

April news

Words fail us to adequately communicate our feelings ...

In conversations but also now when we want to put our experiences on paper, it feels like there are not enough words and not the right words to describe how the past few weeks were for us.

Our days are so full of all kinds of care and assistance to our fellow man. Today I (Gijsbertha) massaged the hand of a handicapped girl (2 years) and my eyes are full of tears when I see how she tries to look at me and how she laughs after hearing our voices.

What we wouldn't want to give in order for her to have a brighter future ...

Last week we were at the rubbish dump to find 3 of our sponsor children. We found them with their parents in the garbage, looking for something of value ...

The next moment I (Jac-Louis) stand between a group of street children and wish that we had a solution for them. Their big eyes, filled with an expectation look up at me, but my words and hands fail. Their need is greater than just bread, bigger than a roof over their heads. Their parents were and are absent ...

Together we visit a boy of 10 years old, he is on the ground because he can not walk or stand, but what clear eyes he has and what a radiant smile.

When he sees our car driving by, he turns his face and looks at us until we are out of his sight.

Sometimes his hand goes up and he waves.

There is no form of help available for this boy in Gobabis ... if nothing changes, in ten years' time will he be in the same way, in the same place, with the same beautiful smile?

Help!!

In us we feel a cry up, Father, help us! Give us wisdom, the right thoughts and words, the right deeds, the right means so that we can do what you want us to do.

Lighthouse

After an intensive period of care for several children, we felt that we had 5 weeks 'holiday' because we only had our Adam to take care of :). It was good to have some more rest in our own home because outside the storm is always on the rise.

But since this week we care for a girl of 9 years. She was the one who went to get water for her family, cooked food (if there was food), clothed her younger sisters and also tried to go to school.

Now that she is with us, she can be a child again. We guide her parents simultaneously in their role as parents. Nice to have at least a bit of structure in our day as this lady has to go to school :).

Education

A boarding school outside Gobabis, Blouberg PS, where 14 of our sponsor children go to school has a challenge. They do not get enough financial support from the government to support the children living at the school. This means that the children get 5 weekends off during this year and have to go to their own home from Friday to Sunday as a means by which the boarding school can cut on their costs. As this causes extra financial pressure on the parents (caretakers) we have arranged that our sponsor children can stay at the hostel during those weekends, but then we have to take care of the costs. We pay for the food and for the supervisor-teachers. In this way the children keep their focus on their academics.

Grateful

We are grateful for the rain that has fallen this raining season ...

We are grateful for our sister Geertje, who can be with us until June DV.

We are grateful for Adam, who is growing so wonderfully and makes us laugh so much every day.
We are grateful for our health.
We are grateful for our car, a trusty steed on the difficult sandy roads.
We are grateful for our **furniture** ...

A few weeks ago we met a couple and after they heard what work we do in Gobabis, the man asked what we needed in our house. We looked at each other and thought of the same thing, a couch. We have never had our own couch and at that time we borrowed a couch from the house owner. The man invited us to come to his furniture shop that same day and find a couch there. We felt like small children in a big toy store :). At the end of our visit to that shop we went home with a list of furniture that would be delivered to our house the next week. Almost all the furniture in our house that were not ours were replaced with new furniture...
A set of sofas, 8 dining room chairs, a double bed, a freezer and a coffee table with 4 stools. We cannot say enough thank you to our Provider God!

We continue to fix our eyes Upward for the needs of those we come in contact with daily and ours. Our experience remains...He is faithful and does not forget the work of His hands...what a privilege to put our hands in his and be busy with His work.

Peace and love wishes from a cool Gobabis but a warm greeting from us,
Jac-Louis, Gijssbertha and Adam