

# Become a part of Our Family!

The Kerus Orphan Care Center is not a ministry . . . it is a family. Many of you are already a part of the Soshanguve family, and this Christmas, we invite many more of you to become a part of our family in a very practical way. Would you consider taking a small piece of the financial support needed to keep the Orphan Care Center running and make it your own? And would you commit to praying specifically for one of the many members of our community - a precious orphan, a loving but weary granny caring for multiple children or perhaps one of our committed staff members who sacrifice so much to meet the needs of all those who walk through our doors?

A gift of \$50 per month helps the entire Soshanguve community thrive and grow, while your prayers are a personal gift of love and encouragement for one precious life!

As the kids love to say . . . We are family!

Will you join us?

**kerusglobal.org** **KERUSglobal EDUCATION**

Join our **OUR SOSHANGUVE FAMILY**

See what you can do with just **\$50 a month!**

- Care for 138 Orphans
- Monthly Food Parcels
- Discipleship Training
- Spiritual & Academic Enrichment
- Granny Training & Microenterprise
- Safe House for Sex Traffic Prevention
- AND SO MUCH MORE!

**THEMBA**

To become a part of the Soshanguve family, visit

[www.kerusglobal.org](http://www.kerusglobal.org)



## Planting Hope in Soshanguve

In an arid, sun-parched climate, shelter is important and is often sadly lacking in poorer communities. The Kerus family recently planted 130 donated shade trees around the Kerus Orphan Care Center, the Safe House, the primary school and many of the shacks where our grannies and orphans live. For several days, the community came together - determined adults, strong and eager teens, excited young children and even hobbling grannies - working side by side from morning till night, digging holes and giving the small seedlings a place to bloom and grow. Besides providing much needed shade and beauty, each tree represents a precious Kerus family and is a constant reminder of the new life, new growth, and new hope God's love is bringing to Soshanguve!



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*.



245 Newman Ave, Suite B  
Harrisonburg, VA 22801  
Phone: 540-438-8782  
[kerus@kerusglobal.org](mailto:kerus@kerusglobal.org)  
[kerusglobal.org](http://kerusglobal.org)



# update



## Helping our Grannies Grow!

One very special population in the Kerus family that holds our utmost respect, appreciation and support is the incredible grannies who have taken up the mantle of raising the next generation. These dedicated and exhausted women are the pillars that support the lives of the children and ultimately the community of Soshanguve. The new Academic Enrichment Center has made it possible for us to offer them a whole new level of support.

Each week, this group of GoGos (Grannies) come in wheel chairs, with grandchildren on their backs, hobbling with canes, many walking a mile or more to get to us. Ready for a morning of laughter, songs, Bible study, prayers and exploring new life skills, they soak in badly needed encouragement and learn new ways to support their families. Some of them are baking with an oven for the first time in their lives, a luxury not found in most of their shacks. Two sewing machines and many yards of brightly colored cloth donated by a faithful Kerus partner are allowing them to learn sewing skills. And their beautiful handmade beadwork will be sold for the first time this year at the Kerus benefit events in the States. It is such a joy to see these precious women smiling, thriving and growing!

The program has been such a success that the younger care givers - aunts and older siblings who have also assumed the role of head of household - have requested to be included. And each week, grannies from the community who do not have children at the center are showing up at the gate, wanting to join the group. We are thrilled that the Academic Enrichment Center is becoming a true beacon of hope in the Soshanguve community, with the potential "above and beyond all we could ask or imagine." And we are especially grateful it has begun with our precious grannies!

**Elizabeth** is an 80+ grannie who began sending her three grandchildren to the center in 2008 when it first opened. Known in the community as a witch doctor at that time, she saw the pastor on the property and asked him about "his power", observing that, "Your power is greater than mine. There is love in this place." She eventually discovered "his power" was the love of Jesus! And Elizabeth has been walking with Jesus ever since. Our greatest desire is that all our grannies experience this incredible love for themselves!



JENNIE



MARCIA

As we come to the end of another year, we are overwhelmed at what God has brought about in the past twelve months. Long-time dreams have been brought to life while new dreams and directions have opened up before us, giving us a glimpse of even greater things ahead! This year, the new challenges and opportunities have brought an inordinate level of expenses with them. With both physical and mental resources often

in critically short supply, we have leaned heavily on the all-sufficient arms of the One who called us to this adventure and on the incredibly faithful partners who have walked every step of the way with us. Thank you for the love and commitment you shower on us and on our beloved Kerus community. We are indeed blessed!

With deepest gratitude,

Jennie Marcia



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Dedication and Prayer



## KERUS SAFE HOUSE



House Mom



## KERUS ACADEMIC ENRICHMENT CENTER



GoGo (Grannie) Activities



Teen Activities



Staff Training



It's been an *Amazing* year!



Kerus Orphan Care Center Staff



Kerus Quilters

GIFTS



One Sole at a Time

## Hearts of Hope Bible Project



Because of your faithful partnership in 2019 ...

We cared for 138 orphans, 95 grannies and caregivers, served 36,000 meals to our orphans, provided 500+ food parcels for the neediest families we serve, facilitated discipleship and leadership training for our staff, provided grannie skills development and spiritual enrichment programs once a week, held Saturday tutoring and life skills training for 40 teens weekly, hosted two American teams, purchased and renovated the Safe House, purchased and began renovations on another house as potential Safe House #2, planted 130 trees in the community, and so much more!

As someone said, "it was dark when you came and now there is light!" This is a reflection of our partnership and the love of Jesus.



*"It was dark when you came . . . and now there is light!"*