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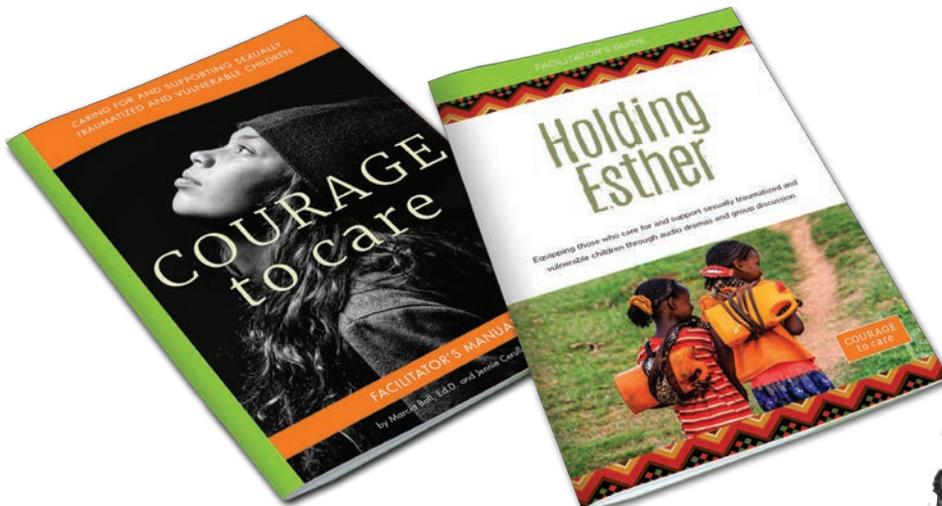
Having the **COURAGE** to Care

Gone in 60 seconds . . . That's how fast it can happen. A child full of life and promise one minute is violently used and deeply wounded the next, plunging their little soul into the horrors of the sex trafficking world. A tragedy unfolding, often in plain sight, but not realized because adults don't recognize the signs. Suspicions are often dismissed due to lack of knowledge or courage to take a stand. And the children pay the price - a price we are not willing to let them continue to pay!

Our efforts to combat this atrocity began with the establishment of the Kerus Safe House. We are now ready to introduce our new Sex Trafficking Prevention initiative, *Courage to Care*. This exciting new focus will allow us to mobilize the millions that have already been reached by the *It Takes Courage!* movement.

This fall we will launch the first component, *Holding Esther*, a powerful 7-part oral teaching drama developed in partnership with TWR. *Holding Esther* uses the poignant story of a little girl, Esther, and her sister to help caregivers and other adults working with children understand and recognize the world of sex trafficking. It will also give them resources as they seek to intervene on behalf of a vulnerable generation.

The battle for our children's lives and futures is real, but God is providing a way to make a difference. We are so grateful for all who continue to stand with us in prayer, finances, encouragement and so many other ways. Our children thank you!



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JENNIE



MARCIA

This has been a season of change, loss, sadness and joy. We have all experienced a plethora of emotions through this storm of the pandemic. For us personally it's been an extremely challenging time. Marcia lost her mom, and Jennie's brother, Rudy, almost died but by God's grace is a living miracle. For our friends in South Africa it has been an ongoing challenge with food

insecurity and political unrest. Many of you have helped us provide food over the many months of hunger and despair. Just last week one grannie cried and danced as our staff delivered food for her and her five orphaned grandchildren. In times like these we need to be courageous and strong and focus on our God who loves us dearly and not dwell on the struggles that surround us. Joshua 1:9. You are an inspiration and an encouragement to us personally and to our precious ones in South Africa. As our kids at the orphan care center always say, "We are family!" We are grateful that you are a part of our Kerus family.

With grateful hearts,

Jennie Marcia



Women's Day Celebration



Honoring our ladies

One privilege we have had over our years in Soshanguve has been the chance to be involved in the annual South African Women's Day celebration. A national holiday, this day is intended to honor women and help them advance. We have often spoken to thousands of women at large community gatherings, reminding them of the beauty of being a woman and helping them courageously find their place in society by being who God created them to be.

Our grannies and staff were honored at a rare "black tie" event at the orphan care center. Dressed in their finest black attire, our ladies were treated to a sumptuous feast served enthusiastically and lovingly by the men on staff at the center.

We are so thankful for the amazing staff and grannies who care tirelessly for our precious children. They give so selflessly and deserve to be honored. What a wonderfully refreshing day, bringing dignity in the midst of poverty and a touch of elegance in the midst of bleakness!

In the midst of the ashes of COVID, this was a bright celebration of how much God loves our precious women.