

## Why you should support us!

- On an annual basis about 100 women and 100 children benefit directly from this humane approach to social transformation and personal empowerment.
- Between 60% - 70% success rate i.e. either having been reunited with their families, found employment and now able to provide for themselves, improved relationship with their children, children have settled in the routines of education programme and benefit from therapy.
- Although our work is “a drop in the ocean”, we recognize our relevance and are actively involved in various networks e.g. Network on Violence Against Women, Shelter Forum, Homelessness Forum, Street Children’s Forum, HIV/Aids Forum, Health Forum, International networking (UK & USA) etc. to help break the cycle of poverty, violence and welfare dependency.
- We seek to implement strong business principles in our management style and are conscious of self-evaluation to ensure effective and efficient intervention.
- We offer a cost effective model of care and family preservation can be adopted as an alternative to the government’s costly foster care programme – especially in cases where children are mainly removed for poverty reasons.

### Contact Details

**St. Anne’s Homes**  
**P.O. Box 43363, Woodstock, 7915**  
**Cape Town, South Africa**  
**Email: [info@stanneshomes.org.za](mailto:info@stanneshomes.org.za)**  
**Website: [www.stanneshomes.org.za](http://www.stanneshomes.org.za)**  
**Tel: +27+21 448 6792 or 448 8513**  
**Fax: +27+21 448 8518**  
**Registration: NPO 002-947**  
**Vat Registration: 18/11/13/3050**

### Banking Details:

**Standard Bank**  
**Acc. Name: St. Anne’s Homes**  
**Acc # 070 260 702**  
**Branch Code: 020009**



**A Place of Hope and Healing**



### **Our Vision**

To see women with children living free from abuse, poverty and discrimination by offering the world a model of care and social empowerment.

### **Our Mission**

As an expression of God’s love, we seek to provide shelter and support for pregnant, abused and homeless women with children; through an holistic self empowerment

programme that develops social, personal, creative, vocational skills within a framework of Christian values and discipline and a culture of mutual learning, accountability and respect for the unique value of every human being.

## **Why a Special Programme for HIV+ Mothers and Children?**

Towards the end of 2004 it was discovered that 8 of our 15 babies were found HIV positive and they required special intervention. At the same time one of our residents, Nobuntu (who also happened to be a peer educator and child care worker) openly spoke about her status. The other residents wanted to know more. Nobuntu became a volunteer and later was employed at St. Anne's Homes to assist with HIV education and in our Crèche / Children's Programme. Nobuntu's courage motivated the other residents to be tested, disclose and receive the necessary support. Since then we offer counselling, education and support to the women.

We have received many referrals where counselors wanted St. Anne's to take the mother while the child gets placed at one of the orphanages / places of safety. Our stance has always been to preserve the sacred bond between mother and child.

Early in 2006, we had a situation where an HIV+ mother became very ill and her health deteriorated over time. She was in denial and was resistant to go for Anti-retroviral treatment. Her family was unable to help. She was unable to care for her child. The St. Anne's staff was desperate and we realized more than ever our limitations. There was no place where mother and child could be placed together.

The only option was to place the mother at the hospice and her child in the place of safety at Nazareth House. Although the mother was completely resistant, we forced her to go... at least they were in the same institution. Three months later, this mother came back to thank the St. Anne's staff for saving her life.

Having discovered that there are no organizations that provide sheltered care for positive mothers and their children together, motivated St Anne's to develop a more comprehensive HIV Programme. No child should be taken away from its biological mother just because of temporarily illness. It is our commitment to do as much as we can to support the mother thus ensuring that the child has a secure and brighter future. This often means that St. Anne's find new ways of responding to the ever changing needs of the mothers and children in our care.

## **Aims of the Programme**

- To offer a comprehensive counselling and empowerment programme to HIV+ mothers and children as an extension to the existing St. Anne's Shelter and Children's Programme.
- To create a safe, caring and supportive environment that will encourage mothers to take full responsibility for their lives and that of their children.
- To offer HIV related education and treatment support that encourages positive living
- To prevent / curb mother to child transmissions (MTCT)
- To rebuild relations with their families and work towards reintegrating them back into their communities of origin if that is possible

## **Intervention / Services Offered**

Interventions are being done in close partnership with existing HIV & AIDS service providers such Yabonga, TAC, Fekilela, Nazareth House, etc. We will continue to use university students and volunteers to assist in this programme. Services include:

- HIV & AIDS Education
- Voluntary Counselling and Testing
- HIV, TB and STI's Education and Treatment Support
- Primary Health Care and Nutrition
- Skills training & vocational training opportunity for women
- Employment Seeking Skills & support in finding employment
- Prevention / curbing of Mother-to-child-transmission
- Gender and relationships Workshops
- Parenting Skills and disclosure to children
- Planning future e.g. drawing up Wills, etc
- Grief and Bereavement
- Child Care Services – age appropriate education for the children
- Children's Therapy Programme

## **What can you do to Help?**

- Become a volunteer and assist with driving, gardening, child care, etc. Call the office or visit our website for an application form
- GIVE! Make a once off or regular financial donation to help St. Anne's achieve its mission to improve the lives of mothers and children. Our monthly cost is about R10 000.

**NOTE: Your donation is tax deductible!**