

Our mission as a non-profit organization is to provide funding for Christ-centered care and hope to orphaned and vulnerable children.



"I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me." *Matthew 25:40*

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PART IV: "FAITH IS CONFIDENCE IN WHAT WE HOPE FOR AND ASSURANCE ABOUT WHAT WE DO NOT SEE." (Hebrews 11:1)

As President Becky Young recalls the events of the past 20 years, she admits that there have been times when she has cried out to God and been shaken to the core when she thinks about the magnitude of the Ya Bana Village project and all that has been required to get the project off the ground, expand, and sustain it. Yet she knows that we serve a God who is able to do exceedingly more than we can ask for or imagine. (Ephesians 3:20). Over and over again we have seen miracles happen when they were needed most and sometimes least expected. Establishing the Mabopane Foundation, building Ya Bana Village, and sustaining everything is a continuous walk of faith.

And now a new season is upon us—one in which God has spectacular plans to grow Ya Bana even more through the Mabopane Foundation and Mission House Expansion Project. Two years ago we realized the Apex Mission House was maxed out in terms of storage capacity and sales space. Additionally, the land was rezoned commercial. With rezoning came structural and land usage requirements just to continue "business" as usual. These modifications alone, without any additional square footage added, would have cost over \$200,000. Then we learned the land would not perk to meet sewer and water requirements. We prayed and once again God was faithful. A ministry partner shared the unbelievable news in October 2016. Three new subdivisions had been approved for construction right behind the Mission House property. This solved the water and sewer access issues. It started to become clear that building a new facility on the current property could be the future plan—one in which all of our storage, display, and sales needs could be met.

Within three days, God provided a land surveying company and a civil engineer who would provide services at no cost. Then along came the structural engineering, architectural, painting, and landscaping services—each company donating time, talent, and treasures for the Kingdom. Necessary resources continue to come our way; including trucking and communication installation services. But many more services—contractor, construction engineers, electricians, plumbers, HVAC professionals—will be needed along with supplies and materials. It is our hope that other businesses will partner with us by sponsoring specific areas within our sale facility—such as office space, a book shop, a dress shop, jewelry display, etc. Through professional partners and businesses and designated financial assistance, the Mabopane Expansion Project will be a testament, once again, to God's unfailing love and provision.

Please pray for God's wisdom, plans, design, building, provisions, and transition during this God-sized project so that the original intent of this ministry—100% of the proceeds from yard sales to reach the children of Ya Bana Village—will continue as long as this is God's will.

VOLUNTEER NEED

Volunteer Coordinator needed to organize coverage for the bi-monthly Mission House Sales, communicate upcoming sale details to shoppers and, at times, call volunteers. Excellent written communication skills required. Proficiency with SignUpGenius desired. These tasks can be completed from the comfort of your own home in about two to three hours each week of a sale. Contact Marjorie: admin@mabopanekids.org.

YA BANA VILLAGE - A LOVE LETTER FROM THE RED HOUSE



Have you ever wondered what motivates our wonderful Ya Bana Village Moms to assume the responsibility of caring for a houseful of children and how the children experience living in the Village? We were curious ourselves and designed a questionnaire for both the Moms and their children to answer. Join us as we “spotlight” each Ya Bana Village Cluster House family throughout 2018.

Mama **Cecilia** has been the “Red House” mother since April 2012. Living with her are the following children: **front:** Itumeleng (age 11), Ryan (age 8), Kgothatso (age 8), Mpho (age 11); **back:** John (17) and Prince (age 14).

In Mama Cecilia’s words.... “I became a house mother so I could give love to the children who had no parents and those who were abandoned and to watch them grow up happy. Just like any other mother I have many responsibilities, including to watch the children’s every move and their moods and to know them well and be able to see if they are sick or unhappy. To watch also their behavior, intelligence, and performance at school and how they handle themselves with others. I enjoy most to see all the children happy, doing well at school, being healthy, not sick and not lonely, and being well-mannered, honest, and mostly HAPPY. My biggest challenge as a mother is to change the children’s behaviors because they come with different moods and behaviors. You want them to feel like they are your children—part of the same family—and behave like siblings from one family.”

Mpho and Itumeleng have been part of the Ya Bana family for 5 years now. All the boys responded they “like the way that the mothers and everybody are treating us. They do everything for us and they love us.” Ryan loves soccer most and walking in the yard. Kgothatso likes running and singing with other children and going to church. Mpho likes eating supper out and having ice cream. All the boys responded they “love trips and going to camp and meeting other children who are like us.” John is gifted and uses his spare time to fix watches, computers, or anything else that breaks down. A closing thought from Prince “**The mothers are teaching us some of the things in life.**”

A CALLING TO SOUTH AFRICA - BY ANNA DOBBS

In August of 2014, I joined Becky on my first trip to Ya Bana Village in South Africa and it has shaped my life and calling in ways I never could have imagined. I have since been back for 3 month periods over the last 4 years. Each time I leave I feel God pulling me back. After spending much time in prayer, I have decided to go forward in faith by applying for a visa to be able to stay in South Africa and serve as a volunteer alongside the incredible Ya Bana staff on a long-term basis (up to 3 years). The love God has placed in my heart for the children, youth, and surrounding community has given me a passion to serve them to the best of my ability and the confidence to move forward with this step of faith, knowing He is in every detail. I ask that each of you would prayerfully consider supporting me in this journey, whether it be financially or in your prayers.

The Mabopane Foundation has graciously agreed to allow me to raise funding through the organization so all donations will be tax-deductible. If you feel led to give financially, one time or monthly contributions should be designated “Anna Dobbs - Ya Bana”. Thank you for sharing this journey with me. I look forward to seeing what God has in store and sharing details in the coming months. I feel so blessed to be a small part of what God is doing at Ya Bana Village and to serve alongside each of you who help make all of it possible.