

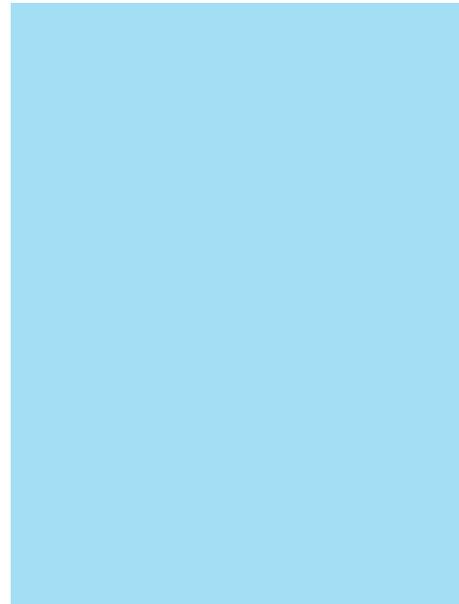
MINISTRY  
REPORT  
JANUARY —  
JULY 2022

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# TABLE OF CONTENT

1. LETTER OF THANKS
2. HIGHS AND LOWS
3. SAYING GOODBYE TO LULU
4. A LOOK INSIDE THE NEW BUILDING
5. NEW CHILD ADMISSIONS
6. STAFF CHANGES
7. PRAYER REQUESTS



# 1. LETTER OF THANKS

This year has been one of incredible highs and incredible lows for the Butterfly family. We have had to trust in God and the generosity of others more than ever. As a team, we have been stretched beyond what we thought we could handle – especially with the completion of the new 12-bed unit, professional growth, advocacy for children needing palliative care, caring for children as they were passing, having to deal with constant power outages, lack of water, and feeling completely unsupported by government entities who are supposed to protect our children.

One constant that has kept us going and has pushed us to reach greater heights, has been the unfailing, unwavering goodness of God manifested through the kindness and support from donors and friends such as yourself. Thank you especially for the financial blessings and the donation of 6 beautiful new paediatric hospital beds!

Butterfly Home is growing, we are officially the first and only Children's Hospice in KwaZulu-Natal, and we could not have done it without you!

From the bottom of our hearts – thank you! (Tarryn & Team)

# HIGHS AND LOWS...

Living on a mountain is very significant to us as we feel that it often symbolizes the spiritual highs and lows that our organisation experiences. We thank God that we can however say that there are definitely more highs than lows.

This year has been one of immense favor, especially financially and with the help of volunteers, professionals and friends who have helped us complete the new building. There were many frustrations in working with the local builders, especially cultural once and our managing staff are all females and traditional Zulu men do not respect the authority of women. It caused much unnecessary conflict. Eventually we employed a trusted Zulu male friend (our social worker, Nokwazi's husband) who is also the main worship leader at our local church, to manage the building site and be the spokesperson between Tarryn and the builders. It worked well and the job got done.

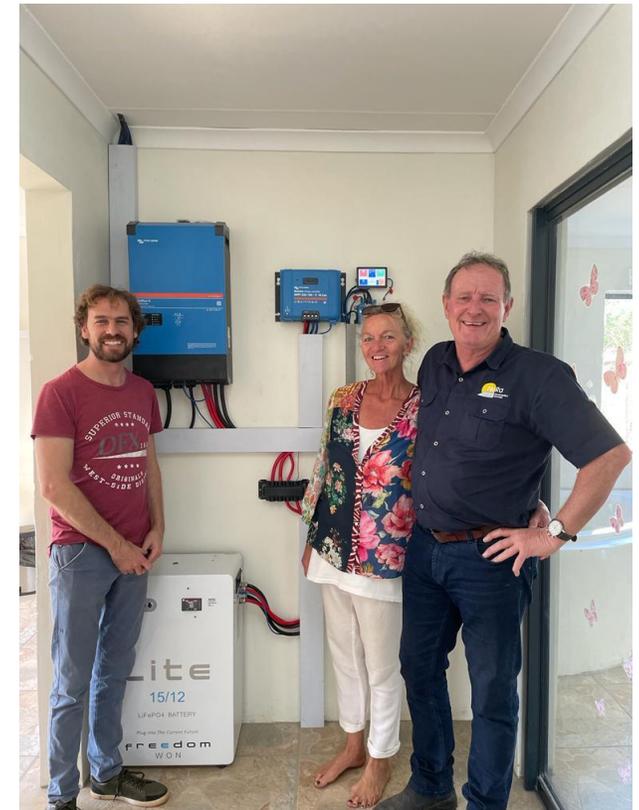
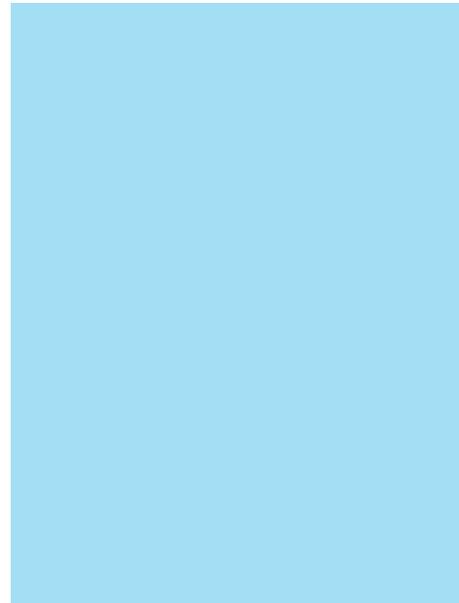
The opening of the new hospice in itself was very stressful because due to politics, strikes, power outages that lasted 5 days, lack of funds at times to pay contractors, etc, our team only had 2 hours to move into the new building and make it look good for the opening ceremony! We literally had 2 hours instead of a full week to move in, clean and furnish the new space before all the guests arrived!!!

The week before the opening ceremony, Lulu started showing signs of deteriorations and we knew that we had to start preparing to let her go.

We tried our best to create a beautiful, calm environment for her to pass away. Unfortunately with the power outages, we had to run her oxygen and other medical machines on a generator. This is not good for such sensitive devices and two of our oxygen machines blew fuses. The generators could also not handle the pressure of use on the building site as well as the home and one broke down, leaving us with only a small one which also broke. When this happened we had to rush Lulu to hospital for oxygen until our generator was working again. It was stressful and something we never want to experience again.

But God always has a plan. On the day of the opening we were gifted a brand new generator by a group of "fishing buddies". The opening of the first Children's Hospice was also featured in various newspapers and even a local magazine. The next week we received a phone call from a local Solar Energy company who then proceeded to sponsor a whole solar system for the new hospice! God is always faithful!

Definitely the highest high for our team was that we could track down baby Lulu's biological father in Johannesburg after her death and paid for him to come to Ingwavuma and attend her funeral. The mother unfortunately refused to attend. The father came and it was a beautiful time of our time ministering to a man who was desperate for love and acceptance. He could not believe that our team consisted of people from various races, socio-economic backgrounds and different walks of life, all fellowshiping together and being one family in Christ. He came as a stranger and left as part of the family. We hope to make this aspect of caring for the biological parents a special part of our ministry.



## 2. NEW HOSPICE BUILDING

A year ago we broke ground for what we thought at the time would be a crazy dream – to build a fully-equipped children's hospice that can accommodate 12 children at a time. It had never been done in KZN and especially not in such a rural community as Ingwavuma!

The new building was estimated to cost a whopping ZAR 2.5 million! At the time we had ZAR 2000 in the organization's account, with a pending donation of ZAR 15 000 from a local NGO. Everyone said that it couldn't be done, but we had a vision and trusted God to provide – and He did! Exactly a year later, with no government support, the new Children's Hospice was completed and officially opened on July 1st 2022.

Your generous contributions have been instrumental in the realization of this dream. The new hospice is fully equipped to provide care to critically ill children, complete with a nurses' office, end-of-life room, 2 spacious wards equipped with medical devices and oxygen etc.

# A LOOK INSIDER THE NEW HOSPICE

Spacious bedrooms (wards)...



Dedicated end-of-life room...



# FRONT & ENTRANCE...

The building has been designed to be wheelchair-friendly and provide open spaces for the children to play outside.

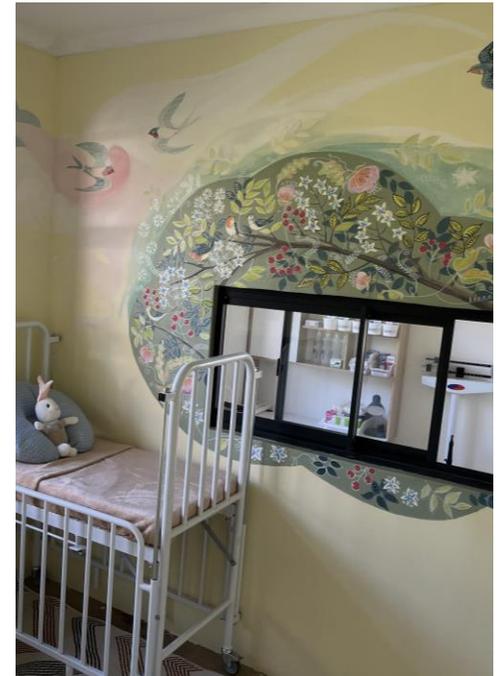
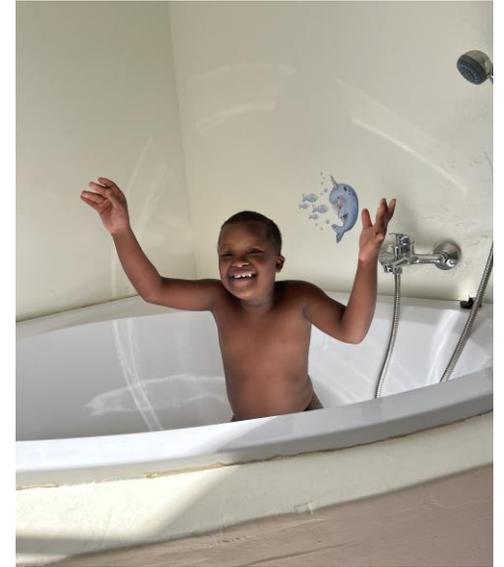
The garden are bursting with colorful flowers and create a happy space.



# BEDROOM/BATHROOM

The building has a spacious bathroom with two baths and two toilets. Our children are so excited as they have only ever known a plastic wash basin. Sunny cannot stop taking a bath!

A special feature is the dedicated end-of-life room where children can pass away peacefully.



### 3. SAYING GOODBYE TO LULU...

Our dear Lulu passed away in the early hours of July 1st, the morning of the official opening of the new unit. Lulu had a severe, terminal cardiac condition called Tetralogy of Fallow. She was abandoned in Johannesburg by her mother and has spent her last year at Butterfly Home, knowing the love and care of a family. Lulu was 2 years old when she passed away. Our caregivers and staff spent 24/7 next to her bed holding her, singing to her and praying over her life. She will always be missed. She will always be loved.



## 4. NEW ADMISSIONS...

Now that the 12-bed unit is open, we are in the process of admitting 7 new children from our waiting list. The children are from all over South Africa and have a variety of terminal medical conditions and disabilities. Their ages range from 3 months (baby Aggie), to 7 years.

One thing that all of these children have in common is that they have all either been orphaned, abandoned or neglected by their families and cannot receive palliative care at home.

Every child that comes into Butterfly Home brings their own unique needs and challenges. We try to get to know each child and bond as quickly as possible to help them feel safe and secure.



# 5. STAFF CHANGES

Butterfly home has been growing like a weed the past six months and many staff changes have occurred. Due to the fact that we have opened the new hospice and doubled our child capacity, we have also had to add many new staff members.

The team now proudly consists of:

- 16 caregivers
- House mother
- 2 Cleaners
- Cook
- 2 Social Workers
- Professional Nurse
- Office Manager/Bookkeeper
- Pastor
- Human Resource Officer (HR)
- Maintenance/Donations Officer
- 2 Gardeners



# 7. PRAYER REQUESTS...

1. CONTINUED PROVISION AND PROTECTION
2. AS WE GROW AS AN ORGANISATION THAT WE WILL STAY HUMBLE AND DO EVERYTHING IN LOVE
3. STAFF'S SPIRITUAL, PHYSICAL AND EMOTIONAL WELLBEING
4. OPPORTUNITIES TO SHARE ABOUT JESUS
5. NEW CHILDREN – FOR THEM TO FEEL LOVED AND SAFE
6. STRENGTH AS WE FIGHT BIG BATTLES ON BEHALF OF LITTLE PEOPLE

GOD IS GOOD AND WE THANK  
YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED  
PARTNERSHIP WITH US...



*Butterfly*  
Palliative Home

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