



GIVE A CHILD A FAMILY AFRICA

NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2025

CHILDREN BELONG IN SECURE FAMILIES

SUPPORTING FAMILIES AND EMBRACING CHANGE

Preparing Social Workers to Create a Family-Centred Future

Monica Nomlala and Anna-Karin Öhrnstedt at GCF have recently launched online training sessions in collaboration with the organisation SAVF, aimed at equipping social workers with essential skills to identify, screen, and train potential foster parents effectively. This initiative ensures that children who cannot remain at home are placed in safe, loving family environments rather than institutions. The training also focuses on preparing foster parents using GCF's specialised content, designed to support them in providing the best possible care for children.

Over nine weeks, 100 social workers are actively participating in this transformative programme. The initiative has already been met with enthusiasm, with participants sharing positive feedback such as:

"It has been very informative, fruitful, and a true reflection of social work practice. The facilitators are knowledgeable and well-prepared."

"Expectations are met and exceeded, and we learn a lot from the facilitators and the other offices."

Every trained social worker has the potential to change the life of a child in need, ensuring they grow up in a secure and nurturing family. This initiative is not just about training—it's about strengthening family-based care systems across communities and shaping a future where more children experience the love, stability, and support they deserve.



From 60 to 2: A New Chapter for GCF

Believe it or not, GCF is down to just two children at our centre! This is a significant transition for us, and while we wholeheartedly believe in the change, it is still bittersweet. Having once cared for 60 children at the same time amidst the buzz of activities, endless tasks, and lively energy, the shift to just two children has brought significant changes.

Where we previously had a fully staffed kitchen, laundry services, and dedicated cleaning teams for the children's departments, some of our childcare workers have now taken on the role of housemothers, managing these responsibilities alongside caring for the children. How long it will take until we no longer have any children at the centre is hard to say, but we are working tirelessly to find solutions for them as well.

Building Inclusive Communities

Last week, some of us had the privilege of attending a Disability Awareness and Sensation Workshop facilitated by the passionate and knowledgeable team from the local organisation Siyakwazi. The training was an eye-opening experience, focusing on understanding different types of disabilities and how we can actively work to break down barriers within our society.

The workshop equipped us with valuable insights and practical tools to create a more inclusive and supportive environment for children living with disabilities in our community. It was both informative and inspiring, reaffirming our commitment to promoting inclusivity in all aspects of our work.

We would like to express our heartfelt gratitude to Siyakwazi for their time, dedication, and expertise. Their work is truly making a difference, and we are excited about future collaborations to continue building a society where everyone feels valued and supported. Together, we can make an even greater impact!



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