftment. We thrive on empowering people to reach their full potential and you, our loyal members, have ensured that this is possible.

Imagine for a moment that you could not provide for your loved ones, that ten of you slept in a confined space on a piece of cardboard that got soaked when it rained, that rats shared the little food you had and newspapers were your blankets. Now imagine being able to change a family's life forever.

Our 3 pillars allow us to run feeding schemes and assist with education as well as emergency relief and our 100 soup kitchens countywide continue to provide 300 000 meals every single month. None of this would be possible without your help. At a cost of just R5 per meal, we urge you to consider sponsoring a soup kitchen for a day (R750) a week (R3 750) or a month (R15 000).

As we turn our backs on the bitter winter that has plagued many parts of our country and head into Spring, let's continue to bring sunshine and hope to the lives of those less fortunate than ourselves. Please consider partnering with us by setting up a monthly debit order because we are undoubtedly better together when we connect kindness.

*Glynnie Wolman*

The Angel Network: NPO Number: 181-947; PBO Number: 930064016



"It's not how much we give but how much love we put into giving."

Mother Theresa



## **Cardiac Surgeries**

Seven more children have been able to have life saving heart surgery, once again made possible by an anonymous donor who donated another R1 million to The Angel Network. The seven latest surgeries performed at the Ethekewini Hospital and Heart Centre have brought the number of operations the Angel Network has sponsored to thirteen.

All thirteen patients were chosen by The Children's Cardiac Foundation of Africa, a non-profit organisation of Lenmed Ethekewini Hospital and Heart Centre, who have a close relationship with Inkosi Albert Luthuli Hospital where the waiting list for cardiac surgery for children is extensive.



## **Hayley**

Hayley Jackson was diagnosed with Ewing Sarcoma, a childhood cancer, earlier this year. This dreaded illness required life saving surgery to remove the tumour in her pelvis. Unfortunately her family did not have the money to cover the extensive surgery she needed in Cape Town and thanks to the generosity of an anonymous donor we were able to pay for her surgery. She had most of her pelvis removed and she is recovering well despite enduring weeks of grueling chemotherapy which leaves her very weak and nauseous.

She turned 16 in hospital and has the most positive brave outlook on life. Hayley is having her last chemo treatment this week where after she'll undergo radiation. Hayley and her family are incredibly grateful for this financial support giving her a second chance at life.

## **All it takes is one powerful swipe**

Simply get a free MYSCHOOL card from your nearest Woolworths store. Swipe your card at participating stores and a percentage of your spend will go towards our charity.



# Gauteng



## Mandela Day - Hearts build homes 2024

Where do we begin???????

How do we even find the words to thank our unbelievably loyal and supportive donors for continuing to uplift communities and change lives daily? Thank you feels so inadequate.

A MANDELA DAY like no other that we have ever seen.

30 x 2 bedroom homes with concrete flooring, carpeting and fully stocked with all household essentials have been built thanks to the generosity and kindness of the following companies -

Betway South Africa Atlas Finance Loans Spartan Truck Hire Citi Bank, Sandton Bridgement ABB Three6Five Herbert Smith Freehills Rosebank

30 families of 4 will have shelter, security and dignity after losing everything to fires or floods. They will no longer sleep on soggy pieces of cardboard, using newspapers as blankets. Yesterday you changed lives and there is nothing greater.

[https://www.instagram.com/reel/C9j9tChM\\_eR/?igsh=MXhkOXRlejBuZTU2Zw==](https://www.instagram.com/reel/C9j9tChM_eR/?igsh=MXhkOXRlejBuZTU2Zw==)



Thank you to our phenomenal sponsors who worked tirelessly, packing thousands of rape comfort packs, backpacks for orphaned and vulnerable children, making thousands of sandwiches, supplying hundreds of meals, for lovingly painting and decorating beautiful household items for the proud new homeowners and planting seeds for each home to have their own mini vegetable garden. Thank you for all the donations of products as well as providing transport for everything. Thank you for the love, the gees, the camaraderie and the pure joy and excitement that you brought to Mandela Day and to the lives of so many families. Our gratitude knows no bounds. Thank you for making what we do so worthwhile -

Special mention must go to -

ITOO Special Risks Sourcefin Food by Flavours Big Jim Big Roscco Car Rentals Shuttles & Tour's Legal&Tax Services Starbucks South Africa Sasfin Bank Continental Linen Group Bambisana Office Movers and Installers AGT Foods WTAX

And finally my heroes Hayley Dorfman Glasser, Lindi Markowitz Katzoff and Michelle Gordon from Finer Details Events Management cc who, in my absence, ran everything like a well oiled machine, working 18 hr days, forgetting to eat and missing out on quality family time. I will never ever be able to express my gratitude. You are truly all simply the best. <https://www.facebook.com/reel/1660839571395572?fs=e&mibextid=xCPwDs>

**Rape comfort packs**

Thanks to the generosity and kindness of Citi Bank, Bridgement and ITOO, hundreds of rape comfort packs were lovingly packed and donated to Teddy Bear Clinic, Charlotte Maxeke Johannesburg Academic hospital, Alexandra clinic and Boksburg clinic. These packs give victims a little comfort and dignity during their darkest moments.



**Donation of 200 setwork books**

The grade 8 class at Sandringham High needed to read Anne Frank's "A Young Girl's Diary", but accessing copies was proving difficult. Thanks to a donation from the Angel Network, all 200 students will have access to a copy for school.

<https://www.goodthingsguy.com/lifestyle/200-copies-of-anne-franks-diary-collected-in-6-days-for-grade-8-class/>



**Citi Bank Global Community Day**

Our heartfelt thanks to Citi Bank for choosing to spend their Global Community Day on June 26 with The Angel Network. Hundreds of cosy comfort packs were packed for the homeless, thousands of sandwiches made and dignity bags filled for rape victims to receive during some of their darkest hours.



**Annual Cosy Comfort and Forever Teri Drive**

Our annual Forever Teri winter warmer and cosy comfort drive once again yielded hundreds of sleeping bags, pillows, blankets and clothing, allowing the homeless to feel acknowledged and seen as well as orphaned and vulnerable children to be warm this winter.



**An update on Siphiso**

Thanks to the efforts of so many, Siphiso finally had most of the cyst removed on in May. He is full of smiles and will be back to have the remaining piece removed soon. Special thanks to Hazel Jacobson for organizing everything that Siphiso needed while in hospital as well as ensuring that he got to hospital and was admitted. It really does take a village. What this space for further updates



**INTRODUCING OUR STARS**

BRITTANY SMITH & LEAH MARI  
alternating in the role of Eliza Doolittle with CRAIG URBANI  
as Henry Higgins

Pieter Toerien with Cape Town Opera presents  
**THE WORLD'S MOST LOVED MUSICAL**  
**My Fair Lady**

Book & Lyrics by ALAN JAY LERNER. Music by FREDERICK LOEWIS

From the creative team that brought you The Sound Of Music:  
Directed by STEVEN STEAD, Musical Direction by KEVIN KRAAK  
Designed by GREG KING & Choreography by DUANE ALEXANDER

Featuring all your favourite songs including "I Could Have Danced All Night", "Get Me to the Church on Time", "Wouldn't It Be Lovely", "I'm Just An Ordinary Man", "On the Street Where You Live", "Show Me", "The Rite in Spain", and "I've Grown Accustomed to Her Face". This limited engagement is sold out.

**My Fair Lady**

While you may think that Feb 2025 is so far away, it's going to be here before you know it. We have secured just 150 seats for this classic and are currently putting names down.

Tickets can be paid for by early December. Our show is Sunday 23 Feb at 6pm at the Teatro. Hope to see you there. Pay R500 for a R540 seat. WhatsApp Glynne on 083 777 1621



**Nik Rabinowitz fundraiser**

Once again the inimitable Nik Rabinowitz didn't disappoint and we were thrilled to sell out not one but two shows of him recently at Theatre on the Square. Thanks to all who supported us. There is no doubt that laughter is definitely the best medicine.

the Angel Network

**GOLF DAY**  
*Fundraiser*

**SAVE THE DATE**

**WED, 9 OCT 2024**

R10 000 PER 4 BALL  
R12 000 HOLE SPONSORSHIP

Includes green fees, half way house, carts & caddies, dinner, amazing prizes & an auction

MC - The inimitable **Nik Rabinowitz**  
glynne@theangelnetwork.co.za Houghton Golf Course

**EFT**

The Angel Network NPO

**Account Number:** 627 263 123 91

**Bank:** FNB

**Branch:** 250 655

**Reference:** Cause or Event/Surname

**SnapScan**



**WHAT COUNTS IN LIFE IS NOT THE MERE FACT THAT WE HAVE LIVED. IT IS WHAT DIFFERENCE WE HAVE MADE TO THE LIVES OF OTHERS THAT WILL DETERMINE THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE LIFE WE LEAD.**

NELSON MANDELA

**"The most precious thing I have to give is my time."  
Silvia Hartmann**

# Western Cape



Keep a Child Warm and Dry



The Angel Network  
Western Cape  
Connecting Kindness

## Madiba magic

Mandela was and will always be the Father of our Nation, and this year we combined our efforts for Father's Day with Mandela Day. The focus was on raising funds to provide rain capes and blankets for those severely affected by the recent extreme weather. With 60-100 ml of rain and 90 km/h winds causing flooding and destruction, many homes were devastated, leaving people desperate for help.

In the spirit of paying it forward, we had one of our soup kitchen heroes, Vanessa Nelson, founder of Hope for the Future make the blankets for us. We were blown away by the generosity of our donors, and having surpassed our target, we were able to order more rain capes and blankets. We handed out 424 blankets, and 500 raincoats. In addition, we received a generous donation of 100 Umbrellas from Ryan Epstein, and of 480 food jars (to feed a family of four) from Realm Digital enabling us to include these nourishing meals in our gift packages, providing not only warmth but also sustenance.



The recent donation of knee blankets brought joy to Ithemba Old Age Home in Khayalitsha, kindly facilitated by Muriel Levin from the Simcha Group of the Union of Jewish Women. There were smiles all around! Their hard work and generosity are not only keeping the 30 aged residents warm, but also bringing colour and beauty to their day. So much effort goes into creating these blankets, and the collaborative effort behind them is truly beautiful.



The importance of mental health cannot be overstated, especially for our beneficiaries who run soup kitchens and face daily exposure to immense trauma. They witness youths being shot, losing family members, and are at the forefront of their community, hearing stories of rape, abuse, and other traumatic experiences. Recently, they attended an Empowerment Workshop run by the Union of Jewish Women, which provided a much-needed safe space for them to share their experiences, learn and heal. The feedback was overwhelming. Thank you to Glenda Mark and Debby Silver for their time and expertise, and to Vanessa Areliski for setting this up.

As Charlene, one of the attendees expressed, "Today really touched my heart. Thanks for creating a safe space where we could share. I don't think anyone is aware of our superheroes in our group. I salute all of them... I have learned. I've been restored." Khaynisa added, "A dream can come true..." We are committed to running more of these workshops consistently.



This Mother's Day, our campaign raised an incredible R8000 to buy reusable nappies, supporting pregnant and new mothers in an eco-friendly way. Disposable nappies can take up to 500 years to decompose, contributing to greenhouse gases and the climate emergency.

Thanks to donations, we added a toy or book. We believe in the importance of play for a child's learning, and reading as a tool for speech development and bonding. Petite Fox gifted an item of clothing for each bag. Alligator's generously donated 150 diaper bags and 800 baby blankets. Thank you to everyone who contributed to making this campaign such a success!

Giving a hand up with GUFFI: Our recent visit with Salt River High School students to Bertha House was truly inspiring. GUFFI and The Angel Network presented the students in the Eco Tribe with aprons donated by Murray Saevitzon of Dropshot Promotions, and a pair of gloves for their vegetable gardening project. This initiative is not only educational, creates job opportunities and helps families put food on the table, it also supporting mental health. One student shared,

"The motivational words that were said really brought me closer to Mother Nature. Gardening makes me calm. When I see what I've grown, what I've accomplished. I feel proud to be a part of the eco-tribe. Whenever I am stressed, angry, or sad. I just go to my garden. Sitting there in silence helps me calm my body and soul. I don't know what I would have done without it."

The students were so proud of their aprons and they all looked so smart in them. These aprons allow them to keep their uniforms clean whilst taking part in the eco clubgardening activities, which is a huge help in a household where water and washing soap might not be readily available. It is wonderful to give a Hand Up and see the positive impact on these students' lives.







Fight against Period Poverty with two special initiatives:

Newspapers are not sanitary pads but that doesn't stop women using them as one. It is unhygienic and undignified, yet thousands of women resort to this. Menstruation should not be a disadvantage. Traditional single-use pads take hundreds of years to decompose, releasing greenhouse gases and often contribute to microplastics in our water and food.

Mama Flo has found an amazing solution with Safe Pads - reusable, eco-friendly, antimicrobial pads. One pack of Safe Pads (R175) which lasts each woman five years, providing essential hygiene products and empowering them to pursue education, employment, and a brighter future. We were able to purchase

We hosted a packing day with 11 incredible and passionate Mama Flo Ambassadors, along with Volunteers from The Angel Network Western Cape, and together, we filled 500 donated toiletry bags with pads, a face cloth, soap, deodorant, and a pair of earrings from an anonymous donor. For good measure, we added donated M&M's, because every girl needs a little chocolate during her period!

Thank you to everyone who supported in the purchase of Safe Pads, whether by attending our Mamma Mia fundraiser in April or making a donation. Your support makes a tangible difference in the lives of many women and girls.



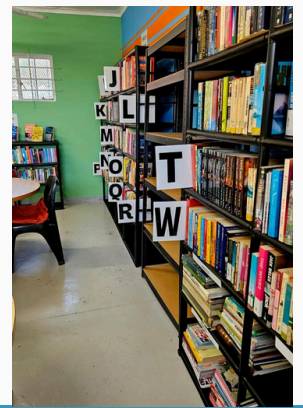
Our Ruby Rose Collaboration will guarantee sanitary pads every month which is crucial for a woman's mental health. Knowing she has a reliable supply of sanitary products relieves significant stress, allowing her to focus on other aspects of her life. We hope to establish an ongoing relationship that ensures the same women receive 20 pads each month, providing consistent support.

Ruby Rose Care Pads, proudly South African and locally manufactured, are committed to combating period poverty. By providing safe, environmentally-friendly sanitary pads, they support young girls who cannot afford them. Many of these girls are unable to attend school during their menstrual cycles, severely impacting their education and future. Their commitment to providing sustainable solutions not only supports these women but also helps protect our environment.



We take great pride in Connecting Kindness:

We connected Margolite Williams from SA Harvest with Salt River High, which resulted in the funding and the creation of a library. Many of the book donations have come from The Angel Network's followers and Rubi's Rainbow.



*"Reading should not be presented to children as a chore or duty. It should be offered as a gift"*  
~ Kate DiCamillio

Last year, The Angel Network WC collaborated with Mensch in their Mandela Day Cook-a-thon, and CBD Helping Hands were one of the beneficiary recipients. This year, CBD Helping Hands and the Pathfinder girls, volunteered their time and 'paid it forward' to another NGO, Love In a Bowl to provide 6750 meals! The power of paying it forward, and selfless acts of kindness, speaks volumes about our beneficiaries. Thank you to Mensch Mandela Day Community Project, and to the amazing CBD Helping Hands and Pathfinder Girls Volunteers!

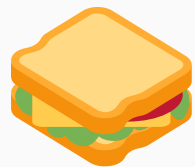


We also facilitated the introduction between the UKAMA Community Foundation founded by Janine Roberts, and the Swiss School System, run by two phenomenal women, Tanya and Daniela. The Swiss School System is an incredible organization which focuses on Early Childhood Development Centres and ensures that the children in marginalized communities are adequately prepared for starting Grade 1. They provide all the necessary materials needed by the teachers so that they are equipped to teach and assist in the development of the children. They treated Janine to an exciting trip to Tanzania to see how their programme in ECD's there is run and learn invaluable information from this project.



*"A teacher takes a hand, opens a mind, and touches a heart"* ~ Unknown

In honour of what would have been Rohan Bloom's 23rd birthday, Bishops PrePrep students made 439 sandwiches in the name of The Rohan Bloom Foundation, and chose the Angel Network as their beneficiary, which enabled us to donate them to the Homestead Projects for Street Children. This is an amazing initiative where kindness and generosity was paid forward to street children in need. It is a valuable lesson for children to understand that giving without receiving anything in turn is what true charity is all about.



A special shout out to our many Volunteers, who always step up for packing days, giving us their valuable time. Without their kindness and assistance, we would not be able to distribute the proceeds of our many campaigns timeously and when needed. We recently found our storeroom under water with the hectic weather and our volunteers came to the rescue.

Thank you to all our loyal supporters and members who comment on our posts, share them to raise awareness for us, and donate to our various campaigns. Your support is invaluable.



# KwaZulu-Natal

## Tongaat Tornado relief



In June thousands of people were left in desperate need after a tornado ripped through KZN, destroying anything and everything in its path. Thanks to the kind generosity of the Victor Daitz Foundation, our Angel Network Australia team and individual donors, we were among the first responders by assisting with vital necessities such as water, blankets and food.

We, along with other NPO's in Durban, were invited to a morning by the KZN MEC of KZN to thank us for our contributions in the Tongaat community's time of need. The meeting instilled hope to see the newly elected MEC on the ground, helping the victims.



## Aquina Cares Now Has a Future

With grateful thanks to an incredibly generous donation from The Victor Daitz Foundation and our The Angel Network team in Australia, we were able to contribute substantially to the purchase of the land from Tongaat Hulett that Aquina Cares ECD , Pre-School is built on. This is a huge relief as the ECD now has security in owning their own land.



## **Delighted moms and dads**

Thank you to everyone who bought a voucher in support of our Mother's Day appeal towards food vouchers for underprivileged moms in our city.

Our Father's Day project was also really well supported and we were able to hand out over 40 warm tracksuit tops, subsidised by JAM Clothing, to fathers in the Avoca Hills community.



"It's a great honour to be celebrated on Father's Day. In most cases we are left out but today I am happy. Your jacket is keeping me warm in this cold weather. Thank you so much for your kindness" – Mbukeni Mthembu

## **Help for the Refugee Community**

The refugee community is growing in KZN and the daily struggles are endless. The Angel Network Durban endeavours to assist as and when we can with either monthly food vouchers or parcels; assisting with rent or funeral expenses; funds towards school transport and sanitary pads.



## **With Grateful Thanks**

We would like to thank Hungry Lion for their generous donations of frozen chicken nuggets, which were handed to the underprivileged families in Avoca Hills.

"Thank you Angel Network for the chicken nuggets. We eat them at supper as I can't afford to buy meat. My kids loved it." – Phumzile Ngcongco





## **A Fun Night at the Movies**

There's nothing quite like escaping one's reality than a night at the movies! Our tireless friend Dumi arranged a movie night to treat the children in his community and we jumped at the opportunity to provide popcorn for the kids to enjoy while being entertained. This community can't afford to go to watch movies, so a white sheet and projector were used to create a fun evening in a safe entertainment. Thank you Dumi for all you do to uplift your community, they are blessed to have you.



## **Student updates**

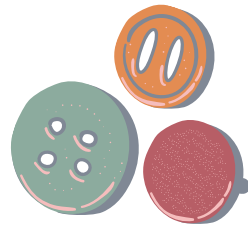
### **Engineering Student Passes with Flying Colours**

Last year, we paid off this young Engineering student's historical debt to enable Lwanhle to complete his degree and graduate. We are thrilled to say that Lwanhle passed with flying colours and is now waiting for feedback from a few job interviews. We are so very proud of his hard work and dedication and can't wait to see what his future holds.



### **Thandeka**

"Last year in 2023, I had the opportunity to study fashion at Sizanai Academy through the sponsorship of Miss Rachel. Following my studies, I have been sewing for clients such as Karyn Smith, Penny Wartnaby, and many others. They have greatly supported me by referring additional clients and enhancing my experience in the industry. The owner of the fabric lace company has also aided me in acquiring more clients. I have been receiving orders for dresses, shirts, pants, tablecloths, and pillows. I am sincerely grateful for their assistance. Thank you."



### **Thembeke**



Thembeke, our head girl from Curro, successfully completed her first semester at NWU.

"Starting a new journey with new people, in a new environment is not always easy but it's necessary. It's that important step that we need to take to discover the world around us but also learn more about ourselves. Varsity has had its ups and downs but im grateful for all the lessons and the people I've met here. Thank you." Thembeke Mvula

“ It’s in your hands, to make a better world for all who live in it”

Nelson Mandela



**Toilet build**

We were able to restore dignity to Thabisile, by building a small toilet and bathroom. Thabisile is a volunteer at Mission Thando and is an incredible inspiration to all.

“As a person living with a disability, accessing basic facilities like a safe and accessible toilet and bathroom was a daily struggle. But thanks to your donation, I now have a comfortable and dignified space that has greatly enhanced my quality of life.”

Thabisile N. Cele



**Business**

A special small business venture, Bambi Bites in Umlazi, received a new chip fryer. Sanele was most grateful for this addition to his business. We are always so happy to see new start up businesses flourishing.



**Mandela Day**



**Filling Empty Tummies**

Mandela Day-Sandwich making  
Over 9000 sandwiches made as part of our 57 minutes on Mandela day. Thank you to all of the volunteers for your help.

Our blanket drive was very well received and we raised nearly R7000. This has allowed us to place an order for 50 family sized blankets to be made by unemployed women, who are part of an upskilling program we support.

**Mandela Day Blanket drive**

**R150**  
Per blanket

Help keep someone warm this winter

This Winter, the Angel Network Durban has an initiative where we are hiring ladies who have been up-skilled to create beautiful winter blankets. The blankets will be donated to the underprivileged, providing much needed warmth.



# Australia



The Angel Network Australia continues to support 6 Kitchens in South Africa, one orphanage and two after school care facilities. Our projects include the following kitchens: In Cape Town, Hannah & Ben's Kitchen, Bronteheuwel Kitchen, Blikkiesdorp Kitchen and a Kitchen at Salt River School. In Gauteng, we support Sammy D's Kitchen and in Port Elizabeth we support a Kitchen in Forest Town, run by 3 retired domestic workers.

Our regular donors are committed to supporting the kitchens listed on a monthly basis. These donors receive on-going feedback, photos and information which is constantly supplied by The Angel Network South Africa to The Angel Network Australia and in turn to our donors.



In addition to our regular donors, we utilise fundraising events to help increase our contributions to The Angel Network South Africa to ensure that the additional costs of running the kitchens are met and we also aim to raise funds for unforeseen events such as floods, fires or other situations where the Angel Network in South Africa aims to step in and provide relief.



This year our annual International Women's Day fundraiser was a delicious High Tea which was catered with donated goods by various local caterers. Our guest speaker was Allanah Zitserman, an award winning Australian Film maker and producer, and an inspiring Mum of two.



On the 8th August 2024, we hosted our first official fundraiser in Melbourne featuring Fem Belling, a South African born, Melbourne based International Jazz artist. The event was a huge success and a fantastic way to further promote the goals of The Angel Network.

