



# Marsh Memorial Homes

Nurturing children and transforming lives

## **ANNUAL REPORT**

**2020- 2021**

**021 689 9301**

16 Norton Way, Rondebosch.  
P O Box 9, Rondebosch, 7701  
<http://marshmemorial.org.za>

# Foreword

The Pandemic has intensified all the challenges that communities and individuals face. In the South African context, those hardest hit by the effects of this pandemic are the vulnerable of society i.e. the poor especially women and children. Since the first Lockdown, the number of vulnerable children has increased. The children of the poor who depended on the school feeding programs for their daily protection and meals- have had to stay home or roam the streets, going to bed without food, due to the closure of schools. They have become vulnerable to all kinds of dangers. There is no hope for a future for many of them. If there was a time when children of this country needed care and support from the church and all people of goodwill, it is now.

As the MCSA embarks on reimagining healing and transformation, we are committed to prioritizing and supporting various children's ministries. We acknowledge Marsh Memorial Homes and all our children's homes as flagships of our church through their ministry to children. Your ministry is contributing to building a better future for the children, their families and the nation as a whole. From your knowledge and experience in ministry to children, many societies and circuits will be learning from you. We thank God for what you accomplished this year- despite financial and other challenges! I wish you well for the coming year, having no doubt that "the best is yet to come" for the home.

Our gratitude goes to the Principal and the Staff who make countless sacrifices for the wellbeing of the children and the home. To the donors and all who support the home in cash and in kind- your contributions are highly appreciated.  
God bless you all!

Rev. Purity Malinga.  
MCSA Presiding Bishop – July 2021



**“Reimagining Healing & Transformation.”**

# Board Members

## Chairperson



### YVETTE MOSES

An ordained minister of the MCSA in her 31st year of ministry holds a Masters Degree in Theology from Stellenbosch University. She has served as a Community Development Project Board chair in Beaufort West. Presently she is the Bishop of the Cape of Good Hope Synod. She is married to Stafford and has two adult daughters, Melanie and Bethany.

## Vice-Chairperson



### JANE LAWRENCE

Retired English and Professional Studies lecturer (Foundation Phase). She is still actively involved with NGO's and organisations, facilitating Literacy in Early Childhood Development and primary school settings. A practising Christian.

## Treasurer



### FRED JENKINGS

45 years' financial experience in JSE-listed companies. Formerly CFO of Paramount Property Fund and Tower Property Fund. He is currently Director of Ovland Management Services, an accounting, tax and secretarial service provider.

## R.I.P.



### PAUL DE GROOT

★ 12/08/1942  
† 14/10/2020

It is with great shock and sadness that we heard of the sudden passing of "Uncle" Paul, who served on this Board for 26 years and played a pivotal role in many other NPOs. We will miss Paul's hard work and heart for the children.

## Member



### TOMMY BUNGUZANA

Tommy Bunguzana is an admitted advocate of the High Court of SA and has twenty five (25) years of legal practice experience.

He is currently employed as a Deputy Director of Public Prosecutions in the National Prosecuting Authority of South Africa, based in Cape Town.

Is the General Secretary of the Young Men's Guild in the MCSA Connexion.

## Member



### PHUMLA SATYO

Retired teacher, head of the English department, Deputy Chief Education Specialist for English, and Director for Curriculum Studies: FET. She currently serves as the Vice President of the Methodist Women's Manyano in the Dumisani circuit. She is the Education Desk Co-ordinator of the Cape of Good Hope Synod.

## Member



### LESLEY MOSTERT

Marsh Homes forms a significant part of Lesley's childhood as a "manse child". She now brings to the board a background in Chemical Engineering, experience working across cultures with churches in Thailand, time as the South African National Director of an international mission organisation, and current work in research writing and curation.

## Member



### LYNELL MASSEY

Is a retired Educator with experience in Primary and Adult Education. She currently represents the Cape of Good Hope Women's Auxiliary Synod President.

## Member



**GWYNETH  
ARENDORF**

Qualified Dermatologist currently working in the private sector. Her qualifications include MBChB and MMed (Dermatology). While at university she volunteered at various SHAWCO clinics and was involved in her local church's outreach projects. Gwyneth is a practicing Christian with a heart for others including children and young people

## Principal



**KEVIN  
NEEDHAM**

An ordained minister of the MCSA and a registered Social Worker with a degree in Social Work from Wits.

Has served on various NPO management committees while ministering to the Methodist people in Rosebank, Wynberg and Bergvleit

## Minute Secretary



**SHIRLEY  
LOWNDES**

Born into a Methodist family. Educated in Gauteng and then trained as a teacher in Cape Town. One of the schools she taught at was Marsh Memorial Homes School. She was also secretary at Rosebank Methodist.

# Chairperson's Report

“Children are a gift from the Lord; they are a reward from Him.”  
(Psa'm 127:3 New Living Translation)

A nation that does not protect or develop its children has no future. Our Constitution promotes the Basic Rights of children in all its aspects of nutrition, shelter, healthcare and social services and calls for their protection from maltreatment, neglect, abuse or degradation. However, the sad reality is that the majority of our children experience circumstances of abject poverty and high levels of crime, particularly in areas of violence, such as domestic, gender-based and gang violence. Circumstances in the ongoing Covid 19 pandemic have further sadly, contributed to the challenges that children and young people face, with various reports pointing to increased hunger and malnutrition, as well as rising levels of mental health issues, including depression, anxiety and an increase in suicide rates.

In the midst of this context, Marsh Memorial Homes represents a “little” beacon of hope, by making a difference in the lives of the 60 vulnerable children from different backgrounds, who have been entrusted in our care in the past year, as we continue “to provide, within a Christian ethos, best practice residential care and comprehensive development programmes.”

The past year has brought some unique challenges for staff, children, volunteers and Board Members of Marsh Memorial Homes. Many changes were made in order to ensure that all practical, administrative, financial and governance matters were adequately addressed. Compliance, regarding regulations and lockdown levels, meant “home schooling” and supervision of school work with children unable to attend schools. Accommodating staff during “hard lockdown levels” included the isolation of staff and children. Rescheduling longer working hours for staff, with added responsibilities. Providing pastoral care for staff and children who were experiencing higher levels of trauma, grief and disorientation caused by the restrictions of the pandemic. The maintenance and practical management of ongoing donations and support from the wider circle of friends and donors, contributed greatly to the positive impact on both the lives of Staff and children due to the lack of physical contact.



I applaud our Principal and staff for the excellent manner in which they have pursued the running of Marsh Memorial Homes under these extraordinary circumstances. Their creativity, hard work and many sacrifices speak of their commitment to the vision and values of our Homes and their love for the children. While we have been saddened by the high turnover of child care workers as well as some other employees within our staff component, we also celebrate the milestone moments of 5 and 10 years of unbroken service for 7 staff members.

An important aspect of the vision of Marsh Memorial Homes is cultivating a beautiful physical environment in which the children can grow, thrive and experience healing and transformation. The appointment of a gifted “green fingers” gardener has resulted in significant changes to the gardens and grounds of Marsh Memorial Homes under his watchful eye and careful nurturing, highlighting the beauty of Marsh.



The Marsh Board has continued unabated with its work of responsible governance and oversight in order to ensure, that the overall vision of Marsh Homes is achieved in every sphere of its work. Whilst embracing virtual means and technology, the Marsh Board was able to meet on a monthly basis in order to fulfil its mandate in terms of good governance, compliance, strategic planning, financial management and support of the Principal in his managerial role of Home.

The various Reports presented in the Annual General Meeting are an accurate picture of the finances, administration and practical work of Marsh Memorial Homes over the past year. I pay tribute to the one of our longest standing members, Mr Paul de Groot, who passed away very suddenly during the year under review. "Uncle Paul" was much loved by the staff, children, volunteers and Board for his commitment and, loved for his practical "hands on" approach to all that was needed by Marsh Memorial Homes; especially during the Annual Marsh Fete. He is sorely missed by all. I am thankful to Dr Gwyneth Arendorf for her short but significant tenure as a Board member in the past year, who had to be released due to her return to work in England. Two Board vacancies need to be filled at the AGM as per our constitutional mandate. My sincerest gratitude is expressed to all Board Members, many of whom have experienced significant personal bereavements and illness over the past year, yet who continue to offer long hours in Board management meetings, governance and practical matters.

A sincere appreciation is extended to all who contribute to the wellbeing and functioning of the Home in any way, with special recognition given to the Department of Social Development, which is our critical partner in the financing and development of meaningful programmes for our children. I am deeply grateful for the extended family of Marsh Memorial Homes - donors, volunteers, businesses, organizations, churches, individuals and all who support the vision and mission of the Home in different ways. We are immensely richer through this wide network whose generosity supports, sustains and enriches the lives of the children entrusted in our care.

I wish to honour the leadership, dedication and care of our Principal, the Revd Kevin Needham, who fulfils the work and ministry of Marsh Memorial Homes with excellence, integrity, courage and deep humility.

It is a privilege to be part of the Marsh family and share in the legacy of this historic Home as Chairperson of the Management Board. I hold onto the simple trust that all the children in our care experience the Constitutional Rights that every child in our country should enjoy, as they are nurtured and transformed through the many dignified and loving encounters experienced with the staff and extended Marsh family and where the world can be touched in a positive way through their precious lives.

Rev Yvette Moses  
Chairperson – Marsh Memorial Homes Board

**"to provide, within a Christian ethos, best practice residential care and comprehensive development programmes."**

# Social Work

## Ubuntu: I am who I am

The year 2020 will forever be etched in our minds as the moment where life as we once knew it to be was no longer. The rapid spread of COVID 19 virus resulted in a global pandemic that unexpectedly took the world by storm. This ushered in a new era in the provision of Social Work interventions for children found in need of care and protection and placed in alternative care. The call for more innovative, technologically based and less social approach appeared to be the new normal. This approach came with notable challenges given the fact that humans are social beings who rely heavily on social interaction for growth and development. Marsh Memorial Homes employed a solution focused approach to mitigate challenges to ensure the best interest of the child through reunification, rehabilitation and reconstructive work with children and their families.

Due to the COVID 19 pandemic children did not enjoy visitations to their families during holidays and special weekends as they normally would. It was unfortunate that each holiday period was when we were alerted to a new variant of the COVID 19 virus that was steadily increasing and required stricter lockdown regulations. Inevitably this caused several suspensions of onsite visitations between children and their families. Despite the challenges, the Social Work Department increased external multidisciplinary team engagements with the External Social Worker, families and significant others of children. This not only allowed children to strengthen and maintain their sense of belonging but also allowed for reconstructive work to be complete. As such we are happy to report that despite the challenges eight children were reunited with their families in this reporting period. This bares testimony to the fact that although challenges were encountered we kept to our mandate ensuring that children are within their natural environment...their family. It was through collective and well-coordinated action from both external Social Workers and residential Social Workers that children could be integrated within the family unit.

The 2020 academic year was difficult, however, through the hardwork and perseverance of our children many successfully passed. Two children matriculated obtaining a bachelor's pass and are currently pursuing tertiary education. We have one matriculant for the 2021 academic year. The success of our children is also a reflection of the dedication and support from Child & Youth Care Team, support staff, Principal, Board members, external stakeholders and donors. We are grateful for donors who have generously supported our children's academic endeavours especially our high schoolers studying Mathematics.



Our children have achieved success and are who they are through the spirit of Ubuntu. The impact made on our children was through unity of all individuals involved in their lives even in the face of adversity. It acknowledges and reinforces the African proverb proclaiming that “it takes a village to raise a child”. It is through our determination that we continue to instil crucial life skills that empower and build resilience for our children one day when they are integrated into society.

May we together continue to nurture and transform the lives of our children.

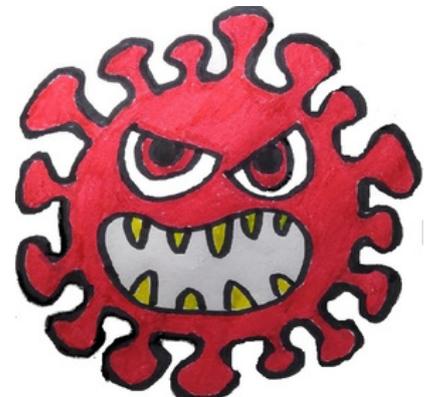
## Childcare

Reading an article on the “Impact of Covid-19 on children”, the contributors stated that:

“Children are hit the hardest by the psychosocial impact of this pandemic. Being quarantined in homes and institutions may impose greater psychological burden than the physical sufferings caused by the virus”

### **Addressing Challenges.**

Coping with the pandemic, Marsh Memorial Homes kept on striving to address some of the challenges the children experienced. Programs, were provided which focused on safety, care and protection, within the confinement of the Marsh Memorial Campus for the year under review.



### **Family Preservation efforts.**

The family preservation efforts underwent major adjustments, as visitations were not allowed at Marsh Memorial for the reporting period. Children could not go out on leave of absence. However, the children were encouraged and were able to make regular telephonic contact with their parents and families.

### **Challenge to provide Developmental Programs.**

Further adjustments had to be made, since the involvement of external resources such as schools, volunteers, churches, etc. in presenting programs and activities were suspended. Consequently, it became the primary responsibility of the childcare team, to spend more time providing developmental programs for the various age groups and always having to keep the Covid-19 protocols in mind such as social distancing, sanitising and wearing of masks.

Sadly social distancing resulted in our lovely chapel being closed and prevented opportunities for Church worship groups to visit and lead the children in worship, we have developed house based devotions, worship and other activities to ensure the children continue to grow spiritually.

### **Shift in Education and Remarkable Accomplishments.**

A big shift in education took place, as the twenty-twenty school academic year was quite compromised with children having to do schoolwork at home, having shorter terms and attending school on a rotational basis. This in effect meant that the childcare team had to fulfil the role of teachers, doing schoolwork with the children, ensuring that children were kept abreast with their school curriculums. With this said, Marsh Memorial children did reasonably well in the final exams.

We are proud to announce that our two young matriculants both achieved Bachelor's Passes. One child had six distinctions and was first in her school, and the other had one distinction.

### **Good News.**

We are pleased to report that since the pandemic we have only had one possibility of a child being Covid-19 positive. This could not be confirmed, as children were not tested for Covid. It took a dedicated team of childcare workers and support staff to ensure that strict Covid protocols were followed throughout

The childcare team would like to thank the Principal - Kevin Needham and the board of management for their continuous support and guidance in these trying times and having the best interests of the children of Marsh Memorial in mind.



## **Estate**

Due to the third wave of Covid 19, the Estate staff have also experienced some challenges. We are grateful that all Estate staff members who tested positive have recovered fully.

We bade farewell to two of the Estate team, namely Pieter Witbooi and Fundisile Ncilwa. They have been replaced by Shaun Qoboka and Luyanda Konono. Shaun is a qualified Horticulturist, responsible for our gardens and Luyanda is a messenger / general assistant.

### **COMPLETED PROJECTS**

- Wash bay: A paved area with suitable drainage and shed to house high-pressure and foaming equipment used to wash wheelie bins, food crates and vehicles.
- Removal of hollow trees and bee hives in front of the Laundry.
- New vibracrete wall erected around the swimming pools.
- New electric fence was fitted onto the existing fence around the entrance of the property, as well as on top of the front, back and pedestrian gate.
- Old Bain's House foundations and all surrounding foliage have been removed from property.

### **PROJECTS IN PROCESS**

I am pleased to report that we are in the final stretch of the complete renovation of all four face brick houses on the property, which includes painting, tiling, carpeting, renovation of kitchen cupboards, replacing certain wooden doors and windows with aluminium, new locks and new electrical fittings.

- Hardy Hall is in its final stage of renovation. The entire roof has been replaced, some rusted corrugated iron sheets have been replaced, all rotten wooden framed windows and doors have been replaced with aluminium, all glass in the room dividers have been replaced with safety glass and the building repainted inside and out. Floor repairs, sanding and vanishing is currently underway.

We are extremely grateful to all our sponsors, partners and service providers for their continuous commitment, dedication and loyalty to our organisation, especially in these difficult times. Our estate team would like to wish you all a safe time ahead.



## Financial Report

Marsh Memorial Homes receives the bulk of its income from three main sources:

- The Department of Social Development,
- The William Marsh Will Trust and
- Donations from various sources.

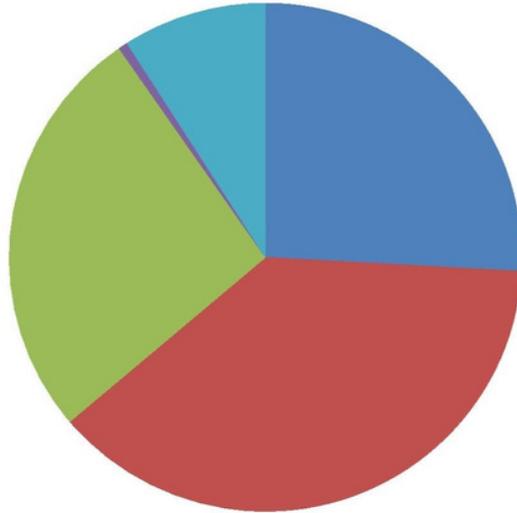
In addition, funds are generated through the rental of properties, fund raising activities and interest earned on funds invested. The year ended 31 March 2021 proved to be a difficult year as, arising from the Covid-19 pandemic and subsequent lockdown, two of our significant fund raising sources viz. the Argus Cycle tour and the annual fete, were not able to be held. We were, however, fortunate to receive significant donations which were utilised to upgrade and repair residential accommodation as well as the Hardy Hall.

The operations for the year ended 31 March 2021 reflected an operating deficit of R317 000 (2020 surplus of R42 000). While on the face of it this seems alarming, a decision was taken to limit withdrawals from the William Marsh Will Trust to maintain the ability of the Trust to meet future requirements. Substantial reserves had been built up in previous years, and these were utilised to meet day to day expenses. The financial requirements of the Home are monitored on a monthly basis and at no time was there any cash flow shortfall..

Our appreciation and thanks is extended to all those who have continued to support the Home during the past year, both financially and in time given selflessly in raising funds.

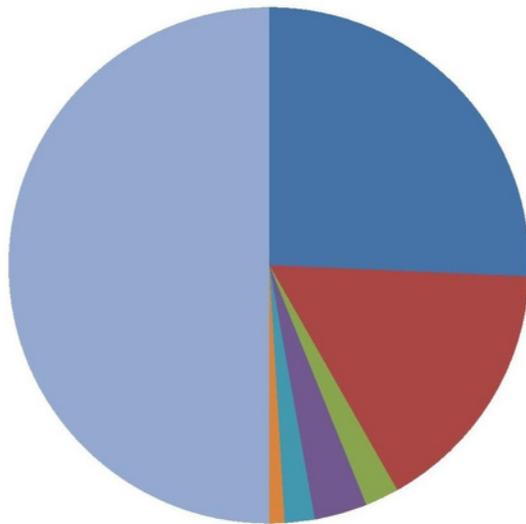
Fred Jenkins  
Treasurer

# Income 2021

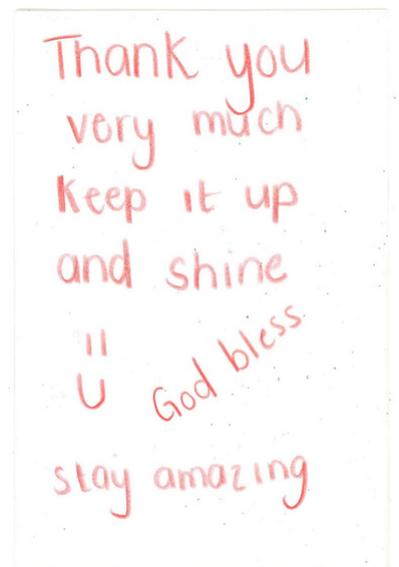


37.9%	William Marsh Will Trust
25.9%	Department of Social Development
26.5%	Donations
0.6%	Fund raising
9.1%	Interest, rent & other income

# Expenditure 2021



51.4%	Personnel
32.2%	Property & Equipment
4.2%	Administration
6.5%	Food & Household
3.7%	Transport
2.0%	Health, education & welfare



# Donors and supporters

We would like to thank our loyal donors, funders, supporters and volunteers for their valuable contributions to our work (not all of whom can be mentioned, but are equally appreciated):

Abrahams, K	Gara, N	Malherbe, G	Robinson, S
ACVV Grabouw	Gibb, M	Mangnall, J	Roland
Adesanmi, B	Gibbs, C	Martin, B. E	Rosa's Bakery
Afolabi, P	Gift of the Givers	Master Maths - Claremont	Roshini
Ambler-Smith, M	Gobat, J	Masekesa, F	Rotaract claremont
Arzul, I	Godfrey, L	Massey, L	Rotary claremont
Astrop, K	Goulding, K	Massey, R	Rundle, M
Babatunde, A	Gove, C	Mathews, T & A	Samuels, R
Barry, C	Greaves, B	Mattews, C	Savage, M
Beetul, A	Greaves, C	McKenna, R	Shalom
Berthold, C	Green, J	Methodist , CGH Synod Christmas Day	Shand, C
Blessing	Guimarars, N	Methodist Publishing House	Sheilla
Bloomer, W	Hales, J	Methodist, Church Str Wynberg	Shimmin, M
Blossom Street	Hastie, S	Methodist, Durbanville	Silvermine Village Chapel
Primary School	Heart FM	Methodist, Fish Hoek MWA	Singh, S
Boaten, J	Henderson, A & N	Methodist, Lansdowne	Smith, M
Bonnes, V	Herbert, A	Methodist, Marquard	Somers, K
Botha, K	Hillman, M	Methodist, Milnerton WA	Sowing Sparrows
Bryte	Hindmarch, F	Methodist, St. Marks	Stewart, S & A
Byren, M	Holleman, A	Methodist, Wynberg Circuit	Straughan, M
C & E Harding Trust	Home of Hope	Methodsit, Women's Auxiliary CGH	Stringer, A
Cadbury Generosity	Howell, Ray	Synod	Stuart, C
Campbell, A	Hudson, S	Meyer, E	Swart, A.P
Carletti, S	Hugill, B	Mitchell, P	Taljaard, Rev. P
Carr, M	Ikin, R	Moola, N	Tandym
Chido	Infinity Insurance	Moolman, C	Tashe, Z
Christian Family	Innes, Rev. M	More Sport	Taylor, A
Church Claremont	Ismael, S	Moses, Y	Taylor, C
Christian, S	Jacobus Graaf Charity Trust	Moshal Scholarship Program	Tebbutt, C
Chukwuka, J	Joemat, C	Mr. Price Group Ltd	The Kids Shack
City of Cape Town	Johnston, S	Mullins, WR	The Story Ninja/Butterfly Art Proj.
Cloete, A	Joseph	Munkana, N	The Tambour Foundation
College Cape Town	Judith Marg-Comp	Naidoo, R	Toppers Uniforms
Athlone Campus	network	Nielsen, D	Underwood, B
Cooper, R	Judy	Norton, C	Ungeste Pour L'humaniti
Crazy Store	Juice Film	Nowers, V	V Zyl, D
Cre8tive Kids	Kendrik House	O'Brien, M	Van de Spreng, K
Daa, A & S	Kenway	Olds, T	Van den Heever, J
Damstra, ME	Koopman, G	O'Sullivan, G	Van Vuuren, A
Degrendel, P	Koopowitz, C	Ovland Management	Van Zyl, C
Devoti, S	Kuhn, F	Owuama, L	Vasity College
Doherty, J	Kuter, C	Park n Shop Shopping Centre	Vass, E
Du Toit, G	Leppard Insurance	Parker, M	Vels
Du Toit, P	La Grange, E	Parliament of South Africa	Vogelzang Trust
Enchill's Investment	Lawrence, J	Patel, M	Walsh, L
Erin	Lawson, L	PDL Distributors	White, E
Everest, A	Le Grange, E	Pearce, C	Whittle, R
Field, B	Leppard Insurance	Pearce, L	Wiehahn, M
Fillmore, S	Lifted and Hustle	Pereira, B	Wingrove
Film Afrika/Street Chef	Lloyd, J	Pilatowicz, G	Woodside Village Bridge club
Fine, J	Lowndes, S	PnP Rondebosch	Woolworths My school
Fitzmaurice, G	Lumar Foods	Ranoel, N	Woolworths, Belvedere Square
Fraser, H	MacDonald, N	Reabow, C	Woolworths, Rondebosch
Fusion Inyameko	Macleod, I	Red Cross Children Hospital	Worley, T
Foundation	Maharaj, R	Foundation	Worthington-Smith, P
Galley, O	Maisuria, M	Roberts, E & S	YouthNited Africa