



Dear Ladies and Gentlemen

It's not usually on Jo-Dolphin's programme to host a Christmas party in February, but that was this year's case, and it was marvellous!

In the previous year, members of *House of Faith*, donated a Christmas package to each learner. However, these treasures had to be packed away, when Covid-19 caused the centre to close a week earlier of that faithful month. The Christmas story remains a powerful message at any time of the year and we are grateful that the staff and learners were able to commemorate the birth of Jesus with great joy and gratitude in their hearts. We handed the presents to the learners in the month of February to celebrate the lost month of December. Santa could sadly not attend the party, but Marina van der Merwe was a beautiful substitute!



The learners and staff undertook an excursion to Winelands Light Railway, near Stellenbosch, on the 5th of March. At this amusement park, with a large play area, a ride on the small steam train was the highlight of the day. No one was scared, even as the train drove through the dark tunnel!

Feedback on the goals for the year set by management:

1. The target was reached very quickly to expand services and take in 10 more learners for day care. The all the new learners did not adapt easily, and extra staff had to be brought in to come and help. With the intensive personal attention, they overcame the strangeness of the new surroundings and they began to participate in the programmes.
2. The preparatory work is being done to utilise support services, once a week, to four satellite towns of Malmesbury. We are currently trying to determine how many disabled people there are in Riebeek West and -Kasteel, Kalbaskraal, Riverlands and Chatsworth, and to intercommunicate with their families.
3. The receptionist, Ms Lehandri Hancke, is making good progress in building a website.
4. Jo-Dolphin's financial year ends in March. The financial statements will give the full picture, but Jo-Dolphin's financial position is sound to steadily move forward and expand services. Several loyal donors have brought treasures to Jo-Dolphin by making payments into the bank account. Jo-Dolphin also has a grain delivery account at Kaap Agri, in which farmers can deposit a part of their crop. Numerous donors maintain their anonymity, yet we thank God for all of them and we know:

""But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys, and where thieves don't break in and steal."" (Matthew 6:20)

Community involvement:

There are still many people in Malmesbury who claim to have never heard of Jo-Dolphin!

We experience a lot of goodwill from the community and our projects are fairly well supported... However, last week, when we approached a local panel beater for a quote, he mentioned it was his first encounter of our centre for people with severe to profound intellectual disabilities. Ex nunc a relationship blossomed, and he offered his services in kind.

Mutual relationships in a community determine the extent to which community members, such as neighbours and friends, accept responsibility for each other.



The management wants to take initiative, because if more people are familiar with the activities of Jo-Dolphin, our projects will most likely be supported very well to excellently!


On April 13, we will reach out to the surrounding neighbours by inviting them for tea and an introduction to the center. We hope it will be a fun gathering to meet new people! Maybe some of us appeal to each other to build lasting relationships so that we will help and support each other.

From the conviction of helping other people, people make themselves available to volunteer in places to serve. Usually some of the motives:

- to mitigate
- to socialize with other people
- to learn new skills
- to get involved in issues that are relevant to the community
- to extract, develop and use a talent under the measuring bucket out of gratitude for undeserved grace.

However, many people are not involved simply because they have never been asked. Involvement is always voluntary and takes place according to the measure of availability to give.

	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Mandela Day (2019)</u></p> <p>Jo-Dolphin can not only be on the receiving end of gifts. Every year, the learners and caregivers reach out to the needy people in the community on Mandela Day reach to hand out soup and sandwiches.</p> <p>We hope to do these acts of kindness, deo volente, like this again in the coming months, after we were constrained due to lockdown in the previous year.</p>	
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The learners are almost ready for us to announce the opening of the Jo-Dolphin coffee shop! The  with the neighbours will be a practical exercise for our learners, to see which skills still need to be improved.

Best regards,



(Mev.) Hanlie van Wyk
On behalf of JDSAPD board