



Please help us feed 64 young children and their families in the Overstrand.

The current lockdown crisis that we all face requires us, as the Flower Valley Conservation Trust (FVCT), to adjust our work to meet the pressing needs of the most vulnerable, young children aged 0 – 4 years and their families, who participate in our Early Childhood Development (ECD) Programme. This comes down to providing simple things like food and continuing to support a stable, playful and caring environment for these young children.

Background

The majority of young South African children in highly populated and rural areas do not have adequate access to early childhood services. Flower Valley's home based programme brings ECD services to the home of the child, in a family context.

We have been delivering an ECD home based service since 2012, in response to a request made by the Department of Social Development (DSD), who is mandated to take care of the interests of children aged 0 - 4 years. The home based service forms part of our existing ECD Programme's work of the past twenty years.

Young children and families in need

Eluxolweni – a small Pearly Beach neighbourhood has for years relied on an informal economy for income. Poaching of abalone has been a significant contributor. In November 2019, SAPS law enforcement and other sectors combined efforts to bring poaching to a halt in the Overstrand. As a consequence, this community faces growing financial hardship. A request for assistance was made by FVCT to DSD and the South African Social Security Agency (SASSA). SASSA has not yet delivered food parcels to Eluxolweni and with the COVID-19 pandemic in South Africa and lockdown implemented in recent weeks, the needs of this community have increased substantially. The Dolfyntjies Centre, the only local ECD Centre, had to close its doors with the lockdown, with an additional impact of the loss of salaries for teachers, as well as the compromised stimulation of the children of Dolfyntjies.

Baardskeerdersbos – another one of our rural ECD home based programme areas, exists in an already vulnerable community due to lack of services and a high rate of substance abuse. While living on a farm at this time holds some benefits, in part because most families still have someone employed, there are still families in need of food and support.

We are ready to act in the best interests of these young children and their families who are currently going hungry.

After consultation with all role players (working closely with the Overstrand Municipality), and having reviewed all the options, logistics and health and safety considerations at this time, it has been decided that the *quickest and most effective way forward* is for the Flower Valley ECD Programme to purchase necessary items and distribute parcels to families in dire need.



Please help us feed 64 young children and their families in the Overstrand at this critical time

It costs **R675 to feed a family for a month** – and this includes a small play pack (valued at R20) to stimulate and bring joy to a child at this time of lockdown.

Our target is to provide 64 packs twice a month, with a total value of R43 163 monthly.

Please note that these two packs will provide 16 simple yet nutritious main meals over a period of one month to each family. We will be monitoring the need and application of this relief project weekly and will continue to keep you informed.

We thank you for your support - *Every donation, no matter what size, will help us to help a family in need at this very difficult time.*

Account name: Flower Valley Conservation Trust

Bank: Nedbank

Account type: Current

Account number: 134 501 3493

Swift code: NEDSZAJJ

Deposit reference: Your name/Feed a family

- Please send us confirmation of your deposit and your contact details as we would like to acknowledge your gift. Please send an email to: kieran@flowervalley.co.za

- All qualifying donations from a South African bank account can be issued with an 18A tax certificate on request.

How wonderful that we can stand together and share in the abundance of our lives and gifts. We thank you with all of our hearts for helping us to help each other. Together we are better, together we are strong.

For more information about this emergency intervention or the work of our programme, please contact:

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