

TWINKLE TOES

ADOPTIONS4EVER ANNIVERSARY NEWLETTER

hello

So often we hold an opinion on a subject without knowing very much about it. This cannot be more true than with topic of Adoption. With this in mind we want to share with you, our readers, the positive change adoption can bring to a child and family.

Adoptions4Ever is going from strength to strength and this month we are proudly celebrating our 3rd birthday! To date we have facilitated 12 Adoptions of which six have been in 2011, with another two adoptions planned for later this year.

A heartfelt thank you goes out to our community and local businesses for supporting our fundraising events. *An Evening with Nataniël* and *The Moonlight Sable Run* were both a huge success due to your support and assistance. With your help we are making a difference in peoples lives.

Debbie Turner
Project co-ordinator

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adoption— a precious gift

Adoptions4Ever evolved through a passion for adoption as a healthy alternative to abortion, as well as the desire to make a difference in peoples' lives. When putting the newsletter together we were in contact with the adoptive parents we've been involved with over the past three years. On hearing how happy each family is filled us with joy and energy! Although this is not about us, the staff of Adoptions4Ever is thrilled to know that we *are* making a difference in the lives of these little people and their new family. And we want to share this with you; parents-to-be, our community, sponsors, friends and family.



Nicole is 'n plaas meisiekind. Geniet die skape, hoenders, beeste, volstruise, woefies en nou vra sy vir 'n hasie..... Ons sal haar biologiese mamma altyd dankbaar wees. En sy is elke dag in ons gebede. Ons weet dit was die moeilikste besluit wat sy ooit moes neem. Van ons kant af wil ons haar verseker dat ons vir Nicole die beste opvoeding, opleiding, liefde en aandag gee. Jy sal altyd haar biologiese mamma wees en ons sal dit nooit van haar af weg neem nie. Sy is so groot blessing vir ons. Hier rol die trane nou weer, want ons is so gelukkig om haar te kan hê. Sy is ons alles.

family

Robert, Wendy & Nicole



'Love is a complicated subject but our babies have simplified this for me and my husband just by coming into our lives and being who they are'

Hlengiwe, Sibusiso, Buhle & Sihle

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Julle passie en liefde vir aanneming en geboorte mammas het werklik ons lewe verander en ons is julle so dankbaar....

miracle

Annemie, Kobus & Carol-Anne



From the bottom of our hearts we would like to congratulate Adoptions4Ever on your 3rd birthday. Without your expertise, guidance, humanity and care we would not have Liam in our lives. There is not a day that goes by when Debbie and I do not thank the world for Liam. He is our rock, our most precious possession and our reason for getting out of bed in the morning. Liam's birth brought with it the realisation that God does exist and that he does answer your prayers. Words cannot express our gratitude for everything that Adoptions4Ever has done for us and we hope to see you around for a long time to come.

David, Debbie & Liam



Baie dankie aan Adoptions4Ever vir julle onbaatsugtige werk-Beatrice en haar man Riaan, die huisouers van Huis Talitha, Debbie Turner en almal betrokke by Adoptions4Ever. Baie dankie ook vir Dr Marie Kruger se hulp, geduld en professionaliteit gedurende die hele proses. Baie dankie ook vir die biologiese mamma wat Lisa vir 9 maande gedra het en aan ons toevertrou het. Ons harte en lewe is gevul.

hope

Hendrik, Jana & Lisa

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Perseverance

It is the most blessed way to start the day with a beautiful smile as Matthew opens his eyes. Every new day brings so much joy on this amazing journey of discovery. Not only has he turned our world upside down, but he has touched so many lives in a very special way. Thank you Adoptions4Ever for making this possible.

Tansy, Mike & Matthew



Born not from our flesh,
but born in our hearts.

Charmaine, Geoff & Sharné



Dis die grootste wonderwerk ooit! Ons kry 'n klein babatjie, ons eie bondeltjie vreugde waarvoor ons so vreeslik lank gewag het. Na 16 jaar van hoop, glo, vertrou, huil en baie dokters het die Here se tyd aangebreek en ons het met die hulp van Adoptions4Ever ons seuntjie verwelkom. Dankie aan julle almal vir julle liefde, bystand, saam lag en huil en dat julle bereid is om mense soos ons te help. Mag die Here julle werk opreg sien en mag julle nog 'n verskil in baie mense se lewens maak.

Peet, Ebbie & Ruben

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mother = love

Giving a child up for adoption is a very emotional and extremely difficult decision with long term consequences. This **does not change whether the pregnancy is unplanned and regardless of the birth mother's background or ethnic group.** A mother chooses adoption for her child to give him/her a better chance in life because of better opportunities that they themselves cannot provide. Birthmothers love their babies. They chose life after all!

Huis Talitha was initiated so that birthmothers could have a place to go during their pregnancy where they could receive counselling to equip them with coping skills in the short and long term, healthy food to ensure a healthy mother and healthy baby, sound medical care and a nurturing environment because we recognise their difficult journey.

Don't be mistaken into thinking the house is all rosy and run without hiccups—quite the contrary. It is not easy working and living with pregnant women trying to deal with the extra emotional hardship of giving a child up for adoption. Fortunately we are a solid group of caring professionals and through regular training we constantly learn new skills which ultimately benefits the birth mothers and adoptive parents.

training

Speaking of training: recently we attended the Africa Cares for Life—an international pro-life organisation—annual conference at Natalia on the Kwa-Zulu Natal south coast. Presenters from Heartbeat International, Proud2Be and many more shared their extensive knowledge and experience covering topics such as crisis pregnancy, counselling and the **new Children's Act, to mention just a few.** **These short courses enhanced our skills and gave us inspiration going forward.** It is also where exciting developments for the new year were born.

fundraising

Adoptions4Ever is a non-profit organisation (NPO 068-411) that connects birth mothers with prospective adoptive parents. Contrary to some misperceptions, Adoptions4Ever does not make any profit from an adoption. It is true that the adoption process is an expensive one, however, one needs to take into account that the expenses paid by the adoptive parents covers the expenses of the birth mother and baby only. Marketing, advertising, training, education, maintenance, staff salaries, administrative costs, etc. are covered through fundraising events and private funding. This year we hosted two fundraising events. *An Evening with Nataniël*, the well-renowned and sometimes controversial comedian / performer, proved to be a resounding success. *The Moonlight Sable Run* was memorable with over 300 participants. The fun run appears to be gaining popularity as a fun family event. The fun run would not be possible without our principal sponsor, Mr Piet Warren of Piet Warren Plase in Gravelotte. To the beautiful children and parents who supported the race thank you and please join us again next year.



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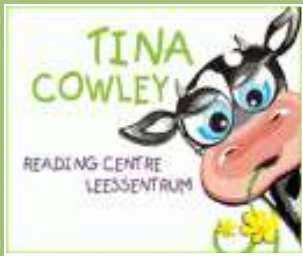
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twenty twelve

2012 hold lots of promise with the start of our new project: Options - crisis pregnancy centre. The project is being lead by Andrea Erasmus, a qualified nursing sister and trained midwife. The centre will offer a service to women in our community where they can go for pregnancy tests and receive prejudice-free option counselling and guidance. We see this as a wonderful add on to our current service and have high hopes for its success.

As we've mentioned before Adoptions4Ever is privately funded hence our strong focus on fundraising. In an attempt to alleviate the financial pressure we have invested in the Tina Cowley reading centre franchise for the Phalaborwa area. The centre's primary function is to develop and enhance reading skills of children and adults of all cultures, ages and ability. The project will not only fund Adoptions4Ever it will also be offering an added service to our community. Celeste Streicher is running with the project which will open in the new year to fit in with the start of the new school year. Watch this space for more news and developments.



a word from Beatrice

We sometimes get so caught up in the everyday challenges of life that we forget to stand still and cherish the moments that have passed and become a success. When reading through this edition of *Twinkle Toes* (after a very tiring and lengthy meeting) it was like getting a set of wings, ready to fly off to a new challenge, ready to face whatever life throws at me...because once again I realised that what we do at Adoptions4Ever, even with all the challenges that we face – we are making a difference and the value we add to people's lives is an accomplishment to be proud of. It gives me great satisfaction knowing that we've had the opportunity to be part of the solution rather than the problem.

We are excited about the new developments for 2012. Challenges and difficulties – there will always be...but, triumph is always worth fighting for!

As this is the last edition of *Twinkle Toes* for the year, we would like to wish you and your family a blessed festive season and it is with fondness that we remember the sacrifices that our Biological Mothers have made and will still have to make, in years to come.

Beatrice Pringle
Founder

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