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31st January 2012

Re: Funding Proposal – Sponsor a child's therapy for one year

The beneficiaries of AMADO are 40 vulnerable and disabled children. Three and a half years ago when AMADO started we had 7 out of the 40 children in wheelchairs. Today, not a single one of them uses their wheelchairs full-time any more. These miracles are a direct result from the animal assisted therapy program at AMADO.

One of our children: **NAME:** Ebrahim SWARTZ, 10 years old.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

He is the eldest son of two boys. They were both born prematurely. Ebrahim has CEREBRAL PALSY (athetoid type) with EPILEPSY and SMD. He was completely wheelchair-bound before coming to AMADO. He lives in very poor socio-economic circumstances.

SPECIAL NEEDS

He started to take his first steps here at AMADO and has very poor muscle tone; He needs improvement on physical strengthening. He needs fulltime care and assistance with all activities of daily life, at the age of 10 he still wears nappies. His speech is slurred and difficult to understand. We use the horses and the dogs at AMADO to build Ebrahim's self confidence, this in turn is such a strong motivation for him to do what doctors said was not possible: WALK unaided.

WHY SHOULD THIS CHILD AND CHILDREN LIKE THIS BE SPONSORED?

When you are as fortunate, as we are at AMADO, to meet him and get the best hug in the world from him, the question is not "why should I sponsor this child", it is how I cannot? In spite of his severe limitations, he is *friendly* and tries to take part in all activities. He is *eager to learn* and despite his physical disability, enormous progress has been made since his first ride.

On completion of his therapy Ebrahim will be able to look forward to taking his place as a contributing citizen amongst many other individuals as an equal.

This is just one example to illustrate that the 40 children in the AMADO riding program are the primary beneficiaries of therapeutic program facilitated at AMADO.

Amado Founder: M'Lani Basson Registration Number: 059-752 NPO

Dignity and Confidence through Animal assisted Therapy



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Just to let you know we are still on track with our cause we thought we would give you some information on the matter.

AMADO OBJECTIVES AS SET OUT February 2008

1. Provide animal assisted therapy to 40 children per week.
2. Find employment for school/program leavers.
3. Give self confidence and a sense of self worth to these fantastic disabled children.
4. To treat each child with respect and love.
5. To create awareness for the miracles that can come from injustice.
6. We assist the family by giving these children a greater sense of independence so that they no longer need full time care and members of their family can find employment.

WE HAVE ACHIEVED AND PARTLY ACHIEVED ALL THE OBJECTIVES SET OUT FOR OURSELVES

1. **Provide animal assisted therapy to 40 children per week** - We see 40 children every week for animal assisted therapy.
2. **Find employment for school/program leavers** - We have found employment for all our school leavers since the project started.
3. **Give self confidence and a sense of self worth to these fantastic disabled children** - We achieve this by putting these disadvantaged and disabled children on horses and allowing them to be. When you cannot help yourself in and out of the bath, but you can stop a 400kg horse which leads to self-confidence and a feeling of self-worth. They also learn how to treat animals with respect.
4. **To treat each child with respect and love** - It is very difficult not to treat these fantastic children with anything but respect and love.
5. **To create awareness for the miracles that can come from injustice** - We try and get into many newspapers and magazines telling our story and reporting on the miracles we see at Amado every day.
6. **We assist the family by giving these children a greater sense of independence so that they no longer need full time care and members of their family can find employment** - By getting a child to function more independently, the carer can have more time for him or herself, this also strengthens the bonds within the family.

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We request that you consider sponsoring a child's animal assisted therapy for one year at a cost of R5,000-00 per year.

Please do not underestimate the difference you make in these children's lives when sponsoring them.

Should you require any additional information please do not hesitate to contact me.

Warm regards

M'Lani Basson

Amado Founder



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