



Report prepared by: **Chief Executive Officer**  
Prieur du Plessis

Reporting period: January 2004

Report prepared for: **Board of Directors Meeting**  
16 February 2004

**1. Transport for Social Worker**

Maria Venter, our Social Worker, need to travel back and forth between Pretoria, Kulula and Hillbrow to perform her duties. At the previous meeting of the Board, it was decided that a vehicle for this purpose be bought. This issue needs to be resolved at this meeting.

**2. Changes at Intombi Shelter and the Drop-In**

Although the Department of Welfare and Social Development gave us permission to provide a service to 25 girls we often had twice that amount to care for. To have more than the allocated number of girls in our project is stretching our budget to the limit. It is suggested that we do not take in more than 25 girls in to our shelter but that we, at least for the time being, provide a service for an equal amount at Kulula pending on future developments.

**3. Visit of sponsors**

We where informed that we should expect a visit from two of our overseas sponsors during March of this year. The sponsors need to inform themselves as to how we apply the funding provided by them. A date of arrival has not been set. We expect a visit from the Kedo Foundation and a Netherlands Church organisation.

**4. The Kedo Foundation**

We received the good news that the Kedo Foundation decided to provide us with further funding in the future. Following is a abstract from a email that we received.

Dear friends,  
Marc Schreurs of the Kedo-foundation mailed me!  
Although its hard times for business in Nederland at the time, they will donate 1724 euro. And, even better: they want to have a long-term contact with the House, which means that they will sponsor you the coming years! He wants to mail direct to you, so I gave him your email address. The money is coming via the school.

They do business in South-Africa, so they want to visit you once if possible. They like to see some photo's too.

I just visited the new website, it looks great, what a work !!  
Lots of love, Reiny

Reiny Jobse does fundraising for us in Holland. We owe her a great debt of gratitude. If members of the Board wish to thank her for her efforts over the years, please email her directly.

#### 5. **Website and request**

Our website is almost completed and has been accepted world wide as excellent. This window by which the world view The House Group of Projects bring us the responsibility to live up to the standards that we proclaim. In other words, we have to walk the talk. The webmaster has a request. I read from his/her email received on the 12<sup>th</sup> of February.

Dear Board of Directors

As you are aware from discussions on the various forums and past reports, there are complaints and requests from members and sponsors we cannot deal with. Control of The House's public image is your province and your call, and we respect the parameters. However, as you are aware, we are engaged in a tripartite relationship with The House and the Dutch sponsors. Presently we are being blamed by the sponsors for not controlling the damage. We have much at stake in this and endeavour to maintain a good working relationship with the sponsors because we would like to work with them in the future.

We asked for directives from the Board of Directors a month ago in the progress report (emailed to everyone on this distribution list) but have not received any communication from you. It is frustrating to work under these conditions. Since we started working on this extensive project we have not received any communication or input from the BofD and had to be guided by the (very clinical) constitution and contract / proposal. This is not to say that a webmaster has any right to expect officers of the Board of Directors to give him/her the time of day, but in this particular situation we desperately need information that only the Board of Directors have on hand, and we are merely asking for copies of those documents and decisions involving The House's public image.

Hoping these issues can be resolved as soon as possible.

#### 6. **Creating order at Kulula**

Due to the good rains we had the weeds and grass at Kulula grew at an unbelievable rate. It is impossible for our two farm workers to cope. A team of four labourers will

be taken to Kulula for a week to clear the area around the main buildings and the huts of shrubs, weed and grass.

A similar team taken out last month where able to move all the wooden cabins closer to the ablution block. fixed the fence around the farm by replacing the wooden droppers that where burned to ashes with steel droppers, painted the school building and treated the cabins with linseed oil.

**7. Financial Mail ad**

As you all know, the first ad that promotes The House appeared in the Financial Mail of on January the 30<sup>th</sup>. Ones again we have to thank Marilyn Michau for her efforts and caring.

**8. Water pipe line through Kulula**

Steward Scott International, an engineering firm working for the Rand Water Board request permission to lay a 500cm pipeline through the Kulula property. If we grant them permission, servitude has to be registered. The conditions under which we will allow this servitude have to be resolved by this meeting. Please look at the sketch provided.

**9. New Auditor**

As resolved at the previous meeting, I where instructed to appointed a new auditor. This I did. The company of Darryl and Fordosh was recommended by our Financial Director, Jill Gurr. Mr. Darryl Fordham from this company informed our previous auditors, Wandrag en Notje, of the change in auditors. In the process op appointing Darryl and Fordham, I agreed that our Financial Director will be responsible for providing them with all the necessary documentation to enable them to provide us with an audited financial statement for the financial year ending March 2004.

**10. Proposal to purchase property**

In reaction to the proposal at our previous meeting by Ingrid du Plessis, that we should acquire an additional property for the purpose of Skills Training. Jean du Plessis send us an email voicing his concerns. Ingrid proposed that we may consider purchasing one of the flats next to the present Theosis Skills Center. These properties are part of a building project that may perhaps have financial complications. Jean brings our attention to the following matters:

1) Are you convinced that legal proceeding against the body corporate by municipality (for unpaid taxes) will not hand the 16 units over to the sheriff in the near future, and that you are not buying into a bankrupted corporation that will soon be sold by public auction? It's traumatic to lose one's house this way but to lose three is unnecessary.

2) The funding contract for no 2 Carrick place runs out end of May 2004. We hoped that the contract be renewed by the sponsor but right now there's a vote of no-confidence against TH in Dutchland. There no telling if they will renew the contract with TH to continue funding the skills centre. Do you have a contingency plan beyond May for the skills centre, should things not go our way?

This vote of no confidence is probably due to us, the Board of Directors, not presenting any Directors reports at the Board of Directors meetings and/or any of the programs submitting monthly reports on the program activities, etc.

**11. Visit from the Department of Welfare**

We expect that the department will visit Kulula to see the program in operation. The visit will also address the spending of the funding from the Department of Welfare that Kulula received during 2001.