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Dear Friends

Once again, a big thank you to those of you who have taken an interest and supported us as we helped the 30 schools with whom we work, to provide for their teachers through this very difficult time of the COVID-19 lockdown.

We are all finding the constantly changing regulations difficult to follow and understand, and you can be sure that in the ECD space, the situation is far more complex, with input from two government departments that don't always coincide.

We are still not entirely certain when our ECD's will be allowed to reopen, but we are completely certain that in order to reopen they are going to have to comply with very stringent health and safety regulations. We have received correspondence from the Department of Social Development setting out the requirements, and including a form that each school must complete to confirm that it has taken the necessary precautions. A university degree is probably needed in order to understand these complex documents! We will do our very best to help our schools to understand and implement the guidelines, because it is vital that they return to work as soon as possible.

In this respect, each of our schools is going to have to procure the necessary Personal Protective Equipment that is required in order to operate safely once opened. The photo below gives an idea of the items we are helping them to purchase. Of course, having had little or no income since the lockdown was announced, none of the schools can afford this cost, and we are therefore asking that our friends come alongside us and help us to fund purchasing this equipment for them.



The total cost for an average school is about R5,500. Perhaps you'd be willing to fund the equipment for a school. That'd be amazing. It'd be even more amazing if you did 10 schools!

Or, perhaps you'd be happy to help fund an infrared thermometer for a school. These are the highest value item in the kit and come in at R700 each. Of course, we won't complain if you want to fund all 30 of them!

You could also help out with the consumables each school needs. R150 pays for black bags, latex gloves and roller towel for a school. Go on, pay for 5 schools!

But maybe you're more into the alcohol...-based disinfectants. Well, sorry for you - someone already donated that. But that doesn't mean you can't sort out the other soapy bits. R125 buys bleach and hand cleaner for a school.... that's only R500 if you want to support 4 schools!

And I know there's someone out there waiting to pay for the plastic face shields that the teachers have to wear. An amazing lady in Mfuleni is supplying these for us. At R30 each, you can be responsible for the safety of a school's worth of teachers for just R180-odd! Or take care of everyone for R5,460.

Of course, we'd be grateful for any amount. As always, all donations qualify for tax-deductibility in South Africa so you can go ahead and let Uncle SARS cover part of your donation (just let us know you'd like a receipt).

Please visit our website to make a donation.

With much gratitude,
The Starting Chance Team



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