

# update



## Celebrating the Promise of Safety



JENNIE

There is no greater joy for us than seeing spiritual movement among the leaders we engage on behalf of children and families in need. When leaders understand God's love for them, amazing things begin to happen in the lives of the children. We are enjoying a season of spiritual growth and excitement at the orphan care center, seeking Jesus and resting in His love versus doing religious things for acceptance. This past Saturday all of the female staff and most of the teen girls from the OCC joined us for Sisterhood Day at Hillsong Church. Our amazing leaders are growing and sharing all that they learn spiritually with our precious girls – this is the lasting work! Our hearts are full as we witness so many of our prayers being answered. We are so blessed to have each of you - our team of friends and our partners - walking with us faithfully and praying for us and our team here in South Africa. So grateful for you!



MARCIA

With love and appreciation.

*Marcia  
Jennie*



### *The land has been found . . . we're building a safe house in 2018!*

The Safe House will provide emergency shelter for some of our orphans at the Kerus Go Amogela Orphan Care Center (OCC) who suffer the horrors of physical, emotional or sexual violence and need to be removed from their homes immediately. God has already provided the land and efforts to raise the money for the building construction are in full swing.

We are grateful for the many people who are joining us as partners to make the Kerus Safe House a reality. Two specific opportunities to get involved are being provided by Renaissance Movement Music (RMM), a Christian Rap ministry based in Chesapeake, Virginia. Their **SAFE HOUSE Album** is already raising awareness and generating funds for the project. On Saturday, September 30, a **Safe House Run** is being held at First Landing State Park in Virginia Beach, VA. This event will include a half marathon and a 5K Run at the park. Anyone from anywhere can participate in the Virtual 5K Run (even on a treadmill at home) by registering and submitting his/her time. **For more of these details, visit [www.safehouseproject.org](http://www.safehouseproject.org).**

In July, we took the children to the land to shoot a music video with RMM and to pray. After much dancing and singing we held hands in a big circle and prayed for God's wisdom, protection and resources. It was truly amazing! As we move forward in faith, would you also join us in prayer and would you consider a special gift to this project?

>> The Kerus Go Amogela Orphan Care Center Community joins hands around the Safe House land while Marilyn Hale and the RMM team document the occasion.



>> RMM & Kerus team at the Kerus Go Amogela OCC



A Joyful

# Welcome & Goodbye



A Tearful

## Baby Kerus

Many years ago, Given's life was changed when she attended an *It Takes Courage! Conference*. Shortly afterwards, she was brought on staff at the Kerus Go Amogela Orphan Care Center (OCC) and is now the program administrator. This spring, she gave birth to a beautiful baby daughter, whom she named Kerus (meaning to do something with heart and passion) in honor of the love and life-giving impact Kerus has made in her life. We welcome Baby Kerus with open arms and wish her all that her name implies - a healthy, vibrant and joyful life filled with meaning and purpose!



## Bongani

Nine years ago, when the OCC first opened its doors, a lively, precocious boy became a part of our lives and captured our hearts. An artist at heart, Bongani was always full of life, armed with a wonderful sense of humor and a love for God and for people. Bongani struggled physically all his life. He was a fighter and had a deep faith in Jesus. Many of you have faithfully prayed for him over the years and he was so grateful for his American Family that he knew loved him so much. In June, Bongani's pain and struggles ended as he joined his heavenly Father completely healed. It has been difficult for his brother, Alfred, and the rest of our staff and children as they have sought the courage to say good-bye, comforted by knowing that one day, they will be reunited with their dear friend and brother in heaven.



>> Bongani created this beautiful illustration of the 15 character traits taught in the ITC! Youth Curriculum.



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The Greek word *Kerus* means "of the heart" or "to do something with *passion*."

This word *captures* the spirit and vision of Kerus founders Dr. Jennie Cerullo and Dr. Marcia Ball, who share a *common goal*:

to offer *hope* and better health through practical, character-based programs. Their *diverse* backgrounds make them uniquely suited for this exciting *outreach*.

*Vision // Courage // Compassion*