

Dear SMC Supporter,

This year has been one of significant impact for SMC. Through your support, we provided essential care for vulnerable infants and young children at Bethany Home, ensured food, electricity, and transportation for children across our partner homes, and aided Thembelihle Home’s recovery following the December 2024 fire. Finalizing the transfer of property ownership to Thembelihle Home was a major step forward, clearing the way for rebuilding and long-term stability.

I extend my sincere gratitude to each of you who contributed to this work. Your generosity enables us to meet urgent needs, strengthen the homes that shelter these children, and continue our promise to provide safety, dignity, and hope. Thank you for standing with us and for empowering this mission throughout the year.

With Gratitude,



Brenna Riggers-Brewster
Board President

A HUGE thank you to all our generous donors!
SMC Donations Use of Funds in 2025

Bethany

- Baby food & groceries
- Electricity for cold winter months
- Office supplies
- Supplies for playschool and preschool
- Disposable gloves for changing diapers
- Building maintenance: paint and supplies for repainting

• Thembelihle

- Food & groceries for children
- Electricity
- Gas (propane) for cooking on gas cylinders when electricity is out
- Repair on the 20 year old SMC vehicle used to transport children to appointments and school
- Fuel for SMC vehicle
- Home Fire Recovery (see below)

December 2024 Thembelihle Home Fire Recovery



In the month of December, 2024 Thembelihle Home experienced a tragic event when one of the two houses in which children are cared for caught fire. Luckily, no one was injured from the fire, but the building, food, children’s clothes, and bedding were destroyed. One of the complications for moving forward in recovery from this fire is that the land and home were owned by the Diocese of Mthatha.

The Diocese has donated the property to Thembelihle Home and we are pleased to announce that in July all of the official documents were signed for the deed of donation. The property officially belongs to Thembelihle Home now! This very important step allows the board of directors of Thembelihle Home to creatively tackle what is needed to recover this much needed space!

Money given to SMC from our generous donors was used to pay for the legal processing fees, and remaining funds will be kept in savings to go towards rebuilding and refurnishing the home!



This is Ubenam’s Story

Submitted by Rose Kasumbi Director of Bethany Home

Ubenam is a 13-month-old boy born to a 13-year-old child who was sexually abused by her stepfather. His grandmother, struggling with alcohol and substance abuse, didn’t notice the abuse until her daughter was pregnant. The stepfather was arrested and remains in prison. Ubenam’s mother was moved to safety with another relative and has returned to school.

However, due to financial constraints, this relative couldn’t take in both mother and child—two children, really, one caring for the other.

In moments of crisis like this, places like Bethany Home are more than a last resort. While the young mother heals and rediscovers herself, Bethany Home has been providing quality care to Ubenam, helping him thrive. We hope that one day, he’ll grow strong enough to care for himself.

The journey is still long.

We’re grateful to SMC and families, for believing in Bethany Home’s mission: to intercept the trajectory of vulnerable children caught in crisis, like Ubenam, and restore order and balance in their lives—one child at a time.

Make a donation today
& make a big difference.

Your generous donation helps to fuel the positive impact that our partnering projects accomplish every day.





Sister Mary's Children
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