

ANOTHER CHILD IS BORN

Today, another child is born. The offspring of a mother who just had her first menstrual period. I have known her for eight years and discovered that she may have been trafficking for at least half of her young life. Whenever I visited Eswatini, when she was around seven years old and still in Primary school, she would come along with her sister and they would sleep on the empty bed in my hotel room or on blankets on the floor. They would lie at the foot of my bed while I tried to compress half a decade of mothering into a few hours.

I remember the child, now turned mother, giving herself a tub bath that would last an hour or more and she would sing with a voice so sweet, it would break your heart to hear her. Through SOHO, foster homes were found for her, her sister and brother, but the traffickers found them and the Gogos would tire of their rough and tumble ways. What is normal to a child who has had no parenting was often very objectionable to a family used to normal discipline. Bed wetting.

sibling fights, petty theft were cause for eviction. " Bad children!" they were called.

Today, a child gave birth to a child. There is no home, no food, no safe place for either. Thank God for two members of a visiting team of leaders from Andrews University in Berrien Springs, Michigan, who went shopping for what a baby would need including diapers, formula, clothing etc. The baby is going to the small house where the aunt lives. And life begins for him with little comfort for the present and no prospects for the future ...except for SOHO's intervention.

He needs a crib, warm blankets, food for the mother and parenting skills if she decides to be his caretaker. Most importantly, he needs a safe, stable home. A home such as SOHO is about to build at Intsaba Children's Village at the mountain farm God has provided. This child's story is one of... ...many. For eight plus years,

SOHO sought to acquire title deed

CONTINUES INSIDE





land on which to build homes for children such as this as yet unnamed child. Now we can.

It still takes a village to save a child. We need volunteer builders, schools and churches willing to help fundraise for a home or a room in a home, individuals who will invest their time and expertise and give themselves to creating a better future for children without tomorrows.

Please join us! On behalf of the children, we say a resounding, "Thank you!"

HOPE STILL RISING

Life has been tortuous for Machawe. Out of school, running from fatherlessness and abusive mothering, living without the prospect of rescue, he has found hope. Against all odds, he found a job as part of the security team for a firm in his neighborhood. SOHO has assisted him through sixth grade and we will work with him to complete Primary School.

He has a mentor who keeps him on track. He loves construction and hopes one day to get a job in that area. Skills training is part of the plan to enable Machawe to become self-reliant. SOHO is thankful for the children who are helped to make forward strides in their struggle for

survival. We need you to help us help them in their struggle for survival.





Machawe overcomes against all odds and shares a special moment with Cynthia

CONTAINER REHAB PROJECT

In the Marekamp community where Machawe has lived most of his life, there are literally scores of children and youth who have no way out of the slums. Some have been denied schooling because they have no birth certificate. Some were caught in the cycle of trafficking and abuse early and are still struggling to get out.

Two 40 ft containers owned by SOHO, parked not far from Hope Discovery Center, are earmarked for repurposing as a Skills Center. Dr Carey Carscallen, who is a member of the leadership team that visited this summer, is spearheading the design and construction of this skills center.

It will house our Crafts program in one container, and woodworking, and other skills in the second. Many girls who became early teen mothers and boys who have been recruited to make home brewed alcohol will have an opportunity to acquire livelihood skills.



WALLA WALLA UNIVERSITY ENGINEERS VISIT

SOHO seeks to engage the skills and abilities of young professionals in changing the future for destitute children. Walla Walla University in Washington state, sent a team of engineering students under the leadership of David Lopez to consult with the staff at Intsaba Farm on the best locations for a sewage disposal system. They took soil samples, provided valuable insight and shared resources including clothing and soccer balls with the orphaned children. They also participated in an inspirational program of singing and stories of hope at Marekamp, after which a meal provided by the team was served to approximately 150 children. We thank God for this blessing.



#GIVING TUESDAY

Around the world, humanitarian programs count on Giving Tuesday. This year it is November 29th, 2022. Giving Tuesday is a global generosity movement unleashing the power of radical generosity. Giving Tuesday was created in 2012 as a simple idea: a day that encourages people to do good. Since then, it has grown into a year-round global movement that inspires hundreds of millions of

people to give, collaborate, and celebrate generosity. Giving Tuesday is especially important for SOHO this year. Our targeted projects are Construction of homes for orphans at Intsaba Farm, A Feeding Project to support 200 children, form the Marekamp Slums, and a Container conversion into a Skills Center. Our goal is \$100,000. We need to raise at

least one half that sum by Giving Tuesday.

We need your skills, your financial support, your prayers and goodwill. Please include SOHO in your plans for Giving Tuesday and for the rest of this year. Let us know if you are interested in information on forthcoming Mission Trips.

PROJECTS

Feeding hungry children

Feeding program for 200 children in Marekamp community, a slum area:We want to provide a meal daily for children who go with empty bellies when school is out and they go hungry if they do not receive a meal at school. **Goal of \$5,075**

Operational Fund

Even though some of us serve for years as unpaid volunteers, and the staff receives modest compensation, there are costs associated with running SOHO. Needs are constant and most of our funds are designated for specified programs by donors. We

also need assistance with the operational costs that enable us to provide services. **Goal of \$20,000**

Skills Center

We have two 40 ft containers that. are to be converted into a Skills Center. Many children engage in sex trafficking because they lack skills. Sewing, weaving, computer skills, hospitality and more can enable them to support themselves in a wholesome way.

Computers: **\$500 Goal of \$10,000**

Wells and Solar Panels

A well will cost approximately \$5,000

Since the property relies on solar energy, solar panels are needed both to serve the farm house and adjacent buildings. **\$11,000**

Housing at Intsaba Farm

A house to accommodate eight children at Intsaba Farm will cost \$30,000 with a \$3,000 to \$4,000 site preparation cost. A house to accommodate key staff who must stay on site is approximately the same. Consider contributing to the Building Fund or working with a team to fund one home.

The heart of the giver is as important as the gift! We gladly accept whatever you can contribute.

COME JOIN US! There Are Many Ways You Can Help

Building Fund: \$30,000

Help build a home or a room in a 3 bedroom home to shelter 8 children

Skills Center: \$20,500

\$10K each to convert 2 shipping containers into training and work spaces.

\$500 for computers for the skills program

Operational Funds: \$20,000

This enables us to manage the costs of running all of SOHO's programs

Food Fund: \$30 per month

food parcels for homes with vulnerable children

Child Sponsorship: \$38 per month

school fees, meals, and transportation to and from school

_____ Monthly contribution _____One time contribution

Your contributions are tax deductible. For more information:

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