THE BETHANY HOUSE TRUST

Child and Youth Development Professional Parenting Child Witness Services

(Charity Trust IT1092/98 Non-profit Organization 005-894 PBO no. 18/11/13/3125)

Postal Address PO Box 6, Paardekraal, 1752 Physical Address 21 Potgieter Street, Monument, Krugersdorp Telephone 011 660 2763 Facsimile 011 953 6390 Crisis Line 082 44 44 000 Email gertjonker@childincrisis.co.za

The Bethany House Trust initiates, implements, co-ordinates and manages projects critical to the children and youth of South Africa.

The Trust - established in 1998 in response to the critical need of children and young people for shelter, access to primary health services and education - is also registered as a non-profit organization (NPO) with the South African Department of Social Development and has section 18A Tax Exempt Status.

A Board of Trustees approves strategic direction and policy, whilst a management team is responsible for the execution of strategy, policy and the daily affairs of the Trust.

The Trust focuses on three areas of service delivery to children and youth, viz.:

- Welfare & Health
- Education
- Youth & Sport Development

Mission statement: "To develop and implement initiatives that will portray the Bethany House Trust as the leading non governmental organization in developmental issues affecting children and youth, and in so doing contribute to nation building."

Our approach is based on:

- Aligning the Trust's initiatives with critical regional issues impacting upon young people's lives;
- Adopting a facilitative and catalytic role in establishing projects to serve as models for replication;
- Establishment of delivery structures;
- Encouragement of strategic partnerships with stakeholders through the building of relationships;
- Achieving self-sustainability for all projects.

A brief summary of some of our projects follows:

- <u>Bethany House Children's Home</u>: This home operational since October 1999 accommodates children whose ages range from 4 years up to 15 years. The aim of Bethany House is to break the cycle of abuse in the child's life and facilitate healing and re-integration into the community as a productive member of society. Following a holistic approach, the physical, educational, emotional and spiritual needs of child victims are met. To date more that 350 children were hosted in this program.
- Bethany House Baby Sanctuary: Our baby sanctuary, opened in March 2002, has place for 20 babies at a time. Their ages range from newborn to 3 years. Most of the babies were abandoned after birth.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES: BOARD OF REFERENCE: OPERATIONAL TEAM:

- <u>Bethany Bugs</u>: An on-site early childhood development program (ECD) for our toddlers is run by a
 qualified pre-school teacher at our on site nursery school Bethany Bugs.
- <u>Bana Ba Thabang (Happy Children) in Orange Farm</u>: Launched in September 2002, this joint initiative between Bethany House and the Good News Outreach operates 3 "places of safety" homes in informal settlements in the vast wasteland south of Johannesburg.
- <u>Crisis Line</u>: Operates throughout South Africa, Swaziland and Botswana as a telephonic child abuse advice and referral service. It is widely used by parents and caregivers alike that are in need of advice on the child abuse management system. Approximately 1 500 cases are handled annually.
- Professional Parenting Program "Khulisani Abantwana Bethu" (Raise our children!): This is an empowerment tool (training course) developed by us and accredited by the University of South Africa (UNISA) for parents willing to look after children in need of a safe home. The only way to house the millions of "aids orphans" in Africa will be through these homes. To date more than 150 parents and 50 master trainers were equipped.
- Schools Transformation Team: This team of young people currently works in 8 schools on the North West Rand where they impart life skills and does counseling with approx. 4 000 learners every month. They also operate a homework center for approx. 50 children in Muldersdrift and also do sports coaching (soccer, rugby, etc).
- o <u>Intermediary Services for Child Witnesses</u>: To minimize trauma to child victims of crime who has to testify in court, we provide trained intermediaries (social workers) to accompany and act as mediator between the child and the court. We provide services to Magistrates Courts on the West Rand and have acted on behalf of almost 2 000 thousand child witnesses to date.
- Advocacy / Networking: We're actively engaged in issues affecting children & welfare in South Africa, including NGO governance. We were invited to do a presentation to Parliament with regards to the new Child Care Act for instance. The Bethany House Trust's CEO also serves as the Chairman of the West Rand Welfare, Social Services & Development Forum, the Chairman of the Gauteng Welfare, Social Service & Development Forum and he is a member of the MANCO (Management Committee) of the National Welfare, Social Services & Development Forum. Regular interaction with the MEC for Social Development in Gauteng, the Premier of Gauteng & the Director-General of Gauteng takes place.

In addition to the above programmes, the Bethany House Trust CEO serves as the International Team Leader of the Child in Crisis Foundation (SA) & (USA). He is also a director of the Child in Crisis Foundation (USA).

Former President Nelson Mandela expressed his gratification about our approach and program on reviewing our project in 1997.

After a presentation to the "Office On The Rights Of The Child" in the South African Presidency during September 2000, the following comments were received from the Presidency: Republic of South Africa:

- The initiative was described as an important way in which the goodwill of citizens should be reconnected towards children;
- The vision of the organization was recognized;
- And we were commended for our efforts to promote a caring society that will not only restore
 dignity to but also protect and respect the rights of children.

Thank you in anticipation for considering partnering with us in realizing the African renaissance.

Regards,

GERT J JONKER

Chief Executive Officer