

A giant leap!

What an exciting month it has been. We put in an offer to purchase, and it was accepted. Establishing Eden House has never felt more real.

Churchill's words ring true:

Now this is not the end. It is not even the beginning of the end. But it is, perhaps, the end of the beginning.



Eden House

The people who made it happen

You know who you are. We are immensely grateful for every single donation. There was the student who gave R250 from her pocket money; the young woman starting a career who carved a R1000 out of her first salary; the income-earners who have so many holes to fill, and the pensioners who bent over backwards to shave more off their budget. We salute you!

And then - AND THEN! Richard Foy and Natalie Scanlen from Sotheby's went above and beyond, giving advice, preparing the Offer to Purchase, meeting with us and the owners, following up and dealing with documents - all for mahala!

Ernst Serfontein Attorneys are doing the transfer completely free of charge, which reduced the overall costs of the purchase.

If Knysna continues to carry Eden House as it has begun to do, children who depend on care will not be let down by a failed system again.

I share this from a recent whatsapp, after we received a generous donation:

"I know why I was willing to give, and it's not to support my friend's idealistic project. **It's because I see that people who can, step in where government fails. That is the good news story of South Africa - we don't wait for anyone to save us.**"



News of the month



Two angels straight from heaven signed up to be our fundraising team. Vickey Du Toit and Kim Spencer are volunteering their precious time, boundless energy and wonderful ideas, to move Eden House forward. Is there anything more precious than someone saying, "I'm here to help. What can I do?" We are over the moon to have them on our team.

Property developments

We've had our first meeting to review architectural drawings by Eben Marais, who does the work pro bono. We have some exciting additions planned, like study nooks for older children, a music and therapy room, and an income-generating centre that will also provide skills training.



Our Property Capital Fund

The purchase price was R2.75m. We have raised ±R2 270 000, and have until early August to raise the remaining R480 000. Once that's been achieved, all our focus will be on securing and reconfiguring the property, as funds allow.

You can now donate in several ways: via Paystack, either once-off or monthly; via Snapscan, on our GivenGain campaign, or directly with EFT. EFT is the most-effective option; GivenGain has the highest fees. But each platform has its benefits, and you get to choose your preferred method.



Remember, we are Section 18A approved, so you can qualify for tax deductions.

Our new home's preparation goals:

- Secure perimeter fencing and a motorised access gate
- Bedroom reconfiguration
- Bathroom alterations to increase capacity for children of different ages.
- Enlarged kitchen to cater for a household of 25 children, with adequate refrigeration and storage.
- A dedicated skills development area where practical training in carpentry, plumbing, sewing or cooking can take place.
- Income-generating spaces near the entrance of the property, including an internet café, beauty and nail salon, and charity shop, allowing public access without compromising the security of the children's living areas.
- Essential repairs to roofs, ceilings and railings
- Internal alterations required for the home's operation.
- Durable, easy-to-maintain vinyl flooring throughout the living areas.
- Dedicated spaces for staff, therapy, music and other developmental activities.
- Safe outdoor play areas for children.
- The existing swimming pool will be filled in and replaced with secure play space, as the risk of accidental drowning outweighs the benefits of retaining the pool in a residential childcare setting.



Wish list

Our wish list will continually evolve as we move through the different phases. If your particular gift or resource is not listed yet, you can still play a meaningful role by sharing this story or connecting us with others who may want to be part of building Eden House.

- Assist with construction work or materials
- Contribute to the capital fund to help us secure and prepare the property
- Volunteer one or two hours per week to provide administrative support
- Like and follow our [FB page](#) to increase our social media reach
- We are also looking for a donor to sponsor a dedicated work phone and mobile contract for Eden House, enabling us to separate organisational communication from personal communication.



Banking details

Bank name: Capitec Business
Account Name: Eden House Knysna NPC
Account Type: Current
Account Number: 1055118462
Branch Code: 450705
SWIFT Code: CABLZAJJ

For your protection:

Please note that our bank details will never change, and all communication will come from info@edenhouse.org.za.
The safest way to make an EFT is to let us know beforehand.



Amidst all the property excitement, plans and fundraising, let's just pause for one moment to remember why we do this: To rewrite endings.

A difficult start does not have to define a life. We want to create lasting change, that serves individuals, families, and our community, by giving vulnerable children the chance to grow up into happy, contributing citizens of Knysna and beyond!

We love hearing from you—send us an email on info@edenhouse.org.za. We will keep you informed as we move forward.
As a community, we have an opportunity to create something deeply needed—together.
Please visit our [website](http://www.edenhouse.org.za) at www.edenhouse.org.za

If you don't want to receive this monthly update, please send an email "Unsubscribe" to info@edenhouse.org.za.



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