



Progress Report January to June 2021

LIVE WITH A

PURPOSE



Do what you can, with what you have, where you are.

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A word from the Director

Dear Stakeholders

It is my privilege to write, yet another mid-year report. A sign that we have reached another milestone in our existence. Running a non-profit is the second hardest thing I have ever done, but gives me some of the most rewards I could ever ask for. The first is raising a child with a disability. But those rewards are unmeasurable.

Writing progress reports are not my first love and least of all doing it in a cold and aloof manner, so it is my luck that I see my stakeholders as brothers in arms, people I can rely on, my friends in whom I can confide. In this report, I hope that you can share our successes and failures.

2021 started very promising. We had great goals and aimed for the stars. We welcomed change and growth in our centre as the team embraced the impact of growth, but little did we know how very unprepared we would be. In this report, you will see just how flexible we have learned to be and how prepared we can be in a world that is definitely not prepared for what is to happen next. Namibia was hit by the third wave of COVID-19. During May and June, we have lost close friends and even family members. As one after the other rock leaves this earth, the rest of us is left behind, wondering how long we will still be here to leave behind an everlasting legacy of change and hope. In May we re-opened the Early Childhood Development and Rehabilitation Centre to try and slowly return to normal, but after being open for only 2 weeks, we had to shut it down again to protect our families and children with disabilities and return back to our session process as we have done the past year and a half.



Early in June, I became ill. I tested positive for COVID on the 11th of June and the Centre was put under isolation for 3 weeks. Thankfully only one other staff member and I tested positive for COVID-19. None of our children at the Centre became ill. Of the 77 children, 86 parents / caregivers, 11 staff and 7 students and approximately 3 volunteers, it was only me and one other. I am relieved and thankful, but being ill have shown me just what we were dealing with and how important the safety of our families are.

Children with disabilities have vulnerable immune systems. Our hospitals are full. Family members were fighting to stay alive at home. Some died at home while others still cling to life. Looking at the medical condition of Namibia, we soon realized that should any of our children with disabilities become ill, they have very little chance of survival due to the shortage of medical care that could be given to them in our country. My team and I have committed to training our parents on how to take care of their children at home, travel as little as possible and at the same time provide the support they needed. But this was also not easy.

Side by Side still provides an essential service to children dependent on good nutrition, therapy, and medical care. We understand that the challenge is not just the pandemic, but these parents face many hardships. Loss of jobs, travelling in taxi's that carry a high risk of infection only to name a few. We are aware that our children still need therapies and treatment to maintain a healthy lifestyle, but the fear that they might get ill is one of the greatest realities we must face.

We need to be compliant in the pandemic, putting the safety of our children and their families first but also meet the needs of these children and their families. This recipe is not an easy one, but definitely do-able.

Every choice that the Side by Side team has made was in the best interest of every child and family member receiving services from us. We are committed to the community. With Covid-19 fatalities that rose daily. As statistics became loved ones and fear became a tangible reality we became more persistent in our cause. I attest that persistence to educate and nourish, as a major reason, why we have not lost any of our children or their guardians. So, at the onset of writing this report, as I reflect I am humbled and truly grateful for the opportunity to work so hard to be the change we want to see.

**NO COVID-19
RELATED DEATHS
WERE RECORDED
AT SIDE BY SIDE**



Executive summary

Side by Side is registered as a non-profit organization and aims to support children with disabilities and their families by mobilizing resources. Through this organization that was registered in 2013, we empower the child, the parents and the community. The previous director Sandra Hollweg provided for a strong foundation on which Huipie van Wyk, the current director is building this organization. As a mother of a child with a severe disability herself, she runs the organization not just result-driven, but people-driven.

Through a strong foundation as a fully equipped and passionate team, we primarily focus on the well-being of every child with a disability and their family. We offer workshops, support, therapy services and supportive equipment best suited to the environment they live in. We offer care to the hopeless and a voice to the voiceless. Empowering the parents with information and providing them with confidence to fight for the quality of life for their children. Through this approach, we offer a chance to have a purpose-driven life for themselves and their children.

The key to success is not for one organization to push, but to create synergy between all organizations whether private or public, providing services to children with disabilities and their families. For this reason, we have joined forces with:

- Baby's Cry Foundation
- Special Olympics
- The Disability Forum of Namibia
- UNPRPD
- Disability United Network (DUN)
- Hands of Hope
- Ministry of Health and Social Services
- Manna Foundation
- Down Syndrome Association of Namibia



Huipie van Wyk / Dr Aune Victor / Levien Smit
Namibia Disability Forum

Our programs

Program	Projects	Description
Rehabilitation Centre	1. School readiness	Preparing children for school readiness in mainstream and resource schools
	2. Day Care Rehabilitation	Daycare facility with developmental and sensory activities to support the development of the child
	3. Early Intervention Services	Using Sensory and development activities to teach parents during sessions
	4. Social Work and Counselling	Providing emotional and mental support for parents and carers of children with disabilities
	5. Woman's health support	Providing relevant information on woman's health during pregnancy and after birth
	6. Hospital Visits	Providing support when a child is hospitalized
Workshops and Training	1. Parent / Carer and Community workshops	Introduction to disability and caring for children with disabilities
	2. Introduction to Community Based Rehabilitation workshops	Home-based programs
	3. Topic-specific workshops	Identifying the needs of all children with disabilities and training on the specific needs
	4. Corporate and School workshops	Introduction to disability for the community

	5. UNAM internships	Taking in Occupational Therapists, Physio Therapists and Social workers for practical training programs
Awareness	1. Social media and other media platforms	Using Social Media platforms for awareness
	2. Public appearances	Doing public speeches during disability-related events
	3. Corporate Visits	Introducing our project in the corporate sector.
	4. Information Centre	Providing information on different disabilities and services
	5. Advocacy	Advocacy
Community-Based Rehabilitation	1. Home Visits and Home program	Providing support for all families taking care of children at home. Doing what they can, with what they have, where they are
	2. Parent Support Groups	Introducing parents to one another for community support
	3. Vocational Training	Assisting with providing skills to the parents for extra income generation
Learning Centre	1. CambriLearn Home schooling program	Enroll children with the CambriLearn program for school graduation

Mission and Vision



Rochelle van Wyk, an adult with a disability working for Sideby Side

We believe that every child with a disability deserves a healthy, educated, and informed family.

They have the right to access supportive equipment, medication, health care and therapy.

We believe that inclusion in society and education is key to their quality of life.

Through **ADVOCACY**, resources mobilization and education we promote the strengthening of

EARLY DETECTION, EARLY INTERVENTION AND COMMUNITY-BASED REHABILITATION services to achieve a fully inclusive Namibia. We advocate for the society of Namibia to, side by side, drive the inclusion and health care of every child with a disability alongside their family and community.

COVID-19 Food program

When COVID-19 hit Namibia in March 2020 our immediate concern was the nutritional health of all the children supported by our program. We reached out to the public, to help us, as we needed nutritious food for the families and fortified milk that children with severe disabilities need to maintain their health. Many parents were put on unpaid leave again when the 3rd wave hit Namibia in April 2021 and again we faced concerns about the well-being of our families. Our aim is not just to make sure they have something to eat, but we aimed to supply nutritious foods, supply basic nutritional training and suggestions on how to prepare foods to keep their children healthy in body and mind.

The Lions Club Namibia is also actively supporting Side by Side with our feeding program at the centre where we provide breakfast for many of the children enrolled with our programs.



**THANK YOU
FOR EVERY
FINANCIAL
CONTRIBUTION
AND DONATION
IN KIND**

There is nothing ordinary about the home visits and food parcels we prepare for these families. We are not yet where we want to be, but the basic needs are covered. We constantly reach out to the public for any assistance and we have received great support from numerous individuals.

Thank you for every financial contribution and donation in kind. Without your help, we would not be able to achieve this.

Assistive Devices

Meet Khitani !Owaseb

Khitani is an active young boy that loves life. Khitani had a stroke and lost his ability to walk. With the help of the Crazy Sock for Down Syndrome awareness campaign that was initiated by local mothers in Walvis Bay, we were able to support Khitani with a walking frame. To everyone's delight, Khitani is becoming stronger and more active every day with an amazing drive to regain his ability to walk.

Adaptive equipment helps children with disabilities to live a full and healthy life, to live as independent as possible. Assistive devices include walking frames, standing frames, seating support, crutches, hand brace and leg braces.



Side by Side – A standing Frame and a walking frame was bought for the use at Side by Side to support the children in their standing and walking positions.

We are humbly grateful to all the people that are committed to supporting Side by Side every month. Because of your support we can make a difference in more than one area of these children's lives.



Rosaline using the writing board that was made by a UNAM student to keep her books up to help her with writing



Assistive devices used to help children with disabilities achieve independence

Let us look at what happened in 2021



Daycare Rehabilitation Centre and Session Centre

Since the COVID pandemic hit Namibia in 2020 we have refrained from opening the daycare rehabilitation centre and continue to see the children and their parents on a one-on-one basis. Through this program, we can evaluate and support each child attending our program.

We have 7 therapists and care workers attending to 69 children per week. During these sessions, the parents are trained to maintain therapy at home providing support for the children to prevent regression. After appointing an Occupational Therapist in February 2021 Side by Side is committed to working on a program that can benefit children throughout Namibia. The programs are designed to give us a measurable tool.



Although we are unable to reach the children in quantities, this method delivers quality! Now we can reach our goals and have sustainable results. By being forced to change our methods we can do more focused training sessions.



Outside play and sensory activities at Side by Side



Therapy during session time

Parent Workshops

The parent workshops are designed to provide education and skills to the community for assisting the caretaking of children with a disability and to provide adequate information for decision making.

This activity was designed to cover 9 topics over the year. We do one parent training per month and have an average attendance of 40 parents and caretakers. We were able to host 5 parent training this year, but due to the COVID restrictions had to modify our groups to be smaller. We are using the facilities Side by Side to continue with training in smaller groups.

The group and training sessions give a great opportunity for the parents to meet one another and attend to their emotional and mental needs. The dates are set out and the parent database is used to invite the parents to attend the training based on their needs.

Workshops were done in February, March, April and June.

4 Training sessions were done in Windhoek and 1 on Osire refugee camp. Osire Refugee camp is a home for more than 2 000 refugees from Angola. One of their Social Workers reached out to Side by Side to assist with basic training on disability. In Osire there are 12 children with disabilities being cared for by their family members. We trained 28 people including 12 parents and the rest was staff members and health care workers at Osire Refugee camp situated in the Hochfeld area.

From January 2021 to June 2021 a total of 534 people were enrolled in our programs and received trainings and support. This including parents, health care workers and students.



Jani (Occupational Therapist) / Olyvia (Physio Therapist – Womans health) / Huipie (Director of Side by Side)



Parent Training in Windhoek



Osire Refugee Camp Training



When the team goes on the road....

Home Visits and individual support

This program provides families with immediate support if the children are in desperate need of medical care. Home visits are focused on families who struggle to transport the child to and from therapy sessions for any reason.

We currently have 9 families on the home visit program.

Meet Kamati

He is 9 years old and his sister just turned 2, Kamati and his sister both have a disability. This makes it hard for their mom to travel. The Side by Side team along with Hands of Hope supports the family, taking various products and equipment to care for Kamati's pressure wounds and provide the mother with information on how to care for them.



Meet Ilekela

As a 10-year old boy he was in a hit and run accident in 2015. After the accident, he was left with a regressive brain injury. Ilekela is a 16-year-old boy and very tall. We do home visits to support his mom. Because of your support we can help her with N\$ 2 000.00 worth of fortified milk and adult nappies monthly.



Meet Taimi

Taimi is an incredible lady attending Dagbreek school. Because of the support we receive from Owanaheda, a program supported through Germany, we can help Taimi attend school and maintain her health. Taimi has a caretaker that attends School with her to help her with schoolwork and positioning. Taimi also receives Physio and therapy at Side by Side regularly. Without the support of Owanaheda, Taimi would not be able to attend school and continue to achieve her goals.



Team Training

The field of rehabilitation for children with disabilities and the research that supports this field is ever-growing and developing. Our team needs to keep up with this growth. We need to make sure that the whole team is reminded of how to support the families appropriately without taking the responsibility away from the parents. Side by Side is there to support the family and not take responsibility from the guardians.

Regular training is required throughout the year. Staff is being trained on the job as well as trained by professionals and online courses.

Staff was trained on

- Sexual Exploitation
- Organization Policies
- Individual Educational Planning
- Massaging
- Woman's health
- Non profit management



Homeschool Program

During the COVID 2020 pandemic, we continued to prepare children with disabilities for school readiness. 7 children graduated and were tested school-ready, but unfortunately due to the shortage of space in resource schools, our children, for the first time could not be taken into schools. Side by Side enrolled these 7 children in a home schooling program to start with CambriLearn. The aim is to maintain and grow their skills and prevent them from falling behind while they are waiting for a space in a school.

The home school program is run by a trained teacher in special education and 2 teachers are currently busy with their education qualifications.

6 of the 7 children is currently attending the program.



Peter (a.k.a Sheiddy) has no mobility in his arms or legs, so he taught himself to write and draw with his mouth





Awareness Campaigns

Training the public is one of our passions. To make a sustainable impact in the community for the inclusion of children with a disability, it is important to educate the public and with a special focus on the schools of Namibia.

Side by Side spent the past six months educating 4 children of Windhoek Afrikaans Private School (WAP). We spend time doing awareness among 40 new counsellors on disability and what to consider when counselling a mother, father and family members of children with disabilities.

We took part in the Crazy Socks campaign and the Running For Those That Can't campaign.



Children from WAP receives training on introduction to disability

Awareness campaigns are extremely important for the ongoing support of our project, but more so for the inclusion and understanding of children with disabilities and the challenges they face in society.



Counselling student training



Crazy Socks campaign for awareness on Down Syndrome

Screening Clinic

A call was made for the community to attend a screening clinic day on the 26th of March, where the UNAM students along with the community health care professionals would attend to the medical and ECD needs of the community. Children with disabilities were referred to Side by Side where they were absorbed in our programs whether it be the therapy session or training sessions.

This clinic will be held more regularly once the restrictions set in place is lifted and it is safe for people to come together again. 43 parents and their children were screened.



Internships

UNAM and Side by Side Early Intervention Centre have joined forces to provide practical experience for Namibia's first Occupational Therapist and Physio Therapist graduates. From February 2021 to date, 19 students did their practical hours at Side by Side. The students were 4th-year Occupational Students, 3rd-year Occupational Students, 4th-year Social Workers and 3rd year Social Workers.



We also accommodated counsellors and ECD teachers that needed practical hours. Our main focus was to give them the first-hand experience in the field. What does it look like at grass root level and what resources are available.



Home visits with UNAM students

Our Growth

2020 and 2021 were honestly hard for every Namibian and people all over the world. But there was so much growth that came out of it. The flaws in one's system are always shown when pressure is introduced. We wanted to make sure that we meet the needs of the children in the "new normal" and educate the parents and community in line with the changes we are experiencing. So, we expanded.

In April, Side by Side expanded with one more building which provided us with another therapy room and 2 offices. This empowers us to see more children in a safer, healthier environment. We now have 2 session rooms, 2 session halls, 2 outside therapy areas, the Social Worker office, the Occupational Therapist office, and general office space.



Because of the support we received from PG Glass we were able to install mirrors in most of our session rooms.

We also expanded our outside area and through the support of Entrepo Namibia we were able to install a coffee station for our parents as a waiting area. This provides for a welcome feel while our parents are coming to terms with the changes they are facing in their lives.



Our Gain - What we learned

- We gained new skills on how to do measurements on the success of our projects.
- We learned that you never give up, even if giving up is the only option.
- We learned that people still care, much more than what is visible to the naked eye.
- We learned that there is always room for improvement, you sometimes just need to have the time to fine-tune it. That is exactly what we got in the lockdown time.
- We learned more about each other, the Side by Side team really had put differences aside to be able to work as a team.
- We learned about each other and was able to have undivided attention and time with each child, which allowed us to strengthen the Individual Educational Plans.
- We learned that humans are way more adaptable.
- Personally, the most valuable lesson that I learned is that I never want to do anything else.



Resource Mobilization

We believe at Side by Side that our vision and mission cannot be achieved without working with other organizations that have the relevant professionals and resources. We need one another to achieve the best possible results. This is a list of the Organizations we work with and refer to and also provide training for when requested.

Side by Side documentary -

<https://www.facebook.com/840560065991564/videos/494278825249424>

https://fb.watch/76e9v5_PXE/

Orlindi's Children Home - No Website

Baby's Cry Foundation - <https://www.facebook.com/BabyCryNamibia>

Hand of Hope Namibia - <https://www.facebook.com/handsofhopenamibia>

Crazy Socks Project - On the Side by Side platform

WE WORK
TOGETHER

Running for those that can't -

<https://www.facebook.com/huipie.vanwyk/videos/10159460693725039>

Manna Foundation - <https://www.facebook.com/mannafoundationtrust>

Autism Association of Namibia - <https://www.facebook.com/autasnam>

Down Syndrome Association of Namibia - <https://www.facebook.com/Downsyndromeassociationofnamibia>

Ministry of Health and Social Services

The voice of the children

At Side by Side, we understand the need of a multi-disciplinary team. We understand that the mother/father/caretaker needs the guidance of a professional team to cope with the changing needs of their child. We employ a Social Worker, Reflexologist, Occupational Therapist and Teachers to prepare the parents and the community. During the COVID pandemic, the parents relied on our therapists to voice their needs at hospitals so we can limit their exposure to high-risk scenarios. Our therapists use their skills and work relationships with the medical field to assist these parents with things like collecting medication, referring them to the correct therapists, without the parents having to stand in rows to find out where to go. Therapy is done at home or at our centre to limit their travels. Without these therapists employed at Side by Side to be the voice of these children and their caretakers, we would not be able to assist this many and be successful in this.



Therapists interacting with our children and their families

We have wheels



We cannot thank you enough. Side by Side reached out to the Merlus Fishing group, and they assisted us with the purchase of a bus. We do regular home visits where we need a private and protected area to work with the children and do therapy. We also do regional visits and then need to rent a vehicle to travel. A bus that the Side by Side team can use would benefit us and the families in many ways. We are grateful for the help from Merlus as we were able to buy the bus and have in this past 2 months already made great use of it.



Statistics

	Sessions	Home School	Workshops	Internship	Home Visits
# of Children	62	7	45		13
# of Parents	67	9	261		
# of Professionals			47		
# of Students				23	

- Training:
- 4 Parent training sessions done in Windhoek
 - 1 Training session done in Osire (Parents and Health Professionals)
 - 2 Training sessions done at Phillipi Trust (Introduction to Disability briefing)
 - 1 School training session was done for children at a private school in Windhoek
 - 2 Training sessions were done on Sexual Exploitation for UNAM and SBS staff
 - 4 Staff trainings

The total number of individual sessions done at Side by Side from 1 January to date is 1 113. Our professionals work with these parents during sessions to assist them in finding ways to bond with their children and be comfortable and proud to take their children out into public.

A special thank you to B2Gold who have once again invested in our projects and have committed to yet another year.



Partners & Stakeholders

The Sponsors

Side by Side can honestly not thank our sponsors enough. We are not just a Non - Profit. We are the voice to the voiceless, the hope for the hopeless and the unity for those that feel excluded in this world. Because of your support parents can now embrace and care for their children. Appreciate them with unconditional love and find the strength to fight for their children.

Partner / Stakeholder	Partner / Stakeholder
Entrepo Namibia (Pty) Ltd	Capricorn Asset Management
Monthly Members	Taeuber & Corssen (T&C)
UNPRPD	Gateway Marketing
Ministry of Health	Namibia Truck and Components
Lion's Club	Christiaan Hess
Windhoek Afrikaans Private School	Dis-Chem Grove Mall
Killian Orthopedics	PG Glass
Bank Windhoek Namibia	Crazy Sock Project
Freunde der Erziehungskunst Rudolf Steiners	LeeAnn van Zyl
Numerous Anonymous doners	Multikultureverein
B2Gold Namibia	African Dream Travel
CFC Family Church	Manna Foundation Namibia
Windhoek Gymnasium Private School	Hands of Hope
Owanaheda	Neo Paints
Collin Makemba	Tino Hess
GoFundMe	Manna Foundation
Paratus	Schoemans Office Machines
Office and Mailing Automation	De Beer Bergh Boerdery Trust
Merlus Group	Namibia Breweries

Our team and their roles

Managing Director

As a mother of a child with a severe disability Huipie has a complete, first-hand understanding of what a parent of a child with a disability needs. Understanding what questions to ask, what your rights as a parent are and what actions to take, are key factors in raising a child with a disability. With her understanding and experience, she has built and designed Side by Side around these facts and will continue to overcome every obstacle to achieve the ultimate goal of Early Detection, Early Intervention and Inclusion for all Children of Namibia. There is no fight more worth fighting for, than the fight for a child....



My child's legacy is my responsibility.

Social Worker

Social workers are essential in our line of Work. Michelle joined our team in 2018 after she graduated and did her practical in the public health sector in Windhoek. Mothers / fathers and families of children with disabilities have a lot to adjust to when a child is diagnosed with a disability. Not only do they need to face the difficulty of raising a child with great needs to achieve a good quality of life, but many of them have to face this while living in informal settlements and in poverty stricken areas. The social worker at Side by Side is responsible for the mental wellbeing of the family and the understanding of disability within their community. The Social Worker is also responsible for the safety of all our children with disabilities and the upholding of all policies and procedures set in place to protect these families. Michelle is also an essential link in referring the children to the correct medical professionals in the Ministry of Health with whom we also have a close relationship. Michelle, Jani and the UNAM lecturing team together are responsible to prepare these students for the grass root work.



Reflexologist

Therapy is an essential part of our project. For children with disabilities to have a quality of life with as little pain as possible and comfort when eating and breathing, we need to teach these parents the importance of different therapy techniques. Teagan is a qualified reflexologist who uses her profession and skills during group therapy sessions where the parents are being taught on how to do different massaging techniques to support their children and limit the chance of pressure sores, but this techniques also provide for a emotional connection between the mother and child which is extremely important in the sustainability of our service. Teagan is also one of the trainers in our parent training program.



Occupational Therapist

One therapist responsible for bringing a fully equipped multi disciplinary team together is an Occupational Therapist. Jani joined our team in February to support our therapy program and provides on the job training with all our staff and volunteers. These on the job trainings are essential for providing quality service to the child and the family. Jani is also responsible for our Community Rehabilitation Program where we train the parents individually, in groups or practically while also providing a service where we can provide an intern program for all students from UNAM, currently qualifying for Occupational Therapy or Physio Therapy. Jani, Michelle and the UNAM lecturing team together are responsible to prepare these students for the work on grass root level. Jani is also one of the trainers in our parent training program and develops material that can be used to educate the community.



Therapy Officer

Rosalia started with Side by Side in 2013 and have been training under numerous therapists for the past 8 years. She has also done an internship in Holland where she worked in an Adult Centre for persons with disabilities. She returned in 2019 where Side by Side welcomed her back to continue doing sessions and training programs with the parents and their children.



Inclusive Education Teacher

Educating children with disabilities takes a unique qualification and personality to build into them the fight to be treated as equal country citizens. Children with disabilities are painfully aware of their differences and the hard work it takes to achieve their dreams. Levien has committed to train our staff in an all inclusive education system to prepare our children for mainstream schools or resources schools. Because our children could not be accepted into schools this year due to a lack of space, we were able to enroll all our children in the CambriLearn program to continue their education and growth. Children with disabilities also dream of becoming teachers, doctors, therapists etc.. Levien and her team understands that, and with hard work and commitment they are preparing these children to take the first steps.



Teacher

Josephine has been part of the Side by Side team since the beginning and is currently enroled in her final year of education. We are proud of her hard work and dedication. She is actively fighting for a purpose filled life for every child that has walked through the doors of Side by Side. Side by Side was able to contribute to her studies to achieve her goal of becoming a qualified teacher that gives all of herself to help these children understand that hard work and dedication makes dreams come true.



Teacher Assistant

To run a fully equipped inclusive classroom your team needs to have resources, understand team work and be committed to the individual plan set out for every child with a disability. Benin understands that the diagnosis does not define the child, but that she can use the strengths of the child to support them in achieving their goals. Benin is also committed and have received on the job training for the past 4 years. She is an essential part of the team in designing a fully inclusive school program that will benefit every child and their individual needs.



ECD Teachers assistant

Children between the ages of 0 and 5 are preparing for life by developing different skills and using their senses. In children with disabilities, they just need a hand and extra motivation to achieve their milestones. Rencia is a young vibrant mother who gives 100% of herself in research, program planning and play techniques. She receives on the job training from our therapists to prepare every child with a disability for school.



Advocacy Officer

Rochelle was diagnosed with Cerebral Palsy shortly after birth. From a young age she knew that she could achieve what her peers could, but she would have to work harder than the rest. When she came to Side by Side in November 2020 she wanted to find out in which direction she needed to develop herself. She did not have it easy and could not finish her education, but at Side by Side she is an incredible advocate for children with disabilities like Rosalina who wants to grow up and become successful teachers or doctors, but are afraid of voicing their dreams because they feel judged. Rochelle inspires the parents at our centre every day and show them what their children are capable of, if only they believe with them.



Class Assistant

At Side by Side the care of the child and the well being of the parents are one of our greatest aims. Our class assistants are young people who are still trying to figure out where they belong in the system. At Side by Side they are being trained in all aspects, play, massaging, positioning and supporting their team to achieve the goal of a successful program at Side by Side. They are the loving hearts of our team and make sure that the team, children and parents are supported and cared for. These young ladies are the future teachers, therapists and community health care workers of our communities. Veronica and Felicia care about every child, makes sure that translations are done correctly while we are doing trainings and they do it with great love and passion.



In Memory of



Claudia Namises was the Founder of Orlindi Children's home. We have had a relationship with her for many years. It is a sad loss to the community, her family and Namibia as a whole to lose her due to COVID-19.

Conclusion

These prevalent times we are living in pulled all of us through the wringer and there have been many struggles we overcome to report positives. It took every ounce of our resources, creativity, and time to keep operations functioning. We have been able to do so and still pay our debtors. Having said this, the pandemic stole valuable time that should have been invested in our children and parents and improving their lives. We had to use different measures to ascertain how efficient we were. The pandemic has taken an enormous toll on the team. We have worked hard to stay connected to our purpose designed by the existence of Side by Side. We fought a battle that cannot be simplified by using words.

It is therefore in no way near sufficient to just say thank you for your commitment to Side by Side. To say that your sponsorships were an answer to prayer can be seen as a cliché, but I want to ensure you that never has a statement been more true and appreciate.

We are once again, critically aware of how important community, support, and generosity is especially when you find yourself at the very bottom of society.

As the director of Side by Side, I voice a sincere note of gratitude, as your involvement allowed us to share the children's success stories and help them gain strength to live a purpose filled life.



WE CANNOT
THANK YOU
ENOUGH

Yours Truly

Huipie van Wyk

Director

081 147 7760

info@sidebysidenamibia.com

Facebook: Side by Side-Early Intervention Centre



Banking Details:

Side by Side

Bank Windhoek

Branch: 481 972

Acc: 8003629384

Ref: Your company name

E-mail:

info@sidebysidenamibia.com

