



Jesus is at the center of the work of Kerus, he is alive; he knows and he cares. It's been a very hard year; death has come close through the loss of dear friends and Marcia's mom. We had to say goodbye to Jennifer, our faithful assistant of 15 years in the Virginia Kerus office. And we both had COVID in August!

But it's been a year of incredible miracles! Jennie's brother continues to recover from the "hopeless" medical situation he dealt with in March. Our orphans and grannies have stayed well in spite of the challenges. Our staff in South Africa has delivered over 5 tons of food to our families in Soshanguve. God brought two new amazing staff members, Trube and Becca, to work with us in our Virginia office. We also finished writing our Sex Trafficking Prevention Training.

We count our blessings daily and, we continue to grow, to dream and to be thrilled that our Kerus family and staff show such deep self-sacrificing love. We hope you are blessed by the testimonies from Africa and the vision for Kerus moving into 2022. Your partnership is a treasure!

With deepest gratitude,

*Marcia & Jennie*



*In 2015 at  
the Orphan  
Care Center*



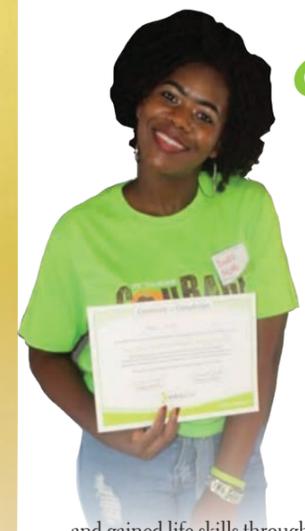
*... and  
now with  
my precious  
husband!*

*Dineo*



# update

## Thank you for saving my life!



My upbringing forced me to grow up at a very tender age. I had to be responsible and care for my younger brothers and sister as well as my disabled mom. I became the parent as a young girl. However, in the midst of these struggles, I got rescued by my super home, Kerus. When I was 15 years old, I got welcomed in the warm, loving, and caring home of Kerus (Go Amogela Orphan Care Center), where I was helped with my homework and gained life skills through the *It Takes Courage!* program they offered every day after school. The center helped me a lot with different things including needed items like toiletries. The Kerus staff is loving, caring, and so kind. They would send us home with food parcels which made a huge difference in my household as we only survive on small social grants. Being at the center helped me understand how deeply I was loved by God and motivated me a lot in terms of my social well-being as I became more confident and came to the knowledge of my strengths.

During the years I spent at the center I developed leadership skills and fell in love with assisting my peers and those younger than me with their homework. The idea of helping my peers with their homework started molding my career path, and by the time I was in my matric (senior year of high school), I already knew my passion was to teach. I decided I would enroll at UNISA (one of the top universities in South Africa). With God continuing to bless me, in 2019 I met the love of my life, a wonderful, Godly man who is now my husband.

I thank God and appreciate the Kerus center for all the blessings in my life. Thank you so much for all you have done for me and my family. I am forever grateful to have been given the opportunity to be in such a safe and loving home at the center because I honestly don't want to think of how messed up my life would have been if I didn't get the privilege to go to Kerus.

I see how some of my peers from Soshanguve have turned out to be; some have given their lives to alcohol and drugs, some have given up in life and are now in prostitution. It pains me so much to see this happen in my community and to my friends. Because of this sadness, I made the decision that I will be the change I want to see! I continue to encourage the children I attended the center with that it's possible to pass matric and further their studies and make good choices and follow Jesus. I am privileged to mark the first child to finish matric at (the) Center and now I'm so happy that many others are following. I want to take this opportunity and thank you Dr. Jennie and Dr. Marcia for the impact you made in my life. May God bless you and all my American Families who are still making waves and changing the lives of my fellow brothers and sisters. I just can't hold back the joy and appreciation I have for you. And it really takes Courage!!!

**Toiletries & Supplies** \$25

**Food Box** \$40

**Training** \$100

**Shack Repair** \$200

**Give a Gift that makes a difference!**



**TOILETRIES & SUPPLIES**

\$25 will provide a generous supply of basic toiletries and school supplies for one orphan.

**FOOD BOXES**

\$40 will provide a two-week supply of food for one of our grannies and her family.

**COURAGE TO CARE TRAINING**

\$100 will pay for one pastor, teacher or other caring adult to attend the new *Courage to Care* training.

**SHACK REPAIR**

\$200 will allow one of our families to get badly needed repairs to their shack.

...whatever you did for one of the least of these...

**Total Amount:**

Please enter your comments/requests here (optional)

1 toiletries  
1 training

This Christmas, consider giving a gift of compassion that will change the life of a child, a family and a community. For each gift purchased, you will receive a Kerus Christmas card to give to the one in whose honor it was purchased. Begin your Christmas giving by mail or online:

**Mail:** Fill out the enclosed envelope and include a check

**Online:** Go to [www.kerusglobal.org](http://www.kerusglobal.org) / Click on DONATE OR Scan the QR code above

Indicate the total amount you wish to give.

In the comments box, indicate the gift(s) you wish to purchase. You will receive one Christmas card per gift.

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*.



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# LOOKING BACK ON 2021



## One Day at a Time

received winter supplies for not only our kids but their families too, we received Covid-19 health and safety supplies i.e. sanitizers, face masks, etc. We continue to receive assistance and support from KERUS. The video calls, oh the video calls, how they make a huge difference! Our children are so much more focused on their school work because they realize that with the on and off lockdowns, they have actually missed a lot of school work. Their commitment is astounding.

poverty, it becomes easy for one to lose hope. Sometimes it takes the kindness of someone from the outside to lend a helping hand, to reach out to those who have their hand out asking for a little assistance. Because of the generosity of our KERUS family, we are able to provide food, prayer and counsel to our grannies and children. More importantly, we can bring hope and light to their tiny shacks through the love of Jesus in spite of their sad circumstances.

The relief I see on the faces of many when they come to collect the food boxes makes what we do worthwhile. My heart smiles when I see that granny walking through our gates with her grandkid to personally collect the food box because she wants to thank us, even when we insist the food box will be delivered to her doorstep. Oh, how I love these gogos (grannies) of ours - they just want to keep "gogo" going!

Please lift up in prayer our children who will soon be writing their final exams, our grannies who are selflessly caring for their grand kids and also our staff who are tirelessly working closely with the families to provide much needed services, whether it is to assist the kids with their school work, helping grannies to apply for foster grants with the government, counselling, or assisting our unemployed youth from the community to apply for the Covid-19 relief grant and praying and sharing God's love with them. We do what we can where we can.

I am very thankful for all those who were able to assist. The generosity of our KERUS family plays a huge role in the motivation and encouragement we need to get up and go to work every morning. Honestly, when one lives in an area where there is such

The "little" you give provides families with food and other essential supplies; it provides a cooked meal for all the children who come to the centre on a daily basis; it allows us to teach *It Takes Courage!* life skills to change the course of young lives; it puts a huge smile on so many people's faces; it helps us keep the faith and helps us to remember that despite life's current challenges there are people God has brought to us who care and love us. That "little" that you give is not so little . . . actually, it is huge!

With God's help through you, we are managing to keep the boat afloat. Our centre is a beacon of hope, and we are the hands and feet of Jesus in Soshanguve. On behalf of all of us at KERUS Go-Amogela Orphan Care Centre, Siyabonga (thank you)! We have a long and true relationship with you all like we are truly family. May our Father continue to show us favor and may all our faith continue to grow in the Lord.

Love,

*Kele*

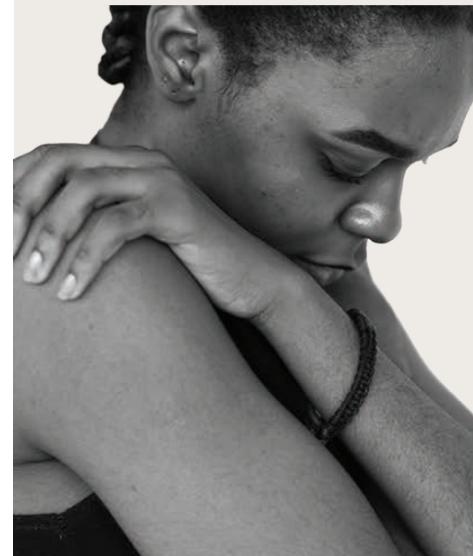
Manager, Kerus Go-Amogela  
Orphan Care Centre

## A New Initiative

One of the great accomplishments of this year was the completion of our exciting new Sex Trafficking Prevention initiative, *Courage to Care*. The multifaceted approach includes the *Courage to Care* training that parallels our *It Takes Courage!* training with a specific sex trafficking prevention focus. The second component, *Holding Esther*, is a powerful 7-part oral teaching strategy developed in partnership with TWR. We are especially excited to see this particular initiative in action, as it capitalizes on one of the oldest and most effective methods of teaching in the African culture, learning through oral stories and drama. It will equip those who are closest to the children to recognize, understand, and protect them from this insidious danger.

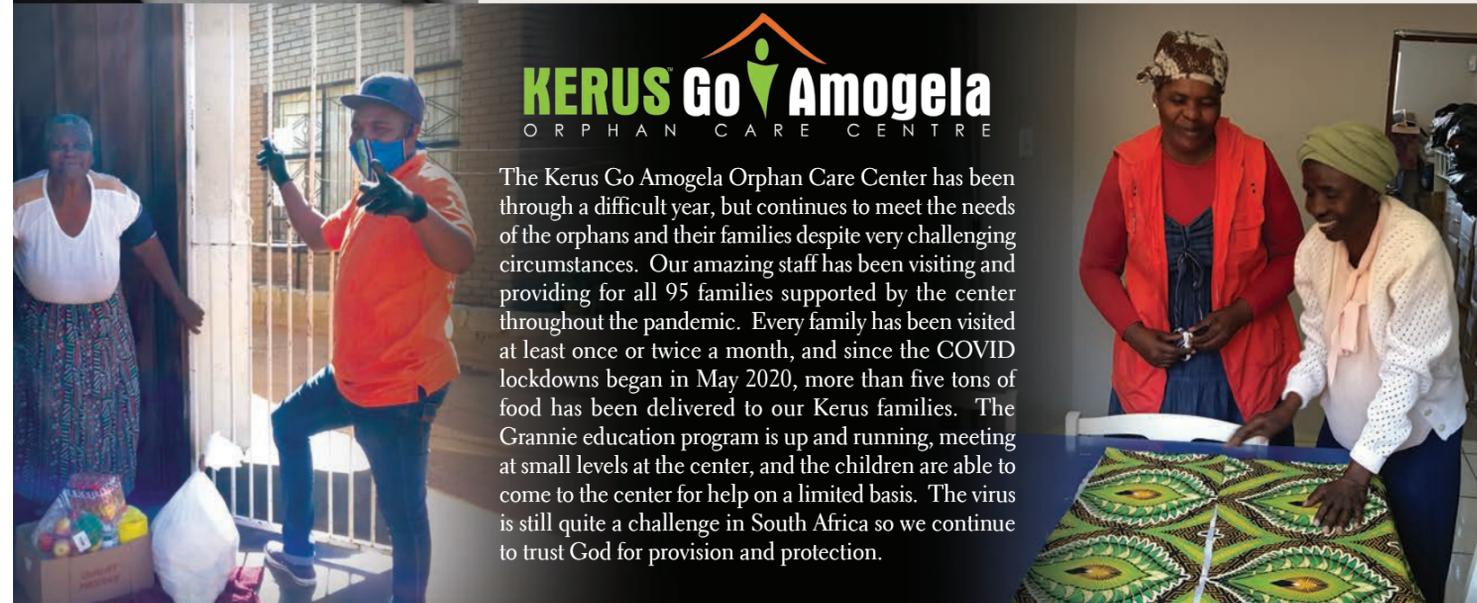


In early 2022 we will launch, *Holding Esther*, and the *Courage to Care* training in South Africa. Our training includes a video component, which was developed in collaboration with our partner organization, Safe House Project. This series of sex trafficking survivor stories will convey the reality of the sex trafficking world and will highlight the hope and deliverance that each survivor found through a personal relationship with Jesus. We appreciate your ongoing financial and prayer support in the rollout of this powerful training series. We are thrilled to see these incredible tools come to life and begin to change the lives of innocent children in South Africa and around the world.



## Sex Trafficking Prevention Leaders Retreat

In October, Jennie and Marcia attended a leadership retreat in Washington D.C. sponsored by Kerus partner organization, Safe House Project. For four days, they met with a group of national Christian leaders, all of whom are vitally involved in sex trafficking prevention and rescue strategies. Sharing a common passion, they sought God's direction in combatting this insidious evil and explored ways to challenge the church both in America and around the world to get involved in the child sex trafficking crisis. Invited as key leaders in this discussion, Jennie and Marcia were able to share their own expertise, vision and passion as well as glean from other like-minded leaders. Kerus is honored to be involved in this crucial collaboration with the potential for global impact.



**KERUS Go Amogela**  
ORPHAN CARE CENTRE

The Kerus Go Amogela Orphan Care Center has been through a difficult year, but continues to meet the needs of the orphans and their families despite very challenging circumstances. Our amazing staff has been visiting and providing for all 95 families supported by the center throughout the pandemic. Every family has been visited at least once or twice a month, and since the COVID lockdowns began in May 2020, more than five tons of food has been delivered to our Kerus families. The Grannie education program is up and running, meeting at small levels at the center, and the children are able to come to the center for help on a limited basis. The virus is still quite a challenge in South Africa so we continue to trust God for provision and protection.