Providing care and support to needy children and their families since 2003

REPORT 2022

Beautiful Kidz NAMIBIA

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Since starting the work of Beautiful Kidz in 2003, we have been extremely blessed by the help and support of different teams from the Netherlands. When we look at all the buildings that we are using (both in Katutura and Ovitoto), we are always reminded that God used many Dutch donors and friends to provide finances to either purchase, renovate or build the buildings. This is not because they are interested in buildings, but because they have compassionate hearts towards the poor and the needy and we honour them for that. We want to specially thank the people from the Netherlands for their contribution throughout the past nineteen years of the existence of Beautiful Kidz. We acknowledge and appreciate the work that the Beautiful Kidz Dutch Board is doing in raising funds in Holland, so that we can serve the poor and the needy in Namibia.



Preschool

We are grateful to be able to welcome 100 little ones into our preschool in Katutura and 65 at Ovitoto, each and every day. Being able to provide quality education and loving care to them is wonderful. The teachers have learned to work with the newly developed curriculum and we are positive about the results. Child-centered learning is key and we aim to teach the children to take initiative, to think for themselves and to be creative. There is beauty and potential in every single child and it is our aim to draw that out of them. As we are reaching the end of the year, one can see so much change and growth, especially in the "new" children.



They have become confident and they love to learn. Knowing that they are loved and taken care of, makes all the difference.

At Ovitoto, we are noticing more and more that Ovahimba children are brought to the Ovitoto area to work as cattle and goat herders/shepherds. This year we have four such children in our preschool. Our previous Ovahimba children are now enrolled in primary school and the teachers are extremely satisfied with their academic performance.

New Classrooms in Ovitoto

Recently, a large youth team from Den Ham built three new classrooms in Ovitoto, renovated our playground in Windhoek and blessed us with a newly tiled floor in our sewing factory – all done with funds raised



by them. Besides that, they organised a variety of programmes for the children, the youth and the community. It was wonderful to have them with us! Jordi did an excellent work organising the project. Before the team came, the foundations for the classrooms were laid by local workers. He then planned and arranged for all the building materials to be transported from Windhoek. When the teams arrived, they could immediately start to build. There was a great team spirit between the local workers and the Dutch teams and after four weeks, the building work was done. When the team left, the local workers continued with installing the ceilings and doing the painting. Friends from Germany contributed finances towards the painting of the older buildings and now all the buildings look new. Thank you also to the friends from Germany!

After the building teams left, we received a team of five optometrists from Stichting

Zienderogen in Holland. They tested the eyes of over 1600 children and adults in less than 10 days. Almost 400 of them need prescription glasses, which will be made in Holland and sent to us free of charge! Hundreds of others received reading glasses. It was a challenge to help all the people lined up at our gates, but it was worth all the effort. It was amazing to see the smiles on faces of people when suddenly they could see. It is wonderful how glasses, something that we often take for granted, can make such a difference in the lives of so many.



Youth

For our Youth, this season was not so easy. The youth in our area face many struggles which are difficult to overcome. Alcohol and drugs are a huge challenge for them, especially for those that are failing in school due to not getting the academic help they need. This creates hopelessness, which results in depression, and there have been number of suicide attempts amongst young people. We are very sad to say that we lost one of our Youth girls, as she committed suicide. This

had great impact in our Youth group, and we have had to help many of them to cope/deal with the tragedy. Besides giving counseling to our Youth, we also focus on giving a message of hope. Hope in the fact that God has planned a good future for all of us.

> Hope in knowing that despite many bad things happening, there are always things that are good and much to be grateful for.

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At our last camp, we had a speaker who gave an

inspiring message on the abovementioned topic and motivated the youth to start writing Gratitude Journals.

In Ovitoto, the focus has been introducing God to the kids and the youth. We used teaching manuals to help us to explain different topics. Approximately 120 children attend on Wednesdays and 25 youth on Fridays.



Soccer

Our soccer teams are definitely on the ball! Over 40 boys have joined the two different boys' groups. This season, it is our girls who are performing very well. The teams take part in the Namibia Football Association (the governing body of football in Namibia) leagues and the girls are partly trained by them. It is an exciting programme for the boys and girls and it is great to connect with them through soccer, while also reaching them with our educational programmes. It was great to have Henri Mittermaier from Germany with us for three weeks, helping to coach the teams. Henri Mittermaier



Beautiful Homes

We are almost at the end of our second year of the Beautiful Homes programme. After months of input, it is now time for output

Homework classes

In our last newsletter, we spoke about a new literacy programme called Letterland. This literacy programme has been a great success. It is lovely to hear our kids say rhymes and sing songs wherever you go in the Centre. We have seen great improvement in some of the children's reading and writing abilities.We are grateful to our sponsors, more specifically AlexForbes Financial Services, for donating stationery for this programme. is now time for output. We see good fruits in the lives of the families who joined, but our aim is to see an even greater impact. Therefore, we have challenged all our participants to start reaching out in their nearby communities. We divided





Adult training

This year, over 50 students graduated from our Teacher Training. Most of them are young, unemployed people who desperately needed help to get them back on the study/employment track. There are many testimonies of our former students who have started preschools, found jobs, or resumed studying. The Teacher Training is an inspiring programme which is

very successful.

Another programme we run every few months is Young and Pregnant. It is a blessing to support young mothers in their often very difficult time of pregnancy. "Unplanned" and "unwanted" are often the stamps that these little unborn babies get. We help the mothers with practical advice, but also with a safe space where they can be themselves and build friendships with others in the same situation. Through a connection with another organisation (named Mamaluv), we can give every new mother a startup pack with clothes, nappies and all the different basics they need in the first few weeks after giving birth. We are grateful to be able to assist in this way and hope that all these babies will be seen as blessings from God, with a hopeful future.

them into small groups and each group must prepare a certain topic that has impacted them during the past two years. All these lessons will then be put in order and presented by the groups to people they invite to attend. From

our side, we will guide, but the participants are in charge and responsible. During the year we hosted various workshops and presentations with them.





Visiting the elderly and the sick on a weekly basis is high on our priority list at Ovitoto. The food packages are still making a huge difference and the needs just keep rising, due to a variety of circumstances. There are also several babies in the community who are malnourished and we provide milk powder for them.

A granny from the

community said the following:

"I have come to find this Beautiful Kidz kindergarten to be a light in a dark world. Anytime I come to knock on their door, it is always open. I stay with all my grand and great grandchildren at home. No one is working, some of my children are dead others are gone to work in big towns, but nothing is happening. Weekly we eat and sleep on a full stomach thanks to the food package of the kindergarten."

Some of the needy families were given mattrasses and blankets when the building teams left. We have seen an increase in people who need basic food since October this year. Where we normally distribute four bags of maize meal, but we now give six bags and in December, we will need double this amount.

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The Garden Project

Even though there was a lack of water and some extreme weather conditions, we were able to harvest different vegetables throughout the year. The crops looks promising for the next season.

Two people from the community come daily to work as volunteers. They do this to keep themselves busy, which helps them to stay away from drugs and other wrong influences. They work with so much commitment and passion and said to us, "As long as we get some cool drink and some bread, we are okay!"

HIV Support group

We continue to do medication checkups and make sure that the individuals in the group keep to their doctor's checkup dates. Everyone is healthy and doing fine. Late last year we started to introduce Bible study topics and are continuing this year. We gave some members Bibles so that they can read at home for themselves too.



Jordi and Lisanne

Jordi and Lisanne spent the past three years with us and words cannot describe how much they have meant for Beautiful Kidz, the children, the community and the staff. Their love and commitment to the work and the people has been amazing and we are so grateful for them.

Jordi mostly focused on helping our Anusa sewing project become more self-sustainable and assisted us with leading the Windhoek Centre. Ovitoto was also blessed with his hard work as he started the chicken project and organised everything for the teams which came to build the new classrooms. Lisanne developed a whole new curriculum for our pre-schools and guided the school and our teachers. She hosted both Teacher Training courses and Young and Pregnant classes.

They both did so much more than what can be mentioned here. We are forever grateful and pray that all the seeds they have sown will come to grow and glorify God.

Jennieke

Seventeen years ago, she came as a single lady, a volunteer from the Netherlands. From the beginning, everybody at Beautiful Kidz and in the communities where she worked, fell in love with her compassionate heart.

She saw the many grannies and mothers in the community who were struggling to put food on the table for all the orphans and vulnerable children. She started a sewing project with a few unemployed ladies and sold their products locally and abroad. Later, she started the Anusa sewing project, producing school uniforms for many schools in Katutura.

Everywhere she went, her friendliness, big smile and personality touched people. Not only in Katutura, but also in the business community in Windhoek. Needless to say, the children and youth loved her!

Three years ago, Jennieke took over the leadership at the Centre in Katutura. She did an excellent job of representing Beautiful Kidz in Katutura, Windhoek, government circles (where we are registered as a Wefare organistation), and the Beautiful Kidz boards in Namibia and in the Netherlands. Jennieke, we will miss you,

but we bless you and your family!





BAUTIN

Chicken Project in Ovitoto

What started as one request, turned into a whole new project! It's amazing how these things work. A lady from the Netherlands one day asked if she could donate a goat to one of the families that Beautiful

et's DOT TB Pall Kidz works with. After some consideration, Sarah came with the idea of rather going for multiple chickens instead of one goat. After the first family received some chickens, word spread, and more people showed an interest. Donating a chicken to a needy family is a very practical way of impacting a poor community. We saw the potential, started 'The Chicken Project in Ovitoto', and then initiated a donation campaign.

We first buy the chickens from a nearby farm. Sarah and Rosah (our community worker) then select the families and they initially receive only 2/3 chickens, so that we can observe how they take care of them. If they take good care of these chickens, we implement the second phase and give more chickens. Every family which received 10 or more chickens is also supported with chicken feed for the first months, to give the chickens a healthy and strong start in their new environment.

So far, we have

been able (through donations), to hand out over 1000 chickens, to more than 80 families in the Ovitoto area. Out of the donated funds, we were able to build 21 chicken coops. Rosah visits the families on a regular basis to monitor how the chickens are doing and to find out how many eggs they are producing. In general, we see promising results. We are thankful that through the

> chicken project we can help so many families in Ovitoto to become more self-sustainable. The chickens at the Centre are also doing well and we are now able to feed eggs to the preschool children twice a week.



ANU SA

This year we were blessed by different individuals and companies who donated money so Anusa could produce uniforms for the neediest children in the community. This way of donating is a win-win for everyone. It creates income and employment for the Anusa staff and it's a wonderful blessing for these little ones who otherwise would have gone to school in torn or outgrown uniforms. It's always lovely to see the proud smiles on their faces when they receive and put on their brand-new uniforms.

We are grateful for sponsors like Capricorn, and several donors from the Netherlands. The money came from the Diaconaal project youth groups (who

> built the classrooms in Ovitoto), Zienderogen (who did the eye testing) and a Dutch church. We have been very busy with the production of hundreds of blankets and other winter wear



these past months. Due to the the past two years of Covid,

Namibia changed their school terms and holidays, which resulted in a long winter holiday. This is great for the school kids, but not so good for the Anusa project as it made us lose much of our anticipated winter wear sales. We are grateful for donors who donated money so we could manufacture blankets. This helped us to push through winter. We donated the blankets in three different regions of Namibia, in the communities, at schools, etc. It was great to be able to bless so many children and adults and help them to be warm during a very cold winter. blankets, decorated with African material.

On behalf of the Beautiful Kidz board in Namibia, we would like to thank our local friends and donors for your consistent support; even through the difficult Covid times, you blessed the children and helped to feed some very needy families. We also would like to acknowledge our friends/partners in the Netherlands, Australia and Germany for your support. The year 2022 has been one of our most difficult years financially and we want to assure you that we do sincerely appreciate your giving towards Beautiful Kidz Namibia.

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There is also a company from the Netherlands (Hellema Cookie factory), who

annually places a big sewing order towards the end of every year. They give an item, made by Anusa, to all their 280 staff members as a Christmas gift. This year the Anusa ladies made beautiful fleece

Mission Statement

Beautiful Kidz provides emotional, spiritual, physical and educational care to children in need and their families

Vision Statement

Providing care and support to needy children and their families

Thank you!

As an organisation we realise that we are totally dependent on those people who have come along side us and partnered with us to be able to accomplish everything we were able to do this past year. With this in mind, we would like to thank our faithful donors, our hardworking staff and leaders and last, but not least, our Board of Directors for their part they played in helping us to reach so many children in need. Then there are the volunteers helping at the Centre and those giving gifts and others who prayed for the

work. Thank you each one!



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