

# THE \_\_\_\_ MISSION

Are you tired? Worn out? Burned out on religion? Come to me. Get away with me and you'll recover your life. I'll show you how to take a real rest. Walk with me and work with me-watch how I do it. Learn the unforced rhythms of grace. I won't lay anything heavy or ill-fitting on you. Keep company with me and you'll learn to live freely and lightly..." - Matthew 11:20-30

Similo Diamini representing her country and waving the South African flag at the ISA World Para Surfing Championships in Pismo Beach, California.

What a start to the year! Before jumping straight into the swing of things, our team had some beautiful team connect, planning, dreaming and capacity building time. What was evident in how and what we wanted to bring into the new year for Made for More was depth, excellence and a safe place to call home. We hope to learn to do life and work in the unforced rhythms of grace. To love, listen, care deeply and show understanding for each other as a team, so we can take that love to our people, and to the ends of the earth. We have a busy year ahead, but more than that, we have a year of opportunity to learn the art of walking in grace and love in the midst of it all. We hope and pray that you, your family and your business will also learn to live freely and lightly in 2023.

### Reports on Previous Events

#### **World Para Surfing Champs 2023**

Our 8 talented Made for More SA Para Surfing Team members, accompanied by our 3 incredible coaches Owami Zama and Scott and Yvonne Messenger ended up coming 5th in the world out of 28 countries. Standouts, were Doug Hendrikz who made the final and secured a copper medal and Tracy Mckay who surfed her way to a bronze medal. A special mention must go to Alulutho Tshoba, 'Miss Lulu' who due to classification, had to move into an entirely different division from being pushed into waves, to paddling into her own waves with no assistance. She, however, took this all in her stride and showed bravery, commitment and perseverance by making the semi-final and getting a remarkable 5th position in the world.



Doug dropping down on a big one at Pismo Beach.



Right: Tracy paddling back out into the line-up

#### **Team Update**

We welcomed the wonderful Nontuthuko Sibisi onto our Team as the new Events Manager. She is feeling energized and excited to take on this role, as she thrives in events planning, communications and proposal writing.



The Team Supreme ladies at our first Surf Therapy session of the year

#### **Adaptive Surfing**

We have split our Adaptive Surfing programme, so we are able to host two monthly sessions - A Surf Therapy session and a more competitive Para Surfing session. We held our pilot Para Surfing session in January, which went incredibly well, helping us to iron out any issues or teething problems before choosing the official Para Surfing squad for 2023 after our KZN Para Surfing Championships in March. Our Surf Therapy session was one of our best yet, running like a well-oiled machine with 35 surfers getting to experience the joy and freedom of the ocean.

#### **Farming**

Anele worked throughout the holiday season to ensure that all our customers got their weekly dose of fresh, seasonal vegetable boxes. Unfortunately, due to the excessive heat of summer and there being no water in Amahlongwa for weeks on end, a lot of our families and suppliers' vegetables are wilting and dying. In saying that, we will rebuild and be back stronger than ever. Thank you to our customers who understand, show grace and support us weekly and bi-weekly and keep this programme alive - we are grateful for your lifegiving support.



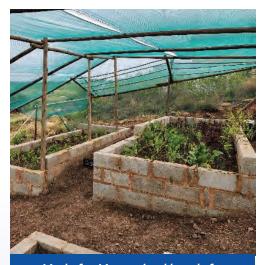
Alwande getting some one-on-one coaching from Dave Jennings at Para Surfing



A vibrant #growformore vegetable box before being delivered



Surf Therapy session heading into the water



Made for More raised beads for inclusivity and wheelchair access

#### **Boccia & Exercise Therapy**

Exercise therapy has started at both RP Moodley and Scholar Amoris with Anele leading and guiding the volunteers and sport science students in how to engage with the learners and what to plan for the sessions. Unfortunately, due to funding and capacity, we have had to end our exercise therapy sessions at Khanyisa. However, we have given them beautiful curriculum to follow that can be run by any of their teachers or therapists going forward. Boccia has started at Cheshire Merewent with a request of helping at another school in Glenwood, as well. We look forward to breathing much needed life into the sport of Boccia in KZN, as we plan to do 3 tournaments during the course of the year, thanks to funding from the Gravino Family.



Pictured: Boccia Tournament in action in 2022. We look forward to more of this in 2023

#### **Bible Studies**

We have kicked off our life group and bible studies session, engaging with the youth on topics they'd like to discuss during the year. Some profound topics came up including; conflict, the value of time, interdependency, maturity, loyalty, gaslighting, perseverance and processing emotions to name a few. There was also lots of excitement in terms of upcoming community projects and how they can give back to those less fortunate than themselves. We look forward to delving deep with these beautiful young men and women.



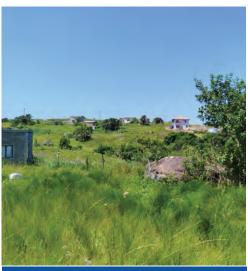
Bible Studies boys after a weekly session with the wonderful Owami Zama

#### **Amahlongwa Build**

Anele has officially moved in. The building is no longer just a house, but a home. We have already started to gather in the space as a team and look forward to welcoming our brothers and sisters with disabilities into the space soon. A big thank you to Antony Gradwell and his team at Form Scaff for providing scaffolding pro-bono, which ensured the outside of our entire building could be painted last week.



Wiseman painting and being supported by Form Scaff's scaffolding



Looking in on our beautifully painted building from a distance

## **Upcoming Events**

February

February: Midmar Mile & Surf Therapy

25

February February: Para Surfing.

March 11

March: KZN Para Surfing Champs

March 25

March: Boccia friendly tournament

March 30

March: SBS Wheelchair Challenge

Julia and a few of the Adaptive Surfing crew will be swimming the Midmar Mile to create awareness and raise money to get the Caddy and all the Made for More surfing equipment to Cape Town for the SA Para Surfing Champs in May. Watch out for them in the first race of the day on Saturday, the 11th of February. Our KZN Para Surfing Champs still do not have a main and naming sponsor, so if you know of any businesses who could sponsor this beautiful event, please get in contact with us.

#### Thank You

A massive thank you to our monthly funders and supporters for being consistent and continuing to journey with us. Thank you for giving when it's hard, and continuing to invest in faith. We lost R9000.00 of monthly funding going into 2023. However, we got an anonymous donor who donated R62 500 saying "Be blessed MFM" reminding us that God has us covered and trusting and believing that the rest will come. We know we will never know lack, thanks to God and to people and businesses like you. Thank you for partnering with us to include, equip and empower people with disabilities in South Africa. We cannot do this with you!

#### **Prayer Points**

- Abundance and favour for our monthly donors, their families and their businesses
- · Safety, health and continued provision for our Made for More families and beneficiaries
- Provision for proposals sent for KZN Para Surfing and SA Champs
- · Wisdom and guidance with our 'yes' and our 'no'
- For our Made for More team and broader family to walk in the unforced rhythms of grace

Love.

#### The Made for More Team

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